

WESTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, April 20, 2015

Weston Middle School Library Resource Center

Executive Session 7:00 p.m.

Regular Session 7:30 p.m.

Agenda

I. CALL TO ORDER, VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Matters Pertaining to Personnel

- Non-Renewal of Long-Term Substitute Teachers
- Non-Renewal Long-Term Building Substitute Teachers
- Non-Renewal Reduction in Force – Teachers
- Non-Renewal of Teachers Hired Post-Retirement
- Other Non-Renewals

III. RESUME PUBLIC SESSION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. RECOGNITION

Motion

Ms. Watkins and Mrs. Deorio will present the middle school and high school State Mock Trail champions.

Ms. Falber will present the intermediate school Odyssey of the Mind State champions.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, *pages 1-7*

Motion

The Board will vote to approve the minutes from March 16 and March 19.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Information

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Gifts, *pages 8-10*

Information

2. Resignation, *pages 11*

Motion

3. Non-Renewal of Long-Term Substitute Teachers

Motion

In order to comply with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-151, we are recommending that the following long-term substitute teachers not be renewed for the 2015-2016 school year. This action is necessary based on the duration of their long-term substitute employment, which approximates or exceeds ninety (90) days in the same assignment and does not reflect on their service to the Weston Public Schools.

4. Non-Renewal Long-Term Building Substitute Teachers

Motion

In order to comply with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-151, we are recommending that the following building substitute teachers not be renewed for the 2015-2016 school year. This action is necessary based on the duration of their

long-term substitute employment, which approximates or exceeds ninety (90) days in the same assignment and does not reflect on their service to the Weston Public Schools.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 5. Non-Renewal Reduction in Force – Teachers | Motion |
| In order to comply with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-151, we are recommending that the following teachers not be renewed for the 2015-2016 school year. This action is attributed to the lack of an available position related to staff reduction(s) under consideration in the school district's budget and/or the return of a tenured teacher(s) from leave for the 2015-2016 school year. | |
| 6. Non-Renewal of Teachers Hired Post-Retirement | Motion |
| While Connecticut law allows for the hiring of retired teachers for positions, teachers who are hired out of retirement could accumulate tenure rights, and thus must be notified of non-renewal. This action does not reflect on their service to the Weston Public Schools. | |
| 7. Other Non-Renewals | Motion |
| The Superintendent may non-renew the contract of a non-tenured teacher if the teacher does not meet the standard of excellence required by the district. | |
| 8. Summary of Climate Survey, <i>pages 12-25</i> | Information |
| Monika Edman, Assistant Director of Pupil Services, will present a summary of the results of the school climate survey. | |
| 9. Seventh FY 2015 Financial Update and Approval of Transfers, <i>pages 26-36</i> | Motion |
| Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, will provide a monthly financial report and an update on the status of the Board of Education adopted budget for FY 2016. | |
| VIII. OLD BUSINESS | None |
| IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT | Information |
| 1. Next Regular Board Meeting is Monday, May 18, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. | |
| 2. District Update | |
| 3. Principals' Reports, <i>pages 37-49</i> | |
| X. COMMITTEE REPORTS | |
| 1. WHS Student Representatives' Report - Jackson Marvin, Jack Seigenthaler | Information |
| 2. Communications Committee - Nina Daniel | Information |
| 3. Curriculum Committee - Ellen Uzenoff | Information |
| 4. Finance Committee - Denise Harvey | Information |
| 5. Facilities Committee - Ellen Uzenoff | Information |
| 6. Policy Committee - Dana Levin | Information |
| 7. Negotiations Committee - Denise Harvey | Information |
| 8. CES - Nina Daniel | Information |
| 9. CABE - Elise Major | Information |
| 10. Weston Education Foundation - Denise Harvey | Information |
| XI. ADJOURNMENT | Motion |

Weston Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Weston Middle School Library Resource Center
March 16, 2015

Attendance:

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

I. CALL TO ORDER, VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. Discussion of Written Correspondence from Board Attorney**
- 2. Discussion of Confidential Matters Pertaining to Security**

III. RESUME PUBLIC SESSION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. RECOGNITION

Mr. Marvin, Board of Education Student Representative, presented Board of Education members with Weston socks in honor of Connecticut Board of Education Member Appreciation month.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board voted to approve the minutes from February 24.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the minutes of the February 24, 2015, Regular Session. Motion by Ms. Levin, second by Ms. Spaulding, all in favor. (7-0)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan McNeill, Steep Hill Road.

Mr. McNeill thanked the Board for their time in reviewing facility space. He also requested a discussion of the benefits and drawbacks to moving grade 2 to Weston Intermediate School in the future.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Gifts

Dr. Palmer, as per Board Policy #3280, accepted, with appreciation, the following gifts:

- \$5,356.95 from the Hurlbutt Elementary School PTO for the purchase of books;
- \$16,555.20 from the Weston Intermediate School PTO for the purchase of Chromebooks;
- \$1,176.40 from the Weston Intermediate School PTO for the purchase of mobile charging carts;
- \$3,200.00 from the Weston Middle School PTO for a drama residency with Frank Ingrasciotta;
- \$2,700.00 from the Weston Middle School PTO for the a presentation provided to students by Mark Love of Engineers Teaching Algebra;
- \$3,207.00 from the Weston High School Boosters Club towards the purchase of a new scoreboard on the soccer/lacrosse field at Weston High School;
- \$1,635.00 from the Weston High School Boosters Club toward the purchase of track high jump/pole vault pits; and
- A \$1,224.00 supplemental grant from the Weston Education Foundation for the purchase of four Vex IQ Super Kits for the Weston Intermediate School robotics program.

2. Discussion of Use of North House and Central Office by District and Town

Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, and the Board of Education discussed the following points with regards to use of Hurlbutt Elementary School's North House and Central Office by the District and Town:

- Moving second grade from HES to WIS in the future, including timing, cohort sizes at WIS, and cost savings resulting from a staff reduction at Hurlbutt;
- Honoring the current 5-year MOU for the Senior Center and at its expiration offering the seniors the first floor of North House with a longer-term MOU for the Senior Center that provides a clause for returning the space to district use in the event of student need;
- Not moving any offices to North House while the first floor is still in use by students;
- Estimating 10 years remaining life-span left on the portable Annex building, with ongoing maintenance;
- Determining permitted uses for the second floor of North House, including discussions with Parks and Recreation, Youth Services, and Social Services about the extent of visitation by outside vendors and any special space requirements;
- Clarifying errors published in the Forum;
- Offering half of the main floor of Central Office to the Town;

- Availability of 3800 sq feet of unfinished space in the basement of Central Office that could be utilized by Town offices;
- Requesting for a list of offices the Town would like considered for housing within District space;
- Agreeing that since East House cafeteria does not have a full kitchen, South House Cafeteria cannot be converted to another use; and
- Discussing the School Safety Infrastructure report and the process we would need to follow to stay within the guidelines.

3. Energy Update

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, reviewed the Fifth Year Cost Avoidance and Environmental Impact Report and updated the Board on Weston Public Schools energy conservation, savings, and current projects. D. Keating also announced that Mr. Lustberg has begun providing energy education to the Middle School students through receipt of a grant.

4. Vote on Extension of Transportation Contract

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, discussed extending the First Student contract with Weston Public Schools and highlighted modifications to the contract. Discussion by the Board followed on maximum ages of Type I and Type II vehicles.

Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves an extension of its contract with First Student, Inc. for the three year period of July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2018, with two additional extensions for July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019, and July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, the latter of which are to be approved annually by the Board. Said contract shall reflect annual increases of 2.5% for FY 2016, 2.5% for FY 2017, 2.7% for FY 2018, 2.7% for FY 2019, and 2.7% for FY 2020, and other language changes as negotiated by the administration. Motion by Mrs. Uzenoff, second by Mrs. Levin, all in favor. (7-0)

5. Sixth FY 2015 Financial Update and Approval of Transfers

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, provided a monthly financial report, including transfers for the original budget versus the expected budget as of December 1, 2024 based on the reforecast; transfers for the current financial report, including non-certified salaries at the middle school and high school, subsidizing the cost associated with the Mock Trial's national competition, an appropriation for SAT proctors, technology break/fix temporary personal, technology materials, overtime needed to clear District property due to severe winter weather; the asbestos abatement plan, and waste water permit application; and the internal services fund. Discussion by the Board followed on sick bank and unemployment transfers, the process and possibility for efficiencies for overtime for snow removal, and the excess cost grant.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the transfers as presented by Dr. Keating in the sixth FY 2015 financial report. Motion by Mrs.

Levin, second by Ms. Major, 6 in favor – Mr. Schaefer, Mrs. Uzenoff, Ms. Levin, Ms. Daniel, Ms. Spaulding, Ms. Major; 1 abstained – Ms. Harvey (abstained from voting only on the transfer relating to Mock Trial due to personal involvement in the program). (6-0-1)

VIII. OLD BUSINESS – No report

IX. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

1. Next Regular Board Meeting is Monday, April 20, 2015, at 7:30 p.m.

2. District Update

Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, discussed Weston High School’s win at the State Mock Trial competition in which Jack Seigenthaler’s was named Most Outstanding Individual participant, and announced the National competition which will occur in May in North Carolina. Dr. Palmer also highlighted the draft C.E.S. Regional Uniform Calendar, announced the forthcoming assembling of a calendar committee, and discussed last week’s successful Tri-State math visitation and the positive feedback provided to us by the team. Discussion by the Board followed on the process used by C.E.S. to develop the calendar.

