

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

Date: May 12, 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

Call to Order

At 7:00 p.m. Chair Belmarsh called the meeting to order. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

On motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Ms. Flemer to remove the minutes of the March 24, 2016 meeting. So voted, 7:02 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Warrant 44-2016 in the amount of \$864,274.23

February 25, 2016 Minutes

Field Trip Requests

- i. WHS Robotics Grades 9-12, WPI Worcester, May 21 -22, 2016
- ii. Chapman Middle School, Grade 8, Canobie Lake Park, Salem, NH, June 16, 2016

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan, it was voted to approve consent agenda with money to pay. So voted, 7:04 p.m.

Student Advisory Committee

There was none.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Superintendent's Report

Correspondence

Last week, DESE representatives met with science teachers as part of the Science Vertical Articulation Team (VAT). The presentation focused on the new science technology and engineering standards that were approved by the board of elementary and secondary education earlier this year. Teacher analyzed the new strands and organization of the standards which also include scientific

practices that should be weaved into science instruction at all levels (similar to the standards of mathematical practices in common core).

We are excited for the May STEM Hotspot which will take place on Saturday, May 14, at 10am at Weymouth High School. The Hotspot will celebrate EMS/EMT week with Fallon Ambulance. Stations will include opportunities for students to learn about the emergency response technology, first aid/cpr equipment, ambulance trucks, bio suits and more.

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, 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.

Over the next two weeks, a Weymouth Veteran and Rotary member will be visiting all of our primary schools and reading the book "Veterans, Heroes in our Neighborhood" by Valerie Pfundstein. Weymouth Public Schools received a gift from Weymouth Rotary of classroom copies of these books so that students can take the book home and discuss the contributions of veterans with their families. We are grateful to our veterans and our Rotarians for making these experiences possible.

At last month's presentation on our English language learner program, Mary Ann Bryan shared information about the International Nights taking place at our ELL schools. Information on these events is in your folders tonight.

On Thursday, May 26, at 3:45pm, we will be holding 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.

On Friday, April 29, Weymouth High School held its junior prom at the Emery Estate. The event was a great success beginning with a "red carpet" walk to buses at the Chapman school. We are grateful for the support of the Town, our own transportation and maintenance departments, the WHS administration and of course our WHS students. In addition our transportation vendor First Student donated four buses to transport students. The idea of hosting the prom on the Emery estate came from our own student leaders.

We are pleased to share that three of our middle school students at Adams and Chapman have placed in the State/Regional Elks Americanism Essay Contest and will be part of the national competition sponsored by the Elks organization. Congratulations to Adams student John Hardy, and Chapman students Katie Paras and Billy Hickey

Mrs. Sheehan brought up the need for us to do a better job of publicizing events. The two events being held this evening, Arts through the Ages and the Spring Concert did not have the advanced publicity that they should have.

New Business

Report on Teaching and Learning

Professional Learning and Accountable Talk

This evening we shared updates related to the three strategic levers in our district strategy: 1) professional learning focused on the instructional core, 2) effective use of data and 3) family & community engagement. Tonight, we have Assistant Superintendent Dr. Curtis-Whipple, Chapman Principal Paul Duprey and Pingree Primary School Principal Kathy Guilfooy to be a part of a presentation on our PD planning process for teachers and paraprofessionals and the work on accountable talk taking place in our schools.

Dr. Curtis-Whipple, Principal Duprey and Principal Guilfooy came to the table. They provided an overview of the presentation, how professional development aligns with the district vision, practices and levers. Why we need professional development, provided the 2015-2016 professional development opportunities and a closer look at PD priority: Accountable Talk. They then reviewed the next steps. A question and answer session was held with School Committee.

Report of the Budget Sub-Committee

Ms. Nardone just wanted to share two important dates. The Mayor's budget went to Town Council on April 19th. The School Department is scheduled to meet with the Town Council on May 25th. Our next Budget Subcommittee meeting on May 31st at 6:15 at the Administration Building.

