

**WEYMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
M I N U T E S (approved 5/26/16)**

Date: March 24, 2016

Present: Chair Belmarsh, Mrs. Sheehan, Ms. Flemer, Mrs. Curran, and Dr. Sullivan

Also present: Superintendent Salim, Assistant Superintendent Jennifer Curtis-Whipple,
Assistant Superintendent Kustka and Business Manager Mickey
McGonagle; Mayor Hedlund arrived at 7:11 p.m.

Absent: Mrs. Nardone

Call to Order

At 6:59 p.m. Chair Belmarsh called the meeting to order. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan remove the February 10, 2016 and March 10, 2016 minutes from the consent agenda. So voted, 6:59 p.m.

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan to table the February 10, 2016 and March 10, 2016 minutes. So voted, 7:00 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Warrant 39-2016 in the amount of \$639,365.20

Field Trip Request; WHS, grades 9-12 Band and Choir, New York City, NY, Thursday April 7-
Friday April 8, 2016

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan, it was voted to approve consent agenda with money to pay. So voted, 7:05pm

Student Advisory Committee

The Student Advisory Committee members came to the table. They provided an overview of the Capstone Presentations and the process, steps and projects in detail.

Dr. Sullivan thanked the Committee for the overview and Karen Monahan for an extraordinary job.

A video was shown of the new configuration of Student Government at Weymouth High School. Mrs. Curran asked about the smoke detectors for the bathrooms.

Nick was congratulated on his Capstone project which was to build the bench platform just outside the Humanities Center.

The Committee stated the sophomore semiformal was as big success. On April 2nd there will be a fundraiser for the sophomore class at Bob's Muffin Shop. Mrs. Curran stated she loved the student summit project. This project has identified that communication is key and will help with school spirit. Mrs. Sheehan reminded the students about the cell phone policy to get into next year's handbook.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Superintendent's Report

Correspondence

Mumps Update

As committee members know, we received information last week from the MA Department of Health that a WHS student contracted the mumps. We worked with the Weymouth Health Department and the MA Department of Public Health including a state epidemiologist in the response which includes a health advisory that was shared with families at the high school and the broader schools community. This advisory included information on the symptoms of the mumps as well as general precautions that should be taken including hand washing. Since this report, we have received no other reports indicating that any other student, staff member, or child at Weymouth High is infected with Mumps. At this point in time, the DPH continues to monitor this case and will be in communication with our health services team and the Weymouth Health Department if there is any additional information.

Mrs. Sheehan asked for clarification if we still require, according to our policy in the student handbook, an immunization record for Students when they start school. Dr. Salim replied in the affirmative.

Dr. Salim reported that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees and MASBO have released their recommendations on the state FY17 budget. As members know, Weymouth is one of many Massachusetts communities (over 50%) that would receive the minimum \$20/student in Chapter 70 under the Governor's budget proposal. MASS/MASBO are recommending that this minimum increase to \$50/student. MASS/MASBO also recommend phasing in the implementation of the recommendations in the Foundation Budget Review Commission report which calls for more accurate funding for costs that are higher than the current formula allows for including health care costs and out of district

special education costs. Ultimately, this underestimation of these costs results in fewer dollars going to instruction and instructional support than is needed state wide.

This week, WHS held its annual Capstone Fair on Tuesday and Wednesday evening. The Capstone Fair has truly become a wonderful community event that celebrates the culminating projects that students complete as part of their experience as Weymouth High School students. Dr. Salim spoke with many students and proud family members over the two evenings and a number of judges who were excited about the opportunity to provide valuable feedback to our students. Dr. Salim wanted to extend a special thanks to all of the Capstone advisors, teachers, administrators, families and community members for making this another successful Capstone year. And to our students: the breadth, creativity and effort that you have put forward are commendable. Congratulations to our seniors for this important work.

Our next STEM Hotspot will take place in conjunction with a STEM Community Compact meeting here in the Mary Jo Livingstone Humanities Center at WHS. The STEM Compact meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 30, at 4pm where parents and community members can engage in discussions about the direction and priorities for STEM work in Weymouth Public Schools.

This will be followed by a STEM Hotspot event at 5:30pm led by five of our schools – Johnson, Pingree, Seach, Hamilton and Talbot. There will be stations for student's preK-4 to engage in hands on STEM activities, demonstrations and give-aways. The Hotspot will take place at 5:30pm at Weymouth High School Maroon Lobby until 7pm. We had a tremendous turnout of over 200 people participate in the Wildlife Center Hotspot last month and hope to have a great turnout here at the high school in a few weeks.

