

Weymouth School Committee Meeting
 MJL Humanities Center
 November 14, 2019
 Minutes

<p>CALL TO ORDER PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE MOMENT OF SILENCE</p>	<p>7:00 PM The regular meeting was called to order. All that were present stood for the pledge. A moment of silence was observed in honor of David Madden, former Mayor, firefighter and chief; William Doherty, Weymouth South and Weymouth High School teacher; John Green, Weymouth Public Schools teacher and administrator; and Diane Sullivan, former teacher at Chapman</p>	
<p>MEMBERS Strike out = absent</p>	<p>Lisa Belmarsh, Chair Tracey Nardone, Vice Chair John Sullivan, Secretary Gail Sheehan Kathy Curran Rebecca Sherlock-Shangraw Robert Hedlund, Mayor</p>	<p>Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Superintendent Mary Ann Bryan, Assistant Superintendent Brian Smith, Assistant Superintendent</p>
<p>CONSENT AGENDA * Items = tabled</p>	<p>Payment of Bills Warrant 21-2020, in the amount of \$1,138,505.12 Field Trip: WHS Business Electives, DECA-District 1, Grades 9-12, Seacrest Beach Hotel, Falmouth, MA Dates: December 12-13, 2019 Field Trip: WHS Model United Nations, Grades 9-12, Bomun Conference, Boston, MA Dates: February 7-20, 2019 Approval of Minutes: Regular Minutes: 10/24/19 as corrected MOTION: by Mrs. Nardone to accept the consent agenda SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan UNANIMOUSLY VOTED</p>	
<p>STUDENT ADVISORY</p>	<p>Weymouth High School Theatre Company - Matilda Cast Members - November 22 & 23, 2019 at 7pm and November 24, 2019 at 2pm. Senior members of the WHTC excitedly shared the details of the performance. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for senior citizens and students age 3 and up. Online sales (https://www.weymouthschools.org/weymouth-high-school) will close November 19. The ticket office at WHS will be open November 20 & 21. Mary Ann Bryan left the table at 7:06pm and returned at 7:07pm</p>	

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	<p>Student Advisory member Katelyn Horan came to the table and shared on the following: Student Voice continues to draft the marketing campaign and proposal for re-opening the bathrooms. Student Voice is continuing to work with Mr. Strauss and Mr. Duane on the Leadership Wall. The ‘Start with Hello Campaign’ has put stickers and posters around the school as well as inspirational notes in the bathrooms. Beginning stages of the VIP fundraiser have begun. A fun twist this year will be a March Madness bracket where the winning teacher and class could win Marylou’s for a week. The craft fair will be December 7. One of the clubs participating, Best Buddies, will be selling Christmas ornaments and decorations as well as t-shirts. Student Advisory will be meeting with Mr. Strauss and Mrs. Monahan on December 9, 2019.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENT	<p>Chair Belmarsh explained that she would allow public comment both at this time and after the kindergarten presentation. No one rose for public comment at this time.</p>
REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT	<p>The Superintendent reported on the following:</p> <p>Dr. Curtis-Whipple recognized van driver, Katie Adams for her great work and relationship with her students. The Superintendent shared the details of an email that was from a non resident of Weymouth who was stopped at a red light next to a WPS van and witnessed Ms. Adams singing and smiling with her students.</p> <p>The Superintendent shared that Education Support Professionals Day is November 20, 2019. It is annually observed on the Wednesday during American Education Week. The day honors a long list of professionals who keep schools running smoothly. They include all secretaries, classroom aides, cafeteria workers, maintenance workers, bus drivers and others that support educators, school leadership, and the students, too. These professionals do their part in making public schools great for every child so they can be safe, learn, grow and achieve.</p> <p>Superintendent Curtis-Whipple thanked Mr. and Mrs. Robert Goodrow for their kind donation to the lunch program to help students with the cost of lunch.</p> <p>The Superintendent also thanked Green Standards for their very generous donation of office and classroom furniture. A thank you to Betsy Harris for coordinating this</p>

