

WESTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, November 17, 2014

Weston Middle School Library Resource Center

Regular Session 7:30 p.m.

- | | | |
|--------------|--|--|
| I. | CALL TO ORDER, VERIFICATION OF QUORUM
Philip Schaefer, Chairperson | |
| II. | PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | |
| III. | RECOGNITION | Motion |
| | 1. Teacher of the Year
Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, will introduce Allison Pregman, Weston 2015 Teacher of the Year. | |
| IV. | APPROVAL OF MINUTES, <i>pages 1-7</i>
The Board will vote to approve the minutes from October 20. | Motion |
| V. | PUBLIC COMMENT | Information |
| VI. | NEW BUSINESS | |
| | 1. Presentation of District Update
Dr. Palmer will update the Board on district work in the following areas:
A) Master Planning Team;
B) District Goals Progress; and
C) Resource Allocation and Budget Implications for 2016. | Information |
| | 2. Annual NESDEC Enrollment and Projections Report, <i>pages 8-24</i>
Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, will review the NESDEC Annual Enrollment and Projections Report. This report is the updated enrollment history and forecast from the New England School Development Council (NESDEC). These enrollment projections, developed annually, provide important data for program, budget planning and staffing for the 2015-2016 school year. | Information |
| | 3. Second FY 2015 Financial Update and Approval of Transfers, <i>pages 25-33</i>
Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, will provide a monthly financial update. | Motion |
| VII. | OLD BUSINESS | None |
| VIII. | SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT | Information |
| | 1. Next Regular Board Meeting Monday, December 15, 2014, at 7:30 p.m.
2. Principals' Reports, <i>pages 34-45</i> | |
| IX. | COMMITTEE REPORTS | |
| | 1. WHS Student Representatives' Report - Jackson Marvin, Jack Seigenthaler
2. Communications Committee - Nina Daniel | Information
Information |

3. Curriculum Committee - Ellen Uzenoff
4. Finance Committee - Denise Harvey
5. Facilities Committee - Ellen Uzenoff
6. Policy Committee - Dana Levin
7. Negotiations Committee - Denise Harvey
8. CES - Nina Daniel
9. CAFE - Elise Major
10. Weston Education Foundation - Denise Harvey

Information
Information
Information
Information
Information
Information
Information
Information

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion

Weston Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Weston Middle School Library Resource Center
October 20, 2014

Attendance:

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson	Dr. Jo-Ann Keating, Director of Finance & Ops.
Ellen Uzenoff, Vice Chairperson	Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources
Dana Levin, Secretary/Treasurer	Jackson Marvin, Student Representative
Nina Daniel	Jack Seigenthaler, Student Representative
Denise Harvey	
Sara Spaulding	Absent: Elise Major
Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent	Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent

III. RESUME PUBLIC SESSION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. RECOGNITION

1. 2014 Emmy Awards

Ms. Pattie Falber, Weston Intermediate School Principal, introduced Hayley Negrin, recipient of a 2014 Emmy Award for Outstanding Performer in an Animated Program for the series *Peg+Cat*.

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education recognizes Hayley Negrin for her outstanding television performance, and her receipt of a 2014 Emmy Award.
Motion by Ms. Daniel, second by Mrs. Levin, all in favor. (6-0)*

2. 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program

Mrs. Lisa Deorio, Weston High School Principal, introduced the students who have been named Commended Scholars in the 2014-2015 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education recognizes the following students for their outstanding achievement in the 2014-2015 National Merit Scholarship Program:

<i>Samuel I. Bieler</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>
<i>Daniel J. Bogaev</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>
<i>Zachary B. Byer</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>
<i>Ana R. Flooks</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>
<i>Zoe Howard</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>
<i>Alexander Ishin</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>
<i>Alexander R. Lee</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>
<i>Caroline C. Maretz</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>
<i>Jackson Siff</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>
<i>Justin Summers</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>
<i>Alex J. Sydney</i>	<i>Commended Scholar Award</i>

Garrick Tsui Commended Scholar Award
Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Ms. Harvey, all in favor. (6-0)

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board voted to approve the minutes from September 15.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the minutes of the September 15, 2014 Regular Session. Motion by Mrs. Uzenoff, second by Ms. Spaulding, all in favor. (6-0)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – No report

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Ratification of Tentative Agreement with the Weston Teachers' Association

Ms. Harvey, Weston Board of Education Negotiations Committee Chairperson, presented the tentative agreement with the Weston Teachers' Association for ratification. She noted that the tentative agreement was signed the day before the parties were scheduled to commence arbitration and that the agreement had already been ratified by the union. Ms. Harvey thanked the members of the Negotiations Committee and the other individuals involved in the process, including Dr. Palmer, Dr. Keating, and Mr. Brey (Central Office), Dick Bochinski (Board of Finance observer), Tom Mooney from Shipman and Goodwin (Board's legal advisor) and Bob Lindberg from Arthur Gallagher (Board's insurance consultant).

Ms. Harvey noted the following key areas of the tentative agreement:

- the two-year term of the contract, emphasizing that it will enable the District to evaluate with greater certainty the financial impact of upcoming changes under the Affordable Care Act, including the expected imposition of the Cadillac or excise tax;
- the formation of a health insurance issues committee to study and report back to the Board and the WTA on current developments in employer-provided health insurance plans;
- more flexibility for the Administration in scheduling high school teachers for supervisory duties;
- flexibility for credit for online courses, placement on certain columns for work completed in pursuit of a doctorate and new teachers in shortage areas identified by the Commissioner of Education;
- new certification requirements for physical education teachers who teach swimming;
- health insurance plan changes, including eliminating the PPO plan, increasing the premium cost sharing by employees by 1% over two years and adding a post-deductible drug copay;
- small increase in tuition reimbursement in year 2;
- 1% increase in each year for stipends;

- addition of some new stipend positions, such as PBIS coaches and the summer social skills coordinator; and
- on salary: full step movement and a 1.07% general wage increase in each of the two years, plus a very small adjustment to one step in the first year. The all-in percentage increase for year one is 3.37% and for year two is 3.15%, bringing the projected two-year impact on the teachers' salary account based on the current workforce to 6.52%.

Ms. Harvey added that she believes that the settlement is competitive with the results of other known DRG A teacher settlements thus far this negotiating season.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education ratifies the tentative agreement dated October 7, 2014, between the Weston Board of Education and the Weston Teachers' Association (WTA) effective July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2017, and authorizes the chairperson of the Board of Education to sign on its behalf the revised collective bargaining agreement with the WTA that reflects the terms of said agreement. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (6-0)

2. Ratification of Memorandum of Understanding with Weston Teachers' Association

Mr. Brey, Director of Human Resources, discussed the MOU with the WTA regarding the new position of Curriculum Instructional Leader for Visual and Performing Arts.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education ratifies the Memorandum of Understanding with the Weston Teachers' Association (WTA). Motion by Mrs. Uzenoff, second by Mrs. Levin, all in favor. (6-0)

3. Gifts

Dr. Craw, Assistant Superintendent, announced that Dr. Palmer, Superintendent, as per Board Policy #3280, has accepted, with appreciation, the following gifts from the Weston Middle School PTO:

\$3000, in principal discretionary funds to be used by team leaders and the Principal to enhance instruction.

4. Administrator Evaluation Plan Approval

Dr. Craw, Assistant Superintendent, discussed the Administrator Evaluation Plan. The key components of the plan include conferences, a feedback cycle, observation, and stakeholder feedback. Discussion by the Board followed.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the Administrator Evaluation Plan presented by Dr. Craw. Motion by Ms. Daniel, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (6-0)

5. Presentation on K-2 Spanish

Dr. Craw, Assistant Superintendent, provided an update on the new K-2 immersion program for Spanish, which included a video of students singing in Spanish.

6. First FY 2015 Financial Update and Approval of Transfers

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, provided a monthly financial update, which included transfers for salary, curriculum writing, workers' compensation, and athletic insurance coverage accounts.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the transfers as presented by Dr. Keating in the first FY 2015 financial update. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Mrs. Levin, all in favor. (6-0)

7. 2016 Budget Assumptions Approval

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, reviewed the draft copy of FY 2016 Board of Education Operating Budget Assumptions, including enrollment projections. Discussion by the Board followed.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the FY 2016 Operating Budget Assumptions. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (6-0)

8. 2016 Budget Calendar Approval

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, reviewed the draft FY 2016 Budget Calendar.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the FY 2016 Budget Calendar. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Ms. Harvey, all in favor. (6-0)

9. Approval of NEEM Contract

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, discussed the NEEM energy conservation project.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to execute the NEEM program contract at Weston Middle School and Weston Intermediate School. Motion by Mrs. Uzenoff, second by Mrs. Levin, all in favor. (6-0)

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

Mr. Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, reviewed the Weston Board of Education Policy 4121, Substitute Teachers. No changes were made since the first reading.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves Policy 4121, Substitute Teachers. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Mrs. Uzenoff, all in favor. (6-0)

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Next Regular Board Meeting Monday, November 17, 2014, at 7:30 p.m.

2. District Update

Dr. Craw, Assistant Superintendent, discussed the full-day professional development that was held on October 13, an upcoming professional development day on November 4, and the Employee Assistance Program.

3. Principals' Reports

Mrs. Kaddis, Hurlbutt Elementary School Principal, announced this week's Run for Life activities and PTO book fair. She also discussed student announcers. Ms. Falber, Weston Intermediate School Principal, announced next week's Run for Life events, book fair, and parent information meeting with team leaders, in addition to upcoming math workshops. Ms. Watkins, Weston Middle School Principal, reported on student summer reading, TEDx talks, students publishing work with *KidzEra* online magazine, and S.M.A.R.T. goals for students through the counseling department. Mrs. Deorio, Weston High School Principal, discussed Pink Aid month, the October 15 PSAT, National Art Honor Society, college visits, and the new Latin teacher.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. WHS Student Representatives Report

Mr. Seigenthaler and Mr. Marvin commented on the success of Homecoming Week and a freshmen assembly with the cast of *The Laramie Project*. They also announced upcoming fundraisers, including the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive; the Shine a Light campaign at home football and soccer games; and Penny Wars for Pink Aid against Joel Barlow High School, St. Joseph High School, and Fairfield College Preparatory School. The sale of spirit wear and creation of a brick wall display in the high school main courtyard were also mentioned. Discussion by the Board followed.

2. Communications Committee

The Committee held a meeting on October 16 and have a work session coming up to work on the November 4 *Forum* insert. Ms. Daniel also announced the Realtors' Open House scheduled for January 14.

3. Curriculum Committee

Mrs. Uzenoff discussed the following topics from the October 8 meeting: a robotics club at the middle school; potential high school courses in AP Latin, coding, and law; the senior exit survey; a blended learning opportunity at the middle school; and State changes to high school graduation requirements. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for November 12.

4. Finance Committee

Ms. Harvey discussed the following topics from the October 10 Finance Committee meeting, in addition to those covered by Dr. Keating previously on the agenda:

requirements for qualifications of a health insurance consultant, food services contract, trust fund, and stop-loss reimbursement. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for November 11.

5. Facilities Committee

Mrs. Uzenoff discussed the following topics from the October 8 meeting: a review of summer and fall projects, the recent power outage at the middle school, stage curtain replacement, annual high school auditorium inspection, signage on campus, the upcoming November 5 Light Committee meeting, capital projects for next year, updating the Kastle Boos study, recycling, the Strategic Plan, and the creation of comprehensive profiles of each facility on campus. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for November 6.