3. Principals’ Reports

Mrs. Kaddis, Hurlbutt Elementary School Principal, highlighted the all-school bingo game and the end of the informational writing unit in kindergarten. Ms. Falber, Weston Intermediate School Principal, commented on the fourth-grade adaptive fairy tale unit, all-school snowman building, the Showstoppers musical, and professional development with Singapore math expert Dr. Ban Har. Ms. Watkins, Weston Middle School Principal, discussed the Spectrum concert, sixth-grade action research projects, and Drop Everything and Organize. She also announced upcoming competitions for the Math League next Tuesday and Mock Trial on March 25, and advancement of our National Geography Bee winner. Mrs. Deorio, Weston High School Principal, discussed the Spectrum concert, announced Sophomore Science CAPT testing on Wednesday, *Barnum* opening night this weekend, the near-completion of course registration, and news about the indoor track teams’ national competition, where the boys relay team placed fifth, the girls team was honored as emerging elite, and the boys sprint medley was named emerging elite.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. WHS Student Representatives’ Report

Mr. Marvin discussed the first entirely student pit for *Barnum*, the beginning of spring sports, weather-related delays, and the Shine a Light campaign.

2. Communications Committee

Ms. Daniel discussed the following topics from the March 3 meeting: development of the May insert and ways to have more dialogue with the community.

3. Curriculum Committee

Per Mrs. Uzenoff, during the March 11 meeting, Board members met with Tri-State. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for April 1.

4. Finance Committee

Per Ms. Harvey, in addition to what was discussed previously in the agenda, the following items were discussed at the March 12 meeting: the FY 2016 budget presentations to the Boards of Finance and Selectmen, the March 31 public hearing, current rebidding of health insurance, purchases for security, awaiting a reply on the food service RFP, and a review of participation fees. Ms. Harvey also provided a summary of the sequential reductions for the Board of Education FY 2016 budget, which is currently at a 2.8% increase. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for April 8.

5. Facilities Committee

Per Ms. Spaulding and Dr. Keating, the following items were discussed at the March 4 meeting: an update on projects, lighting upgrades, security updates, fencing between the South House playground and the bus garage, a Weston graduate's request to use facilities, and Zenon plant permitting. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for March 7.

6. Policy Committee

Per Mrs. Levin, at the March 3 meeting there was a discussion of athletic and arts program fees. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for March 7.

7. Negotiations Committee – No report

8. CES

Ms. Daniel explained what CES does and services it provides. Per Ms. Daniel, the following items were discussed at the last meeting: regionalized special education, the regional calendar, and other regionalized services that may be beneficial. CES meets on the second Thursday of each month.

9. CAGE – No report

10. Weston Education Foundation

Ms. Harvey, Mr. Marvin recently requested information on the Foundation and an article in the Weston High School paper will be forthcoming. Logistics for WEF's main fundraiser, which is a kitchen tour, were discussed at the last meeting.

Ms. Daniel announced student work in the architecture exhibit at the Weston Historical Society and the development of a potential Weston History Bee.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Levin, second by Ms. Major, all in favor. (7-0)
Meeting adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Markov, Board of Education Clerk.

DRAFT

Weston Public Schools
Board of Education Special Meeting
Weston High School Library Training Room
March 19, 2015

Attendance:

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson	Elise Major
Ellen Uzenoff, Vice Chairperson	Sara Spaulding
Dana Levin, Secretary/Treasurer	Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent
Nina Daniel	Gayle Weinstein, First Selectman (departed at 5:50 p.m.)
Denise Harvey	

I. CALL TO ORDER, VERIFICATION OF QUORUM
Philip Schaefer, Chairperson

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Interview of candidates for Director of Digital Learning and Innovation

III. RESUME PUBLIC SESSION

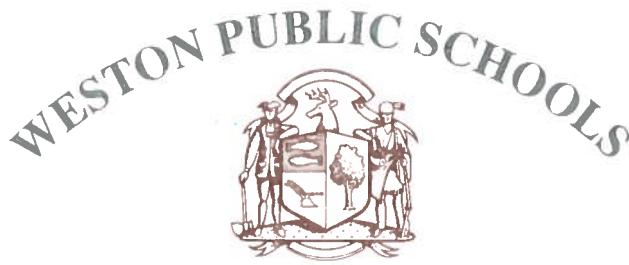
1. Vote to accept Superintendent's recommendation for Director of Digital Learning and Innovation

Motion: Moved that the Board hereby approves the recommendation of Dr. Palmer to appoint Dr. Craig S. Tunks as the Director of Digital Learning and Innovation, at an annual base salary of \$164,500 and an annual auto allowance of \$3,000, subject to the completion of satisfactory background checks, and hereby directs the superintendent to negotiate an employment contract with Dr. Tunks for such position with terms and conditions satisfactory to the Chairman of the Board of Education. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Ms. Uzenoff. All in favor (7-0)

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion to adjourn by Ms. Harvey, second by Ms. Spaulding, all in favor. (7-0) Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Markov, Board of Education Clerk.



COLLEEN A. PALMER, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Office of the Superintendent
24 School Road
Weston, Connecticut 06883-1699

Telephone: (203) 291-1401
FAX: (203) 291-1415
Email: colleenpalmer@westonps.org

March 23, 2015

Mr. Daniel McNeill
Hurlbutt Elementary School PTO President
9 School Road
Weston, CT 06883

Dear Mr. McNeill:

On behalf of the Weston Board of Education I extend sincere appreciation for the Hurlbutt Elementary School PTO's donation of:

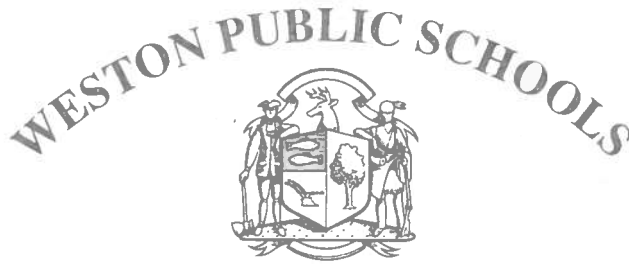
- \$473 for the purchase of recess equipment;
- \$620 for the Me Moves program;
- \$5,357 for the purchase of benchmark reading level books that support classroom instruction;
- \$4,500 for kindergarten carpets; and
- \$2000 for an author visit.

We appreciate the generous gift and thank you for thinking of the needs of the school system. Your efforts contribute to an improved educational opportunity for Weston students.

Sincerely,

Colleen A. Palmer, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Cc: Laura Kaddis, Hurlbutt Elementary School Principal
Jo-Ann Keating, Ed. D., Director of Finance and Operations



COLLEEN A. PALMER, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Office of the Superintendent
24 School Road
Weston, Connecticut 06883-1699

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FAX: (203) 291-1415
Email: colleenpalmer@westonps.org

March 27, 2015

Mr. Daniel McNeill
Hurlbutt Elementary School PTO President
9 School Road
Weston, CT 06883

Dear Mr. McNeill:

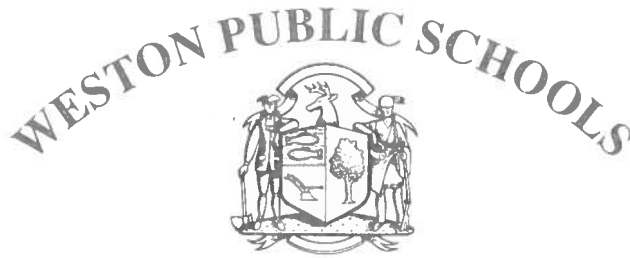
On behalf of the Weston Board of Education I extend sincere appreciation for the Hurlbutt Elementary School PTO's donation of \$888.99 for the purchase of a refrigerator for the Hurlbutt Elementary School staff room.

We appreciate the generous gift and thank you for thinking of the needs of the school system.

Sincerely,

Colleen A. Palmer, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Cc: Laura Kaddis, Hurlbutt Elementary School Principal
Jo-Ann Keating, Ed. D., Director of Finance and Operations



COLLEEN A. PALMER, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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24 School Road
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March 31, 2015

Ms. Sandra Hart
Ms. Bernie Park
Weston Intermediate School PTO Presidents
95 School Road
Weston, CT 06883


Dear Ms. Hart and Ms. Park:

On behalf of the Weston Board of Education I extend sincere appreciation for the Weston Intermediate School PTO's donation of:

- \$4,000 for Odyssey of the Mind
- \$3,000 for the WIS literary magazine;
- \$1,500 for the purchase of recess equipment;
- \$3,350 for the purchase of library books;
- \$1,000 for the science fair;
- \$250 for flag framing; and
- \$11,000 for courtyard renovation.

We appreciate the generous gift and thank you for thinking of the needs of the school system. Your efforts contribute to an improved educational opportunity for Weston students.

Sincerely,


Colleen A. Palmer, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Cc: Pattie Falber, Weston Intermediate School Principal
Dr. Jo-Ann Keating, Director of Finance and Operations

Weston Education

A Family, School and Community Partnership Committed to Excellence
Dedicated to Developing Each Child's Personal Best

Jennifer Markov

From: Amy Jonsson
Sent: Thursday, March 19, 2015 5:55 PM
To: Colleen Palmer
Subject: Resignation

Dr. Palmer,

I am writing you to officially submit my resignation effective at the end of this school year.
I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Hurlbutt and will miss working with the students.

