

**Westport School Committee  
Regular Meeting  
DATE: Thursday, August 6, 2020  
TIME: 6:30 p.m.  
PLACE: Virtual Meeting**

Join video call: [meet.google.com/kzj-uonm-wai](https://meet.google.com/kzj-uonm-wai)

Join by phone: (US) +1 724-201-6704 PIN: 848774482

**MINUTES**

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

**Also Present:** Thomas Aubin Assistant Superintendent / WJSHS Principal, Dr. Gary Reese, Superintendent, Michelle Rapoza School Business Manager, Darren Elwell Director of Curriculum, Cheryl Greeson MAC Principal, 15 Community Participants

**I. Call to Order** - Chair Viveiros opened the Virtual School Committee Meeting at 6:30 pm.

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.

**III. Informational Agenda**

A. Superintendent Report – Dr. Reese thanked all the individuals participating in the re-entry planning committee. Also acknowledged was Dr. Erin Bromage who has been a tremendous resource in working with the fall reentry plans.

Dr. Reese thanked the community for support on the budget at Town Meeting. An additional \$150,000 will be coming from free cash. They are still below the FY20 school budget. Chapter 70 allocation was level funded. They will be reaching out to the town to access additional funds now that this information has been received.

Dr. Reese reported on 3 grants:

1. Summer Vacation Learning Program Grant - Mr. Aubin put together a plan for project-based learning on weekends and vacations. Right now, he is working with administration on a high school vision. A total of \$23,136 was received.

2. Entitlement School Reopening Grant - There will be an allocation coming of \$225 per student to support activities and expenses related to COVID 19 in the amount of \$331,425. This can be used for technology purchasing Chromebooks and laptops to support educators.

3. Remote Learning Technology Essentials Grant - This grant will support expenses already incurred since March 2020. The governor will be announcing this soon.

B. Bill Warrant Update: 7-17-20, 7-31-20 and 8-14-20 - Chair Viveiros acknowledged reviewing and signing the bill warrants dated 7.17.20 in the amount of \$ 217,397.23, bill warrant dated 7.31.20 in the amount of \$51,274.81, and bill warrant dated 8.14.20 in the amount of \$98,019.41. All bill warrants were emailed to school committee members for review.

C. Review of MASC Policies for Fall Re-Entry - Dr. Reese informed members that MASC is looking closely at policies. Sample policies were sent out to review and consider for adoption. These policies will be forwarded to the Policy Subcommittee. Ms. Pacheco will schedule a future meeting.

D. Review of MASC Policy – ACAB Harassment - Dr. Reese informed members of proposed changes to Title 9 regulations which impact SC policies. There is some debate about implementation of these new policy changes. Dr. Reese recommends sending this policy to the Policy Subcommittee for review as well as consult with legal counsel.

E. Subcommittee Updates - Chair Viveiros reported there was not a School Building Committee meeting recently. Construction meetings have been taking place. They are working on paving in order to get the Library up and going again, with a new road to the Library. Also, a layer of asphalt going to the WES will be constructed. The school building will be closed in soon, with painters and sheet rock going up. Colors have been picked for the tennis courts. Fencing will be put up. The project remains under budget by \$1.2 million.

Mr. Aubin reported the Technology Committee met for the first time yesterday. They will be naming the rooms. Mr. Aubin will be scheduling tours of the school. Phone lines were discussed. Furniture samples have been received and are awaiting testing.

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

A. Review and Act on Minutes of Monday, July 6, 2020, Thursday, July 9, 2020, and Thursday, July 30, 2020 Work Session -

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of Monday, July 6, 2020, Thursday, July 9, 2020, and Thursday, July 30, 2020 Work Session.

Motion by Stanton Cross, seconded by Orlando

5/0/0

B. Fall Re-Entry Plan - Dr. Reese explained that the state provided guidance to all districts to develop 3 pathways for learning.

1. Students enter school 100% - Students 3 ft. apart opposed to 6 ft., all desks in same direction and wearing masks for grades 2 and up including all staff, mask breaks and cleaning.