6. Policy Committee

Per Mrs. Levin, beyond what was discussed previously on the agenda, the Committee is conducting an ongoing review of policies to be updated. Comments from Board members on existing Board bylaws are due the first week in November. Mrs. Levin also stressed that copies of all updated policies are now available online on the website and binders should no longer be used.

7. Negotiations Committee

Per Ms. Harvey, there is nothing to discuss beyond what was previously covered on the agenda.

8. CES

Ms. Daniel discussed CES' October 2 meeting and the upcoming fall productions at the Regional Center for the Arts: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

9. CABA

Mrs. Uzenoff reminded Board members of the upcoming CABA/CAPSS Conference on November 14.

10. Weston Education Foundation

Ms. Harvey discussed the following topics from the October 6 meeting: grants for the high school newspaper and a middle school robotics club, Dr. Palmer's presentation on the Master Planning Team, technology and the role of librarians, and a kitchen tour fundraiser.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

*Motion: Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Uzenoff, second by Ms. Daniel, all in favor.
(6-0) Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.*

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Markov, Board of Education Clerk.

Minutes reviewed/approved by Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent.

DRAFT

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Education
From: Lewis D. Brey
Date: November 17, 2014
RE: NESDEC Enrollment History and Projections

Attached is the updated enrollment history and forecast from the New England School Development Council ("NESDEC"). These enrollment projections provide important data for program development, budget planning, and staffing for the 2014-2015 school year.

Projection Methodology

In developing projections for member school districts, NESDEC uses the cohort survival technique, the most common method for preparing enrollment forecasts. By incorporating some appropriate modifications, NESDEC is able to consider information specific to an individual school district and, consequently, avoid forecasts that are entirely formula driven.

NESDEC calculates percentages from historical data and determines reliable percentage increases or decreases between each pair of consecutive grade levels. For example, if 100 students enrolled in grade 1 in 2012/2013, increased to 104 students in grade 2 in 2013/2014, the percentage of survival would have been 104% or a ratio of 1.04. Such ratios are calculated between each pair of grades or years in school over several recent years.

The ratios used are the key factors in the reliability of the projections, given the validity of the data at the starting point. The strength of the ratios lies in the fact that each ratio encompasses collectively the variables that account for increases or decreases in the size of a grade enrollment as it moves on to the next grade. Each ratio represents the cumulative effect of the following factors:

1. Migration in and out of the schools;
2. Retention in the same grade;
3. Births in the community;
4. New house construction;
5. Residential turnover;
6. Spikes/declines in real estate sales;
7. Drop-outs, transfers, etc.; and
8. Economic conditions.

The ratios selected are applied to the present enrollment statistics for a pre-determined number of years.

Reliability of Enrollment Projections

Enrollment projections based upon the children already in the district (the current K-12 population only) will be the most reliable. The second level of reliability encompasses those children already born into the community, but not yet old enough to be in school. The third and least reliable category is the group for which an estimate must be made to predict the number of births and health of the real estate market, thereby adding additional variables.

Projections can serve as useful guides to school administrators for educational planning. In this regard, the projections are generally most reliable when they are closest in time to the current year. Projections six (6) to ten (10) years out may serve as a guide to future enrollments and may be useful for long-range facilities planning. However, they should be viewed as subject to change given the possibility for anomalies that may crop up in the underlying assumptions. Annual updates allow for the identification of any recent changes in historical trends.

Review of Enrollment – 2014-2015

Last year, NESDEC projected a K through 12 enrollment for 2014/15 of 2,377 which included twenty-one (21) projected outplaced students. The actual K through 12 enrollment (including twenty-two (22) outplaced students) for 2014/2015 is 2368, only nine (9) students lower than projected. NESDEC's enrollment projection total from fall of 2012 was .04% above the actual October 1, 2014 enrollment. Significant enrollment projection variances from actual grade level enrollments are, for the most part, limited to grade 1 at Hurlbutt Elementary School and in grades 9 and 10 at Weston High School. Actual enrollments in other grades are closer to NESDEC's projections. These totals are noted in the individual school enrollment summaries below. Please note that the NESDEC grade specific figures do not include students who are currently outplaced due to special education needs.

Hurlbutt Elementary School

At Hurlbutt Elementary School, there was an increase, K-2, of ten (10) students over the projection (436 actual vs. 426 projected – a 10.5% deviation). This increase was the result of larger than projected first grade enrollment of 150 actual vs. 142 projected (a 5.3% percent deviation) and kindergarten enrollment of 140 actual vs. 138 projected (a .14% deviation).

The continued steady trend in kindergarten enrollment at Hurlbutt may be a short-term trend reflecting the growth in real estate sales as opposed to births. In 2009, the birth year of the majority of the current kindergarten class, there were seventy-one (71) births in Weston. This year, there are 140 kindergarten students representing a birth to kindergarten ratio of 1.97. This ratio, which also applied last year, is the highest birth to

kindergarten ratio in the last nineteen (19) years and the third highest in the last twenty-six (26) years. Birth to kindergarten ratios for the last five years have been as follows:

2010: 1.51
2011: 1.91
2012: 1.61
2013: 1.97
2014: 1.97

Predicting kindergarten enrollment from prior births has proven very difficult. While this year there was a ratio of 1.97 students for each Weston birth, as recently as 2010 this ratio was 1.51. For next year, NESDEC has used a 1.85 ratio to predict the size of the incoming kindergarten class. This is in line with the ratio of the last two (2) years and takes into account the somewhat smaller number of home sales, and the drop of the 2010 birth rate by ten (10) to sixty-one (61). It should be noted that the ratio used for projecting the size of the incoming kindergarten class is .06% above the five (5) year-average ratio of 1.79%.

One change in the historical trend was the significant increase in the sale of homes during 2013 and 2014. This increase followed a pronounced decrease in the sale of homes in 2009 following the economic crisis that began in earnest in 2008.

2003-2007: 188 sales annually (average)
2009: 95 sales
2013: 163 sales
2014: 152 sales (based on current trend)

With the birth rates continuing at very low levels, the birth to kindergarten ratio will need to remain strong in order to avoid further declines in enrollment. Weston has been hit hard by the statewide decline in births falling to a low of 49 births in 2011. Statewide, the decline in births between 2007 and 2009, during the height of the financial crisis, was the highest in the Northeast at 8.6%. In New York State, the decline was 6.2%. In Weston, the decline during that period was only one birth (1.4%), but the 2009 birth rate was still very low at 71. That birth rate was 27% lower than five (5) years earlier in 2004 and 51.4% lower than in 1999. In addition, through 2011 (49 births), the Weston birth rate fell an additional 14% from 1999 before climbing slightly by eight (8) births (57 total) in 2013.

<u>Year</u>	<u>NESDEC</u>	<u>Preschool Feedback</u>	<u>a/o 10/01</u>	
2015-2016	113	90*	TBD	* + 10 eligible 5 year olds who could register for either K or 1
2014-2015	138	104*	140	* + 15 eligible 5 year olds who could register for either K or 1
2013-2014	116	89*	136	* + 25 eligible 5 year olds who could register for either K or 1
2012-2013	126	99*	115	* + 23 eligible 5 year olds who could register for either K or 1
2011-2012	140	120*	161	* + 29 eligible 5 year olds who could register for either K or 1
2010-2011	179	149*	159	* + 22 eligible 5 year olds who could register for either K or 1
2009-2010	170	147*	158	* + 26 eligible 5 year olds who could register for either K or 1
2008-2009	130	138*	168	* + 25 eligible 5 year olds who could register for either K or 1
2007-2008	117	139	147	
2006-2007	193	212	210	
2005-2006	178	181	182	

As in prior years, Hurlbutt has carefully monitored enrollment in area pre-schools to determine the number of Weston students who may enroll in kindergarten in the coming years. Obviously, these numbers change as new students enroll or move into the area. Also, these numbers will not reflect students who move into Weston during the summer preceding the start of school.

The breakdown of pre-school enrollment of Weston students is as follows:

School Name	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.
A Child's Place	2	0	2	0
Beginnings				
Children's Community Develop. Ctr.	0	3	1	0
Christ and Holy Trinity Preschool	1	0	0	0
Community Nursery School	4	4	8	3
Conservative Synagogue Preschool	2	0	2	0
Earthplace Nursery School	1	3	0	0
Greens Farms Nursery School	0	0	2	0
Landmark of Ridgefield Academy-Westport	0	2	2	0
Landmark of Ridgefield Academy-Redding	4	6	4	4
Learning Community Day School	0	3	6	2
Norfield Nursery School	4	12	10	0
Old Hill Children's Day School	1	1	0	0
Pumpkin Preschool of Westport				
Landmark Preschool - Ridgefield	0	0	0	0
Saugatuck Nursery School	0	0	1	0
St. Francis of Assisi Preschool	11	17	11	0
St. Paul Christian School	2	0	0	1
Temple Israel Early Childhood Ctr.	3	9	9	0
The Montessori School - Wilton				
Three-Four Open the Door	2	1	1	0
Town & Country Montessori	0	0	0	0
Westport Weston Coop Nursery School	11	6	5	0
Wilton YMCA Nursery School	1	2	3	0
Early Learning Center @ HES				
Teacher 1			12	
Teacher 2			0	
Teacher 3			11	
TOTAL	49	69	90	10

Weston Intermediate School

At Weston Intermediate School, enrollment was projected at 549 vs. the actual enrollment of 548, a deviation from the projection of only one (1) student. Grade 3 enrollment was three (3) students above the projection (185 actual vs. 182 projected), grade 4 was two (2) students below projection (177 actual vs. 179 projected), and grade 5 was two (2) students below projection (186 actual vs. 188 projected).

Weston Middle School

At Weston Middle School, enrollment was projected at 602 vs. the actual enrollment of 603; one (1) student below projection. Grade 6 enrollment was three (3) students above projection (203 actual vs. 200 projected), grade 7 enrollment was one (1) student above projection (188 actual vs. 187 projected), and grade 8 enrollment was three (3) students below projection (212 actual vs. 215 projected).

Weston High School

At Weston High School, there was lower than projected enrollment in grades 9 and 10. The total 9-12 enrollment is nineteen (19) students below projection (800 projected vs. 781 actual enrollment). In grade 9, there are thirteen (13) students below projection for 2014/2015 (201 actual vs. 214 projected), and in grade 10 there are eight (8) students below projection (207 actual vs. 215 projection). Grade 11 has come in two (2) students above projection (206 actual vs. 204 projected), and in grade 12 the projection of 167 students proved to be accurate.

Review of NESDEC's 2015-2016 Enrollment Projections

NESDEC's most recent K through 12 projection indicates a decrease in total student enrollment for 2015/2016. Total K-12 projected enrollment for 2015/2016 is forecasted at 2371, a decrease of twenty-eight (28) students below the current year total K-12 enrollment of 2390. This represents a decrease of 1.17% decrease below the current year.

