

WEYMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Meeting of the Whole
MEETING NOTES (approved 10/26/17)

Date: September 28, 2017

Present: Chair Belmarsh Mrs. Sheehan, Mrs. Curran Mrs. Nardone and Dr. Sullivan,
Superintendent Curtis Whipple

Absent: Mayor Hedlund, Ms. Flemer

At 6:05 p.m. Chair Belmarsh called the meeting to order.

Chair Belmarsh opened the meeting calling for the first item on the agenda to be discussed.

Open Meeting Law Violation

Chair Belmarsh reviewed the Open Meeting law decision regarding the complaint filed by Elizabeth Foster-Nolan. The Chair also reviewed the new revised and passed out to the members. One of the items that has been revised are minutes. They need to be done by 3 meetings or 30 days. Recording secretary was posted and doing interviews. We are working to get caught up on prior minutes. Mrs. Sheehan asked Chair Belmarsh if she was going to make a statement at the regular meeting regarding the Open Meeting Law Decision. Chair Belmarsh stated she would not be making any comments

Dr. Sullivan is working on the possible suite of websites for School Committee. Gave an overview of the agendas, minutes and documents. All pages have members, purpose and various links. Archives as well. Gail will meet with Lisa and Eileen on minutes. Policy, retired principal Susan Nutting coming in an helping. Kathy asked why items are double posted on the blog. All the side items on the website can be cleaned up.

Minutes going forward for sub-committees should use the form and approve at the next meeting. Template will be sent out.

Minutes Protocols

Mrs. Sheehan brought up for discussion the 6-22-17 minute corrections. These minutes were tabled at our August School committee meeting. Chair then made changes herself on these minutes- redacting and removing sections of these minutes that corrections had already been made to, according to our "minutes procedure" already established by us. These "additionally corrected minutes" were then put back on the blog, not showing what she removed. When Mrs. Sheehan brought this up at the August meeting, we didn't discuss this. It was agreed going forward that this should not happen in the future. All changes will be noted so parties can easily see the changes made. Regarding the March 2014 to December 2014 Executive Session minutes that have not been done, Mrs. Sheehan stated she is not comfortable typing those up as official minutes - as she did for the entire 2015 Executive Session minutes, as these are personal notes and more cryptic than they would be if she was taking them as Secretary. She stated that she was not Secretary these two years. Dr. Curtis-Whipple said they would look for other records first. Ms. Belmarsh stated that all records are public documents and would inquire with Town Solicitor Callanan if we could not find any other records.

School Committee Goals

Dr. Curtis-Whipple wanted to do a check-in on School Committee Goals. Last year the goals were aligned with the levers. Goals will stay the same with minor changes. Under Policy change to 2018, continue to approve budget. Discussion around full day K, communications, and curriculum was had. Dr. Curtis-Whipple will update the goals with the changes. Dr. Curtis-Whipple shared that Tony Bent, who is doing the organizational structure review would like to meet with Committee members. Mrs. Curran brought up the SRO's, and what they actually do. Dr. Curtis-Whipple stated she would have the School Resource Officers attend a meeting to give us updates. Dr. Curtis-Whipple asked that we give her feedback on Goal #2 - School Committee Budget. Mrs. Curran asked for a new "organizational chart" for the district.

TN left table 6:30-6:31pm and 6:36-6:37pm.

District Committee Representation

A discussion on which committee members will attend Town Wide Parent Council and SEPAC. One representative for each and take a turn to sit at each meeting. The Committee filled out a chart through January 2018 to try the new process. Need to avoid having a quorum at the meetings. . Mrs. Sheehan stated that she always attends these meetings monthly. Mrs. Sheehan brought up the MASC Conference and that we need to decide who is attending soon. Ms. Belmarsh asked if Mrs. Sheehan and Mrs. Curran are interested in going again this year, both stated yes. Chair stated we will talk about the MASC conference in October. Mrs. Curran reminded her that we need to assign a delegate to vote at the delegate assembly at the conference.

Redistricting

Dr. Curtis-Whipple is working with App Geo and is currently getting information from the Town and Dr. Stazesky for them to put scenarios forward for review. Some schools are very full and some have more capacity. Further updates will be given.

CTE Robotics

CTE is requesting to add a robotics program at the high school. We are talking with the High School to build a robotics elective. Not many robotics programs in the state, but once one is close in proximity to Weymouth we will not be able to add. Dr. Curtis-Whipple stated that CTE Director Cathie Rebello was doing a "letter of intent" so that we have "our hand in now, to show that we were interesting in doing". Principal Strauss would like to have this as an elective offering in the STEM pathway. He feels he does have space for a robotics program at WHS. A potential cost of \$50k the first year/start up materials, 300-450 over 5 years. CTE is a focus and driver. It is competitive and Chapter 74 program set list in vocational programs.

Mrs. Curran stated she is looking for us to open up some of these CTE classes for electives to all students if we can. Ms. Belmarsh stated we have asked for CTE to be opened up for non-CTE students but space and availability of teachers has been the issue.

Open Forum

Mrs. Sheehan asked how much we are paying Tony Bent (\$5500-8000).

Mrs. Sheehan asked about an email we all received regarding Music and Art being removed from Full Day Kindergarten. Dr. Curtis-Whipple stated the Maryann Bryan has followed up with the new Principal that our Kindergartens do not have specialists. She stated that if Specialists have open blocks, they can work with the students. The district wants to have equity in all primary schools and that parents were told by teachers that they do have extra time and incorporate Art, music and gym in their regular classroom. A conversation was had about ways of carving time into the day to add to curriculum programs.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple stated that Specialist staff does travel to other buildings. If the District were to provide Specialists for the All-Day Kindergarten, then that classroom teacher would have an extra prep period, which would cause an issue with the Teacher's Unit A union contract.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple spoke about the Chapman Middle School vandalism. It was outside, in the back parking lot, by the gym - near the brick stack. She spoke of the letter she sent home to Chapman families regarding this incident.

Chair Belmarsh handed out a letter from Assist Superintendent Susan Kuska regarding the employee Handbook, Conflict of Interest - dated 9-5-17. She reminded us to do the Ethics Training and to submit the certificate to Ms. Kuska's office.

With no further business, motion to adjourn by GS, seconded by JS at 7:02pm.

Next Meeting of the Whole: October 26, 2017 – 6:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Sheehan – Secretary

Documents Related to March 23, 2017 Meeting of the Whole:

- Agenda
- Open Meeting Law Decision
- School Committee Goals
- Memo from Dr. Kustka re: ethics training

Approved