I notified Laura Kaddis this morning. I also informed Lewis Brey of my decision to resign this afternoon.

Regards,
Amy Jonsson

Sent from my iPhone

School Climate Survey Results

Promoting connectedness to school through well-managed classrooms, small school size, and integrated friendship groups allows students to feel they are a part of their community

Respondents to our survey

Students

- ▶ HES students in grades 1 and 2 responded
- ▶ WIS 86.5% of students responded
- ▶ WMS 86.4 % of students responded
- ▶ WHS 32.7 % of students responded

Parents

- ▶ Parents with youngsters in Kindergarten through grade five responded to the elementary survey
- ▶ On average at the secondary level 250 parents responded to the survey

School Safety

■ Over 94% of parents shared they felt school is a safe place for their students.

■ Students felt safest in the classroom at the elementary level and at the secondary level 94% of respondents indicated they felt safe “all or most of the time” in school.

■ The trip to and from school
80 – 85% of elementary
students felt safe on the
bus

For our middle school
students the percentage
increased to over 91%

School Safety

The Cafeteria

Over 90% of elementary students feel safe in the cafeteria.

The Playground and Hallways

The majority of students at the elementary level felt safe in these community areas.

The Lavatory

Percentages were variable for elementary students ranging from 76% to 94%.

School Safety

- For Middle School students 94.3% shared they felt safe “all or most of the time” at school.
- For High School students 96% shared they felt safe “all or most of the time” at school.

Social Media

Approximately 85% of parents with students enrolled at the Middle and/or High School did not believe their youngster had participated in hurtful communications through social media.

Parent results related to their child having been the target of hurtful communications through social media varied by grade and ranged from 62% to 90%.

Student responses were variable by grade level and responses to items were contradictory on some items.

How Students feel About Each Other

- At the elementary level 97% of students reported they liked their classmates a lot or thought they were “O.K.”
- Approximately 70% - 90% of students at the secondary level felt classmates were friendly “all or most of the time.”

When students feel they are a part of their school, can say they are treated fairly by their teachers, they are more likely to succeed.

Interactions with Adults in the Schools Elementary Level

- 97% of students felt there was at least one trusted adult they could go to.
- 89% of parents also believed there were trusted adults their child/children could turn to.

Interactions with Adults in the Schools Secondary Level

Fair treatment

82% of students reported they felt adults treated them fairly
“all or most of the time.”

90% of parents felt that their youngsters were treated fairly by the adults in the school “all or most of the time.”

Trusted adults who are approachable

Percentages fluctuated across grade levels from 60% to 87% for students responding “all or most of the time.”

75% of parents shared they felt there were trusted adults their child could go to “all or most of the time.”

Likes to come to school

Student Feedback

- Over 90% of students reported liking their elementary schools.
- At the secondary level student responses related to enjoying coming to school ranged from 45% to 66%.

Parent Feedback

- At the elementary level parent responses ranged from 87% to 94% when reporting that their child enjoys coming to school.
- At the secondary level, a minimum of 80% of parents reported their child enjoys coming to school.

Sharing thoughts

- Student responses for grades 6 through 12 varied across grades within each of the schools.
- Overall 83% of parents felt comfortable “all or most of the time” sharing their thoughts across the four schools.

Perspectives shared by Parents and Students

- School is a physically safe place.
- Students like coming to school.
- Adults in the schools treat students fairly.
- Students like each other and are friendly.
- Individuals feel comfortable sharing their thoughts and ideas about school.

**Weston Public Schools
Weston, CT
7th Financial Report for FY 2015**

The seventh financial report for the FY 2015 General Fund Operating Budget can be found on pages 2 through 9 of this document. The financial information presented in this section of the report includes the adopted budget, monthly and year-to-date transfers, the revised budget (adopted budget plus or minus transfers), actual year-to-date budget expenditures, encumbrances, anticipated expenditures that have not been encumbered and the total projected expenditures by object, which is the sum of the previous three columns. The Internal Services Report for Health Insurance can be found pages 10 and 11.

The following transfers are reflected in the operating budget:

- | | | |
|---|--|---------|
| 1 | To: Special Education - Out-of-District Tuition | 145,317 |
| | From: Special Education - Excess Cost Grant | 145,317 |
| | This transfer reflects the most recent grant calculation from the State of Connecticut, Department of Education. It is based on all districts' most recent submission for high cost students. We have allocated these funds to the Out-of-District Tuition account based on pending requests. However, we will continue to monitor the entire Special Education budget and make adjustments as needed. | |
| 2 | To: Curriculum & Instruction - Professional Technical Services | 305 |
| | From: Curriculum & Instruction - Dues & Fees | 305 |
| | Additional expenses related to the Tri-State visit. | |
| 3 | To: Facilities - Non-Certified Salaries (Overtime) | 5,755 |
| | From: Curriculum & Instruction - Professional Educational Services (Adult Ed.) | 5,605 |
| | From: Athletics - Equipment | 150 |
| | Overtime related to inclement weather. While we are managing overtime very closely, there may be the need for additional transfers prior to the end of the fiscal year. | |
| 4 | To: Facilities - Professional Technical Services | 105 |
| | From: Facilities - Contracted Services | 105 |
| | Additional expenses related the EPA's review of the Zenon Plant re-permitting application. | |

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #7**

July 2014 - March 2015

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cumulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Anticipated	FY 2015 Expended, Encumbered & Anticipated	Balance
Certified Salaries	23,053,111	-103,339	0	22,949,772	14,927,843	7,552,574	469,355	22,949,772	0
Non-Certified Salaries	6,060,278	147,761	5,755	6,208,039	4,557,290	1,499,760	150,989	6,208,039	0
Employee Benefits	9,329,354	16,305	0	9,345,659	6,917,737	0	2,427,922	9,345,659	0
Total Employee Cost	38,442,743	60,727	5,755	38,503,470	26,402,870	9,052,334	3,048,266	38,503,470	0
Professional Educational Services	832,000	-33,569	-5,605	798,431	526,557	168,286	103,588	798,431	0
Professional Technical Services	721,405	9,655	410	731,060	469,073	126,999	134,988	731,060	0
Utilities	119,078	6,672	0	125,750	97,665	18,584	9,501	125,750	0
Contracted Services/Maint. Projects	2,526,480	-37,230	-105	2,489,250	2,099,140	238,331	151,779	2,489,250	0
Equipment Repair/Rental	700,774	-9,402	0	691,372	498,656	31,411	161,305	691,372	0
Communications	117,837	4,386	0	122,223	110,265	7,391	4,567	122,223	0
Other Insurance	204,558	9,643	0	214,201	214,201	0	0	214,201	0
Postage/Advertising/Printing	59,003	-6,430	0	52,573	21,963	4,879	25,731	52,573	0
Out-of-District Tuition	1,767,043	318,456	145,317	2,085,499	1,580,163	229,972	275,364	2,085,499	0
Training & Reimbursable Expenses	83,310	-852	0	82,458	52,719	4,580	25,159	82,458	0
Energy	1,109,253	-1,645	0	1,107,608	819,872	78	287,658	1,107,608	0
Materials	1,231,219	-9,514	0	1,221,705	901,061	90,932	229,712	1,221,705	0
Books	190,011	-3,175	0	186,836	154,144	12,588	20,104	186,836	0
Equipment	53,874	7,623	-150	61,497	38,954	1,515	21,028	61,497	0
Dues & Fees	94,490	635	-305	95,125	77,614	7,957	9,554	95,125	0
Miscellaneous	20,500	9,250	0	29,750	20,903	1,974	6,873	29,750	0
Total Non-Salary Accounts	9,830,835	264,503	139,562	10,095,338	7,682,950	945,477	1,466,911	10,095,338	0
General Fund Budget	48,273,578	325,230	145,317	48,598,808	34,085,820	9,997,811	4,515,177	48,598,808	0
Fees/Gate Receipts/P&R	-161,927	-6,773	0	-168,700	-97,762	0	-70,938	-168,700	0
Excess Cost Grant/Tuitions/Rev.	-746,795	-318,457	-145,317	-1,065,252	-857,811	0	-207,441	-1,065,252	0
Total General Fund & Grants	47,364,856	0	0	47,364,856	33,130,247	9,997,811	4,236,798	47,364,856	0

