

Westport School Committee
Work Session
DATE: Tuesday, December 8, 2020
Time 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: Virtual Meeting

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MINUTES

Members Present: Michelle Orlando (*arrived 7:15 pm.*), Melissa Pacheco (*arrived 6:26 pm.*), Nancy Stanton Cross, Nancy Tavares (*arrived 6:15 pm.*)

Members Absent: Antonio Viveiros

Also Present: Thomas Aubin Interim Superintendent, Michelle Rapoza School Business Manager, Kerri McKinnon Interim Assistant Superintendent/Principal

I. Call to Order - Superintendent Aubin opened the Virtual School Committee Work Session at 6:06 pm.

Mr. Aubin 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

II. FY22 Budget Discussion -

(Ms. Tavares arrived here at 6:15 pm.)

Discussion began with various budget number scenarios including the Town appropriation figure, an increase of 1%, 2%, and 3%. It was noted that it is very important to determine what kinds of programs will be offered. Types of programs will directly affect the budget totals.

Discussion took place on schedules. A variety of schedules have been reviewed such as block, 6 drop 1, modified block, and 6 by 6. Members would like to choose the best schedule going into the new school that puts students first. The type of schedule chosen will affect the types of programs offered.

Graduation requirements are also being reviewed, looking at courses in each content area not just the credits per course.

(Ms. Pacheco arrived here at 6:26 pm.)

Mr. Aubin explained some increases in the budget include \$75,000 for transportation \$100,000 for a principal, \$25,000 coaches, \$155,042 adding back a 2-day furlough, and \$150,000 for additional buses next school year. Some savings will include energy use with the new school and staffing for custodians.

Discussion was held on a 2-day furlough for FY21. This furlough covers WFT, AFSCME, and exempt staff. If the decision is to re-instate these 2 days, they will need to be added back into the schedule due to being taken out of the school calendar. Ms. Rapoza reported there may be additional money from transportation, paying for use of 1 tier that may cover costs for the 2 furlough days.

Timeframe of the 2-day furlough was discussed. Ms. McKinnon reported all the planned activities taking place before the year ends.

Ms. McKinnon reported the administration every Wednesday morning has been looking at student concerns. Any child that is failing 1 class can have the opportunity to do remote learning in the cafeteria in a defined learning space.

(Ms. Orlando arrived here at 7:15 pm.)

Discussion on the future location of administration took place. Options to use other schools is being explored. A decision about the old high school building needs to happen. This issue will be further explored.

Mr. Aubin recommends a later start date for the next year's school calendar. He also recommends going with a remote model instead of having snow days.

Discussion on the next WFT contract took place.

Members will continue reviewing the budget.

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

Motion by Pacheco, seconded by Stanton Cross

4/0/0

Roll call vote:

Orlando Yes Pacheco Yes Stanton Cross Yes Tavares Yes

The Virtual School Committee Work Session adjourned at 7:34 pm.

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