



Weymouth

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Weymouth School Committee

Humanities Center & Zoom

October 28, 2021

MEETING MINUTES

(approved 11/18/21)

Members In Attendance: Lisa Belmarsh, Chair; Tracey Nardone, Vice Chair; John Sullivan, Secretary; Kathy Curran; Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw; Carrie Palazzo

Members Absent: Mayor Hedlund

Also Present: Robert Wargo, Superintendent; Brian Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Melanie Curtin, Assistant Superintendent

The Meeting Came to Order At 7:06pm.

Chair Belmarsh led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda:

The Consent agenda included:

- Warrant 16-2022 in the amount of \$549,342.46. Dated 10/18/21
- Regular Minutes: 10/14/21
- Executive Session Minutes: 10/14/21
- Budget Subcommittee Minutes: 9/22/21, 10/13/21

Motion by Mrs. Nardone to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

The Chair reminded that public comment be in accordance with Policy BED, items on the agenda and kept to 3 minutes and gave instructions if members wish to speak; name and address should be added in the chat. She also thanked WETC for correcting the delay. There was no public comment.

Report of the Superintendent:

-Covid Update

The Superintendent advised that the numbers of cases are starting to decrease across Weymouth and throughout the schools and reiterated that students above the ages of 12 can be vaccinated to help work towards the 80% vaccination rate which would allow schools to end a mask mandate for vaccinated people. Data is being collected, families may choose to share vaccination info or not. Information is securely stored using MIAAS. The Commissioner extended the mask mandate until January 15, 2022 and the School Committee had previously voted to adopt the state mandate as school policy.

Before and After School Care

Assistant Superintendent Smith shared that Champions is up and running to provide before and after care for 6 schools. Talbot and Pingree are in the process of addressing staffing needs. Positive feedback has been received for waiving fees until all sites are operating.

Superintendent Wargo expressed his appreciation of Lt. Governor Polito for attending a STEM class at the Pingree School as well as for Teri Fleming for organizing the STEM conference on October 23, 2021 where the keynote speaker was a member of NASA.

The Superintendent invited Principal Strauss to speak.

Principal Strauss gave an overview of the community forum event being held on November 17, 2021 from 6:30-8pm and WHS. The event entitled Say It! Hear It! Change It! Will feature speakers Jamele Adams and Sarah Furie. The event is planned with the help of many student and community groups such as , SEPAC, HRC, WISE, LGBTQ+, Anti Defamation League, and TWPC. There will be a faculty meeting as well as student workshops during the day of the event; some students may read a submitted narrative. Principal Strauss expressed his thanks to Mr. Galusha, Ms. Laporto, and Mr. Pappas. No tickets are required for entry to the event. Tables of various organizations will be in the hallway for community engagement.

It was requested for Student Advisory to speak at the next meeting if schedules allow. Support and appreciation by the committee was expressed for the student engagement and conversation revolving around diversity, equity, and inclusion.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Presentation of MASC All State School Committee Member Award to Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw - Glenn Koocher, MASC Executive Director

Glenn Koocher along with Chair Belmarsh presented Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw with the MASC All State School Committee Award in recognition of her extra efforts and contributions as well as guidance especially during the past year of Covid, highlighting her creation of the metrics table

used. The committee shared their congratulations and appreciation. The all state school committee is only made up of 10 members from the state of Massachusetts.

Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw expressed her heartfelt thanks.

Chair Belmarsh left the table at 7:40pm and returned at 7:42pm.

b. Budget Sub-Committee Report

Dr. Sullivan summarized the meeting held Oct 13, 2021 . Topics included the Before and After School programming provided by Champions, the waiving of fees until all schools are up and running through Champions and ESSER funding. The 5 categories for ESSER funds are Unfinished Learning, Mental Health, Instructional Technology, Community Engagement, and Operations and Management.

Motion by Mrs. Nardone and seconded by Dr. Sullivan to accept the budget subcommittee report. Motion passed unanimously.

c. Policy Sub-Committee Report

Mrs. Nardone reviewed the meeting of Oct 25, 2021 . Principal Strauss and Monahan, CTE Director Gamache and high school teacher Mr. Galusha as well as high school students were in attendance. Topics included revising the dress code and wearing of hats as well as the Chapter 70 and DESE changes to the CTE policy and application. Talk of a pilot hat program was had. SRO's will also be consulted.

Motion by Dr. Sullivan to accept the report of the policy subcommittee. Seconded by Chair Belmarsh. Motion passed unanimously.

d. Career and Technical Education Admission Policy and Application-First Reading

CTE Director Gamache advised that changes to the policy and application are due to DESE regulations. The program is stricter in the academic areas with experiential learning and will have equitable access for all.

It was suggested to combine 2nd and 3rd readings and voted on at the November 18th meeting as the policy will need to be implemented by December 1, 2021. The CTE policy and application is available on the website.

e. Report out on retention or release of Executive Session Minutes and Posting: 11/19/20

Dr. Sullivan advised that after seeking attorney advice the minutes of 11/19/20 will be released as the reason for the executive session has expired. They are available upon request.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Updates and Status of Chapman Middle School Opening 2022-Assistant Superintendent Curtin

Assistant Superintendent Curtin shared that Principal interviews will begin Nov 1, 2021 and there was an SBC meeting with HMFH held Tuesday, October 26, 2021 which talked about construction updates and furniture. Three different working groups are finalizing Gym and Music spaces. Talk of the gym being dedicated in honor Sgt. Chesna was had. Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw drafted a letter in support of the Mayor's recommendation. Discussion of the ceremony of opening Chapman, student involvement, and a time capsule was worked through. The Chapman project will remain on future agendas.

<http://www.anewchapman.org/>

b. Finalize Superintendent Evaluation and School Committee Goals (action requested)

Drafts of both Superintendent and School Committee goals are posted on the website. As time ran out in the Meeting of the Whole to fully talk through both sets of goals and alignment there will be another meeting scheduled to finalize.

Announcements:

Weymouth Market-November 3, 2021-3:30pm-WHS, Gold Cafeteria-Market will return to pre-Covid model of in person pick up

Budget Sub-Committee-November 16, 2021 - School Administration/Virtual

Say It! Hear It! Change It! -A Weymouth Community Forum on Anti-Racism-November 17, 2021, 6:30pm-WHS Auditorium

Next School Committee Meeting:

Regular Meeting: Thursday, November 18, 2021 - 7:00pm

The Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm on the motion of Mrs. Nardone, seconded by Dr. Sullivan. Passed unanimously.

Documents Attached to These Minutes:

- Say It! Hear It! Change It! Flier
- WHS CTE Admission Policy and Application
- Chapman Update

Respectfully Submitted,



John Sullivan
Secretary