

**Westport School Committee
Regular Meeting
DATE: Thursday, April 15, 2021
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Virtual Meeting**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86250702698?pwd=U0FQSzdReEdnR0pKdk90MlZyZnhDUT09>
Passcode: k0KfAi
Or One tap mobile: US: +13126266799 Or Telephone: US: +1 312 626 6799
Webinar ID: 862 5070 2698
Passcode: 276694

MINUTES

Members Present: Michelle Orlando, Melissa Pacheco (*left at 7:00 pm.*), Nancy Stanton Cross, Nancy Tavares, Antonio Viveiros

Also Present: Kevin Aguiar JRSRHS Assistant Principal, Thomas Aubin Interim Superintendent, Laura Charette JRSRHS Assistant Principal, Leah Chesney WES Assistant Principal, Stacey Duquette WES Principal (*arrived at 7:21 pm.*), Darren Elwell Director of Curriculum, Cheryl Greeson MAC Principal, Kristin Mc Daniel HR Coordinator, Kerri McKinnon Interim Assistant Superintendent / WJSHS Principal, Lori Melo Administrative Assistant, Kim Ouellette Custodial Department, Michelle Rapoza School Business Manager, Elaine Santos Special Education Director, Tyler Simonin Student Representative, Anthony Tomah Director Technology, 24 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 - Mr. Norman Abrahamson expressed concern about the hiring of the principals for the Westport High School and Westport Middle School. He would like the stakeholders from the community and the WFT to be involved in the hiring process.

Informational Agenda (*taken out of order*)

A. Student Representative: Tyler Simonin - Tyler reported that Spirit Day was Wednesday, International Pink Day for quality and acceptance was held on April 7, on Saturday April 10 the Medical Club held a blood drive helping 84 families, fall sports will wrap up May 1. Tyler mentioned it is good to be back to school in person.

III. Special Agenda

A. School Committee Reorganization – Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair -

Chair

Chair Viveiros made a motion to nominate Nancy Tavares as the next School Committee Chair. The motion was seconded by Nancy Stanton Cross, all were in favor, motion passed 5/0/0
Ms. Tavares accepted the nomination.

Vice - Chair

Michelle Orlando made a motion to nominate Nancy Stanton Cross as the next School Committee Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded by Melissa Pacheco, all were in favor, motion passed 5/0/0
Ms. Stanton Cross accepted the nomination.

B. Discuss Preparation of the School Committee Regular Meeting Calendar - The calendar will remain as is with School Committee meetings held on the first and third Thursdays at 6:30 pm.

C. Discuss School Committee Subcommittee Appointments - Chair Tavares asked if anyone wanted to change subcommittees? It was agreed that appointments and authorizations will remain the same at this time.

(Ms. Pacheco left here at 7:00 pm.)

VI. Informational Agenda

B. Superintendent Report - Superintendent Aubin shared the schedule for the roof replacement project by sharing a document entitled: **MSBA ARP Roof Replacement Project**. Completion date is set at 9/3/21.

Energy Management Associates prepared a report for the district dated March 31, 2021 showing that the numbers for air exchanges per hour are good and the learning environment is safe. Ongoing work with maintenance is taking place to make sure filters are changed on a regular basis. Rabbits will be added to the auditorium to compensate for the high ceilings.

Principal McKinnon reported a letter will be going out with report cards tomorrow that will include information on MCAS testing to occur in May and June.

Report on the WES - Ms. Duquette will report later on.

Report on the MAC - Ms. Greeson had nothing new to report at this time.

C. The Appointment of the WHS Principal, the WHS Assistant Principal and the WMS Principal for SY21-22 -

Superintendent Aubin announced the following 3 appointments for the SY21-22 effective July 1, 2021:

Kerri McKinnon, Principal Westport High School
Kevin Aguiar, Assistant Principal Westport High School
Laura Charette, Principal Westport Middle School

Discussion was held on the reasons for these appointments, all appointees were congratulated.

D. The Removal of the Interim Assistant Superintendent Position for SY21-22 - Superintendent Aubin announced the Interim Assistant Superintendent Position will be removed for the upcoming SY21-22. Kerri McKinnon was thanked for her service and will work in this capacity for the remainder of the year.

