

WEYMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

School Administration Building

March 21, 2013

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The Weymouth School Committee met on March 21, 2013 in School Administration Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Chairperson Sean Guilfoyle with the following members present: Ms. Belmarsh, Mayor Kay, Mrs. Nardone (arrived at 7:31 p.m.), Mrs. Sheehan and Mr. Ford. Also present were Superintendent Kenneth Salim, Assistant Superintendent Matthew Ferron, Assistant Superintendent Garry Pelletier, and Business Manager Maria Hortaridis. Ms. Flemer was not in attendance

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

Executive Session

At 7:09 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Sheehan and seconded by Ms. Flemer to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy relative to negotiations with union personnel. A roll call vote was taken by Mr. Guilfoyle with the following results: Ms. Belmarsh, YES; Mayor Kay, YES; Mrs. Sheehan, YES; and Mr. Ford, YES.

At 7:13 p.m., the School Committee returned to Open Session. A motion was then made by Mrs. Sheehan and seconded by Mayor Kay to table the Executive Session strategy discussion until the March 28th meeting of the School Committee. Mrs. Sheehan requested that Executive Session be scheduled at 7:00 p.m. before the start of the regular meeting which request received the consensus of the School Committee.

Discussion Relative to FY2014 Budget Proposal

Mr. Guilfoyle turned the meeting over to Ms. Belmarsh. Ms. Belmarsh updated the School Committee on the March 18th meeting with the Town's Education Committee and the March 20th meeting of the Budget Sub-Committee. She then asked Dr. Salim to address Net School Spending and its components.

Dr. Salim reported that the Net School Spending figure is \$71,082,308.00. He reported on the details of a "Needs List" (attached) totaling \$3,977,000.00 and additional necessary items. A discussion followed with requests for clarification on specific items listed on the "Needs List." At 7:31 p.m., during this discussion, Mrs. Nardone arrived. Proposed new positions for an Assistant Director of Special Education, a Transition Coordinator at Weymouth High School and Curriculum Coordinators were discussed in detail. Ms. Belmarsh then opened the discussion to the audience.

Hank Goldman discussed the role of Curriculum Coordinators and asked about the role they would have compared to five years ago. Mr. Pelletier and Mr. Guilfoyle responded that they would report directly to the Assistant Superintendent.

Kathy Curran discussed the effectiveness of Curriculum Coordinators five years ago and the concern that the new coordinators will not be effective. She agreed that more help is needed with the curriculum. Mr. Pelletier responded that education is the driving force behind the success of a community.

Gus Perez stated that the "Needs List" is a tough sell and that three Curriculum Coordinators could be six teachers to reduce class sizes. The community wants smaller class sizes and higher scores.

Mrs. Nardone asked about user fees for athletics at the Middle Schools to which Ms. Belmarsh responded that she would like to have that discussion after the budget process has been completed.

There was further discussion led by Ms. Belmarsh relative to a list presented to the Budget Sub-Committee by department heads and a description of their needs by department. She stated that the budget is a vision of what we want our school system to look like. The full School Committee will be meeting on March 28th to vote a budget to be submitted to the Mayor. The Mayor will be submitting a budget to Town Council on April 10th.

A discussion followed about Town issues, Unit A contracts, Sub-Finder and protocols for substitute teachers.

Next Meeting of the Weymouth School Committee

The Weymouth School Committee will next meet on March 28, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Mary J. Livingstone Humanities Center at Weymouth High School.

At 8:37 p.m., on motion of Mrs. Sheehan, seconded by Mrs. Nardone, it was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Sheehan – Vice Chairperson

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Documents Related to Meeting and Retained at School Administration Building

- Agenda
- Needs List