Hurlbutt Elementary School - Grades K-2

Enrollment at Hurlbutt is projected to decrease by ten (10) students as compared to the current enrollment in these grades in 2014/2015 (436 current vs. 426 projected). This decrease is attributed to a large projected decline in kindergarten enrollment of twenty-seven (27) students (140 current vs. 113 projected). In contrast, grade 2 is projected to increase by sixteen (16) students due to the larger current grade 1 moving up and additional "move-ins" resulting from a stronger real estate market (146 current vs. 162 projected). Grade 1 is projected to increase by one student (150 current vs. 151 projected). Grades 1 and 2 projections are usually very accurate given that they are based

on students already in the District. However, as we saw over the last two (2) years, there has been a dramatic increase in home sales from the bottom in 2009 leading to an influx of new students. NESDEC has factored this trend into these numbers, and it remains to be seen whether the pace of home sales will continue.

Kindergarten enrollment remains the most difficult to forecast and is somewhat elusive to accurately project. In developing the enrollment projections for the kindergarten class of 2014, NESDEC used a birth to kindergarten growth ratio of 1.85%. This ratio is slightly lower than the birth to kindergarten ratio of 1.97% used for projecting the current kindergarten class size. As noted above, the slightly lower ratio takes into account the trend of slightly reduced home sales in the current year.¹

It is important to note that the trend over the past ten (10) years, illustrated by the following chart, indicates that the in-migration/growth rate between the year of birth and kindergarten eligibility five (5) years later first peaked in 2006 and had been on a general decline until 2013 when it stabilized and began to increase. It will begin dropping again next year. NESDEC's five (5) year projection has the in-migration/growth rate stabilizing at an average of +47.6 for that period (2015-2020).

In-Migration between Year of Birth and Actual Kindergarten Enrollment*

	Birth Cohort	K Enrollment	Difference
1999 to 2004	146	184	+38
2000 to 2005	129	182	+53
2001 to 2006	129	210	+81
2002 to 2007	77	146	+69
2003 to 2008	93	166	+73
2004 to 2009	97	158	+61
2005 to 2010	105	159	+54
2006 to 2011	85	162	+77
2007 to 2012	72	115	+43
2008 to 2013	69	136	+67
2009 to 2014	71	140	+69
2010 to 2015	61	113	+52

**Births in 2011 fell to a low of 49 (80 fewer than ten (10) years earlier). This represents a 62% drop in the birth rate. The 2016 in-migration rate is projected to be +41.*

As in the last several years, we plan to continue our effort to gather the most accurate kindergarten enrollment data through the following activities:

¹ If the 1.97% ratio were used for next year's kindergarten class, the projection for next year would be 120 kindergarten students – a decline of twenty (20) students below the current year.

- Scheduling a late fall pre-registration for kindergarten to help with staff planning and the number of sections needed for the fall of 2014.
- Continuing the practice of contacting all area pre-school programs to obtain an accurate update on the number and ages of children enrolled in these programs.
- Sending parents of kindergarten-age children pre-registration letters, providing information on the school district website and posting information in the Weston Forum about the registration process and deadlines.
- Continuing to work closely with NESDEC to identify forecasting strategies and with appropriate town agencies to better identify 3-5 year-old children who may have moved into the community.
- Monitor home sales, and leases to the extent possible, to better determine how many families with young children have moved into the community. This information has proven critical given the increase in the rate of sales over the last two (2) years.

The projected changes in enrollment by grade level at Hurlbutt will likely impact the number of sections in Kindergarten and Grade 2 as noted in a grade size comparison:

	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
2014-2015 (current)	140	150	146
2015-2016 (projected)	<u>113</u>	<u>151</u>	<u>162</u>
Increase/Decrease	-27	+1	+16

Weston Intermediate School - Grades 3-5

Enrollment at the intermediate school is projected to decline by twenty-four (24) students (548 current vs. 524 projected). The decrease is attributable to the movement of the smaller grade 2 class to grade 3 which may result in staffing changes to reflect the lower enrollment in grade 3.

	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
2014-2015 (current)	185	177	186
2015-2016 (projected)	<u>153</u>	<u>188</u>	<u>183</u>
Increase/Decrease	-32	+11	-3

Weston Middle School - Grades 6-8

Enrollment at the middle school is projected to decline by nineteen (19) students (603 current vs. 584 projected). The decrease is attributable to the significant decreases in grades 6 and 8 as mitigated by the projected increase in grade 7.

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
2014-2015 (current)	203	188	212
2015-2016 (projected)	<u>194</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>190</u>
Increase/Decrease	-9	+12	-22

Weston High School - Grades 9-12

Enrollment at the high school is projected to increase significantly by thirty-four (34) students (781 current vs. 815 projected). The most significant change will be in grade 12 which is projected to increase by thirty-six (36) students (167 current vs. 203 projected). It should be noted that last year NESDEC had projected that high school enrollment would increase to 835 students in 2015/2016 before beginning a slow decline in the following years. That prediction was twenty (20) students off, though NESDEC continues to forecast a steady decline in high school enrollment for the next ten (10) years which reflects the smaller cohorts of students coming up through the system. Currently, NESDEC projects that the enrollment for the high school enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year will fall to 664 students.

	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
2014-2015 (current)	201	207	206	167
2015-2016 (projected)	<u>209</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>203</u>
Increase/Decrease	+8	-7	-3	+36

General Comments (“Look-Ahead” Perspective)

NESDEC has provided the District with a ten (10) year enrollment projection. *However, it is important to keep in mind that projections beyond the first few years are often far less reliable given the reliance on birth rate projections and other factors.* This is particularly true given the unpredictable nature of the real estate market. While there has been a surge in home purchasing over the last twenty-four (24) months that number may decline as the inventory drops and prices rise. In fact, this year’s rate of sales is tracking

at eleven (11) sales fewer than last year. The most reliable projections will always be for the first three (3) years given that the official birth rates are known.

K-12 Enrollment

Since the 2004/2005 school year, total K through 12 enrollment in the Weston Public Schools has decreased by 135 students (a 5.3% reduction). The forecast for the next five (5) years, using 2014/2015 as the base year, forecasts a further decline of 289 students, a 12.1% decrease in enrollment from 2390 in 2014/2015 to 2101 in 2019/2020.

It must be noted that the projections for the 2019/2020 school year vary considerably from NESDEC's projections from last year. Last year, NESDEC projected that K-12 enrollment in 2019/2020 would be 2181 as opposed to their current projection of 2101 - a difference of eighty (80) students. This change is indicative of the difficulty and uncertainty of making long-term enrollment projections.

Hurlbutt Elementary School Enrollment (Grades PK-2)

Enrollment at Grades K-2 is forecasted to decline significantly over the next five (5) years with a total enrollment decrease of eight-eight (88) students during that period. Enrollment is then projected to remain relatively stable and decrease by only three (3) students in the following five (5) years through 2024/2025.²

Weston Intermediate School Enrollment (Grades 3-5)

Enrollment for the next five years at WIS is projected to decline by 117 students through 2019/2020, which represents a decline of 21.3%. NESDEC's ten (10) year projection has the WIS enrollment declining by an additional thirty-four (34) students after 2019/2020 to 397 in 2024/2025.

Weston Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Over the next five years, enrollment at the middle school is forecasted to decrease by fifty-two (52) students (8.6%) during this period; with enrollment ranging from 603 students (2014/2015) to 551 students (2019/2020). The decrease in enrollment is projected to occur steadily over that five (5) year period. NESDEC's ten (10) year projection has Middle School enrollment dropping further to 402 in 2024/2025 representing a drop of 201 students (33.3%) from the current year.

Weston High School Enrollment (Grades 9-12)

During the next five (5) years enrollment at the high school is projected to decrease by thirty-two (32) students to 749 in 2019/2020. Thereafter, NESDEC predicts that

² K-2 enrollment is projected to reach a low of 326 students in 2018 before climbing to 348 in 2019-2020. After that, enrollment remains relatively steady through 2024-2025.

enrollment at the high school will steadily decline over the following five (5) years to 664 in 2024/2025. This represents a ten (10) year decline of 117 students (15%).

Summary Comments

Given the dramatic decline in birth rates, and the uncertain real estate market, the NESDEC projections have varied significantly from year-to-year with the long-term projections varying considerably. Although NESDEC projections have proved reliable and useful, we cannot unduly rely on any single year's projections. As we have seen in the past few years, projections change from year-to-year due to the uncertain economic climate and the turbulent real estate market. Further, predictions beyond the first few years are less reliable as they are based on estimated future birth rates and assumption in real estate trends that are simply too far away to predict with great accuracy. Given all of the uncertainties, it may be unwise to plan significant changes too far into the future.

The recent increases in real estate sales have served to mitigate the effect of the dramatic drop in births, but it is still unclear how long the improved real estate market will last. It will be important to carefully monitor the real estate market over the coming months to determine whether Weston's real estate market has leveled-off. As births are at very low levels, it is the real estate market that is keeping enrollment from dropping even further.

NESDEC Enrollment Report and Projections

The information and charts that follow describe the District's enrollment history and projections. A power-point presentation will highlight some of the more important enrollment data and projections for the public and viewing audience.

