



# Weymouth

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## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### Weymouth School Committee

Humanities Center & Zoom

January 6, 2022

#### MEETING MINUTES

*(approved 1/20/22)*

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**Members In Attendance:** Dr. John Sullivan, Chair; Tracey Nardone, Vice Chair; Carrie Palazzo, Secretary; Kathy Curran; Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw; Steve Buccigross

**Members Absent:** Mayor Hedlund

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

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**The Meeting Came to Order At 7:02pm.**

Chair Sullivan led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The chair informed that the meeting is being recorded and that Vice Chair Nardone will be attending via Zoom. He welcomed newest member Steven Buccigross.

**Consent Agenda:**

The Consent agenda included:

- Warrant 26-2022 in the amount of \$2,038,570,.32. Dated 12/27/21
- Regular Minutes: 12/9/21
- Budget Sub-Committee Minutes: 12/15/21

Motion by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Mrs. Curran. Roll call vote. 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.

There was no public comment.

**Report of the Superintendent:**

Superintendent Wargo advised that Covid Test kits are available for pick up. He expressed his appreciation to Mike Manning, Assistant Superintendent Smith and his wife Heidi for picking up and packaging kits for distribution and thanked those that picked up tests. Over 900 tests have been distributed.

The Superintendent shared that COVID numbers are rising. 21.9% of students were absent Thursday, January 6, 2022. Positivity rate is at 17.3. He conveyed his thanks to families and staff for being mindful of symptoms and staying home if experiencing them.

The DESE mask mandate is still in effect until 1/15/22. The isolation period has changed from 10 to 5 days. The Commissioner will hold another meeting next week. More updates to come. Recognition was given to the Nursing and Transportation departments as well as Stacey Ware and Champions for their hard work during the rapidly changing times.

Thanks was expressed to Senator O'Connor and Liz Bennett for their work with the CTI initiative.

FY23 Budget process is underway. Cost centers are using a zero based budget approach to ensure proper allocation of money. Budget hearings will be taking place over the next few weeks.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The Chair welcomed Principal Meehan as the new Principal of the New Chapman and expressed his appreciation to the search committee.

**a. Chapman Program of Studies: First Reading:**

Principal Meehan & Associate Principal Paulus (via Zoom) gave an overview of the presentation (attached to these minutes). Topics included Core Laboratories, teaching teams and neighborhoods, The '4 C's'-Collaborations, Communication, Creativity, and Critical Thinking, Performing and Visual Arts.

All questions asked by the committee were addressed.

The committee thanked Principal Meehan and Associate Principal Paulus for their thorough and researched presentation.

**b. WHS Program of Studies: First Reading; Principal Strauss & Associate Principal Monahan**

Associate Principal Monahan is home recovering from complete knee replacement. Well wishes were given.

Principal Strauss reviewed the summary of suggested changes (attached to these minutes) to the WHS 2022-23 Program of Studies. Dates, languages, clarification and consistency, as well as compliance are primary reasons for proposed revisions.

Staffing a Robotics Chapter 74 CTE program was discussed.

All questions by the committee were addressed. Thanks was extended to Principal Strauss for the overview.

**c. Secondary School Attendance Policies (action requested)**

Superintendent Wargo explained the reason for the temporary suspension of the attendance failure at the high school for the second quarter and expressed his support. Principal Strauss and the High School administration advised that the decision was made to keep the building safe as well as due to the number of students coming to school feeling unwell afraid of attendance failure.

The chair explained that in the event of an emergency a policy may be changed with only 1 reading. For the purposes of Covid19 a consensus was reached that temporary suspension of the attendance failure qualifies.

Motion by Dr. Sherlock Shangraw and seconded by Ms. Palazzo to approve the temporary suspension of attendance failure for grades 9-12 students for the second quarter. Roll call vote. Motion passed. Mrs. Curran voted no.

**d. School Committee Sub-Committee Appointments**

The Chair thanked his colleagues for their support and expressed his hopes for the upcoming year. Sub Committee Chairs will be elected by members at each of the next sub committee meetings.

**i. Budget Sub-Committee**

The committee will now meet as the "School Committee; meeting as the Budget Sub Committee". The Chair of the committee will be chosen at the next budget sub meeting.

**ii. Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee**

The subcommittee will include Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw, Mrs. Nardone and Mr. Buccigross.

**iii. Policy Review Sub-Committee**

The subcommittee will include Ms. Palazzo, Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw, and Mrs. Nardone.

**e. Ratification of WEA Unit B successor agreement-9/1/21-6/30/24 (action requested)**

Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw advised the negotiations team met 9 times and agreed upon a fair contract. Assistant Superintendent Smith shared that the financial impact of the contract is \$250K.

The Superintendent expressed his thanks and appreciation to all for the collaborative process. The contract will be posted.

Motion by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw and seconded by Mrs. Curran to approve the successor Unit B agreement for the dates of 9/1/21-6/30/24. Roll call vote. Passed unanimously.

WEA President Mike Murphy and WEA Vice President Joni Cederholm expressed their thanks for the collaboration and openness to the negotiating committee and board. A letter of appreciation from Andy Materna and Joe Amorosa was read into the record.

**f. School Committee Meeting Schedule Change (action requested)**

Superintendent Wargo reviewed the change of dates (attached to these minutes). A suggestion was made to post the meeting dates in a more visible place on the website.

Motion by Mrs. Curran and seconded by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw to approve the School Committee schedule changes. Roll call vote. Passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

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

Assistant Superintendent Curtin shared that new pictures are available on the website.

**Chapman Project Updates**

A suggestion was made to email the MWC presentation to families that will have students attending the New Chapman next year.

**Announcements:**

No School January 7, 2022 due to projected inclement weather.

Town Wide Parent Council-January 11, 2022, Humanities Center, WHS, 7:00pm

Budget Sub-Committee-January 12, 2022, 6:00pm, Administration

SEPAC Event-Andrea Hendershot, BCBA-January 25, 2022, 6:30pm via Zoom,

Weymouth Market-February 2, 2022-3:30pm-WHS, Gold Cafeteria-Market will return to pre-Covid model of in person pick up

**Next School Committee Meeting:**

Regular Meeting: Thursday, January 20, 2022 - 7:00pm

**The Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm** on the motion of Mrs. Curran, seconded by Dr. Sherlock-Shangraw. Roll call vote. Passed unanimously.

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**Documents Attached to These Minutes:**

- Minutes; 12/9/21 & 12/15/21
- Chapman Presentation and Program of Studies
- WHS Program of Studies
- Secondary School Attendance Policy
- Unit B Successor Agreement
- School Committee meeting schedule

Respectfully Submitted,



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Carrie Palazzo  
Secretary