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<p>MASC RESOLUTIONS</p>	<p>donation with Green Standards and our building principals. Items that were donated: chairs, tables storage cabinets, refrigerators desks, shelving units, file cabinets and office supplies. WPS is very thankful for this donation.</p> <p>Academy Ave kicked of Yoga after school enrichment this week as part of a capstone partnership with a former academy graduate, Ava Rodriguez.</p> <p>Dr. Curtis-Whipple shared that Christina Aguilera gave a huge shout out to the Abigail Adams School for the recent Addams Family lip dub video. It can be found on Vimeo.</p> <p>The Chapman marching band partnered with the High School marching band and performed in the Veteran’s Day parade in Weymouth. They rehearsed together after school several times and sounded amazing. Hamilton students also read at the ceremony. The Superintendent thanked George Pontes for his efforts.</p> <p>The Nash School will be visited by Johnny the K to talk about Anti-Bullying. This is assembly ties in with PBIS initiatives.</p> <p>Superintendent Curtis-Whipple shared that Julianne Garmache advised that 2 culinary art students were selected to compete in the Governor’s gingerbread house contest on December 4, 2019 at the state house.</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent Smith shared that Liz Sauro will be piloting compostable lunch trays at the Abigail Adams school. The Superintendent reiterated that students opinions and thoughts matter and to keep bringing them to the table.</p> <p>Dr. Curtis-Whipple shared that in recognition of world kindness day, Staff at JECC wore Fred Rogers like sweaters and at the High School Jane Kirsch and staff did a kindness board.</p> <p>Mrs. Nardone read MASC motions into the record: Resolution 1, PASSED: Banning Polystyrene from Schools Resolution 2, PASSED: pertaining to Educator Diversity and Professional Licensure Resolution 3, PASSED: School Transportation Resolution 4, PASSED: Climate Change Resolution 5, PASSED: Full funding of Transportation of Costs for Students in Foster and State Care Resolution 6, PASSED: Universal Quality Pre-Kindergarten Access in Massachusetts Resolution 7, PASSED: Poverty and Children Resolution 8, PASSED: Resolution and Access to Menstrual Supplies Resolution 9, PASSED: Charter School Reform Details will be posted on the MASC website by 11/15/19</p>
<p>NEW BUSINESS</p>	<p><u>Unit B Job Descriptions Review - Maryann Foley, Director Human Resources</u></p>

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Human Resources Director, Maryann Foley came to the table and gave an overview of the presentation. Topics included purpose of review, committee members, the review process and positions reviewed. Language of existing positions has been updated. A copy of the presentation and job descriptions are attached to these minutes.

All questions asked by the committee were addressed.

The WEA President requested an extension from the 12/1 contractual deadline, so the vote will be added to the next School Committee agenda

MOTION: by Mrs. Nardone take out of order the resolution to oppose proposed Enbridge Compressor Station for health and safety of Weymouth students

SECOND: Dr. Sullivan

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Resolution to opposed proposed Enbridge Compressor Station for health and safety of Weymouth students

Ms. Sherlock Shangraw read the resolution into the record. A copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes.

Mrs. Curran questioned if the wording should have ‘proposed’

Mayor Hedlund added that it may be beneficial to include federal agencies, such as the federal energy regulatory commission, in addition to state agencies for the plea of opposition.

Chair Belmarsh clarified language should be added after the governor to state ‘include federal agencies, such as the federal energy regulatory commission.’

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Alice Arena

President, Fore River Residents Against the Compressor Station

<https://www.nocompressor.com/home>

Ms. Arena thanked the School Committee for passing another resolution. She shared that 3100 children live within 1 mile of the proposed location and the station is designed to leak and that presents an unhealthy outcome with the soil being contaminated with unsafe levels of chemicals, such as arsenic, coalash, burner bricks and oil. Ms. Arena asked that School Committee let the public know that it is opposed to this project.

MOTION: by Mrs. Nardone to approve of resolution to oppose proposed Algonquin Compressor Station for in Wymouth’s Fore River Basin

