

**Westport School Committee  
Regular Meeting  
DATE: Thursday, January 21, 2021  
TIME: 6:30 p.m.  
PLACE: Virtual Meeting**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88908017657?pwd=RDZnVS95aDNZYkdMaFU3YTNTNVRy80dz09>  
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## MINUTES

**Members Present:** Michelle Orlando, Melissa Pacheco, Nancy Stanton Cross, Nancy Tavares, Antonio Viveiros

**Also Present:** Thomas Aubin Interim Superintendent, Michelle Rapoza School Business Manager, Kerri McKinnon Interim Assistant Superintendent / WJSHS Principal, Laura Charette JRSRHS Assistant Principal, Cheryl Greeson MAC Principal, Stacey Duquette WES Principal, Jennifer Chaves Extended Day Director, Kristin Mc Daniel HR Coordinator, Elaine Santos Special Education Director, 31 Community Participants

**I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** - Chair Viveiros opened the Virtual School Committee at 6:30 pm., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Chair Viveiros announced:**

**This meeting is being held remotely in accordance with the Governor of Massachusetts' March 12, 2020 order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c.30A, Section 20**

**Comments and Statements from the Public** - There were none at this time.

### **III. Informational Agenda**

**A. Superintendent Report** - Superintendent Aubin reported that nurse leaders are concerned about the funds and logistics on the state's testing program. Districts are hesitant to implement it due to financial restrictions associated with the program.

Ms. Stanton Cross made a request to see COVID monies received and line items for expenses.

Superintendent Aubin spoke with the Budget Subcommittee about the request for CIPC funds to resurface the driveway at WES. With construction happening, large trucks may be riding over the pavement. It would be better to request funds in FY23. School Committee members agreed to direct Superintendent Aubin to have this item removed from the CIPC list.

### **Schedule**

The district is in the process of looking at scheduling that will best serve the students for FY22 and beyond, possibly using a 6-period schedule. Ms. McKinnon reported that next year implementation of the Wildcat Block will take place. She is working with Ms. Charette in the creation of a timeline to investigate what kind of master schedule would work best. Determining what schedule will work best will depend on the kinds of technical programming. They plan to include stakeholders in this process and will begin in February 2021. SC member Nancy Tavares will serve on this subcommittee for the exploration of the schedule.

Ms. Stanton Cross asked about the previous framework that was developed for the JRSRHS schedule. Ms. McKinnon explained that they looked at it but also looked at numerous other models. Having school programs finalized will better determine the structure of the schedule. Superintendent Aubin will begin working on the technical program approval process with DESE that could take up to 1 year.

Ms. McKinnon reported the first week of hybrid schedule for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders went well.

B. WCS Bill Warrant: 1-29-21 - Chair Viveiros acknowledged reviewing and signing the bill warrant dated 1-29-21 in the amount of \$295,543.01. The bill warrant was emailed to school committee members for review. Ms. Stanton Cross had questions on glass purchase. Ms. Rapoza will get a breakdown of costs.

C. Acknowledgement of a WEF \$3,000 Grant for the MAC Project Outdoor Learning/Play to Learn - Cheryl Greeson reported that teacher Melissa Parker from MAC submitted this grant to enhance the playground area, since they are utilizing this space in a different way this year. The funding includes equipment such as seesaws, cornhole, connect fours, balls, jump ropes, etc. and a shed for storage of all the material. The children are playing with the activities and having a great time. The funding is much appreciated.

D. Acknowledgement of the \$1000 Francis W. Gallishaw Memorial Scholarship awarded to a WSHS Student by South Coast Educational Collaborative - Congratulations went to student Emily McMahon for being the recipient of this scholarship.

E. Subcommittee Updates - Chair Viveiros reported there have been weekly construction meetings. Everything is moving forward with the school building project. The School Building Committee will be meeting next week on January 27 at 6 pm.

Superintendent Aubin reported the digital sign situation has been resolved. The basketball courts and gym colors have been solidified. It was noted they would like to get stakeholders in for tours as soon as possible.

#### **IV. Action Agenda**

A. Review and Act on Minutes of Thursday, January 7, 2021 -

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of Thursday, January 7, 2021.

Motion by Tavares, seconded by Orlando

5/0/0

B. Review and Act on Extended Day Benefits - Superintendent Aubin reported that based on a staff survey benefit items requested include vacation days, sick days and holidays based on 14.5 days per year.

Discussion on the Extended Day Revolving Account showing monthly revenue and expenses took place.

Jennifer Chaves gave a report on the past and current enrollment numbers.

A motion was made to give the Extended Day employees a 1-week vacation in August 2021 and 5 holidays for the remainder of the school year, then a more formalized tiered model will be developed.

Motion by Stanton Cross, seconded by Tavares

5/0/0

C. Review and Act on WJSH School Schedule - This item was discussed above.

D. Review and Act on the Continuation after January 1, 2021 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) - Superintendent Aubin reported FFCRA ended on 12.31.20 and would like to propose to extend it to staff. After Ms. McDaniel did research, she found some districts are continuing this through a MOA, some are ending it and some are still looking at it.

Ms. McDaniel explained the FFCRA program implemented during COVID pays up to 10 days off for employees who need to isolate, quarantine, or await diagnosis. It also covered care of an older parent and childcare situations at 2/3's of an employee's pay. Presently employees must use their sick time.

Discussion took place on the costs for the district.

A motion was made to table this item for 2 weeks pending a decision from legal counsel.

Motion by Stanton Cross, seconded by Orlando 5/0/0

E. Review and Act on a School Committee Representative for the Campground Development Committee - Item tabled per request of Ms. Stanton Cross.

F. Review and Act on FY22 Educational Budget - Item tabled per request of Superintendent Aubin.

V. **Routine Matters** - Correspondence and Notices - There were none.

**VI. Topics the Chair could not Reasonably Anticipate Forty-eight (48) Hours in Advance of the Meeting -**

The boys and girls team won in basketball. The games can be viewed on YouTube.

**VII. Adjourn** - A motion was made to adjourn. With members being present and voting individually and unanimously, the motion passes.

Motion by Tavares, seconded by Stanton Cross 5/0/0

Roll call vote:

Orlando Yes Pacheco Yes Stanton Cross Yes Tavares Yes Viveiros Yes

The Virtual School Committee Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

## MEETING DOCUMENTS

WEF \$3,000 Grant for the MAC Project Outdoor Learning/Play to Learn  
\$1000 Francis W. Gallishaw Memorial Scholarship awarded to a WSHS Student by South Coast Educational Collaborative  
Extended Day Benefits  
WJSH School Schedule  
Continuation after January 1, 2021 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)  
School Committee Representative for the Campground Development Committee  
FY22 Educational Budget

*Submitted by Sharon Pinho School Committee Recording Secretary*