Last week, the Town Council voted down a measure for school maintenance vehicles. There are a number of vehicles that have gone well beyond their useful life span including a 1997 and 1999 truck (one of which only goes in one direction!) The council were concerned about the source of the funding for the measure.

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan it was voted to approve the report of the budget subcommittee. So voted, 7:57 p.m.

2015-2016 Last Day of School

With three snow days this year, our last day of school will be Wednesday, June 22, for primary schools, Chapman and Weymouth High School. The last day of school will be Thursday, June 23, for Abigail Adams due to maintenance repairs that were necessary after the flood in February.

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan to approve the last day of school for grades 1-4 and 7-12 as June 22nd and grades 5-6 as June 23rd. So voted, 7:58 p.m.

Mrs. Curran asked to bring an item up under new business. The chair allows. Saw an article that Hanover High School is looking to flip their times for high school and primary. Suggests the committee begin to look at that. Dr. Sullivan supports the idea.

Chair Belmarsh suggests that we look into this and research the options.

Old Business

Proposed Policy JRE: Death of a Weymouth High School Student – Second Reading

Chair Belmarsh opens the meeting to public comment for the proposed policy.

Mr. Dominic Smith comes to the table. Spoke to the death of family members and how it affects families, especially parents of those members.

Mr. Hank Goldman came to the table. Discusses the need for the a policy. No two cases will be the same. Very strongly supports this measure.

Mr. and Mrs. Jankort come to the table. Mr. Jankort reads a prepared statement. Thanks Dr. Curtis-Whipple, Mrs. Sheehan, Mary Ann Bryan and all who wrote and supported this policy. Discussed their son Jonathan and the need for a posthumous diploma and his memory.

Chair Belmarsh thanked the Jankort's for being here this evening.

Mrs. Sheehan made a motion to combine the second and third readings this evening and vote the policy.

Dr. Sullivan asks for a language change for clarification, under option 1 - to add that "receipt of a posthumous diploma at the Weymouth High School graduation held the year he or she would have graduated as part of the natural flow of the ceremony". It is just a language change.

Dr. Sullivan thanked Mrs. Sheehan and Mrs. Curran for the research and all of the hard work they did on this policy.

Mrs. Sheehan asked for Dr. Sullivan to re-read the changes. "Receipt of a posthumous diploma at the Weymouth High School graduation held the year he or she would have graduated as part of the natural flow of the ceremony".

Mrs. Nardone stated that this policy is very important, it allows parents/ guardians closure. Wanted to thank Vinnie and Marie (Jankort) for your hard work and devotion to having this policy drafted and voted this evening.

Mrs. Sheehan stated, on behalf of herself, that she is sorry for the way things were handled. I appreciate the Jankorts pursuing and their assistance with this policy and that I am sorry that they had to go thru this.

Mrs. Sheehan amends the motion the policy will be as such, except #1 will read, "Receipt of a posthumous diploma at the Weymouth High School graduation held the year he or she would have graduated as part of the natural flow of the ceremony".

On motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Mrs. Curran it was voted to combine the second and third readings. So voted 8:16 p.m.

On motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Ms. Flemer it was voted to approve the policy as amended. So voted, 8:16 p.m.

Executive Session

To discuss strategy in preparation for contract negotiations with non-union personnel: 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: 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, 8:18 p.m.

Next Meeting of the Weymouth School Committee

The Weymouth School Committee will next meet on May 26, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mary J. Livingstone Humanities Center at Weymouth High School.

Adjourn

At 9:55 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 12, 2016

Documents Related to Meeting and Retained at School Administration Building

- Agenda
- Warrant 44-2016 in the amount of \$864,274.23
- February 25, 2016 Minutes
- Field Trip Requests
- WHS Robotics Grades 9-12, WPI Worcester, May 21 -22, 2016
- Chapman Middle School, Grade 8, Canobie Lake Park, Salem, NH, June 16, 2016
- Professional Development Presentation
- School Calendar 2015-2016
- Policy JRE