Weston, CT Historical Enrollment

School District: Weston, CT

10/9/2014

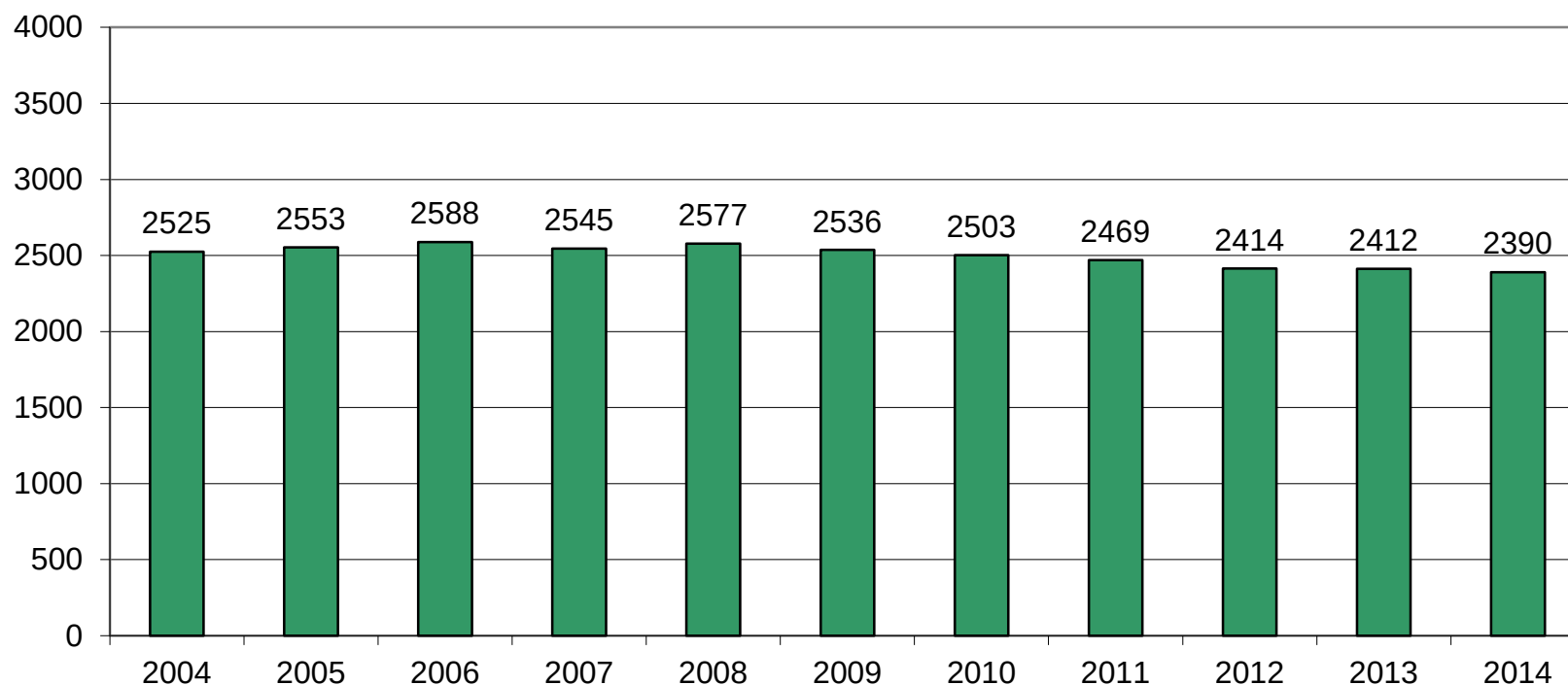
Historical Enrollment By Grade																			
Birth Year	Births	School Year	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	UNGR	K-12	K-12
1999	146	2004-05	0	184	204	176	184	201	197	211	226	206	206	169	167	171	23	2525	2525
2000	129	2005-06	0	182	194	213	174	191	206	199	201	232	212	201	163	163	22	2553	2553
2001	129	2006-07	0	210	194	200	210	174	186	208	191	201	225	207	197	167	18	2588	2588
2002	77	2007-08	0	146	220	191	196	213	170	188	203	192	197	219	197	185	28	2545	2545
2003	93	2008-09	0	166	159	220	202	194	211	183	190	210	196	206	214	198	28	2577	2577
2004	97	2009-10	0	158	171	160	214	203	209	217	181	202	208	191	193	206	23	2536	2536
2005	105	2010-11	0	159	166	178	170	216	207	211	215	181	195	205	186	192	22	2503	2503
2006	85	2011-12	0	162	156	177	180	173	217	211	207	211	170	193	203	189	20	2469	2469
2007	72	2012-13	0	115	157	163	180	186	179	221	209	207	210	173	188	205	21	2414	2414
2008	69	2013-14	0	136	135	175	176	183	194	190	214	216	214	209	169	180	21	2412	2412
2009	71	2014-15	0	140	150	146	185	177	186	203	188	212	201	207	206	167	22	2390	2390

Historical Enrollment in Grade Combinations									
Year	K-2	K-5	3-5	K-8	5-8	6-8	7-8	7-12	9-12
2004-05	564	1146	582	1789	840	643	432	1145	713
2005-06	589	1160	571	1792	838	632	433	1172	739
2006-07	604	1174	570	1774	786	600	392	1188	796
2007-08	557	1136	579	1719	753	583	395	1193	798
2008-09	545	1152	607	1735	794	583	400	1214	814
2009-10	489	1115	626	1715	809	600	383	1181	798
2010-11	503	1096	593	1703	814	607	396	1174	778
2011-12	495	1065	570	1694	846	629	418	1173	755
2012-13	435	980	545	1617	816	637	416	1192	776
2013-14	446	999	553	1619	814	620	430	1202	772
2014-15	436	984	548	1587	789	603	400	1181	781

Historical Percentage Changes			
Year	K-12	Diff.	%
2004-05	2525	0	0.0%
2005-06	2553	28	1.1%
2006-07	2588	35	1.4%
2007-08	2545	-43	-1.7%
2008-09	2577	32	1.3%
2009-10	2536	-41	-1.6%
2010-11	2503	-33	-1.3%
2011-12	2469	-34	-1.4%
2012-13	2414	-55	-2.2%
2013-14	2412	-2	-0.1%
2014-15	2390	-22	-0.9%
Change		-135	-5.3%

Weston, CT Historical Enrollment

K-12, 2004-2014



Weston, CT Projected Enrollment

School District: **Weston, CT**

10/9/2014

2012 births from CTDPH; 2013 births = 48 recorded by Town Clerk + 9 out-of-state

Enrollment Projections By Grade*																				
Birth Year	Births		School Year	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	UNGR	K-12	K-12
2009	71		2014-15	0	140	150	146	185	177	186	203	188	212	201	207	206	167	22	2390	2390
2010	61		2015-16	33	113	151	162	153	188	183	194	200	190	209	200	203	203	22	2371	2404
2011	49		2016-17	34	90	122	163	170	156	194	191	191	202	187	208	196	200	22	2292	2326
2012	58	(prov.)	2017-18	35	107	97	132	171	173	161	202	188	193	199	186	204	193	22	2228	2263
2013	57	(prov.)	2018-19	36	105	116	105	139	174	178	168	199	190	190	198	182	201	22	2167	2203
2014	59	(est.)	2019-20	37	109	114	125	110	142	179	185	165	201	187	189	194	179	22	2101	2138
2015	57	(est.)	2020-21	38	105	118	123	131	112	146	187	182	166	198	186	185	191	22	2052	2090
2016	56	(est.)	2021-22	39	103	114	127	129	133	116	152	184	183	164	197	182	182	22	1988	2027
2017	57	(est.)	2022-23	40	106	111	123	134	131	137	121	149	185	181	163	193	179	22	1935	1975
2018	57	(est.)	2023-24	41	106	115	120	129	136	135	143	119	150	183	180	160	190	22	1888	1929
2019	57	(est.)	2024-25	42	106	115	124	126	131	140	141	141	120	148	182	176	158	22	1830	1872

*Projections should be updated on an annual basis.



Based on an estimate of births



Based on children already born



Based on students already enrolled

Projected Enrollment in Grade Combinations*									
Year	K-2	K-5	3-5	K-8	5-8	6-8	7-8	7-12	9-12
2014-15	436	984	548	1587	789	603	400	1181	781
2015-16	426	950	524	1534	767	584	390	1205	815
2016-17	375	895	520	1479	778	584	393	1184	791
2017-18	336	841	505	1424	744	583	381	1163	782
2018-19	326	817	491	1374	735	557	389	1160	771
2019-20	348	779	431	1330	730	551	366	1115	749
2020-21	346	735	389	1270	681	535	348	1108	760
2021-22	344	722	378	1241	635	519	367	1092	725
2022-23	340	742	402	1197	592	455	334	1050	716
2023-24	341	741	400	1153	547	412	269	982	713
2024-25	345	742	397	1144	542	402	261	925	664

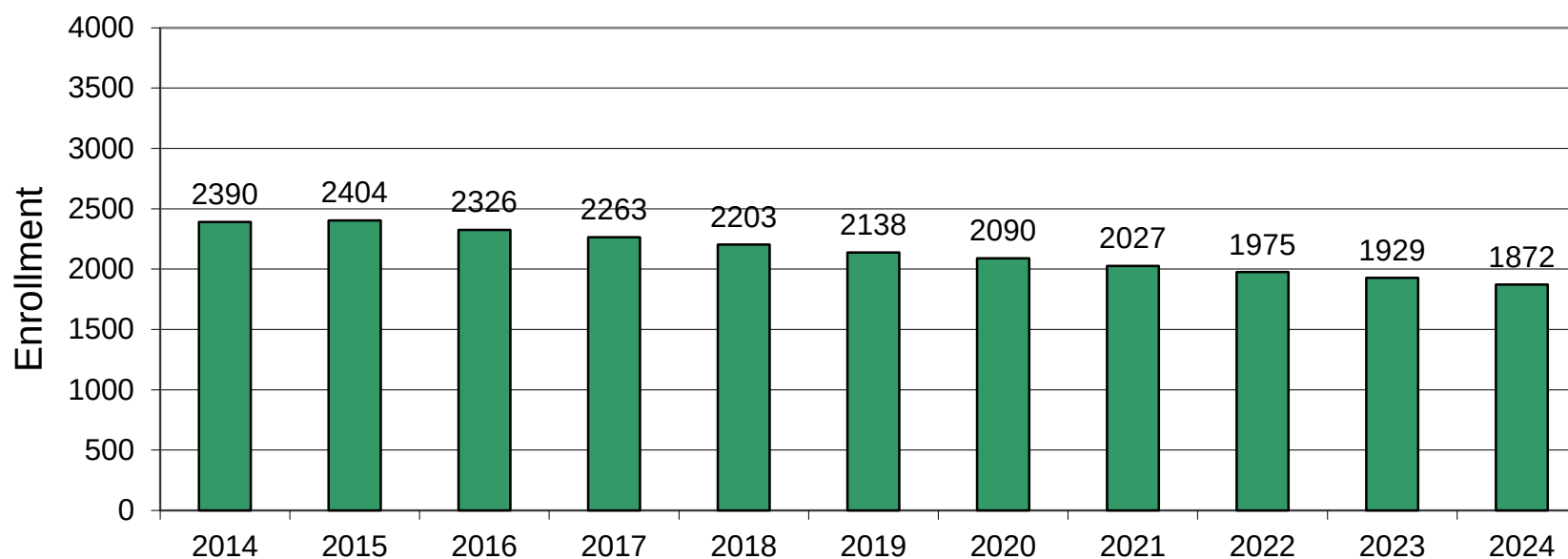
See "Reliability of Enrollment Projections" section of accompanying letter.

Projections are more reliable for Years #1-5 in the future than for Years #6 and beyond.

Projected Percentage Changes			
Year	K-12	Diff.	%
2014-15	2390	0	0.0%
2015-16	2371	-19	-0.8%
2016-17	2292	-79	-3.3%
2017-18	2228	-64	-2.8%
2018-19	2167	-61	-2.7%
2019-20	2101	-66	-3.0%
2020-21	2052	-49	-2.3%
2021-22	1988	-64	-3.1%
2022-23	1935	-53	-2.7%
2023-24	1888	-47	-2.4%
2024-25	1830	-58	-3.1%
Change	-560		-23.4%