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #7**

July 2014 - March 2015

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cumulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015			FY 2015 Anticipated	FY 2015 Expended, Encumbered & Anticipated	Balance
					Expended	Encumbered	Anticipated			
Hurlbutt Elementary School										
Certified Salaries	2,679,700	54,489	0	2,734,189	1,743,289	973,389	17,511	2,734,189	0	0
Non-Certified Salaries	319,000	-1,615	0	317,385	230,117	87,074	194	317,385	0	0
Professional Technical Services	850	250	0	1,100	500	0	600	1,100	0	0
Equipment Repair/Rental	3,740	-350	0	3,390	699	0	2,691	3,390	0	0
Postage/Advertising/Printing	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	1,000	1,000	0	0
Reimbursable Expenses	250	0	0	250	0	0	250	250	0	0
Materials	65,604	-750	0	64,854	50,102	6,479	8,273	64,854	0	0
Books	17,350	0	0	17,350	11,636	5,200	514	17,350	0	0
Equipment	909	2,000	0	2,909	1,000	583	1,326	2,909	0	0
Dues & Fees	1,817	-82	0	1,735	354	87	1,294	1,735	0	0
	3,090,220	53,942	0	3,144,162	2,037,697	1,072,812	33,653	3,144,162	0	0
Weston Intermediate School										
Certified Salaries	3,554,330	-47,949	0	3,506,381	2,256,984	1,202,108	47,289	3,506,381	0	0
Non-Certified Salaries	250,406	3,014	0	253,420	183,247	69,124	1,049	253,420	0	0
Professional Technical Services	900	-660	0	240	240	0	0	240	0	0
Equipment Repair/Rental	3,220	-800	0	2,420	512	240	1,668	2,420	0	0
Postage/Advertising/Printing	1,220	-220	0	1,000	176	100	724	1,000	0	0
Reimbursable Expenses	250	0	0	250	0	0	250	250	0	0
Materials	42,058	0	0	42,058	28,386	3,358	10,314	42,058	0	0
Books	41,185	0	0	41,185	30,875	5,050	5,260	41,185	0	0
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dues & Fees	1,239	-50	0	1,189	767	0	422	1,189	0	0
	3,894,808	-46,665	0	3,848,143	2,501,187	1,279,980	66,976	3,848,143	0	0

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #7**

July 2014 - March 2015

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cumulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015		FY 2015		FY 2015		FY 2015 Expended, Encumbered & Anticipated	Balance
					Expended	Encumbered	Anticipated	Expended	Encumbered	Anticipated		
Weston Middle School												
Certified Salaries	4,345,812	-79,118	0	4,266,694	2,784,143	1,399,455	83,096	4,266,694	0			
Non-Certified Salaries	193,337	-13,277	0	180,060	129,676	50,384	0	180,060	0			
Professional Technical Services	19,160	0	0	19,160	1,217	4,139	13,804	19,160	0			
Equipment Repair/Rental	7,655	-1,784	0	5,871	2,314	550	3,007	5,871	0			
Postage/Advertising/Printing	3,452	0	0	3,452	845	1,446	1,161	3,452	0			
Reimbursable Expenses	550	0	0	550	0	0	550	550	0			
Materials	88,551	75	0	88,626	56,310	7,271	25,045	88,626	0			
Books	21,858	-6,100	0	15,758	12,518	884	2,356	15,758	0			
Equipment	13,200	0	0	13,200	187	0	13,013	13,200	0			
Dues & Fees	5,064	-125	0	4,939	2,223	0	2,716	4,939	0			
	4,698,639	-100,329	0	4,598,310	2,989,433	1,464,129	144,748	4,598,310	0			
Weston High School												
Certified Salaries	5,408,346	-14,908	0	5,393,438	3,492,006	1,849,110	52,322	5,393,438	0			
Non-Certified Salaries	188,227	555	0	188,782	135,079	53,309	394	188,782	0			
Professional Technical Services	15,495	-1,290	0	14,205	4,541	0	9,664	14,205	0			
Equipment Repair/Rental	13,829	500	0	14,329	5,532	120	8,677	14,329	0			
Postage/Advertising/Printing	13,976	-275	0	13,701	8,721	0	4,980	13,701	0			
Reimbursable Expenses	3,090	-1,340	0	1,750	34	0	1,716	1,750	0			
Materials	163,116	-4,500	0	158,616	132,586	6,087	19,943	158,616	0			
Books	29,973	0	0	29,973	21,130	1,454	7,389	29,973	0			
Equipment	10,445	-5,000	0	5,445	3,038	0	2,407	5,445	0			
Dues & Fees	13,191	0	0	13,191	10,740	195	2,256	13,191	0			
Miscellaneous	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	0	6,000	6,000	0			
Parking Fees	-30,000	0	0	-30,000	-21,000	0	-9,000	-30,000	0			
	5,829,688	-20,258	0	5,809,430	3,792,407	1,910,275	106,748	5,809,430	0			

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #7**

July 2014 - March 2015

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cumulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015			FY 2015 Expended, Encumbered & Anticipated	Balance
					Expended	Encumbered	Anticipated		
Athletics									
Certified Salaries/Coaches Stipends	480,615	0	0	480,615	329,402	33,379	117,834	480,615	0
Non-Certified Salaries	116,251	-2,743	0	113,508	72,146	11,748	29,614	113,508	0
Professional Technical Services	77,696	0	0	77,696	60,936	2,409	14,351	77,696	0
Police/Fire Services	4,300	0	0	4,300	1,657	730	1,913	4,300	0
Insurance	10,400	9,516	0	19,916	19,916	0	0	19,916	0
Transportation - Extra Curricular	79,534	0	0	79,534	56,808	17,600	5,126	79,534	0
Materials	57,750	0	0	57,750	29,957	12,188	15,605	57,750	0
Equipment	2,000	-150	-150	1,850	1,850	0	0	1,850	0
Dues & Fees	15,455	0	0	15,455	15,455	0	0	15,455	0
Participation Fees/Gate Receipts	-91,904	-6,773	0	-98,677	-60,384	0	-38,293	-98,677	0
	752,097	-150	-150	751,947	527,743	78,054	146,150	751,947	0
Special Education									
Certified Salaries	3,412,614	-47,007	0	3,365,607	2,137,348	1,097,816	130,443	3,365,607	0
Non-Certified Salaries	1,407,109	59,297	0	1,466,406	1,085,403	349,269	31,734	1,466,406	0
Professional Educational Services	780,000	-8,164	0	771,836	499,962	168,286	103,588	771,836	0
Professional Technical Services	170,800	0	0	170,800	82,916	26,385	61,499	170,800	0
Equipment Repair/Rental	5,000	-2,500	0	2,500	359	0	2,141	2,500	0
Out-of-District Tuition	1,767,043	318,456	145,317	2,085,499	1,580,163	229,972	275,364	2,085,499	0
Reimbursable Expenses	3,000	0	0	3,000	66	0	2,934	3,000	0
Materials	39,350	0	0	39,350	18,058	2,837	18,455	39,350	0
Books	5,900	0	0	5,900	1,315	0	4,585	5,900	0
Equipment	15,000	0	0	15,000	9,786	932	4,282	15,000	0
Dues & Fees	2,000	0	0	2,000	835	0	1,165	2,000	0
Excess Cost Grant/Pre-School	-746,795	-318,457	-145,317	-1,065,252	-823,364	0	-241,888	-1,065,252	0
	6,861,021	1,625	0	6,862,646	4,592,847	1,875,497	394,302	6,862,646	0

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #7**

July 2014 - March 2015

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cumulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Anticipated	FY 2015 Expended, Encumbered & Anticipated	Balance
Pupil Personnel Services									
Certified Salaries	1,654,592	-8,699	0	1,645,893	1,056,244	571,012	18,637	1,645,893	0
Non-Certified Salaries	699,065	14,116	0	713,181	507,029	189,490	16,662	713,181	0
Professional Technical Services	206,000	-11,669	0	194,331	123,623	62,851	7,857	194,331	0
Equipment Repair/Rental	1,603	-528	0	1,075	833	0	242	1,075	0
Postage/Advertising/Printing	7,535	-935	0	6,600	1,803	2,000	2,797	6,600	0
Reimbursable Expenses	1,500	-1,400	0	100	0	0	100	100	0
Materials	16,543	-168	0	16,375	12,301	26	4,048	16,375	0
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dues & Fees	575	0	0	575	0	0	575	575	0
	2,587,413	-9,283	0	2,578,130	1,701,833	825,379	50,918	2,578,130	0
Curriculum & Instructional Improvement									
Certified Salaries	833,718	-4,174	0	829,544	587,360	239,961	2,223	829,544	0
Non-Certified Salaries	58,282	1,312	0	59,594	45,841	13,753	0	59,594	0
Professional Educational Services	52,000	-25,405	-5,605	26,595	26,595	0	0	26,595	0
Professional Technical Services	131,100	-4,955	305	126,145	93,213	12,328	20,604	126,145	0
Training & Reimbursable Expenses	58,170	1,888	0	60,058	40,413	4,198	15,447	60,058	0
Materials	8,725	-3,119	0	5,606	3,663	526	1,417	5,606	0
Books	73,745	2,925	0	76,670	76,670	0	0	76,670	0
Equipment	12,320	5,742	0	18,062	18,062	0	0	18,062	0
Dues & Fees	25,349	-305	-305	25,044	17,805	7,239	0	25,044	0
	1,253,409	-26,091	-5,605	1,227,318	909,622	278,005	39,691	1,227,318	0