2. Fully remote learning 100% - This would be different from the Spring, districts were told to shut down in Spring, there was no staff PD, no consistent materials and resources and parents were not prepared. Now remote learning must be more robust, with live face to face instruction and a full day for students.

3. Hybrid model both remote and in person learning - It was noted that shifting to another model may happen and should be seamless.

Dr. Reese mentioned that over 60 people have been working hard in a re-entry planning committee.

This is the scenario:

1. Fully in person - key aspects - close to 3 ft. threshold for the amount of students, all students wearing masks including lower grades for safety, need to abbreviate periods for transitioning, may need to increase lunch periods, working on how students will enter building, cleaning protocols with checklists for accountability, purchased electric static sprayers, cleaning HVAC system with a company and looking into UVC light technology to kill airborne virus germs.

2. Remote learning - Live lessons from a teacher, mini-lesson then students practice what they learned, JRSRHS will follow block schedules. Some were concerned because of what happened in Spring the learning will be more robust this time. All teachers in school and teach from their classrooms

3. Hybrid model - 1-week schedule, 2 cohorts Monday/Tuesday and Thursday/Friday, one half is live other half receive instruction at home then swap, looking into live streaming and other models and teachers teach from in school. Wednesday everyone remote to allow for cleaning of the buildings.

Dr. Reese reported various remote meetings took place with staff members, parents and students from MAC and WES. He shared the models with students, staff, and families and received feedback.

From a recommendation by Dr. Bromage rooms were rated on a scale of 1-3. 1. Appropriate ventilation/HVAC system, and windows to get air out. 2. one condition present, but not the other. 3. Neither one was present. It was noted there were very little rooms rated as 3, with the majority rated as 1, some were a 2. They are working on mitigation of these areas.

Dr. Reese reported that a survey was sent out on choosing models, transportation, and technology questions. For staff, a survey was sent asking about their return. Over 800 families and 200 staff responded. The results will be shared tomorrow.

With the family survey, more than 50% prefer in person and 40% prefer hybrid model.

Dr. Reese is recommending the members take time to review the draft re-entry plan. The plan submission timetable for the Commissioner has been extended from August 10 to August 14, 2020.

Discussion on the re-entry plans took place. There was emphasis on a 3-day schedule with cleaning at night to allow students more days with in person teacher instruction. This rotation will be discussed with administration and included in the draft plans.

Discussion took place on the criteria to use as a base for shifting between the learning models. Dr. Reese will consult with Dr. Bromage.

Dr. Reese will share survey results and the draft plan with the community. It will be posted on the school website and distributed through School Brains.

C. School Calendar 2020-2021 REVISED - The first day of school will be September 16 to allow for training time for teachers. This will give 10 days of Professional Development for staff also to review safety guidelines. A Parent Academy will provide Professional Development for families with help on the available learning platforms

A motion was made to approve the revised School Calendar for 2020-2021 as presented.

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

D. Review and Act on a Donation of \$1200 for the MAC Therapy Department from the Krowel Family - Dr. Reese explained these funds were from fundraising efforts for pediatric stroke awareness to be donated to the Therapy Department at the MAC.

A motion was made to accept a Donation in the amount of \$1200 for the MAC Therapy Department from the Krowel Family.

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

V. **Routine Matters - Correspondence and Notices** - Chair Viveiros reported nothing new at this time.

Mr. Aubin gave an update on the Graduation Ceremony taking place on Saturday August 8, 2020 at 4 pm.

VI. **Comments and Statements from the Public** - There were none.

VII. **Additional Agenda Issues** - Ms. Tavares will work on a scheduled timeline for the Superintendent evaluation process to present to the committee.

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

Motion by Stanton Cross, seconded by Tavares

5/0/0

Roll call vote:

Orlando Yes      Pacheco Yes      Stanton Cross Yes      Tavares Yes      Viveiros Yes

The Virtual School Committee Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

**Meeting Documents**

Review of MASC Policies for Fall Re-Entry

MASC Policy ACAB Harassment

Fall Re-Entry Plan

School Calendar 2020-2021 REVISED

Donation of \$1200 for the MAC Therapy Department from Krowel Family

*Submitted by Sharon Pinho School Committee Recording Secretary*