On Saturday, April 9, we will be hosting a STEM Conference for Girls at Weymouth High School. Roughly 18 Workshops will be presented by STEM professionals and students to 65+ Girls in grades 4-8 attendees. Activities involve creative problem solving and collaboration and offer students opportunities to build, create, code, plan, and design. 2015 Envision Girls and Team members will participate in planning the STEM Conference for Girls. Along with presenting STEM Activities, the girls will be asked to assist adult presenters with the implementation of some of the workshops they participated in as part of the 2015 Envision the Future Program.

Dr. Salim had the opportunity to participate in a national convening of educators called the Redesign PD Partnership. This partnership is sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Learning Forward – the professional development association where Dr. Salim previously served as board president. The partnership of 30 or so people includes the national teachers' unions, senior officials from state departments of education, teacher

leadership and education research and public policy organizations, foundation representatives and superintendents. It is an impressive and thoughtful team of people who are committed to advancing professional learning so that it will have a meaningful impact on results for students.

Earlier this month, Dr. Salim had the opportunity to attend the Weymouth Elks award ceremony for the Americanism Essay competition. There were 80 entries from Chapman and Adams and winners from each school read their essays to the audience. Teachers Will Dreyfus, Lanette Griffin, Linda Williams and Kristina Melanson were integral to the high level of student participation in this writing competition. We plan to invite the students who were recognized to a future school committee meeting to share their essays with you.

Abigail Adams

#1. John Hardy- Grade 6

#2. Luke Seto- Grade 6

#3. Laney Phillips- Grade 5

Honorable Mention: Jamie Lynn-Murphy- Grade 5

Chapman

#1. Kate Paras- Grade 7

#2. Anthony Maccarrone- Grade 7

#3. Billy Hickey- Grade 8

Honorable Mention: Jack Donahue- Grade 8

New Business

Report on Teaching and Learning – Curriculum Mapping – Dr. Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Dr. Pamela Stazesky and Liz Murray

Dr. Salim invited Dr. Curtis-Whipple, Dr. Stazesky and Liz Murray to the table. A powerpoint presentation was provided. This presentation reviewed curriculum mapping, why we map, progress in WPS, resource needs and next steps.

All questions asked by the Committee were addressed.

Approval of FY2017 School Department Budget

Dr. Sullivan provided a budget report for Tracey Nardone who was unable to attend this evening (attached to these minutes).

Dr. Salim then reviewed a summary of the budget proposal that included: FY17 budget breakdown, FY17 budget request \$70,692,291.00, which is approximately an 11% increase from FY16 and includes needs and level service. Dr. Salim then reviewed the needs list summary and detailed each need.

Mayor Hedlund stated that the Town is still working on the FY17 budget for the town. Addressed the revenue, fiscal capabilities and needs of other departments in town. Addressed the needs of the schools and moving forward and will be abstaining from tonight's vote.

Mrs. Sheehan asked Dr. Salim about increasing the bandwidth in the schools and where the money was coming from. Dr. Salim addressed and described the funding source.

Mrs. Curran asked about the needs list and how we would meet them in 2017. Dr. Salim and Mayor Hedlund addressed.

Mrs. Belmarsh thanked Mayor Hedlund for his comments this evening. Stated we cannot support the needs of the budget if we do not know what those needs are. This year's process has been followed from previous years and very hopeful to continue work on a process that works for everybody. Stated that the final budget number is a very large number that recognizes the needs of our students and wants to continue to collaborate with the Town on the budget process. The Mayor will submit a full budget to Town Council.

On motion of Ms. Flemer seconded by Mrs. Sheehan approve the FY17 School Budget request in the amount of \$70,692,291.00 for submission to Mayor Hedlund. So voted, 8:39 p.m. Mayor Hedlund abstained.

Reports of Sub-Committees

- Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee
- The Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee is now in mediation with Unit A. On March 13nd we met the mediator, Joe Griffin for an informational meeting. On March 22 met with Joe Griffin and Unit A, some progress was made. We have scheduled meeting coming up on March 30th and April 11th.
- We are also in mediation with Unit B and are meeting with them on April 5th and April 13th. Mrs. Flemer reiterated that we want to settle these contracts and come to the best settlement possible for all.
- Ms. Flemer stated that it was brought to her attention that there were two corrections to her report on March 10th. The First meeting with Unit A was on March 3, 2015 not April 6, 2015 and that "we are on track for arbitration" should be "on track for mediation"
- On motion of Mrs. Sheehan seconded by Dr. Sullivan, to approve the report of the Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee. So voted, 8:46 p.m.

- Mrs. Sheehan stated publically that she is disappointed that there is not an Executive Session for the whole Committee on the agenda for Collective Bargaining. May be not in the Committee's best interest if we are not on the same page.
- Policy Sub-Committee Meeting
- The next meeting of the Policy Sub-Committee will be on Tuesday, April 4th at 6:30 p.m. at the School Administration Building.
- 2016/2017 Draft School Year Calendar
- On motion of Ms. Flemer seconded by Mrs. Sheehan to table the draft 2016/2017 School Year Calendar. So voted, 8:49 p.m.

Committee Announcements

Town Wide Parent Council Meeting, Tuesday, April 12th, at 7:30 pm MJL Humanities

SEPAC Meeting, Tuesday, April 5th, at 7:00 p.m. Abigail Adams Library

Save-the-Date: Weymouth Educational Foundation Annual Quiz Nite - Friday, April 1st.

Old Business

Weymouth High School Program of Studies – Third Reading

Principal Peter Haviland and Associate Principal Kelly Stukenborg came to the table.

Mrs. Sheehan stated it came to her attention that the changes to the Program of Studies were not publically posted. Mrs. Sheehan is concerned that if there are no public comments on this.

Mrs. Curran asked if a question around pre-requisites. Mrs. Stukenborg addressed.

Chair Belmarsh is concerned with the printing time and asked Mr. Haviland where that stands. Mr. Haviland stated that it is dependent on the School Committee vote to move forward with the Program of Studies to go to print.

Ms. Flemer asked for clarification of the changes. Mr. Haviland addressed.

Ann Knapp, Director of Special Education came to the table to clarify details of the discussion. .

Mrs. Kustka stated she was able to find the changes on the website, just not clearly marked. Dr. Sullivan discusses the difficulty of finding this on the website. We should take action to make sure we do a better job.

Chair Belmarsh opened Public Comment for the Program of Studies. There was none.

Mrs. Curran stated her concerns with the Program of Studies and will not support this because of the successful completion of a D-. Voting no only for this reason. Mrs. Curran appreciates all of the hard work on the Program of Studies.

Mrs. Sheehan stated she still does not support the 60% = successful completion. She stated that she is looking forward to NEASC's thought on this, and will be voting no again.

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Dr. Sullivan it was voted to accept Weymouth High School Program of Studies. Mrs. Sheehan and Mrs. Curran vote No. Motion Passes 4-2. So voted, 9:10 p.m.

Mrs. Sheehan asked if taking a vote on an item on the agenda if action items could be put back on the agenda instead of mixed in with new business. Mrs. Sheehan also asked for additional workshop dates.

Superintendent Search Process

The Superintendent Search Committee continues to meet and is continuing with the process.

Next Meeting of the Weymouth School Committee

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

Adjourn

At 9:11 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
March 24, 2016

Documents Related to Meeting and Retained at School Administration Building

- Agenda
- Warrant 39-2016 in the amount of \$639,365.20
- Field Trip Request; WHS, grades 9-12 Band and Choir, New York City, NY, Thursday April 7-Friday April 8, 2016
- WHS POS – Third Reading
- Curriculum Mapping Presentation

Budget Sub 3/24/16

First off I wanted express my apologies for not being here tonight.

Tonight we get to vote the number of the School Budget for FY17. This number has come with much collaboration and support of key individuals including Parents, principals, the community and school committee members.

We have had 10 budget meetings, including full SC meetings and a public hearing. We have had presentations from the principals on their school improvement plans as well as department heads and community members around priorities and needs.

- We have had wonderful eye opening review from Gail Callahan and Laura Stevenson the IT director. Ann Knapp the Sped Director, Paul Comerford the Maintenance Director and Dr Jennifer Curtis Whipple Assistant Superintendent on the Curriculum needs.

These meetings were well attended with many new parents and community members. It's these conversations that keep us moving forward in a productive manner.

I had the opportunity to meet with Ted Langill, the Mayors chief of staff yesterday and I am excited that we are moving in the right direction through collaboration and goal setting. One priority we discussed will be to work towards moving away from past practice of a School Budget that relies on free cash allocations just to meet the basic level service needs. We applaud this direction. Thanks goes to the current administration for their attention and time in these short 3 months to the schools, attending subcommittee meetings, meeting with us and collaborating on next steps, especially with regard to IT spending.

A quick reminder of the process not being done tonight. The Mayor's budget is presented to the Town Council on April 19th. Once the budget goes to the Town Council, the administration will present before the Town Council Budget Management Committee and most likely, we will have additional work to do of what the budget looks like for next year.

We know included with this budget request is a long needs list with still some unanswered questions. We still have Unit A and Unit B contracts to negotiate which will impact our spending. Each item on the needs list has come with extensive discussion either here at full school committee or within the budget subcommittee during this year and , for many of the items, over the last 2-3-4 years. It will be a difficult choice to determine how to prioritize.

I want to thank Dr. Salim for his work on the budget; Business Manager Mickey McGonangle; Assistant Superintendents and the Administrative Team. Also thanks to the teachers, principals and school councils for their input through the school improvement plan. Also thanks to those parents who spoke at our public hearing and continue to provide input into this budget process.