

## WEYMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Mary J. Livingstone Humanities Center

Weymouth High School

January 9, 2014

7:30 p.m.

### MINUTES

The Weymouth School Committee met on January 9, 2014 in the Mary J. Livingstone Humanities Center at Weymouth High School. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Ms. Flemer with the following members present: Ms. Belmarsh, Mrs. Curran, Ms. Flemer, Mr. Guilfoyle, Mrs. Nardone, and Mrs. Sheehan. Also present were Superintendent Kenneth Salim, Assistant Superintendent Garry Pelletier, and Assistant Superintendent Susan Kustka. Mayor Kay was not in attendance.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

#### Reorganization of the Weymouth School Committee

On motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Mrs. Nardone, it was unanimously voted to nominate and appoint Mr. Guilfoyle as Chairperson of the Weymouth School Committee.

On motion of Mrs. Nardone, seconded by Ms. Belmarsh, it was unanimously voted to nominate and appoint Mrs. Sheehan as Vice Chairperson of the Weymouth School Committee.

On motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Mrs. Curran, it was unanimously voted to nominate and appoint Ms. Flemer as Secretary of the Weymouth School Committee.

Mr. Guilfoyle took the Chair and welcomed Mrs. Curran as the newly elected member of the School Committee.

Mr. Guilfoyle announced that due to meetings taking place next week, all sub-committees will remain intact with Mrs. Curran replacing Mr. Ford on the Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee.

#### Approval of Minutes

On motion of Ms. Flemer, seconded by Mrs. Sheehan, it was unanimously voted to table the Minutes of the December 12, 2013 and December 19, 2013 meetings of the Weymouth School Committee.

#### Student Advisory Committee

Student Advisory members Tim Cronin and Derek Linehan came to the table and updated the School Committee on the technology survey of teachers and students regarding technology carts. They have met with Mrs. Stevenson and are not recommending laptop carts, but have not come to a conclusion on how to deal with the technology situation at Weymouth High School. They also reported that the Student Advisory Committee will be expanding and have more representatives at School Committee Meetings. A brief discussion followed and the Committee thanked them for taking such a realistic approach to the technology issue.

Public Comment

Maggie Fitzgerald and two other high school students distributed information to each of the School Committee members relative to the dress code. Their Capstone Project is about the flip flop issue and their goal is to review and propose a revision to the Dress Code Policy for 2014-2015. They presented their case citing responses from area high school principals and assistant principals, stating that flip flops have not presented a safety issue. A discussion followed with questions from members of the School Committee. They were encouraged to attend a Policy Review Sub-Committee meeting to further defend their proposal.

Committee Announcements

- Mrs. Sheehan reported that SEPAC met on January 8, 2014 and will meet on the first Wednesday of every month. She also reported that TWPC will meet on Tuesday, January 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Humanities Center. All are welcome to attend.
- Mrs. Sheehan commented on an article that Dr. Salim had shared with the Committee about kids and praise. She thought it was an excellent article and asked if it could be shared with parents.
- Mrs. Sheehan also spoke about the Charm Bracelet Fundraiser for Skills USA. Contact Julie Bowen at Weymouth High School for more information.
- Mrs. Curran reported that Weymouth High School's Parent Council meets the first Wednesday of the month. Their next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Report of the Superintendent

- Correspondence
  - Dr. Salim reported on Reverse College Day and what a terrific opportunity it is to speak with recent graduates about being prepared for the rigors of college and what Weymouth could do better for its students.
  - Dr. Salim reported that the CTE program received a grant in the amount of \$60,000.00 from MA Life Sciences Center for equipment. He congratulated Cathie Rebelo, Director of CTE, who wrote the grant.
  - Dr. Salim reported that the MASBO Review went well. There were no significant findings or issues. A report will be forthcoming.
  - Dr. Salim deferred to Mr. Pelletier regarding the arts and music review. Mr. Pelletier reported that Dr. Nicolucci began her review today. It will continue tomorrow and Monday. So far she has met with students, teachers and parents. Mrs. Sheehan asked if School Committee members would have a chance to meet with her and Mr. Pelletier responded that he would suggest Monday.
- Eva Mitchell – DESE Associate Commissioner

