

Weston Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Weston Middle School Library Resource Center
November 17, 2014

Attendance:

Philip Schaefer, 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	Jack Seigenthaler, Student Representative
Sara Spaulding	
Elise Major	Absent: Ellen Uzenoff, Vice Chairperson
Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent	Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources

I. CALL TO ORDER, VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. RECOGNITION

1. Teacher of the Year

Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, introduced Allison Pregman, Weston 2015 Teacher of the Year.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education recognize Allison Pregman, Weston 2015 Teacher of the Year, for her outstanding service to the students of Weston. Motion by Mrs. Levin, second by Ms. Harvey, all in favor. (6-0)

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board voted to approve the minutes from October 20. Ms. Major was absent.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the minutes of the October 20, 2014 Regular and Executive Sessions. Motion by Ms. Daniel, second by Mrs. Levin, 5 in favor – Mr. Schaefer, Mrs. Levin, Ms. Daniel, Ms. Harvey, Ms. Spaulding; 1 abstained – Ms. Major. (5-0-1)

V. PUBLIC COMMENT – No report

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation of District Update

Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, provided a detailed update to the Board on district work in key areas: purpose, framework, and 2014-15 areas of focus of the Master Planning Team; district goals progress and next steps through work of the Master Planning Team, administrators, schools, and Board; key factors that impact

district work; and resource allocation and budget implications for 2016. Discussion by the Board followed.

2. Annual NESDEC Enrollment and Projections Report

Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, reviewed the NESDEC Annual Enrollment and Projections Report, including factors affecting enrollment, birth to kindergarten ratios, a review of current year enrollment, projections for next year, and preschool feedback. 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. Discussion by the Board followed.

3. Second FY 2015 Financial Update and Approval of Transfers

Dr. Keating, Director of Finance and Operations, provided a monthly financial update, including transfers for physical therapy services, SAT proctors, shipping costs for textbooks, and repairs.

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

VII. OLD BUSINESS – No report

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Next Regular Board Meeting Monday, December 15, 2014, at 7:30 p.m.

2. Principals' Reports

Mrs. Kaddis, Hurlbutt Elementary School Principal, discussed parent math workshops. Ms. Falber, Weston Intermediate School Principal, highlighted Veterans Day activities. Ms. Watkins, Weston Middle School Principal, reported on two guest speakers – a NASA scientist, and an engineer. Mrs. Deorio, Weston High School Principal, discussed school counseling newsletters, field trips, and alumni updates.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. WHS Student Representatives Report

Mr. Seigenthaler and Mr. Marvin commented on the success of *The Laramie Project* and the post-performance discussion with an original cast member, community service fundraisers, a student survey with ideas for improving Weston High School, and girls soccer.

2. Communications Committee

Ms. Daniel announced the Realtors' Open House scheduled for January 14, and highlighted the recent *Weston Forum* insert. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for December 12.

3. Curriculum Committee

Dr. Craw, Assistant Superintendent, discussed the following topics from the November 12 meeting: new course proposals for AP Latin, a second coding course, and a ninth-grade geophysical sciences. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for December 10.

4. Finance Committee

Ms. Harvey discussed the following topics from the November 11 Finance Committee meeting, in addition to those covered by Dr. Keating previously on the agenda: FY 2016 budget preparations, security grant update, substitute teacher compensation structure, qualifications for a health insurance consultant, RFP for the food service contract, transportation contract, fleet maintenance, and the Entrepreneurial Goal Committee. Discussion by the Board followed. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for December 4.

5. Facilities Committee

Ms. Major discussed the following topics from the November 6 meeting: air conditioning for the high school E wing and the November 5 Lights Committee meeting. In addition, Ms. Spaulding and Dr. Keating discussed recycling, and Dr. Keating updated the Board on the NEEMS contract. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for December 3.

6. Policy Committee

The Policy Committee did not meet in November. Mrs. Levin announced that comments from Board members on existing Board bylaws are now due on Wednesday, November 26.

7. Negotiations Committee

Per Ms. Harvey the Board of Education is going through the formal procedure of creating a revised contract from the tentative agreement with the WTA.

8. CES

Ms. Daniel discussed the upcoming Regional Center for the Arts fall production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and distributed brochures from the CES Foundation. She also spoke about the mini-grants offered by the Foundation.

9. CAFE

Ms. Major discussed highlights from the recent CAFE/CAPSS Conference on November 14.

10. Weston Education Foundation

Ms. Harvey discussed the following topics from the November 10 meeting: grants for a fifth-grade robotics program and a writing center, an update on the middle school robotics program, and website updates that will be going live soon.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion to adjourn by Ms. Daniel, second by Ms. Harvey, all in favor. (6-0) Meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Markov, Board of Education Clerk.

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

DRAFT