E. FY22 Budget Discussion - Mr. Aubin reported a meeting will take place with the Finance Committee on Tuesday. Leadership will be presenting a level funded budget totaling \$20,299,930, as well as 4 scenarios with \$200,000 in cuts with each budget option. There have been ongoing discussions with FinCom.

F. WCS Bill Warrant: 4-9-21 and 4-23-21 - Mr. Viveiros acknowledged reviewing and signing the bill warrant dated 4-9-21 in the amount of \$126,710.81 and bill warrant dated 4-23-21 in the amount of \$105,129.70. The bill warrants were emailed to school committee members for review.

G. Acknowledgement of a \$407.46 WEF Grant for the Phonic Owl Pellet Investigation for the Westport Elementary School - Ms. Duquette informed everyone this is a science project for 5th graders. This grant allows each student to have their own set of tools to use in dissection.

H. COVID Update - Superintendent Aubin reported the numbers since September 16, 2020 are MAC 28, WES 36, JRSRHS 23, staff 23. Presently, one class at WES is under quarantine. They are working

with the nurses on COVID protocols and new CDC guidelines for quarantining. Information will be sent out to everyone before vacation begins about following Governor Baker's Travel Advisory.

I. Subcommittee Updates - Mr. Viveiros reported that construction meetings continue, timelines are shrinking and outstanding issues with the building are being addressed. The project is still on schedule to open on time and remains under budget. August 2 is the date for substantial completion. The construction fence on Old County Rd. will be moved outwards.

Chair Tavares reported the Policy Committee has not held a meeting.

Ms. Orlando reported the Audit Committee is waiting for a new letter from the auditor. CIPC meeting is this upcoming Wednesday.

Ms. Stanton Cross reported a design for optimal fields on the campground site is needed. Next steps will be to determine how to fund and get these fields completed. Schematics will be looked at.

Superintendent Aubin mentioned tours of the new school cannot happen until August. Ms. Charette was planning an 8th grade parade from the old building to the new building, however alternative plans may need to take place.

(Ms. Duquette arrived here at 7:21 pm.)

Report on the WES -

Ms. Duquette informed everyone MCAS week is May 17 for ELA, Math, and 5th grade Science. There will be less days for each subject. Remote learners may come into school during testing, however the Commissioner announced that grade 3-8 remote students can take a remote exam if they have been remote to date.

V. Action Agenda

A. Review and Act on Minutes of Thursday, March 25, 2021 -

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of Thursday, March 25, 2021.

Motion by Viveiros, seconded by Orlando 4/0/0

B. Review and Act on FY22 Education Budget - Tabled at this time.

C. Review and Act on Policies:

1. WCS Policy JFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children
2. WCS Policy JFABF – Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care
3. MASC Policy ACAB – Harassment
4. MASC Policy EBCFA – Face Coverings

These policies were reviewed at a previous meeting and reflect recommended MASC policy changes.

A motion was made to approve the listed policies 1-4 as presented.

Motion by Stanton Cross, seconded by Orlando 4/0/0

VI. Routine Matters - Correspondence and Notices - There were none.

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

More information is needed on the septic system company concerning a maintenance contract for the denitrification tank. Part of the installation is monitoring the system for 18 months at a cost of over \$10,000. Mr. Aubin and Mr. Viveiros will be providing an update.

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

Motion by Orlando, seconded by Stanton Cross 4/0/0

Roll call vote: Orlando Yes Stanton Cross Yes Tavares Yes Viveiros Yes

The Virtual School Committee Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

MEETING DOCUMENTS

School Committee Reorganization – Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair

School Committee Regular Meeting Calendar

School Committee Subcommittee Appointments

Appointment of the WHS Principal, the WHS Assistant Principal and the WMS Principal for SY21-22

Removal of the Interim Assistant Superintendent Position for SY21-22

FY22 Budget Discussion

Acknowledgement of a \$407.46 WEF Grant for the Phonic Owl Pellet Investigation for the WES

Policies 1.WCS Policy JFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children 2.WCS Policy JFABF –

Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care 3. MASC Policy ACAB – Harassment 4. MASC

Policy EBCFA – Face Coverings

Submitted by Sharon Pinho School Committee Recording Secretary