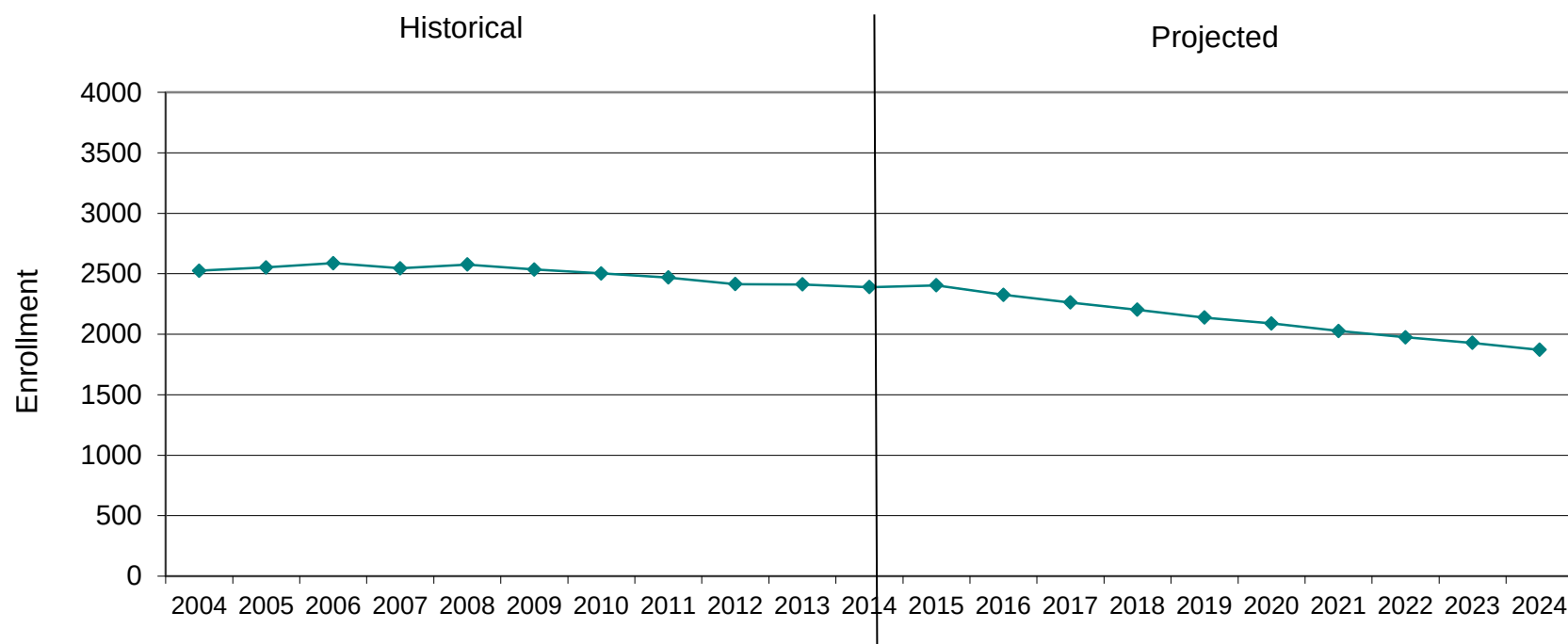
Weston, CT Projected Enrollment

K-12 TO 2024 Based On Data Through School Year 2014-15



Weston, CT Historical & Projected Enrollment

K-12, 2004-2024



Weston, CT Birth-to-Kindergarten Relationship



Weston, CT Additional Data

Building Permits Issued		
Year	Single-Family	Multi-Units
2005	31	0
2010	9	0
2011	2	0
2012	5	0
2013	8	0
2014	n/a	0

Source: HUD and Building Department

Enrollment History		
Year	Voc-Tech 9-12 Total	Non-Public K-12 Total
2005-06	3	235
2010-11	3	251
2011-12	0	n/a
2012-13	n/a	n/a
2013-14	n/a	n/a
2014-15	n/a	n/a

Residents in Non-Public Independent and Parochial Schools (General Education)														
Enrollments as of Oct. 1	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	K-12 TOTAL
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n/a

K-12 Home-Schooled Students	
2014	9

K-12 Residents "Choiced-out" or in Charter or Magnet Schools	
2014	n/a

K-12 Special Education Outplaced Students	
2014	22

K-12 Choiced-In, Tuitioned-In, & Other Non-Residents	
2014	3

2014-15 = 18 PK children tuitioned in

The above data were used to assist in the preparation of the enrollment projections. If additional demographic work is needed, please contact our office.

Weston Public Schools

Financial Report #2 FY 2015

The attached financial report reflects year-to-date expenditures and encumbrances through October 31, 2014, for the General Fund Operating Budget. The financial information presented in this report includes the adopted budget, budget transfers, the revised budget, actual year-to-date expenditures, encumbrances and the remaining budget balance. As part of the FY 2016 budget preparation process, the Director of Finance and Operations will analyze each account and develop a full-year forecast for FY 2015. This analysis will project actual expenditures as compared to budget. The full-year forecast will be completed in December and will be reflected in subsequent Financial Reports, with the addition of a column titled "Anticipated Expenditures."

The following transfers are reflected in Financial Report #2:

To: Pupil Personnel Services – Professional Technical Services	8,164
From: Special Education – Professional Educational Services	8,164
Funds needed to provide physical therapy services.	
To: Pupil Personnel Services – Certified Salaries	1,700
From: Pupil Personnel Services – Professional Technical Services	1,700
Reclassify the budget for SAT proctors to the salary account.	
To: Curriculum & Instruction - Books	1,047
From: Curriculum & Instruction - Materials	1,047
Funds needed to pay for shipping costs.	
To: Facilities – Contacted Services	1,010
From: Facilities – Equipment Repair/Rental	1,010
Funds needed to pay for an unanticipated service.	
To: Weston Intermediate School – Certified Salaries	73
From: District Administration - Other	73
Reimburse school for technology support services incurred by district administration.	
To: Weston Middle School - Materials	25
From: Weston Middle School - Books	25
Additional funds needed for Language Arts materials.	

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #2**

July 2014 - October 2014

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cummulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Expended & Encumbered	Balance
Certified Salaries	23,053,111	-96,833	1,773	22,956,278	4,965,832	17,023,593	21,989,425	966,853
Non-Certified Salaries	6,060,278	103,573	0	6,163,851	1,718,225	4,100,142	5,818,367	345,484
Employee Benefits	9,329,354	-5,000	0	9,324,354	3,818,013	0	3,818,013	5,506,341
Total Employee Cost	38,442,743	1,740	1,773	38,444,483	10,502,070	21,123,735	31,625,805	6,818,678
Professional Educational Services	832,000	-8,164	-8,164	823,836	82,941	463,687	546,628	277,208
Professional Technical Services	721,405	654	6,464	722,059	165,340	304,597	469,937	252,122
Utilities	119,078	0	0	119,078	44,544	71,205	115,749	3,329
Contracted Services/Maint. Projects	2,526,480	-718	1,010	2,525,762	1,011,164	1,124,150	2,135,314	390,448
Equipment Repair/Rental	700,774	-510	-1,010	700,264	172,167	102,448	274,615	425,649
Communications	117,837	0	0	117,837	26,086	576	26,662	91,175
Other Insurance	204,558	4,543	0	209,101	209,101	0	209,101	0
Postage/Advertising/Printing	59,003	0	0	59,003	17,562	4,495	22,057	36,946
Out-of-District Tuition	1,767,043	0	0	1,767,043	471,256	1,241,269	1,712,525	54,518
Training & Reimbursable Expenses	83,310	0	0	83,310	27,718	7,806	35,524	47,786
Energy	1,109,253	0	0	1,109,253	162,571	1,479	164,050	945,203
Materials	1,231,219	-2,543	-1,022	1,228,676	610,673	125,542	736,215	492,461
Books	190,011	2,337	1,022	192,348	121,396	16,763	138,159	54,189
Equipment	53,874	2,734	0	56,608	16,347	1,243	17,590	39,018
Dues & Fees	94,490	0	0	94,490	68,628	12,282	80,910	13,580
Miscellaneous	20,500	-73	-73	20,427	15,774	2,910	18,684	1,743
Total Non-Salary Accounts	9,830,835	-1,740	-1,773	9,829,095	3,223,268	3,480,452	6,703,720	3,125,375
General Fund Budget	48,273,578	0	0	48,273,578	13,725,338	24,604,187	38,329,525	9,944,053
<i>Fees/Gate Receipts/P&R</i>	-161,927	0	0	-161,927	0	0	0	-161,927
<i>Excess Cost Grant/Tuitions/Rev.</i>	-746,795	0	0	-746,795	-61,934	0	-61,934	-684,861
Total General Fund & Grants	47,364,856	0	0	47,364,856	13,663,404	24,604,187	38,267,591	9,097,265

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #2**

July 2014 - October 2014

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cummulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Expended & Encumbered	Balance
Hurlbutt Elementary School								
Certified Salaries	2,679,700	82,746	0	2,762,446	567,808	2,143,912	2,711,720	50,726
Non-Certified Salaries	319,000	0	0	319,000	77,466	239,371	316,837	2,163
Professional Technical Services	850	0	0	850	0	0	0	850
Equipment Repair/Rental	3,740	0	0	3,740	579	0	579	3,161
Postage/Advertising/Printing	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	0	1,000
Reimbursable Expenses	250	0	0	250	0	0	0	250
Materials	65,604	0	0	65,604	42,956	9,055	52,011	13,593
Books	17,350	0	0	17,350	8,292	2,524	10,816	6,534
Equipment	909	2,000	0	2,909	1,000	0	1,000	1,909
Dues & Fees	1,817	0	0	1,817	39	0	39	1,778
	<u>3,090,220</u>	<u>84,746</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,174,966</u>	<u>698,140</u>	<u>2,394,862</u>	<u>3,093,002</u>	<u>81,964</u>
Weston Intermediate School								
Certified Salaries	3,554,330	-68,673	73	3,485,657	716,308	2,692,018	3,408,326	77,331
Non-Certified Salaries	250,406	1,861	0	252,267	61,544	189,689	251,233	1,034
Professional Technical Services	900	0	0	900	240	0	240	660
Equipment Repair/Rental	3,220	0	0	3,220	90	0	90	3,130
Postage/Advertising/Printing	1,220	0	0	1,220	176	0	176	1,044
Reimbursable Expenses	250	0	0	250	0	0	0	250
Materials	42,058	0	0	42,058	17,490	7,492	24,982	17,076
Books	41,185	0	0	41,185	22,049	2,955	25,004	16,181
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dues & Fees	1,239	0	0	1,239	477	0	477	762
	<u>3,894,808</u>	<u>-66,812</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>3,827,996</u>	<u>818,374</u>	<u>2,892,154</u>	<u>3,710,528</u>	<u>117,468</u>

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #2**

July 2014 - October 2014

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cummulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Expended & Encumbered	Balance
Weston Middle School								
Certified Salaries	4,345,812	-82,171	0	4,263,641	894,332	3,202,061	4,096,393	167,248
Non-Certified Salaries	193,337	-2,421	0	190,916	45,277	132,280	177,557	13,359
Professional Technical Services	19,160	0	0	19,160	0	239	239	18,921
Equipment Repair/Rental	7,655	500	0	8,155	891	1,425	2,316	5,839
Postage/Advertising/Printing	3,452	0	0	3,452	417	1,333	1,750	1,702
Reimbursable Expenses	550	0	0	550	0	0	0	550
Materials	88,551	75	25	88,626	33,428	12,665	46,093	42,533
Books	21,858	-575	-25	21,283	4,167	5,306	9,473	11,810
Equipment	13,200	0	0	13,200	333	135	468	12,732
Dues & Fees	5,064	0	0	5,064	1,230	472	1,702	3,362
	4,698,639	-84,592	0	4,614,047	980,075	3,355,916	4,335,991	278,056
Weston High School								
Certified Salaries	5,408,346	-7,195	0	5,401,151	1,128,516	4,114,618	5,243,134	158,017
Non-Certified Salaries	188,227	560	0	188,787	49,059	138,891	187,950	837
Professional Technical Services	15,495	0	0	15,495	255	0	255	15,240
Equipment Repair/Rental	13,829	0	0	13,829	2,801	600	3,401	10,428
Postage/Advertising/Printing	13,976	0	0	13,976	7,605	0	7,605	6,371
Reimbursable Expenses	3,090	0	0	3,090	0	0	0	3,090
Materials	163,116	-3,500	0	159,616	85,776	16,721	102,497	57,119
Books	29,973	0	0	29,973	10,766	4,128	14,894	15,079
Equipment	10,445	0	0	10,445	0	889	889	9,556
Dues & Fees	13,191	0	0	13,191	9,459	0	9,459	3,732
Parking Fees	-30,000	0	0	-30,000	0	0	0	-30,000
	5,829,688	-10,135	0	5,819,553	1,294,237	4,275,847	5,570,084	249,469

