

**WEYMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
M I N U T E S (approved 9.15.16)**

Date: May 26, 2016

Present: Chair Belmarsh, Mrs. Sheehan, Ms. Flemer, Mrs. Curran, Mrs. Nardone and Dr. Sullivan

Also present: Superintendent Salim, Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Assistant Superintendent Kustka and Business Manager Mickey McGonagle; Mayor Hedlund was absent

Meeting was moved to Town Hall Council Chambers due an electrical outage at Weymouth High School.

Executive Session

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan to go into Executive Session in the Kelly Room at Town Hall to discuss strategy relative to negotiations with non-union personnel: Superintendent. A roll call vote was taken: Dr. Sullivan: YES; Ms. Nardone: YES; Ms. Flemer: YES; Mrs. Sheehan: YES; Mrs. Curran: YES; Chair Belmarsh: YES, So voted, 6:03 p.m.

Call to Order

At 7:14 p.m. Chair Belmarsh called the meeting to order. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Consent Agenda

Warrant 48-2016 in the amount of \$771,412.71

Chair Belmarsh explains that May 5, 2016 minutes are from the last meeting of the Superintendent Search Committee and School Committee as the parent body has the right to accept and vote on minutes.

March 24, 2016 and May 5, 2016 Minutes

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Nardone, it was voted to approve consent agenda with money to pay. Mrs. Curran and Mrs. Sheehan abstain. So voted, 7:20 p.m.

Student Advisory Committee

Student Advisory Committee came to the table. Will be postponing presentation due to technical difficulties. Reported out that the Senior Prom will be on June 3rd, Weycathlon on June 6th and Graduation on June 11th.

The senior cruise was a great success. Will report out on all events at the June 9th meeting.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Superintendent's Report

Correspondence

Chapman Feasibility

Dr. Salim shared that the MSBA board of directors voted to invite Weymouth Public Schools and the Maria Weston Chapman Middle School project into the Eligibility Period. Following the vote, Chair Belmarsh, Incoming Superintendent Dr. Jennifer Curtis-Whipple and Mayor's Chief of Staff Ted Langill participated in a brief orientation on the eligibility period. This is not yet an invitation into Feasibility study, but is the first phase of the MSBA core program process. This period includes required steps of MSBA's statute and regulations including formation of a school building committee, completion of district profiles among other key activities. We are excited to have had this next milestone and will be working collaboratively with Mayor Hedlund's office and MSBA.

Next Generation MCAS

Last, the South Shore Superintendents received an update on the next generation MCAS development process and timeline. The proposed timeline includes a transition to the new assessment in spring of 2017 with a transition to computer based testing for all students by 2019. In addition, there are a number of advisory committees and workgroups that are looking at different aspects of the frameworks and assessments.

At the high school level, MCAS will remain a graduation requirement for the class of 2019, but the committee is looking at transitioning to two high school assessments: a grade 9 diagnostic and a grade 11 college and career readiness test. The latter would serve as a replacement for the Accuplacer that is used by many colleges to determine whether students need remedial coursework during their freshmen year. A copy of the presentation is in your folders tonight.

FY17 Budget

Next Wednesday, we will be presenting the FY17 schools budget to the Budget Management Committee of Town Council. This was rescheduled from yesterday's original May 25 date.

State Budget - Senate

Last week, the Senate Ways and Means Committee released their version of the FY17 budget. Once the full Senate votes on this version of the budget, the House/Senate conference committee will work to reconcile differences between the two branches. The Senate Ways and Means committee budget includes a minimum of \$55/student over FY16 in Chapter 70 Aid. The Senate began deliberations on the budget this week. [State Senator Patrick O'Connor submitted an amendment to increase that minimum to \$100/student.]

Professional Development Early Release – June 7

Next Tuesday June 7 we will have this school year's last early release PD day. As part of this day, we will be hosting a series of choices for our paraprofessionals including: bullying prevention, effective management of individuals and groups, executive function: implications for teaching and learning, and understanding intelligence and motivation. In designing this professional learning for our paraprofessionals, we wanted to both provide choice and options for paras who serve in a variety of roles at different grade levels.

Chapman Rhetoric Competition

The Student Rhetoric Competition was held last week and Chapman sent along a group of students from Mr. Whitaker's seventh grade classes. Of the four students recognized at the MFA, 2 were from Chapman - Abigail Bagley and Colleen McCormack were announced as winners.

STEM Hot Spot – Family Game Night

We are looking forward to our June STEM Hotspot which will take place on Wednesday, June 8. This will be a different kind of Hotspot in that it will take place on a weekday at 5:30pm and will be a Weymouth Family game night. There is interesting research showing how different types of board games can support student understanding of number sense and mathematical concepts.

Data and Assessment Strategy Manager Dr. Pam Stazesky even led a professional development session for teachers at Wessagusset earlier this month on how these types of games can support student learning, problem solving, and communication and math skills. Families will have a chance to go around the cafeteria to try out some of the games. Murphy 4th grade teacher Lynn Howard is leading the planning for this exciting event.

Memorial Courtyard Ceremony

This afternoon, we held a Memorial Courtyard Ceremony at the Richard B. Dwyer Memorial Courtyard at the Chapman building to recognize and remember staff members who have passed away. Thank you to the planning committee and the custodial staff for all the preparations for this meaningful and moving tribute to those we have lost from the Weymouth Public Schools family.

New Business

Report on Teaching and Learning

Effective Use of Data – Walk to Read Model and Weymouth Public Schools

This evening, as part of our series providing a closer look at our work around the district's strategic levers, we will be sharing our work on how data is being used by our teachers and administrators to make decisions on teaching and learning.

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Curtis-Whipple, Literacy Coaches Liz Murray, Aubrey Figueroa, Anastasia Frank and Fourth Grade Teacher and Data Coach Jeremy Angelos all came to the table. They provided an overview of the presentation, how the effective use of data aligns with the district vision, practices and levers. Why we need data, 2015-2016 coach work and priorities and a closer look at how data is used: Walk to Read. They then reviewed the next steps. A question and answer session was held with School Committee.

Report of the Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee

Ms. Flemer reported that they have met with Unit B and Cafeteria union workers and will be meeting again. Continuing to meet with Unit A, working hard to get this contract settled before the end of the school year.

Report of the Budget Sub-Committee

The next meeting of the Budget Sub-Committee will be on May 31, 2016 at the Administration Building at 6:00 p.m.

WHS Student Handbook – First Reading

Chair Belmarsh invites Principal Haviland and Dean Kristen Kelley to the table. They start to review the changes to the WHS Handbook specifically around the Memorandum of Understanding. Mrs. Sheehan asks to address this and the Standards of Dress with the High School making changes to the District Portion of the student handbook. Reminded them that any District Changes have to be done thru Policy Sub-committee. A discussion around cell phone policies and attendance policies was had and will need to go before the Policy Sub-Committee before any changes can be made in the handbook. All questions asked by the Committee were answered by Principal Haviland and Dean Kelley.

The handbook will go to a second reading at the June 9th meeting and the District issues will be brought to Policy Sub-Committee to review.

Consideration of Opposition Letter to FERC by School Committee

Mrs. Curran asked the Chair to put this item on the agenda and it was agreed to do so. Mrs. Curran read a letter attached to these minutes to show support of this Committee against the compressor station in Weymouth. She asked that it be signed by School Committee and emailed to the Federal Energy and Regulation Commission in Washington D.C.

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan it was voted to send the letter via email that Mrs. Curran read to the Federal Energy and Regulation Commission to support the NO compressor station in Weymouth. So voted, 8:50 p.m.

Summer Meeting Dates

Summer meeting dates were set as July 28, 2016 and August 25, 2016.

Old Business

Approval of Contract for Superintendent of Schools effective July 1, 2016

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan it was voted to approve the contract for the Superintendent of Schools, Jennifer Curtis-Whipple with a base salary of \$175,000 and longevity payment \$2,200 for 3 years as amended. So voted, 8:53 p.m.

Executive Session

To discuss strategy in preparation for contract negotiations with non-union personnel: Assistant Superintendent

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy in preparation for contract negotiations with non-union personnel: Assistant Superintendent to return to open session for the purpose of adjournment. A roll call vote was taken: Dr. Sullivan: YES; Ms. Nardone: YES; Ms. Flemer: YES; Mrs. Sheehan: YES; Mrs. Curran: YES; Chair Belmarsh: YES, So voted, 8:54 p.m.

Next Meeting of the Weymouth School Committee

The Weymouth School Committee will next meet on June 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mary J. Livingstone Humanities Center at Weymouth High School.

Adjourn

At 9:14 p.m., on motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Ms. Flemer, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Sheehan – Secretary

Weymouth School Committee Meeting
May 26, 2016

Documents Related to Meeting and Retained at School Administration Building

- Agenda
- Warrant 48-2016 in the amount of \$771,412.71
- March 24 and May 5 Minutes
- Effective Use of Data
- WHS Student Handbook First Reading
- Summer Meeting Dates
- Superintendent Contract