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #7**

July 2014 - March 2015

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cumulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Anticipated	FY 2015 Expended, Encumbered & Anticipated	Balance
Technology									
Certified Salaries	124,304	-943	0	123,361	76,413	46,948	0	123,361	0
Non-Certified Salaries	485,236	26,455	0	511,691	380,856	101,283	29,552	511,691	0
Professional Technical Services	66,820	21,526	0	88,346	73,776	8,257	6,313	88,346	0
Equipment Repair/Rental	423,864	-15,396	0	408,468	302,976	131	105,361	408,468	0
Communications	23,400	-4,000	0	19,400	9,840	7,380	2,180	19,400	0
Reimbursable Expenses	3,000	0	0	3,000	2,000	0	1,000	3,000	0
Materials	27,025	4,775	0	31,800	26,530	1,168	4,102	31,800	0
Software	271,593	3,500	0	275,093	228,775	25,217	21,101	275,093	0
Equipment	0	5,031	0	5,031	5,031	0	0	5,031	0
Dues & Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1,425,242	40,948	0	1,466,190	1,106,197	190,384	169,609	1,466,190	0
District Administration									
Certified Salaries	579,968	24,082	0	604,050	464,654	139,396	0	604,050	0
Non-Certified Salaries	357,399	3,089	0	360,488	274,285	82,706	3,497	360,488	0
Professional Technical Services	97,500	3,500	0	101,000	75,960	12,309	12,731	101,000	0
Equipment Repair/Rental	1,000	-250	0	750	60	0	690	750	0
Postage/Advertising/Printing	13,750	-5,000	0	8,750	3,005	933	4,812	8,750	0
Reimbursable Expenses	10,500	0	0	10,500	7,811	382	2,307	10,500	0
Materials	20,385	-3,885	0	16,500	12,741	390	3,369	16,500	0
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dues & Fees	29,320	700	0	30,020	28,458	436	1,126	30,020	0
Miscellaneous	6,500	2,250	0	8,750	6,299	1,974	477	8,750	0
	1,116,322	24,486	0	1,140,808	873,273	238,526	29,009	1,140,808	0

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #7**

July 2014 - March 2015

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cumulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Anticipated	FY 2015 Expended, Encumbered & Anticipated	Balance
Facilities									
Non-Certified Salaries	1,689,562	34,315	5,755	1,723,877	1,270,877	429,485	23,515	1,723,877	0
Professional Technical Services	8,480	2,953	105	11,433	11,430	0	3	11,433	0
Utilities	119,078	6,672	0	125,750	97,665	18,584	9,501	125,750	0
Contracted Services	1,138,700	-25,164	-105	1,113,536	786,844	202,954	123,738	1,113,536	0
Maintenance Projects	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Equipment Repair/Rental	93,096	8,706	0	101,802	67,232	8,875	25,695	101,802	0
Communications	94,437	8,386	0	102,823	100,425	11	2,387	102,823	0
Property Insurance	98,231	0	0	98,231	98,231	0	0	98,231	0
Reimbursable Expenses	3,000	0	0	3,000	2,395	0	605	3,000	0
Materials	264,668	-5,442	0	259,226	196,210	25,323	37,693	259,226	0
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dues & Fees	480	497	0	977	977	0	0	977	0
Miscellaneous	14,000	1,000	0	15,000	14,604	0	396	15,000	0
In-Kind Revenue from Parks & Rec.	-40,023	0	0	-40,023	-16,378	0	-23,645	-40,023	0
	3,483,709	31,923	5,755	3,515,632	2,630,512	685,232	199,888	3,515,632	0
Energy Management									
Non-Certified Salaries	42,241	950	0	43,191	33,224	9,967	0	43,191	0
Energy	1,109,253	-1,645	0	1,107,608	819,872	78	287,658	1,107,608	0
	1,151,494	-695	0	1,150,799	853,096	10,045	287,658	1,150,799	0
Transportation									
Non-Certified Salaries	193,863	22,624	0	216,487	165,124	36,895	14,468	216,487	0
Contracted Services	1,230,550	-12,066	0	1,218,484	1,194,552	15,368	8,564	1,218,484	0
Equipment Repair	20,000	3,000	0	23,000	21,672	761	567	23,000	0
Auto Insurance	8,410	0	0	8,410	8,410	0	0	8,410	0
Materials (fuel & Misc. Mat.)	151,980	0	0	151,980	95,114	0	56,866	151,980	0
Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1,604,803	13,558	0	1,618,361	1,484,872	53,024	80,465	1,618,361	0
									8

**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FINANCIAL REPORT #7**

July 2014 - March 2015

Descriptions	FY 2015 Adopted Budget	Cumulative Budget Adjustments	Current Month Budget Adjustments	FY 2015 Revised Budget	FY 2015 Expended	FY 2015 Encumbered	FY 2015 Anticipated	FY 2015 Expended, Encumbered & Anticipated	Balance
District Wide									
Liability Insurance	87,517	127	0	87,644	87,644	0	0	87,644	0
Regular Education - Tuition	0	0	0	0	-34,447	0	34,447	0	0
Staffing Allowance	61,824	-61,824	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Degree Changes	41,140	-41,140	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salary Allowance	49,500	-49,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turnover Savings	-173,352	173,352	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	66,629	21,015	0	87,644	53,197	0	34,447	87,644	0
Employee Benefits									
Health Benefits	6,837,247	0	0	6,837,247	5,127,935	0	1,709,312	6,837,247	0
Social Security	490,505	12,606	0	503,111	355,148	0	147,963	503,111	0
Medicare	423,060	2,055	0	425,115	270,626	0	154,489	425,115	0
Workers Compensation	167,021	56,762	0	223,783	223,783	0	0	223,783	0
Unemployment Compensation	70,000	-14,000	0	56,000	28,872	0	27,128	56,000	0
Early Retirement	4,759	0	0	4,759	4,759	0	0	4,759	0
Pension Program	843,835	11,845	0	855,680	582,836	0	272,844	855,680	0
GASB 43/45	250,000	0	0	250,000	250,000	0	0	250,000	0
Tuition Reimbursement	70,000	0	0	70,000	0	0	70,000	70,000	0
Life Insurance	84,790	710	0	85,500	72,418	0	13,082	85,500	0
Disability Insurance	16,313	1,162	0	17,475	13,077	0	4,398	17,475	0
Sick Bank	61,824	-47,235	0	14,589	2,496	0	12,093	14,589	0
Management Services	10,000	-7,600	0	2,400	-14,213	0	16,613	2,400	0
	9,329,354	16,305	0	9,345,659	6,917,737	0	2,427,922	9,345,659	0
Copy Center									
Non-Certified Salaries	60,300	-331	0	59,969	44,386	15,273	310	59,969	0
Equipment Rental	127,767	0	0	127,767	96,467	20,734	10,566	127,767	0
Postage	18,070	0	0	18,070	7,413	400	10,257	18,070	0
Materials	13,871	0	0	13,871	10,328	62	3,481	13,871	0
	220,008	-331	0	219,677	158,594	36,469	24,614	219,677	0

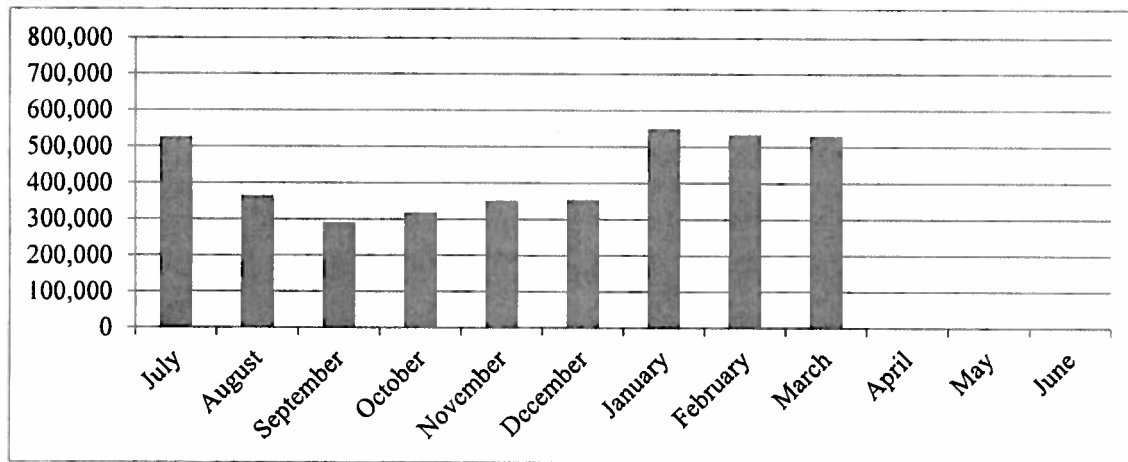
**WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INTERNAL SERVICES FUND
FOR HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM
Expected 2015 Includes Actual Claims Experience Through March 31, 2015**

Fiscal Year Ended	Actual 2015
STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES	
Fund Balance - July 1, 2014	1,693,288
Revenues:	
General Fund Appropriation (July - March)	5,127,935
Contributions:	
Employee Cost Sharing	582,895
Retiree/COBRA Contributions	227,973
State Teachers Retirement Reimbursement (TRF)	49,046
Stop Loss Settlement	130,700
Total Contributions	990,614
Total Revenue {A}	6,118,549
Expenditures	
Aetna Medical & RX:	
Claims	3,817,866
Administrative Fees	85,034
Stop Loss	276,381
District Portion of H.S.A. Deductible	591,764
Delta Dental:	
Claims	261,080
Administrative Fees	14,288
Affordable Care Act Taxes	56,803
Medical Supplement/Other Costs	55,830
Total Health Plan Costs {B}	5,159,046
Net Change {A-F}	959,503
Fund Balance - March 31, 2015	2,652,791