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	<p>SECOND: Dr. Sullivan UNANIMOUSLY VOTED</p> <p><u>Budget Sub-Committee Report-11/6/19</u> Mrs. Nardone read her notes into the record. The meeting was held November 6 at administration, Mrs. Nardone, Chair Belmarsh, Superintendent Curtis-Whipple, Assistant Superintendent Smith and Assistant Superintendent Bryan, and Mrs. Curran were in attendance. Topics covered were the pilot program for hockey, the school lunch process, contracts that are expiring and are looking for bids, compostable trays piloting at Abigail Adams-donation of \$5000 to food services, Universal Full Day Kindergarten implementation and SY 20/21 memo of budget forecast with discussion of the Mayors letter and his concerns about revenue; similar to the letter received last year which the Superintendent reviewed. Also discussed that a letter has to go out to families December 1, 2019 in preparation for kindergarten registration so that families can prepare. It was reiterated to move forward now and can not wait for the completion of the budget cycle. Estimation \$1.5 million in cost utilizing revolving budget of \$770,000 over the next 2 years. School committee hopes to continue to work with the Mayor and Town Council to ensure that education will be supported. The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 and the next meeting is December 11, 2019.</p> <p>MOTION: by Dr. Sullivan to accept the budget sub committee report SECOND: by Mrs. Sheehan UNANIMOUSLY VOTED</p>
<p>OLD BUSINESS</p>	<p><u>Universal Full Day Kindergarten - Review Staffing, Cost, Space for School Year 2020/21</u></p> <p>The Superintendent gave an overview of the benefits of Universal Full Day Kindergarten. Topics included happier and healthier students, increased student achievement, cost effectiveness, social emotional needs, and students preparedness for first grade. Dr. Curtis-Whipple also shared that Weymouth is 1 of 26 communities currently charging for full day K costing between \$3,000-\$5,00 and reiterated the importance of specialist positions and that the short term impact is for long term gains.</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent Smith gave an overview of the additional funding needed for Universal Full Day Kindergarten (staff for 20 classrooms) would be \$770,056 in addition to the revolving current Kindergarten budget as the district would not be collecting tuition is \$718,770 for a total of \$1,488,826</p>

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A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Mrs. Nardone shared that Kindergarten should be equal for all students.

Mrs. Curran stated that she is in support of universal full day kindergarten however doesn't want to sacrifice in other areas such as the curriculum plan, the special education, IT plan or coaches and needs a guarantee that there won't be cuts

It was shared that Academy Ave., Talbot, and Murphy will be receiving modular classrooms to accommodate kindergarten and 5th grade. It was also stated that the Mayor and Mr. Langill are working to try to find funding, looking at revolving account, current operations savings, and the district is hopeful to receive money from state and town funding.

Dr. Sullivan clarified that 'Art on a cart' involves the teacher visiting the students in their room rather than students traveling to the art room.

Mrs. Sheehan voiced her concerns on space and about Special Education classes being placed in a small room.

The Superintendent declared that students with services would never be cut, and that she would not allow any student to be placed in a substandard room, Dr. Curtis-Whipple also stated that Universal Full Day Kindergarten is fiscally responsible to build long term success.

Dr. Sullivan reiterated that the importance of Universal Full Day Kindergarten is worth some level of sacrifice, however not on the special education side. Dr. Sullivan also stated that he felt that the Superintendent hasn't earned the skepticism verbalized and that Dr. Curtis-Whipple is working hard consistently .

Mayor Hedlund stated that after the budget sub committee meeting held on November 4 his office received calls from the community that the Mayor's office was not in support of Full Day Kindergarten. The Mayor reiterated that a his office requested a detailed budget for the initiative and that would like to discuss facts and figures and not editorialize. The Mayor wanted to make that clear for folks watching at home

Mayor left the table at 8:33pm and returned at 8:37

Chair Belmarsh left the table at 8:47pm and returned at 8:48pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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Danielle Graziano
Ralph Talbot Street

Mrs. Graziano appealed to the committee to consider the needs of all students, including Special Education students in the district. Citizen Graziano advocates for full day kindergarten but is concerned about where the money is coming from and doesn't want to sacrifice anything on the special education needs list.

The Superintendent thanked Mrs. Graziano for sharing her thoughts and personal experience

Chair Belmarsh stated that the Special Education Administrator will be at the next budget sub committee meeting

Kaitlyn McGinnis
Neck Street

Mrs. McGinnis shared that Weymouth is the lowest in spending on education in the area and that Weymouth can do better and that there needs to be enough time in the Kindergarten day for children to play, work on social skills and social emotional needs as well as academics to be successful, productive member of society. Mrs. McGinnis quoted Dr. John Sullivan who stated "kindergarten is the foundation of learning."

Assistant Superintendent Smith left the table at 8:56pm and returned at 9:03pm

Christine O'Hara
104 Hawthorne

Reiterated what Danielle Graziano said about supporting full day kindergarten but not wanting to sacrifice needs for special education students.

Kimberly Ferrera
105 Charles Diersch Street

Ms. Ferrera shared her support of Universal Full Day Kindergarten as the mom of a child on an IEP and a child in a CEP class. Mrs. Ferrera also discussed the challenges that the ½ day program poses for children that require pull out services, such as speech or OT and how it significantly impacts their day and reiterated that she doesn't want services to be lost.

Rachel Collins
23 Bengal Road

As a Mother and Weymouth Public School 1st grade teacher at the Murphy School Mrs. Collins expressed her support for Universal Full Day Kindergarten. She pointed out that it's impossible to meet the academic and social emotional needs of

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kindergarten students in a ½ day program and that only 4% of Massachusetts kindergarten students were enrolled in a ½ day program for the 2019/20 school year. Mrs. Collins’ reiterated the importance of investing in our Kindergarten students with Universal Full Day Kindergarten for their long term success.