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #2**

July 2014 - October 2014

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cummulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Expended & Encumbered	Balance
Athletics								
Certified Salaries/Coaches Stipends	480,615	0	0	480,615	102,482	94,593	197,075	283,540
Non-Certified Salaries	116,251	-4,543	0	111,708	24,761	29,816	54,577	57,131
Professional Technical Services	77,696	0	0	77,696	19,795	9,130	28,925	48,771
Police/Fire Services	4,300	0	0	4,300	0	2,500	2,500	1,800
Insurance	10,400	9,516	0	19,916	19,916	0	19,916	0
Transportation - Extra Curricular	79,534	0	0	79,534	13,904	20,096	34,000	45,534
Materials	57,750	0	0	57,750	20,592	6,633	27,225	30,525
Equipment	2,000	0	0	2,000	0	0	0	2,000
Dues & Fees	15,455	0	0	15,455	10,000	0	10,000	5,455
Participation Fees/Gate Receipts	-91,904	0	0	-91,904	0	0	0	-91,904
	752,097	4,973	0	757,070	211,450	162,768	374,218	382,852
Special Education								
Certified Salaries	3,412,614	-52,530	0	3,360,084	738,613	2,450,689	3,189,302	170,782
Non-Certified Salaries	1,407,109	53,951	0	1,461,060	391,180	978,590	1,369,770	91,290
Professional Educational Services	780,000	-8,164	-8,164	771,836	82,941	463,687	546,628	225,208
Professional Technical Services	170,800	0	0	170,800	8,255	68,305	76,560	94,240
Equipment Repair/Rental	5,000	0	0	5,000	0	0	0	5,000
Tuition Out-of-District	1,767,043	0	0	1,767,043	471,256	1,241,269	1,712,525	54,518
Reimbursable Expenses	3,000	0	0	3,000	0	0	0	3,000
Materials	39,350	0	0	39,350	12,611	4,297	16,908	22,442
Books	5,900	0	0	5,900	1,241	74	1,315	4,585
Equipment	15,000	0	0	15,000	1,960	219	2,179	12,821
Dues & Fees	2,000	0	0	2,000	5,000	335	5,335	-3,335
Excess Cost Grant/Pre-School	-746,795	0	0	-746,795	-49,050	0	-49,050	-697,745
	6,861,021	-6,743	-8,164	6,854,278	1,664,007	5,207,465	6,871,472	-17,194

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #2**

July 2014 - October 2014

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cummulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Expended & Encumbered	Balance
Pupil Personnel Services								
Certified Salaries	1,654,592	1,700	1,700	1,656,292	348,593	1,277,163	1,625,756	30,536
Non-Certified Salaries	699,065	9,369	0	708,434	168,415	504,784	673,199	35,235
Professional Technical Services	206,000	6,464	6,464	212,464	42,735	143,022	185,757	26,707
Equipment Repair/Rental	1,603	0	0	1,603	525	0	525	1,078
Postage/Advertising/Printing	7,535	0	0	7,535	1,803	2,000	3,803	3,732
Reimbursable Expenses	1,500	0	0	1,500	0	0	0	1,500
Materials	16,543	0	0	16,543	9,765	1,099	10,864	5,679
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dues & Fees	575	0	0	575	0	0	0	575
	<u>2,587,413</u>	<u>17,533</u>	<u>8,164</u>	<u>2,604,946</u>	<u>571,836</u>	<u>1,928,068</u>	<u>2,499,904</u>	<u>105,042</u>
Curriculum & Instructional Improvement								
Certified Salaries	833,718	-15,680	0	818,038	236,207	554,100	790,307	27,731
Non-Certified Salaries	58,282	1,312	0	59,594	20,629	38,965	59,594	0
Professional Educational Services	52,000	0	0	52,000	0	0	0	52,000
Professional Technical Services	131,100	-6,010	0	125,090	43,815	48,346	92,161	32,929
Training & Reimbursable Expenses	58,170	0	0	58,170	22,197	7,806	30,003	28,167
Materials	8,725	-2,146	-1,047	6,579	2,953	682	3,635	2,944
Books	73,745	2,912	1,047	76,657	74,881	1,776	76,657	0
Equipment	12,320	734	0	13,054	13,054	0	13,054	0
Dues & Fees	25,349	0	0	25,349	14,305	10,739	25,044	305
	<u>1,253,409</u>	<u>-18,878</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,234,531</u>	<u>428,041</u>	<u>662,414</u>	<u>1,090,455</u>	<u>144,076</u>

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #2**

July 2014 - October 2014

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cummulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Expended & Encumbered	Balance
Technology								
Certified Salaries	124,304	0	0	124,304	23,879	99,483	123,362	942
Non-Certified Salaries	485,236	40,298	0	525,534	173,074	347,001	520,075	5,459
Professional Technical Services	66,820	0	0	66,820	28,324	27,382	55,706	11,114
Equipment Repair/Rental	423,864	0	0	423,864	91,896	0	91,896	331,968
Communications	23,400	0	0	23,400	0	0	0	23,400
Reimbursable Expenses	3,000	0	0	3,000	1,000	0	0	3,000
Materials	27,025	0	0	27,025	8,370	5,877	14,247	12,778
Software	271,593	3,500	0	275,093	202,527	36,205	238,732	36,361
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dues & Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>1,425,242</u>	<u>43,798</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,469,040</u>	<u>529,070</u>	<u>515,948</u>	<u>1,044,018</u>	<u>425,022</u>
District Administration								
Certified Salaries	579,968	24,082	0	604,050	209,094	394,956	604,050	0
Non-Certified Salaries	357,399	7,709	0	365,108	121,477	231,755	353,232	11,876
Professional Technical Services	97,500	0	0	97,500	40,036	14,803	54,839	42,661
Equipment Repair/Rental	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	0	1,000
Postage/Advertising/Printing	13,750	0	0	13,750	1,248	1,162	2,410	11,340
Reimbursable Expenses	10,500	0	0	10,500	3,610	0	3,610	6,890
Materials	20,385	0	0	20,385	7,457	819	8,276	12,109
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dues & Fees	29,320	0	0	29,320	28,118	436	28,554	766
Miscellaneous	6,500	-73	-73	6,427	3,354	1,710	5,064	1,363
	<u>1,116,322</u>	<u>31,718</u>	<u>-73</u>	<u>1,148,040</u>	<u>414,394</u>	<u>645,641</u>	<u>1,060,035</u>	<u>88,005</u>

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #2**

July 2014 - October 2014

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cummulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Expended & Encumbered	Balance
Facilities								
Non-Certified Salaries	1,689,562	-6,746	0	1,682,816	484,426	1,076,069	1,560,495	122,321
Professional Technical Services	8,480	200	0	8,680	1,680	0	1,680	7,000
Utilities	119,078	0	0	119,078	44,544	71,205	115,749	3,329
Contracted Services	1,138,700	-718	1,010	1,137,982	382,676	483,829	866,505	271,477
Maintenance Projects	0	0	0	0			0	0
Equipment Repair/Rental	93,096	-1,010	-1,010	92,086	23,488	27,962	51,450	40,636
Communications	94,437	0	0	94,437	26,086	576	26,662	67,775
Property Insurance	98,231	0	0	98,231	98,231	0	98,231	0
Reimbursable Expenses	3,000	0	0	3,000	911	0	911	2,089
Materials	264,668	-472	0	264,196	73,645	21,306	94,951	169,245
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dues & Fees	480	0	0	480	0	300	300	180
Miscellaneous	14,000	0	0	14,000	12,420	1,200	13,620	380
In-Kind Revenue from Parks & Rec.	-40,023	0	0	-40,023	0	0	0	-40,023
	<u>3,483,709</u>	<u>-8,746</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,474,963</u>	<u>1,148,107</u>	<u>1,682,447</u>	<u>2,830,554</u>	<u>644,409</u>
Energy Management								
Non-Certified Salaries	42,241	950		43,191	14,951	28,240	43,191	0
Energy	<u>1,109,253</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,109,253</u>	<u>162,571</u>	<u>1,479</u>	<u>164,050</u>	<u>945,203</u>
	<u>1,151,494</u>	<u>950</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,152,444</u>	<u>177,522</u>	<u>29,719</u>	<u>207,241</u>	<u>945,203</u>
Transportation								
Non-Certified Salaries	193,863	1,273	0	195,136	70,329	121,926	192,255	2,881
Contracted Services	1,230,550	0	0	1,230,550	594,789	611,095	1,205,884	24,666
Equipment Repair	20,000	0	0	20,000	9,594	4,636	14,230	5,770
Auto Insurance	8,410	0	0	8,410	8,410	0	8,410	0
Materials (fuel & Misc. Mat.)	151,980	0	0	151,980	84,761	0	84,761	67,219
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revenue	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>1,604,803</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,606,076</u>	<u>767,883</u>	<u>737,657</u>	<u>1,505,540</u>	<u>100,536</u>

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #2**

July 2014 - October 2014

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cummulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Expended & Encumbered	Balance
District Wide								
Liability Insurance	87,517	-4,973	0	82,544	82,544	0	82,544	0
Regular Education - Tuition	0	0	0	0	-12,884	0	-12,884	12,884
Staffing Allowance	61,824	-61,824	0	0	0	0	0	0
Degree Changes	41,140	-41,140	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salary Allowance	49,500	-49,500	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turnover Savings	-173,352	173,352	0	0	0	0	0	0
	66,629	15,915	0	82,544	69,660	0	69,660	12,884
Employee Benefits								
Health Benefits	6,837,247	0	0	6,837,247	2,848,853	0	2,848,853	3,988,394
Social Security	490,505	-25,925	0	464,580	133,220	0	133,220	331,360
Medicare	423,060	-25,926	0	397,134	93,209	0	93,209	303,925
Workers Compensation	167,021	51,851	0	218,872	218,872	0	218,872	0
Unemployment Compensation	70,000	0	0	70,000	9,909	0	9,909	60,091
Early Retirement	4,759	0	0	4,759	4,758	0	4,758	1
Pension Program	843,835	-5,000	0	838,835	220,884	0	220,884	617,951
GASB 43/45	250,000	0	0	250,000	250,000	0	250,000	0
Tuition Reimbursement	70,000	0	0	70,000	0	0	0	70,000
Life Insurance	84,790	0	0	84,790	28,325	0	28,325	56,465
Disability Insurance	16,313	0	0	16,313	5,833	0	5,833	10,480
Sick Bank	61,824	0	0	61,824	0	0	0	61,824
Management Services	10,000	0	0	10,000	4,150	0	4,150	5,850
	9,329,354	-5,000	0	9,324,354	3,818,013	0	3,818,013	5,506,341
Copy Center								
Non-Certified Salaries	60,300	0	0	60,300	15,637	42,765	58,402	1,898
Equipment Rental	127,767	0	0	127,767	42,303	67,825	110,128	17,639
Postage	18,070	0	0	18,070	6,313	0	6,313	11,757
Materials	13,871	0	0	13,871	8,342	2,691	11,033	2,838
	220,008	0	0	220,008	72,595	113,281	185,876	34,132

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPORT

November 17, 2014



Weston High School

Lisa Deorio, Principal

In this issue...