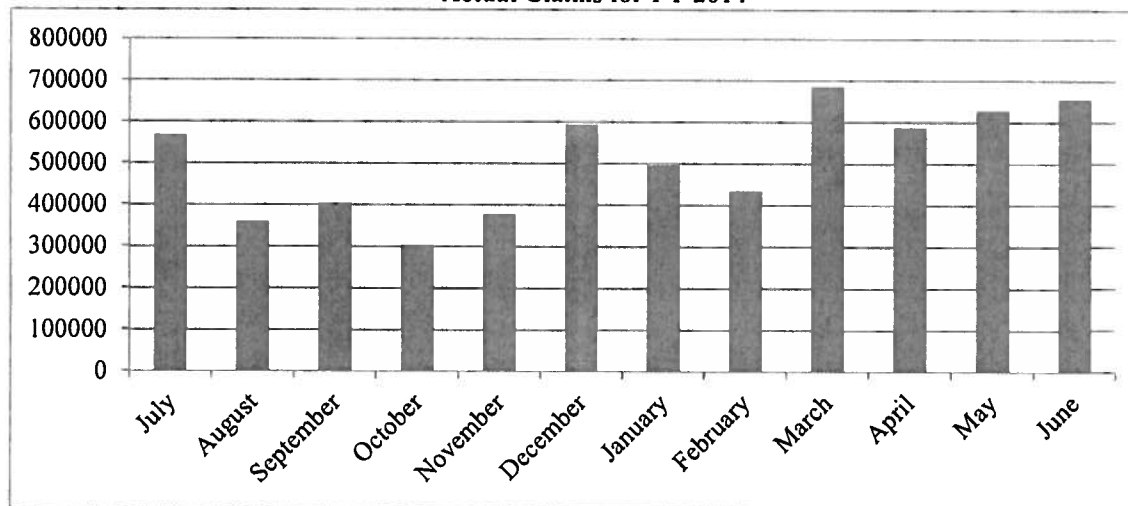
WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Monthly Claims for Medical & RX
FOR HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM

Actual Claims Experience for July - March for FY 2015

	Budget*	Actual	Difference	Cumulative % of Budget
July	533,010	525,829	-7,181	8.22%
August	533,010	364,712	-168,298	13.92%
September	533,010	290,820	-242,190	18.47%
October	533,010	317,974	-215,036	23.44%
November	533,010	351,502	-181,508	28.94%
December	533,010	353,523	-179,487	34.46%
January	533,010	549,538	16,528	43.06%
February	533,010	533,541	531	51.40%
March	533,010	530,427	-2,583	59.69%
	4,797,090	3,817,866	-979,224	



Actual Claims for FY 2014



*Note: the monthly budget for Medical and RX have been adjusted to exclude fixed cost for Stop Loss Insurance and Administrative Services.

WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPORT

April 20, 2015



Weston High School

Lisa Deorio, Principal

In this issue...

- Principal's Update*
- Academic Program*
- Professional Development*
- Co-Curricular Program*
- Alumni News*

Principal's Update

Spring has finally arrived and while we impatiently waited, our students in the National Arts Honor Society (NAHS) decided to take matters into their own hands, painting colorful flowers on our learning commons' windows. New this school year, our NAHS chapter is under the direction of art instructor Ms. Girardi.

April is National Autism Awareness Month, an excellent opportunity to promote autism awareness and acceptance, and draw attention to the tens of thousands facing an autism diagnosis each year. Junior Eric Benninghoff worked tirelessly to create an amazing documentary that highlights autism awareness in and around the Weston High School community. On April 2, WHS celebrated the eighth annual National Autism Awareness day by watching the documentary during our Trojan Time advisory. I encourage you to view this incredible video. https://youtu.be/q_oATe0qzAI

Weston will also host the Special Olympics on our campus on May 9. If you are interested in volunteering, you may register at this link: <http://soct.vsyshost.com/vsys/app/2X83FP38BW60VU0P>.

During April vacation, WHS will send its third student delegation to our sister school in Qingdao, China. Teachers Ms. Moosebrugger and Mr. Mezzo, and Assistant Principal Mr. Doak will be accompanying 26 students visiting Beijing, Xinan, Qingdao, and Shanghai. Students from our sister school will visit WHS at the beginning of our school year in late August.

Forty students will also travel to Guatemala with Builders Beyond Borders, a non-profit service organization, with which we have a partnership. They will complete projects that our student teams began in February, including building classrooms and a patio for a community that had been relocated due to a mud slide. Teacher Ms. Girardi and Mrs. Deorio serve as advisors on two of the teams.

We are thrilled to announce that WHS will be hosting a Rotary exchange student from Germany for the next school year. Families interested in hosting this young lady for a period of three months should contact Fides Ostbye at fidesmo@aol.com or (203) 858-6694.

Academic Program

Science/Technology

Principles of Engineering students raced in the first annual AGV 500 (Automated Guided Vehicle). Students designed, constructed, and programmed a robotic car that follows a line based on sensor readings. The students that won the race will have their names engraved on a 3D printed cup for future classes to see.

The Science Olympiad team participated in 23 different science and technology events at UCONN on March 28. The day began at 7:30 a.m. with students competing in teams of two or three, in events such as forensics, bridge building, and protein modeling. Congratulations to the air trajectory team of Garrick Tsui and Daniel Solinsky who won a gold medal in their event.



Over the next few weeks, ninth-grade students will be participating in a cross-curricular performance based assessment in their social studies and science classes. This assessment was developed by a team of our teachers who participated in the Performance Assessment Design Initiative (PADI) through the Tri-State Consortium. This innovation lab consists of over 30 school districts throughout the Tri-State area and seeks to develop meaningful, reliable, and engaging assessments for student learning. Our PADI assessment will ask students to tackle the topic of disease and answer the question: What disease is the largest threat to us? The students will use knowledge about disease from their science class, combined with content about the social impact of diseases, such as the plague and small pox, that they have studied in their history course to lead their inquiry into the topic.

College and Career Center (CCC)

The updated version of our summer opportunities is available in the College and Career Center or on the CCC web site.

The scholarship listing on the CCC website has been updated with over 15 new scholarships. The CCC has many resources and information on scholarships and financial aid. Deadlines for these scholarships are as early as this October.

All juniors have had group appointments in the College and Career Center. Any junior and parent who would like to set up an individual meeting should email the Director at marilynmoks@westonps.org.

Social Studies

Students in Ms. Conetta and Mr. Passarelli's Honors Modern World Studies classes participated in a 1980s Cold War United Nations simulation. They represented original members of the organization and were asked to evaluate the effectiveness of the United Nations' original charter. As representative nations, students debated topics associated with the Security Council, general assembly, veto power, and various UN initiatives.

World Language

French and Spanish students competed in Le Grand Concourse, the National French Contest and the National Spanish Exam this month. Students participated in the exams in their world language classes, competing against thousands of world language students from across the country.

Professional Development

After school on April 30, our world language department will host a workshop for educators from surrounding districts. Teachers will share best practices, including instructional strategies and new technologies with colleagues from neighboring schools.

Co-Curricular Program

Our Unified Sports Team participated in a bowling match last month. Students from Circle of Friends accompanied our athletes to the bowling alley where they played against the Barlow Unified Sports team.



Congratulations to our boys and girls ski teams who won the SWC Championship this winter. The boys also won the Class S State Championship and the girls were the runner up in Class S. Well done.



Student Government participated in a spirit night under the direction of advisor Ms. Conetta and Dr. Albright of Weston Youth Services. The objective of the program was to empower students to work together on skills that foster collaboration, and mutual trust.



The WHS musical, *Barnum*, was a resounding success this spring. Students performed the story of P.T. Barnum's rise to the most famous showman in American history, transforming the auditorium into a colorful circus. Jugglers, clowns, ringmasters, and mermaids entertained packed audiences with music provided by an all student pit under the guidance of our new band director, Mr. Fisoli.

Alumni News

Alessandra Edgar, Class of 2013 and currently a sophomore at Williams College, was accepted through a competitive application process to study next year at Oxford University, England, as part of a collaborative program that Williams has with Exeter, one of Oxford's constituent colleges.



Anna Feingold, Class of 2007, is an English teacher at a K-5 school in Northern Peru near Piurra. Daniel Feingold, Class of 2009, attends graduate school in The Netherlands for environmental sustainability.

Lauren Garner, WHS Class of 2011, graduated Summa Cum Laude in December 2014 from Marist College with a degree in communications with concentrations in public relations and advertising. While at Marist she was the President of her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma. Lauren is employed by Team Digital Promotions located in Danbury, CT, where she works on all promotions for MasterCard.

William Glaser is a sophomore at Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD). Will is on the SCAD track team and has qualified for the Nationals.

Jacob Greisman, a junior at Colgate University, is majoring in neuroscience, and minoring in Spanish. This summer, he will join an organization Floating Doctors in Panama, whose mission is to reduce present and future disease in the field.

Lindsey M. Hover, Class of 2012 and junior at Boston University (BU), is majoring in international relations, with a geographic focus on the Middle East. Lindsey will also minor in Arabic and journalism and currently works as a reporter for *The Daily Free Press*. Lindsey has been assigned to cover the Boston Marathon bomber trial. Her articles about the trial may be found on the Internet by searching: "Lindsey Hover Daily Free Press." Lindsey will study in Washington, D.C., this summer and Geneva, Switzerland this fall.

Vincent Simboli, WHS Class of 2012, is spending a semester abroad in Valparaiso, Chile where he is studying at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Valparaiso (PUCV) and living with a host family in Vina del Mar. Vincent is a Spanish literature and hispanic studies major at McGill.

Katie Steinharter, a graduate in communications and Spanish from Denison College, spent a year working for Nokero, a startup company in Denver that sold solar powered lightbulbs to those in third world countries who lack electricity. Katie then spent three months in Cambodia where she helped a small fashion firm assist women in learning about business and building a website. Currently she has begun a new job in digital operations at the *Denver Post*.

Sarah Steinharter, a graduate from Wake Forest in international business and French, is currently working at JP Morgan in London.

Jack Steinharter will graduate this spring from Union College, where he has majored in biology. Jack is considering going to medical school.

Lucy Watson, Class of 2013 and a sophomore at Marist College, is currently studying abroad at the University of Cape Town, in South Africa. As an early education major, she is working in a local impoverished community outside Cape Town, raising awareness about the importance of good hygiene and helping to raise money to improve facilities in a school there.

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Jim Cantore Video Chats with Grade Six

Grade six students have been studying the weather for the past several weeks. They have compared and contrasted conditions that cause local sea breezes/land breezes and global wind patterns. Students developed investigable questions to research. The students had the chance to share their findings in a science symposium-style forum. They recently transitioned to learning about the conditions that create the weather and applying that knowledge to predict the weather. We were very fortunate to secure a video chat with

Jim Cantore to guide students in their passion and understanding of weather. Jim Cantore has worked for The Weather Channel since he graduated from Lyndon State College. He has covered every major weather event during the past 25 years, including hurricanes Katrina and Irene and superstorm Sandy, solidifying his and The Weather Channel's role as the leading source for severe weather coverage. Jim Cantore is well known for his animated, tenacious style, both in the field and in the studio. Our students were practicing their future career in weather when Jim invited them to join him in a "thunder snow" chant. We are extremely grateful for Jim making the time to inspire our students. Last year's winning Cornerstone grant provided for the video chatting equipment, making this possible.

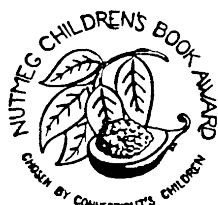
**Eighth-Grade Writing Portfolio**

The middle school continues to reinforce the development and growth of our students' writing proficiency in alignment with our district goals. The high school has successfully implemented a writing portfolio for all grade 10 students. In our continued effort to ensure vertical articulation between the middle and high school, students in grade eight will compile a

writing portfolio for review. The week of March 16, all eighth-grade students will began focusing on the selection of the analytical/persuasive and creative pieces for their writing portfolio.

Students have been working with their teachers to review and revise former pieces of their writing for





improvement. Having the additional time to look back and reflect on their writing has already proven to be a meaningful process. Students are commenting on how much their writing has improved when looking at pieces from seventh grade.

SOAR Update



Our SOAR Advisory groups recently completed a lesson on perseverance. Students reflected on the quote: “The door to success is always marked push.” After watching a brief video clip about people who have overcome adversity, the students discussed the concept of positive self-talk. Using their inner voices, advisory groups brainstormed different affirmations or mantras they can use during times they need to push through. Examples include, “never give up,” “I will make the most of this,” “I will try,” and “just keep going.” Positive self-talk is an empowering tool for people of any age

to use. Our next SOAR Advisory lesson will be on community responsibility. Students will be discussing how their individual decisions affect the greater community and how small changes can make a big difference.

WMS continues to rotate SOAR days with Drop Everything and Read to encourage and celebrate reading for enjoyment. We also instituted Drop Everything and Organize in which advisors review ways of organizing student binders and lockers, and students share their own tips for organizational success. These lessons will be on an as needed basis. Follow up home discussions to reinforce advisory lessons are always key to keep our school community SOARing.



Multicultural Awareness at WMS

Multicultural awareness and appreciation are important cornerstones of being an engaged citizen of the world. The sixth grade enjoyed an authentic African musical performance by Sounds of Afrika on Tuesday, March 17. On Friday, March 20, the students were transported through time as they witnessed the trials and tribulations of a number of important African-American women as performed by Kimberly Wilson in the one woman play *A Journey*. The sixth-grade team thanks the PTO for their generous support in helping us bring these enriching programs to WMS.



Nutmeg Voting

Nutmeg Book Award voting is coming up soon. Our school will vote the week of April 20. Voting will take place digitally and students will be emailed a voting ballot that week.

Students who read all ten of the titles nominated for their grade level (check your email for the titles), will be asked to demonstrate basic comprehension of the titles by responding to a few questions. The comprehension check will be taken in school during a lunch/recess block. Those who demonstrate

they have successfully comprehended the titles will make it to the Nutmeg Wall of Fame. Also, those who pass will have their names added to a raffle for a prize to be determined.

Please stay tuned for more information. Book titles are available at the link below.

<https://sites.google.com/a/westonps.org/wmsllc/reading/nutmegs>

Congratulations to Our National History Day Participants

Congratulations to our students who participated in the National History Day competition. What a wonderful achievement. As a first-, second-, or third-place winner at our district competition, the students below are invited to participate at the Connecticut State History Day contest on Saturday, May 9, 2015. The State contest will be held at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain. All students will share their presentations at the annual TAG Fair on June 5.

Category: Group Documentary

First Place: Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Students: Brendan Moore, Tobey Bill, David Tamburri, Beck Reiferson

Second Place: Sir Nicholas Winto and the Kinder Transport

Students: Etoile Blaquiere, Vivian Wen, Grace Millman

Category: Group Performance

Second Place: Wild Bill Donovan

Students: Colleen Moore, Julia Morledge

Mock Trial Team Wins the State Championship



Our Mock Trial Team won the State Competition this past Wednesday, April 1, in Hartford. After a long season, one of our eighth-grade teams had the opportunity to demonstrate their hard work in Hartford at the Appellate Court. All of our eighth-grade students played a part in getting our team to the championship, and these efforts paid dividends. You could hear a pin drop in the courtroom as our astute attorneys were making

objections and offering skillful cross-examinations. The strategic planning, careful listening, and calm, poised demeanor made even the judges take notice of the talent before them. We are so proud of our team and their accomplishments.



Congratulations to our Mock Trial team, Tobey Bill, Jordan Davidson, Brendan Shea Moore, Ava Salhi, Roman Scavone, and Owen Tanzer, who represented Weston Middle School at the State Competition. Thank you to Mrs. Jorgensen and our volunteer attorneys, especially Mrs. Kate Moore and Mrs. Shannon Nordlinger, who provided unending support and guidance in preparing the students for this competition.

The students who led our team of attorneys at the State Competition included: Alex Nordlinger, Beck Reiferson, and Carolyn Zech, with our witnesses led by: Annika Mirchandani, Sonia Mody, and Jane Burdett. Outstanding work was demonstrated by everyone.

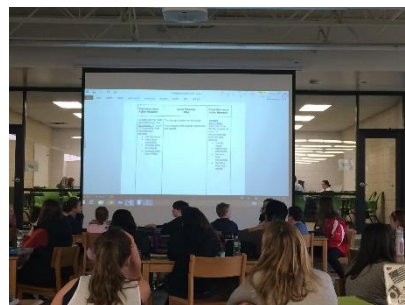
WMS Robotics at the Westport Mini Maker Faire

On Saturday, April 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the WMS Robotics Club will be at The Westport Mini Maker Faire demonstrating student work. The Westport Mini Maker Faire is an annual event at The Westport Public Library where builders, inventors, and designers from across the local area display their creations. The theme of this year's Faire is "things that roll," which is a perfect fit for the club.



The WMS Robotics Club will have a small display where students can show off their robots at the Faire. Please stop by if your child is interested in seeing what the WMS Robotics Club has built this year, along with the work of many other creators from across the local area.

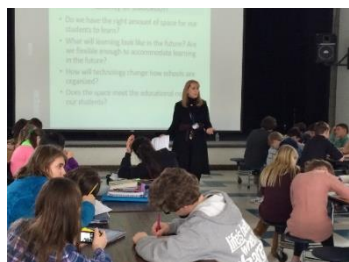
Students in the robotics club, who are interested in demonstrating their work at the Faire, are encouraged to sign-up in advance at a club meeting. A club advisor will be there to supervise the display area, however transportation will not be provided. We will send more specific details as the event gets closer, but please mark this date on your calendar if your student is interested in participating.



Guest Speakers and Coaching Volunteers

Many robotics clubs have guest speakers from STEM-related fields stop in to talk to the club about their experiences. Many clubs also have adult volunteers who occasionally stop in to help coach students in construction of their robots and provide outside feedback. As we approach the end of our first year and look ahead to our second, we are hoping to create a list of individuals in Weston and surrounding communities who would be interested in either of these roles. If you know of someone in STEM-related fields who may want to make a guest appearance or occasionally stop by to coach students, please let us know so that we can contact them. We appreciate the generous support of WEF for making the Robotics Club a reality this year.

Dr. Palmers Speaks to Seventh Grade-Students



After studying why people move from place to place, what problems come with growing populations, and what challenges are created by declining populations, students applied their expertise in addressing the ramifications of declining enrollment in Weston Public Schools. Dr. Palmer spoke to seventh-grade students to share some of the challenges the district will face if enrollment continues to decrease. The

seventh grade students developed plans based on their analysis of the impacts of changing enrollment and town demographics, and presented their plans to members of the Board of Education and community leaders.



Spectrum 2015

The Spectrum concert featured all of the high school and middle school instrumental ensembles from grades 6-12. This one hour concert of continuous music showcased the talents and hard work of our students. The unique Spectrum format allows the audience to enjoy the music without interruption or delay. Our students did an amazing job. Congratulations to Mr. Holmes and Ms. Soboleski for supporting our students in the development of their passion for music.