Sharon Ennis
163 Academy Avenue

Ms. Ennis expressed her support as a Mother and Public School Teacher for Universal Full Day Kindergarten and its benefits as well as the necessity for education equity. Mrs. Ennis shared a statistic that Weymouth is 1 of 38 districts with where Kindergarten is fee based

Elizabeth Foster Nolan

Asked for transparency and to involve parents especially SEPAC parents, and to also televise other meetings as some parents are not able to attend.

Mrs. Curran stated that it is a comprehensive plan-especially for sub separate and the Superintendent advised that going forward compliance will be enforced and reminded that funding might be found through increases from circuit breaker,, charter school, mckinney vento and asked that residents.

Superintendent Curtis-Whipple reiterated that the Mayor and his office have been very supportive and not just with the operating budget but also with the capital list and there is a good working relationship.

Mayor Hedlund reiterated his support of Full Day Kindergarten and that WPS and the town have made great strides and achievements working together over the last 4 years however does not want to jeopardize what has been done and stated that the town faces challenging decisions on budget spending.

The Mayor also shared that there should have been a realistic plan in place prior to the vote and that he understands the time constraint to inform parents and he pledged to work with the Superintendent and the School Committee to accomplish Universal Full Day Kindergarten.

Chair Belmarsh thanked the community, public speakers and the Mayor for his comments and the conversation stating that it builds transparency in the community. The Chair reiterated her thanks regardless of how the vote is decided and agreed that the Mayor has been engaged and responsive. Chair Belmarsh stated Universal Full Day Kindergarten has been talked about for a long time and is in support of it

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	<p>and that it is fiscally responsible to move forward, that it will be better for the district and that by voting tonight it will allow parents time to plan. Chair Belmarsh expressed her gratitude to the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent for their hard work and diligence.</p> <p>MOTION: by Mrs. Nardone to approve grade configuration of full day kindergarten through 5th grade starting in September of 2020 SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan Six voted IN FAVOR Mayor Hedlund voted as PRESENT</p> <p><u>Chapman School Building Update</u> At the meeting last week, playground equipment was discussed. There are no meetings scheduled at this time. Window Screens were also discussed. The Public Forum 10/30/19 meeting was canceled and will be rescheduled. The committee will provide an update as to when it will be rescheduled. Management bids will be sent forward, energy points and thickness also discussed. Next Public meeting is November 27-going in front of zoning board. Mrs. Curran expressed concern that the committee had to find another \$3 million in savings through value engineering and chose to use a thinner thermoplastic roofing. She encouraged everyone to be engaged, because important decisions are being made. All presentations, minutes and other information regarding the School Building can be found at: www.anewchapman.org</p>
<p>Announcements</p>	<p>Weymouth 400-Illuminate Thanksgiving-November 16, 2019 @ 4:30pm-Old South Union Church WHTC Presents-Matilda-November 22 & 23, 2019 @7pm and November 24, 2019 @ 2pm SEPAC-December 3, 2019-6:30pm, Library-Abigail Adams Full Day Policy Sub-Committee-December 2, 2019-6pm-School Administration Weymouth Market-December 4, 2019, 3:30pm, WHS Gold Cafeteria Town Wide Parent Council-December 10, 2019, 7:00pm, Humanities Center Budget Sub-Committee-December 11, 2019, 6pm-School Administration SEPAC</p>
<p>NEXT MEETING</p>	<p>Meeting of the WSC Thursday, December 12, 2019 - 7pm - MJL Humanities Center, WHS</p>

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ADJOURNMENT	MOTION: by Vice Chair Nardone at 9:37 pm SECOND: by Dr. Sullivan UNANIMOUSLY VOTED
ATTACHED DOCUMENTS	Payment of Bills Warrant 21-2020, in the amount of \$1,138,505.12 Field Trip: WHS Business Electives, DECA-District 1, Grades 9-12, Seacrest Beach Hotel, Falmouth, MA Dates: December 12-13, 2019 Field Trip: WHS Model United Nations, Grades 9-12, Bomun Conference, Boston, MA Dates: February 7-20, 2019 Approval of Minutes: Regular Minutes: 10/24/19 as corrected Unit B Job Description Budget Sub-Committee Resolution to opposed proposed Enbridge Compressor Station Text of MASC resolutions

Submitted by:

 John Sullivan, Secretary