Principal's Update
Academic Program
Professional Development
Co-Curricular Program
Graduate Update
Weston Youth Services

Principal's Update

The second quarter is well underway with students working diligently in their courses as teachers strive to maximize engagement in the classroom. Our faculty was fortunate to collaborate with district consultant John Antonetti on this work for two days last week. The focus was on the tasks that students perform in class with the goal of ensuring that all students are provided with opportunities to develop critical and creative thinking skills. Sophomore English teachers have begun the writing portfolio process with their students, seniors are working on college applications, and fall sports teams are finishing the season with many athletes participating in state championships (see athletics). Finally, *The Laramie Project*, Company's highly anticipated fall drama, exceeded expectations with an exceptional performance by our student ensemble.

Academic Program

English

Students from Mrs. Eisenman's journalism class and writers for the school newspaper toured the international news studio of Al Jazeera America in New York City with anchor Mr. John Seigenthaler this month. They were allowed to watch the 8:00 p.m. broadcast in the studio. Students found the experience enriching. "The best part of the trip was to being able to see what they really do in the studio and how much work it really is," says freshman Ashley Aron. "When you're at home, you don't see how stressful it can be at times." Junior Till Kaeslin said, "It showed me the variety of journalism there is. Broadcast, radio, and written. But there is so much more. There are specialties in all of those areas. It widens my perspective on what journalism is."



Music

Choral director Mr. Paul brought eight students to Central Connecticut State University to participate in the CT-ACDA Fall Conference High School Honor Choirs. These students spent a rigorous day rehearsing alongside 140 high school musicians selected from all over the State.

Science/Technology

Students Sam Bieler, Melissa Lesner, Alex Gallardo, and Garrick Tsui represented WHS at the annual Yale Physics Olympics this fall. Competing against 49 teams from both public and private schools, our team won one of the five events.

Maggi Dutczak, an electrical engineer from NASA, was a guest speaker in our Project Lead the Way classes this month. The presentation included the history of NASA as well as a question and answer session.



College and Career Center

CCC Director Mrs. Moks encourages all seniors and their parents to take advantage of the resources available when thinking about financial aid and scholarships. Our school website has a specific tab entitled “The College and Career Center” where these materials may be found. The *College and Future Planning* handbook has an extensive chapter on ways to fund college, and the financial aid and scholarship tab has a listing of scholarships as well as other helpful information. The Connecticut Student Financial Assistance website www.ctohe.org has up-to date-information on financial aid, loans, grants, and scholarships. Finally, our financial aid evening presentation is December 11 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

School Counseling

Our Junior College Planning Evening Seminar will be held on Thursday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the WHS cafeteria for junior students and their parents. Topics for discussion include post-secondary planning and options, researching different colleges and universities, timing for visiting schools, navigating the process as a family, admissions criteria, and standardized testing.

Social Studies

Students in Mr. Scott’s Introduction to Economics class presented their own franchises to businessmen from the community this month. They explained their economic models, analysis, and business plans to panelists Don Kendall of New Fork Capital, Paul Coniglio of Colony Grill, and Andre Santelli of Chartwells.

Miss Conetta’s iMapping: Sociology class recently went on a field trip to the University of Connecticut in Storrs to assess a university space as a setting specifically designed for individuals of the 18-22 year age group. As part of the unit on Urbanization, Suburbanization and Rural Life in America, the class examined how certain groups of people adapt in different settings, and how spaces are specially designed to meet the needs of their inhabitants. Additionally, in conjunction with our continued studies on the sociological perspective, the students evaluated how individuals and society can mutually influence each other in particular settings. The students enjoyed a perfect day walking around a university campus, including a visit to Gampel Pavilion, the student union, and a final trip to the Dairy Bar.

Videography

Students in the Advanced Videography course have finished up their Teen Safe Driving PSA’s and will be submitting them as part of the Connecticut DMV Contest. Through this video, the student director and team must demonstrate a creative, unique, and effective message about the influence teens

have on one another to make responsible and safe decisions about driving. This year's theme is: Steer Your Friends in the Right Direction.

Professional Development

Social Studies Teacher Mr. Holderbach attended an economics workshop focusing on engaging lessons that employ an active-learning approach that brings economic concepts to life. Topics included GDP, unemployment, inflation, and trade.

Co-Curricular Program

Athletics

Over 300 students participated in our fall sports season, and the Southwest Conference recognized every team for its sportsmanship. We are very proud of our student athletes as well as our fans who traveled across the state to support them. Below is a summary of our fall season.

- Boys and girls soccer teams won Patriot Division titles and finished second in the Southwest Conference. Our boys lost in round 16 of the State tournament. Our girls are scheduled to play for the State title on Saturday, November 15.
- Girls swimming and diving are the State champions. This is the fourth time in the past five years that they have earned this title. They also won the Patriot Division title and placed third in their conference championship meet.
- Girls volleyball also won a Patriot Division title and played in the quarterfinals of the State tournament losing a tough match.
- Boys and girls cross country also had a terrific season with the boys winning a Patriot Division title and both faring well in their conference and state meets.
- Girls field hockey qualified for the SWC Tournament, losing in the quarterfinal round.
- Trojan football is looking forward to its Thanksgiving morning game with Joel Barlow. We encourage our super fans to join us at Barlow High School at 10:00 a.m.

Unified Sports

This marks our second year participating in the Unified Sports program. We have five student athletes who will participate in soccer, bowling, and track over three seasons. Students who are interested in helping with our Unified Sports team can contact Mrs. Johnston nancyjohnston@westonps.org or Mr. Ackacki jasonackacki@westonps.org.

Student Government

Student government is collecting items for our annual food drive. Each year, over the month of November, Student Government collects items for donation to the Weston Food Pantry to help Weston families in need. This year, we're setting our item goal at 781 items, one item for each student in the school. At the end of the month, student government members will box up all of the items and bring them over to the food pantry in time for Thanksgiving.

Student government is sponsoring a fundraiser to raise money for breast cancer awareness. In conjunction with a friendly challenge against Joel Barlow High School, both schools are committed to



raise money as an extension to our October breast cancer month. Change is being collected in donation jugs located in our main lobby and cafeteria through Thanksgiving.

Model United Nations

Our Model United Nations club, under the direction of advisor Mr. Andrew Jorge, participated in its first Model UN Conference held at The University of Connecticut earlier this month. Two students, Teddy Phillips and Alex Gulino, were recognized as the most improved delegates of their committees.

Mock Trial

Our three mock trial teams have been preparing for their upcoming regionals competition on Friday, December 5. The competition will take place between 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. at Stamford Courthouse. Our teams had the opportunity to attend the Supreme Court oral arguments hosted by Fairfield Warde High School. This event is part of the Supreme Court program, which provides students the opportunity to observe oral arguments in appellate cases and engage in a question and answer session with the attorneys.

Graduate Update

Andrew Katz and Jack Curran, Class of 2012, were accepted to serve as White House interns this fall. The mission of the program is to make the White House accessible to future leaders around the nation and to prepare those devoted to public service for future leadership opportunities.

Alexandra Bauman, Class of 2011, represented the student body at the dedication of the Studio and Innovation Center at Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications. Oprah Winfrey was also a guest speaker at the event in early September.

Math teacher Kevin Joyce was nominated by one of our graduates for the University of Chicago's Outstanding Educator Award.

Weston Youth Services

On Thursday, November 20, parents are invited to attend a workshop entitled Brains, Biology, and Behavior for Tackling the Tough Stuff! There will be a discussion on the latest research on the developing brain and how biology and psychology influence behavior. The workshop will be held from 12:00 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the Weston Town Hall Annex conference room, which is located next to the Board of Education offices. A light lunch will be provided. You may RSVP by contacting Youth Services Director Dr. Michele Albright at 203-222-2585 or registering on the following website. <https://leagueathletics.com/UserForm.asp?RegID=86999&org=westonyouthservices.org>.

Weston Middle School	Amy Watkins, Principal
-----------------------------	-------------------------------

In this issue...

***Student Government Association Food Drive
Special Guest Visits WMS: Margaret "Maggi" Dutczak
Upcoming Lunch Book Clubs: Chat and Chew
Grade Eight Students Explore Boston
News from the Counseling Department: Mentorship Kick Off
Engineers in Teaching***

Spotlight Student is Back SOARing to Excellence

Student Government Association (SGA) Food Drive

Our annual SGA-sponsored Food Drive was another great success this year. We wish to thank the many generous students and families who donated bags of non-perishable food items and pet items for this very special event to benefit the Community Food Pantry. We are pleased to announce that as a result of everyone's efforts, we were able to once again fill up the Weston Police van and stock the shelves at the Community Food Pantry. In addition to the food, many families chose to make monetary donations which will enable the Community Food Pantry to purchase special items for the upcoming holidays and the much-needed items that go so quickly off the pantry shelves.

Every homeroom at WMS participated, but this year, we had three homerooms in the school in which 100% of the students contributed to the drive: Mr. Dey's class in grade six and Mr. Reddington and Mrs. Davidow's classes in grade seven. Those homerooms will win a special reward next week. We are also grateful to the SGA students who kindly volunteered their time to help sort the donations, check expiration dates, and load the donations into the van. The outpouring of support for this worthwhile activity speaks highly to the warmth and generosity of the Weston community. We proved once again, together we can make a difference. Thank you to everyone for your support and for making the 2014 SGA Food Drive a wonderful success.



Special Guest Visits WMS: Margaret "Maggi" Dutczak

Ms. Dutczak spent time on Monday, October 27 speaking to all grades during their practical and fine arts period to learn more about the life of an engineer. Several students at each grade level were able to eat lunch with Ms. Dutczak and asked questions about her career, including where she went to college, what types of classes she took that help her in her job, how she knew she wanted to be an engineer, and why she loves her job. They truly loved the opportunity to learn from her.



Upcoming Lunch Book Clubs: Chat and Chew

This year, Mrs. Shuhart will be offering a lunchtime book club called "Chat and Chew" for each grade level once a month. This year's books will focus on the Nutmeg Nominees. In October, grade six book club students had a fantastic time sharing their thoughts and reflections about the book *Liar and Spy* by Rebecca Stead. Grade seven book club students discussed the book *The False Prince* by Jennifer Nielsen. Mrs. George and Mr. Reddington joined Mrs. Shuhart in the book club chat.

Grade Eight Students Explore Boston



Students enjoyed a fast-paced itinerary touring Boston October 23 and 24. Despite some rainy weather, we visited Plymouth Plantation, toured Boston via a Duck Boat and explored the Museum of Science. The STEM exhibit was a favorite of the students. One of the employees complimented the Weston Middle School students for being the most engaged group of students they had seen in a long time, and said



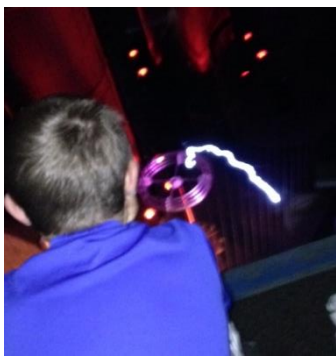
our students were committed to the task of creating a vehicle to travel the fastest and slowest speeds down a slope. Students were also fascinated to learn more about the causes and effects of electricity.