Dr. Salim then introduced Dr. John Roper, the Coordinator of District Reviews for ESE. Associate Commissioner Mitchell was called out of town and sent her regrets. Dr. Roper then explained the purpose of the District Review scheduled in Weymouth at the end of January is to "Improve teaching and learning for students in Weymouth." The ESE representatives will be working with Weymouth's Leadership

Team for four days and will make suggestions for progress going forward. Four months from the beginning of the site visit, a report will be issued. There are six standards to be reviewed for school effectiveness and Mr. Roper outlined each. Interviews will be conducted with key players including School Committee members, teacher focus groups, union leadership, 50 classroom visits at individual schools, parent council members, municipal business officials, and a closing meeting with the Leadership Team. A discussion followed with members of the School Committee.

- Instructional Technology Update – Laura Stevenson

Laura Stevenson and Richard Bykowski, Coordinator of Infrastructure, came to the table and presented on the Vision, District Strategic Levers, and Instructional Technology Purpose. The emphasis was on updating technology and finding the resources to do so. A discussion followed with Ms. Belmarsh requesting more data for consideration by the Budget Sub-Committee. Dr. Salim noted that Aspen (X2) is a great resource and will be used more efficiently.

At 9:09 p.m., Ms. Belmarsh stepped out, returning at 9:12 p.m.

Discussion continued relative to field testing for PARCC and email notifications to parents. Mrs. Stevenson responded that Parent University will have a tutorial and explained the process.

At 9:13 p.m., Mr. Guilfoyle stepped out, returning at 9:19 p.m.

- Southfield Discussion

Dr. Salim reported that Starwood presented at the January 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of Town Council and is planning to meet with them again in two weeks. They are also scheduled to meet later this month with the Mayor's office to finalize a contract with Tri-Town.

Report on Teaching and Learning

- School Improvement Plan Overview: Middle School

Dr. Salim gave a brief update on the format for presentation of the Middle Schools School Improvement Plans and invited the leadership staff of the two campuses to the table. Each member of the panel introduced themselves and the presentation went as follows:

Daniel Birolini, Principal of the Abigail Adams campus, presented an overview of vision setting with the School Community, Student Data Results, Root Cause Analysis and "Five Why's," Key Initiatives at the Middle School Level, and Resource Priorities at the Middle School Level.

Paul Duprey, Principal of the Chapman campus presented data reports on MCAS Proficiency, MCAS Extra Credit, MCAS Growth, Scholastic Reading Inventory-Ready and Curriculum-based Assessments.

Mr. Birolini then outlined specific data and its use both district wide and at the middle school level. He reviewed the 5 Whys Protocol: Root Cause Analysis and Key Initiatives.

Elizabeth Gilmore, Housemaster at Adams, spoke about Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) in 2013-2014;

Andrew Materna, Housemaster at Adams, spoke about Universal Design for Learning (UDL's) principles for curriculum;

Mr. Duprey presented on the effective use of data including DDM's, DSAC, PBIS; and SIT;

Lisa Canavan, Housemaster at Chapman, presented on DSAC, common rubrics and assessments;

Nancy Schuwerk, Housemaster at Chapman, presented on PBIS to encourage positive student behavior;

Mr. Duprey then spoke about Parent and Community Engagement;

Joseph Amoroso, Housemaster at Chapman, spoke about Community Service and Outreach, including after school enrichment and athletics;

Mr. Birolini explained resource priorities for personnel: STEM and Humanities Coaches, enrichment teachers; and the need to reinstate math and ELA positions;

Mr. Duprey concluded by speaking about non personnel resource priorities.

A discussion followed. Mrs. Sheehan expressed her concern that the Housemasters introduced themselves as Assistant Principals and asked for clarification of their titles. She then thanked the Principals and Housemasters for their presentations and discussed her concerns with discipline and membership on School Council at Chapman. Mr. Duprey addressed these issues and said he would get discipline data for her. Discussion continued with questions from the Committee being answered by the middle school principals.

Mr. Guilfoyle asked that the School Improvement Plans be posted on the website.

At 10:15 p.m., Mr. Guilfoyle asked for a motion to take New Business out of order for the purpose of discussing two items. This motion was made by Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Ms. Flemer, and unanimously approved by the Committee.