Weston Intermediate School

Pattie Falber, Principal

In this issue...

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Odyssey of the Mind
Science Fair
PBIS Assembly
Band and Orchestra Debut Concert
Grade 5 Brain Challenge

Third Grade Music Concert

This year's third-grade concert featured folk songs from around the world, which required the students to sing in several different languages including German, Russian, and Spanish. Our students showcased their range of musical abilities singing songs of many lands where they mastered two-part harmony, and singing in a round during the song, "Music Alone Shall Live" ("Himmel und Erde") from Germany. Several of the students also took turns playing a variety of musical instruments which accompanied the beautiful singing. These concerts, which take place each year, are an annual treat for parents and students alike.



Odyssey of the Mind

In our second year of the reemergence of Odyssey of the Mind in our school district, we were able to place 90 out of 91 students who expressed interest in participating on an Odyssey team. Students spent over five months working cooperatively in teams of three to seven students, developing creative solutions to novel problems with specific limitations. This year, we sent 14 teams to the Connecticut



Odyssey of the Mind State Finals at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, CT. And, in only our second year returning to Odyssey, one of our teams is going to the World Finals at Michigan State University in Lansing, MI, from May 20-23. Congratulations to all of our Odyssey participants.

Science Fair



On Tuesday evening, March 30, WIS held its first Science Fair. Over 100 fourth- and fifth-grade students designed and carried out their own inquiry projects and then presented them to an enthusiastic audience of families and friends. The range of topics was impressive, but no matter what project you saw in the packed cafetorium and LRC, you couldn't help but marvel at the creative and highly engaging

experiments that were designed solely by the students. Many thanks go out to the PTO parents and to Carolyn Vinton, our Curriculum Instructional Leader for Math and Science, who spearheaded this new adventure. I venture to say that this is sure to become an annual event.



PBIS Assembly

We had grade level assemblies this month with a focus on perseverance. One of our fifth-grade classes



led the assembly and read aloud a book, *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba. They did an excellent job reading with fluency and expression, as the pictures were shown on the screen behind them for the students to follow along. Also, students from each class shared the personal goals they created for themselves to help them persevere and excel from now through the end of the year, as well as the class-created goal. The fifth grade class ended the assembly reminding the students to persevere in overcoming obstacles, in order to attain the goals they have set for themselves throughout their life. The main hallway has been decorated for spring by our PTO and beautiful, colorful flowers have been hung containing petals created by each classroom. The petals of the flowers display the goals the children made.

St. Patrick's Day Music

The halls were filled with the sounds of Irish jigs and Irish folk melodies as students from the WIS Advanced String Ensemble greeted the students as they arrived to school on St. Patrick's Day. The music put a little spring in our steps as many of us donned green to celebrate the day.



Band and Orchestra Debut Concert



The fifth grade band and orchestra held their debut concert on Wednesday, March 25. Ms. Smart and Ms. Sobeleski designed a very enjoyable program which included music that featured a wide array of musical instruments and musical techniques. For many students, this was the first time they experienced the excitement of performing as an ensemble. The students had much to be proud of as they displayed their newly developing talents.



Fifth-Grade Brain Challenge

An annual favorite event for the fifth graders, the students competed, danced, and cheered each other on while participating in the highly engaging Brain Challenge Game Show. The show is a “live” TV game show hosted by an engaging, quick-witted, and energetic professional host. The Brain Challenge Game Show is complete with digital scoring, background music, a lockout opponent buzzer system, and countdown clock. In an age appropriate combination of *Jeopardy* and *Beat the Clock*, the assembly had the students answering questions in a fast-paced lightening round manner and participating in team building challenges that were exciting, educational, and a lot of fun.

Hurlbutt Elementary School

Laura Kaddis , Principal

In this issue...

Hurlbutt Celebrates a Positive School Climate

Teaching and Learning

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Hurlbutt Celebrates a Positive School Climate

During our March PBIS assembly, the students of Hurlbutt were treated to a visit from the Weston High School cheerleading squad. Under the direction of their coach and first grade teacher, Kelley Coleman, the team demonstrated how teamwork and cooperation leads to success. Our young learners were amazed at the abilities of the cheerleaders. We were proud to share our Hurlbutt chant and song with the high school team. The visit was inspiring to all of us.



Teaching and Learning

Creativity and innovation are always in abundance at Hurlbutt and March was no exception. Our



kindergarten students created leprechaun traps in the hopes of capturing one the mischievous creatures who pass through Hurlbutt around St. Patrick's Day. Although we didn't catch any, the tricky leprechauns did leave behind evidence of their visit. Sparkly

glitter, gold coins and green footprints were plentiful in the kindergarten classrooms.

Tales			
Title	Type	Evidence	Message
Snow White	Fairy Tale	Quarrelsome is a person, Good never ever bad	Snow White lives, Evil Queen dies
How the Mouse lost Snow White	Folk Tale	Requital	Must your dream up - requires will, Creativity, imagination, Little details, Creativity
The Fox and the Stork	Fable	Short Animals act like people	Don't offend the way you want to be treated
Peter Rabbit	Folk Tale	It says "Tale" in the title	Listen to your mother
The Princess and the Frog	Fairy Tale	Heroine is a person	Don't judge a person by how they look
Stone	Folk Tale	There are children, persons, in many	Work together and share

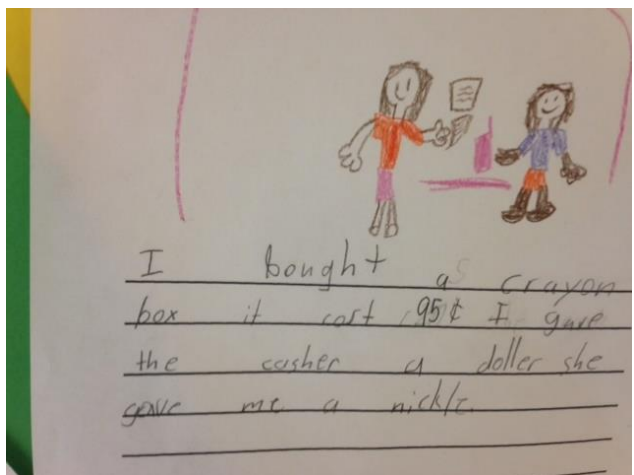
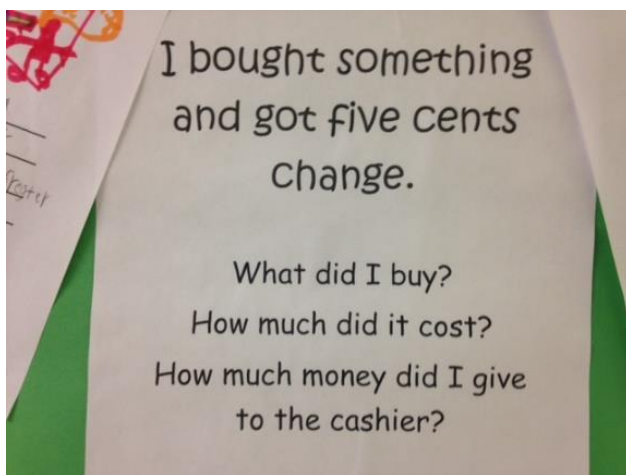
Problem Solving

Hurlbutt second graders put their math skills to work to solve a real world problem with a twist. They were challenged to solve math problems by creating a story around the amount of change they received from the mock purchase of an item. This integration of problem-solving skills, calculation, money concepts, and communication of their thinking resulted in some very creative scenarios. The students enjoyed the ability to design their own story and we were impressed with their ideas.



Our first graders are using critical-thinking skills in the Tales reading and writing units of study. They have been immersed in new and familiar fairy tales and folk tales. Through classroom discussions and partner talks, they are determining the types of stories they are reading and articulating evidence that supports their thinking. Our students have identified author's messages and lessons learned from these stories. By listing the evidence to support their ideas, our students are developing their ability to analyze text and to make comparisons across books.

Our second-grade students attended an assembly highlighting the life of Thomas Edison. This informative and entertaining event supports our Biography unit. Students have been reading about people who have made an impact on society. They have all narrowed down their research to a person of interest who they will read about in depth. During this unit, students will write proposals, explaining why their person should have a museum created in their honor. These proposals will include facts and important information that demonstrate the impact their person has had in their community, our lives, and the world today. This activity enables our students to further develop their critical thinking skills in a real life scenario. This AIM unit generates much buzz around Hurlbutt.



Physical Education

This month, Hurlbutt students have been honing their gross motor skills in physical education through the perceptual motor unit. At stations in the gym, the students are throwing and catching a variety of balls and objects using opposition. Students learn about the importance of using opposition and the role it plays in accuracy and power, in both overhand and underhand throwing.



Links to the Community

Our Hurlbutt community continues to demonstrate kindness and a giving spirit to the greater community. Mrs. Fontneau's second-grade class created a Paper Bag Challenge for us. Our entire school community collected paper bags of non-perishable food items to donate to the Weston Food Pantry. The enthusiasm and commitment to helping families in need resulted in an outpouring of donations. Civic engagement is an important component of our K-2 social studies curriculum. This project demonstrates one's responsibility to resolve social issues. Pictured here is one kindergarten class delivering the 15 bags of food collected by just their class alone.