News from the Counseling Department: Mentorship Kick Off

The Mentorship Program has officially begun and is open to all grade eight students. Students were emailed a link to an application if they would like to participate. Please speak to your child about what they heard during the meeting and have them share the information with you. We will also post the PowerPoint on our website this week, to allow you to learn more about the program. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a mentor, please email WMSMentorship@westonps.org.

Engineers in Teaching

Mark Love spent two class periods with our algebra students demonstrating a real-world task an engineer could face daily in their career. Students were given the task of planning traffic flow at a busy intersection. The energy and excitement were contagious. All students worked tirelessly to find alternative ways to plan how the lanes of traffic could be unloaded safely, effectively, and efficiently. Thank you to the WMS PTO for funding this workshop. We hope to invite Mark Love back in the spring to work with those who did not attend the workshop this time.



Spotlight Student is Back

Spotlight Student has returned and students have been recognized for their efforts demonstrating character, integrity, strong leadership qualities, and their commitment to being a role model to peers. We will continue to recognize our students each trimester. Please take a moment to review the characteristics each student has been recognized for by their teachers, on display in the hallway.



SOARing to Excellence

Our students continue to participate in SOAR time every Wednesday. Recently, grade six held a community meeting to prepare the students for Nature's Classroom, including a question and answer session. Grade seven participated in a learning lab lesson, with a focus on developing positive guidelines when working together in a group. A follow-up lesson on collaboration provided students the opportunity to create their top five guidelines for teamwork. In grade eight, the teachers introduced the mentorship program through community meetings. All of our SOAR groups took part in a DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) session.

Weston Intermediate School

Pattie Falber, Principal

In this issue...

***Grade Level News
Internet Safety
Run for Life
Halloween
Book Fair
Stubby - War Hero
School Spirit
Veteran's Day
Parent Workshops***

Grade Level News

Third Grade



To support the third-grade Earth's Materials unit in science, the students participated in a highly engaging, hands-on exploration of various rocks and minerals led by the Stamford Museum and Nature Center. Using the local geology of our state and region, students explored the three rock types and the conditions under which they form. Students worked in small groups

to identify properties and uses of rocks, and made comparisons among the different rocks and minerals.



Fourth Grade

In fourth grade, the students went to the Old State House in Hartford where they participated in a fun and interactive role-play election and a mock trial to learn about the three branches of State government. They also learned about the legend of the Charter Oak and why it is such an important part of Connecticut history.

Students took a tour of the Capitol building where they learned about important people in Connecticut history, such as Nathan Hale, and visited both the House of Representatives and Senate rooms.



Fifth Grade



To enhance student understanding of colonial America, WIS fifth graders went on a field trip to Old Sturbridge Village. Students were able to engage with colonial farmers, housewives, potters, and coopers as they walked throughout the village to tour workshops and homes. Students completed hands-on activities including carding wool, baking cookies, and building simple toys from scratch. Fifth graders also experienced how local colonial governments operated as they participated in a mock Town Meeting. Students had a great time as well as a great learning experience.

Internet Safety

During October fifth graders attended an internet safety presentation by Officer Joe Mogollon of the Weston Police Department. Officer Mogollon discussed with students the numerous venues for online predators and the need to keep private information private in an age appropriate way. He talked with students about their online behavior and the devastating effects of cyberbullying. He urged students to report any inappropriate online behaviors to their parents or other adults. Students also attended a presentation of the school's Acceptable Use Policy. With this information, fifth-grade students are now allowed to bring their own devices to school to work on assignments.



Run for Life

WIS families and friends came together for our annual run/walk/jog event to promote cardiovascular fitness and the effect it has on our physical and mental well-being. Students continued to accrue laps and miles during their physical education classes, accumulating 10,912 Laps or 2,728 miles.

Halloween



The day was filled with a variety of fun activities. Fourth graders took part in Pumpkin Mania, an annual event that incorporates math, science, art, and physical movement into many different activities with pumpkins. The students learned about symmetry, made predictions about floating and sinking, and took part in activities outside and in the computer lab that stretched both their muscles and their thinking. We wrapped up the day with an all-school parade around the track.



Book Fair

Our Book Fair was a huge success. The event began to take place weeks ago with each classroom creating shields and pennants that were hung in the main hallway. The hallway has never looked better. The move to the LRC created a cozy atmosphere, which helped foster a love for books and reading. The decoration committee, comprised of both parents and our fifth-grade Wolf pups, helped us feel like we were in a haunted castle.

Stubby – War Hero



SERGEANT STUBBY

In preparation for Veteran's Day, Lois Guberman from the Weston Historical Society, along with other community volunteers, visited classes to share the heartwarming story of a dog named Stubby. Sergeant Stubby has been called the most decorated dog of World War I. He was the official mascot of 102nd Infantry and served for 18 months and in 17 battles. After returning home, he became the mascot at Georgetown University. The students thoroughly enjoyed this story of how man's best friend was an important participant in WWI and reminded our students that heroes can be found in unusual ways.

School Spirit

WIS students celebrated their first 25 paws with a school-wide pajama day. The students worked hard to show PRIDE behavior throughout their school day and in multiple settings during the first few months of school, and continue to work together in order to earn paws. Also, as another symbol of our community, we celebrate the first Friday of every month as a school spirit day, where everyone wears their blue and gold. Many students, and staff as well, wear their WIS PRIDE shirts or other Weston attire. What a wonderful community we have and we are delighted to celebrate it whenever we can.

Veterans Day

On Tuesday, November 11, our school came together to remember and honor our Veterans and the men and women who serve our country. Each grade level sang songs to commemorate the day, and then many students shared poems that they had written in honor of this day. We were fortunate to have three veterans with us for the assembly. The students listened attentively and asked thoughtful questions. The highlight of the assembly however was the live Skype with a soldier in Afghanistan. Through our technology, the students were able to communicate with Sergeant Matthew Mascitelli in real time, half way around the world. Sergeant Mascitelli is the brother of our music teacher, Lisa Moretti. Our students were fascinated to learn about the life of a soldier and we all thanked him for his service to our country.



Parent Workshops

This month Carolyn Vinton, our curriculum instructional leader for math and science, led two parent workshops on bar modeling, a problem solving strategy unique to the Singapore approach. These interactive workshops were designed to give parents a hands-on experience with bar modeling so that they can support their child's learning at home. With some guided practice, the parents gained a better understanding of how students solve problems pictorially.

In this issue...***Hurlbutt Celebrates a Positive School Climate******Shoot for the Cure******Halloween Celebration******Teaching and Learning******The Shadow Knows******Schoolwide Celebration for PBIS******Professional Development******Movement in the Building******HES Book Fair*****Hurlbutt Celebrates a Positive School Climate**

Hurlbutt families came out in droves to attend our annual Run for Life on the South House Field. Our students enjoyed starting the day with physical activity and camaraderie with friends and family. We honor all ability levels during this event as students could walk, jog, or run. Mr. Hallgren continued this activity during physical education classes throughout the week. This schoolwide event supports our physical education's program goal of promoting cardiovascular fitness and an active lifestyle. The participants found a positive effect on their mental alertness throughout the day. The Hurlbutt community ran approximately 10,455 laps.

**Shoot for the Cure**

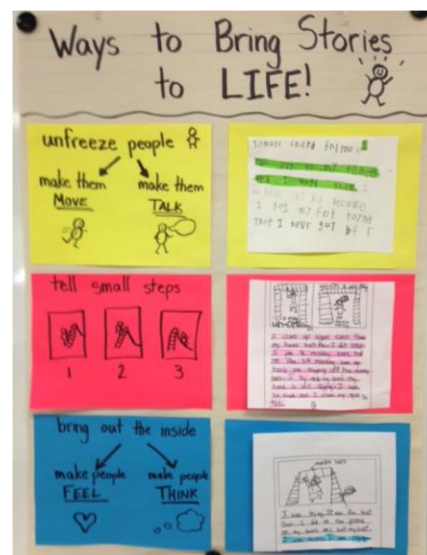
Hurlbutt staff participated in our annual Shoot for the Cure event to support breast cancer awareness. Staff arrived at school early to join a team of colleagues to shoot baskets in the North House gym. Both past and current staff joined in and raising over \$500.

**Halloween Celebration**

Halloween was an exciting day at Hurlbutt. Our students and staff enjoyed dressing up for our annual parade. All students in preschool through second grade participated in this event and it is one of the highlights of the year. Horace, the Hurlbutt Honeybee, led the parade with our Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Colleen Palmer. Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten parents were invited and filled the inner circle of the bus loop to watch, snap pictures, and cheer for our students while they walked and showed off their Halloween costumes.

Teaching and Learning

Our students continue to amaze us with their enthusiasm for writing. Their voices come through in their writing and they are using the techniques of writer's craft across units of study. Our kindergarteners are authoring multiple drafts each week and have already published pieces of writing. They are transitioning to their next unit of study, Writing for Readers, which will give them the strategies and skills they need to make their writing more readable. Our first grade writers are building on the foundation they built in kindergarten. Their current unit of study on opinion writing, Writing Reviews, prepares students to write their book reviews. They begin by holding a class "dog show" to learn how develop their oral language in order to articulate their opinions with criteria. Students enthusiastically participated in this activity and then brought items from their own personal collections to analyze and write about. The unit then transitions students into writing reviews about movies, restaurants, games, or places. Finally, students are immersed in writing book reviews. This important unit lays the groundwork for the literary essays that students will produce many years later. Our second graders are also involved in their opinion unit, Writing About Reading. They are immersed in writing book reviews while building their repertoire of author's craft. Our hallways are filled with published pieces that celebrate their work and process writing.



Through the generous support of our PTO, we continue to host scientists from High Touch High Tech. This program provides enrichment to our science program through hands-on experiments. Our first graders recently participated in The Shadow Knows and learned about light and shadows. They investigated how shadows form and how cool they are. Students used shadows to learn about the motion of the sun. At the end of the session each student took home a working sun dial.

Schoolwide Celebration for PBIS

Our students met with their buddy classes and watched a video on bus safety in preparation for our whole school assembly. Hurlbutt students then gathered in the bus loop for our monthly assembly to celebrate our positive school climate. We sang a version of "The Wheels on the Bus" that focused on the safe, kind and responsible behavior that our students demonstrate on our buses. "The students on the bus say 'thank you driver,' all through Weston."

Professional Development

In addition to the in-district training and professional development we provided in October and November, eight faculty members made our third trip into New York City on Saturday, October 18 for the Reading and Writing Project Saturday reunion at Teachers College. Workshops led by renowned experts in their field were plentiful and we returned to Weston with many ideas for our language arts curriculum.



Movement in the Building



Understanding the needs of young learners, we build movement breaks throughout the day both inside and outside of the classrooms. While our students have natural breaks throughout the day as they walk between lunch, recess, and special area classes, we know that they need the breaks between instructional blocks in the classroom. Adventures to Fitness and Go Noodle are two popular programs used by staff to give students the breaks they need. These programs provide a physical outlet for energy and also build skills and a sense of community in the classroom.

HES Book Fair

Our annual PTO-sponsored book fair was an overwhelming success. Our students and families shopped throughout the week with support from our parent volunteers. Many books were purchased for home libraries and book donations were given to our classrooms to supplement the many books students read in school.