### New Business

- Massachusetts School Building Authority

Mr. Guilfoyle reported that the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) has opened a new funding opportunity to submit projects for replacement of roofs, boilers, and windows. The submittal dates start on January 10 and end on February 14, 2014. Before we can submit a Statement of Interest to the MSBA, we need a vote of authorization from School Committee and Town Council.

Mr. Slattery asked if the School Committee would vote approval tonight to submit an application for \$900,000.00 to MSBA to replace the boilers, hot water tank, gas conversion, underground oil tank removal and all associated piping, pumps and controls at the Abigail Adams Middle School. This item is listed as 15-5 on our Capital Request to the Town which was voted by School Committee earlier last fall. If School Committee doesn't vote on this tonight, we will miss the vote of Town Council and therefore lose out on the possibility of 54% reimbursement.

Following a brief discussion, on motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Ms. Flemer, it was unanimously voted to approve submitting an application for \$900,000.00 to MSBA to replace the boilers, hot water tank, gas conversion, underground oil tank removal and all associated piping, pumps and controls at the Abigail Adams School.

- Parking at Weymouth High School

Mr. Guilfoyle reported he had received inquiries about School Committee Policy on parking at Weymouth High School. He clarified that School Committee does not have parking policy, it is a school building issue. Dr. Salim noted that there is a \$100.00 per school year parking fee; \$50.00 fee February or later. The policy for parking is in the Student Handbooks

Mr. Guilfoyle then continued with the agenda.

### Reports of Sub-Committees

- Budget Sub-Committee

Ms. Belmarsh reported that the Budget Sub-Committee is scheduled to meet on January 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the School Administration Building. They will be discussing and identifying supplemental budget needs and will request Town Council to release free cash in the approximate amount of \$501,000.00 to the schools to cover the listed supplemental FY14 needs. This would virtually eliminate the Net School Spending deficit this year. Ms. Belmarsh then made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Sheehan, to submit the Supplemental Budget request to Mayor Kay for consideration. Following a discussion, the motion was unanimously approved by the Committee.

- Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee

Ms. Flemer reported that the Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee met on December 16, 2013 relative to negotiations with SEIU, Local 888. They are scheduled to meet again on January 16, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in Executive Session.

She welcomed Mrs. Curran as the new member on the Sub-Committee. On motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Ms. Flemer, it was unanimously voted to accept the report of the Collective Bargaining Sub-Committee.

- Policy Review Sub-Committee

Mrs. Sheehan reported that the Policy Review Sub-Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building. They have a full agenda and will not be reviewing Dress Code that evening.

#### Discussion Items

- Report out on the vote on the provisions of the Superintendent's contract

On motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Ms. Flemer, it was unanimously voted to table this item until the next meeting on January 23, 2014.

#### Action Items

- Bills Paid

On motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Ms. Flemer, it was unanimously voted to pay the bills on Warrant #29-2014 in the amount of \$1,184,695.25 with money to pay.

- Field Trip Request – WHS Athletics to Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, January 10-11, 2014

Dr. Salim recommended a field trip request by WHS Athletics to Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, January 10-11, 2014. On motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Ms. Flemer, it was unanimously voted to approve this request.

#### Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

#### New Business

Ms. Belmarsh reminded the Committee and Administration that we are still waiting for a response from the Mayor's office relative to a field maintenance schedule and the responsibility for maintenance. She also referred to the Planning Department about the condition on the turf fields and a response from them.

Ms. Belmarsh also suggested inviting the Town's Planning Department to discuss the capital needs list.

#### Next Meeting of the Weymouth School Committee

The Weymouth School Committee will next meet on January 23, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary J. Livingstone Humanities Center at Weymouth High School.

January 9, 2014

Page Seven

At 10:30 p.m., on motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Ms. Flemer, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Diana R. Flemer – Secretary



Weymouth School Committee Meeting  
January 9, 2014

Documents Related to Meeting and Retained at School Administration Building

- Agenda
- Minutes of December 12, 2013
- Minutes of December 19, 2013
- Instructional Technology Update
- School Improvement Planning Presentation
- School Improvement Plan – Abigail Adams
- School Improvement Plan - Chapman
- Warrant #29-201
- Field Trip Request by WHS Athletics to Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH