

**Westport School Committee
Regular Meeting**

DATE: Wednesday, February 6, 2019

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

PLACE: Westport Jr./Sr. High School Media Center

MINUTES

Members Present: Mark Carney, Margot DesJardins, Nancy Stanton Cross, Antonio Viveiros

Absent: Nancy Tavares

Also Present: Dr. Gary Reese, Superintendent, Michelle Rapoza, School Business Manager

Special Guests and Presenters: Melena Rodrigues and Cabot Priestner, Student Representatives

I. Call to Order - A quorum being present, Chair Viveiros called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Notice of Recording of Meeting (M.G.L. 30A:20f) Comments and Statements from the Public – There were none.

III. Informational Agenda

A. Student Representatives' Report – Melena Rodriguez & Cabot Priestner –

Both Melena and Cabot were presented with name plaques as a gift from the School Committee.

Melena announced that shirts are being sold to support the Ambassadors of Autism All Abilities Acceptance to promote kindness, seniors are preparing for the end of year and are voting for superlatives, International Exchange Club is hosting a clothing drive asking for donations of something that does not spark joy and the GSA is having a feminine hygiene product drive with donations going to the SFS Family Center.

Cabot announced that the term closed on January 25 and second semester has started, students are excited for February break, boatbuilding class started with Mr. Harrington as the teacher, they are going on a field trip to Whaling Museum, building a timeline of Westport history and start building a boat in March, girls basketball team is having a charity on Friday in support of families of fallen police and firefighters called the 100 Club of Massachusetts, Westport musical tomorrow and Friday night here at the Jr./Sr. HS.

B. Superintendent Report – G. Reese – Dr. Reese gave an update on the MAC water issue. They are getting a quote from the company Natural Systems Utilities with additional information by tomorrow. This month there will be a second school safety drill focusing on lockdown and barricade. In April, an 8-week session will begin at the Jr./Sr. HS as part of an Adult Education Program. There will be 7 classes that include fitness low impact exercise, yoga, boot camp, creative writing, sewing, guitar and computer Google apps. Dr. Reese will be managing these programs and information will be released to the community by the district website, postings at library, senior center and town hall, outreach during budget roadshows and letters home to parents.

Mrs. Rapoza is looking into a driver's education program for next school year.

C. Business Manager Report - FY19 Quarterly Budget Review (December 31st) –

Mrs. Rapoza discussed the first school information roadshow will be part of the WES/MAC PTO meeting on Tuesday March 12 at 6:30 held at WES. The roadshows will continue with the Jr./Sr. Parent Group possibly in April and during the day at the Council on Aging.

Mrs. Rapoza went through the Summary of Expenditures from July 1 - December 31, 2018 and the Revolving Accounts. Mrs. Rapoza answered questions on expended lines and adjustments. There were no further questions.

D. Jr./Sr. High School Climate Update – M. Aho – Dr. Reese gave a school climate update for Mr. Aho.

A memo from Mr. Aho has been provided detailing the school climate. Items being worked on are the updating of referral sheets with consistent language from the staff training, transition plans for students transitioning to the next grade and adjustments of duties and coverage. Dr. Reese invited SC members to the ROAR assembly on February 15. Mr. Aho can continue giving an update report. Dr. Reese added that some staffing adjustments have been done for next year but no further resources have been requested.

E. School Building Committee Update – Mr. Viveiros announced that the SBC Steering Subcommittee approved some invoices today. SMI demolition company is ahead of schedule. Comments on the 90% documents submittal were received from the MSBA, there is a 14-day timeline to respond.

F. Campground Subcommittee Update – Ms. Stanton Cross began by mentioning she is part of the Cable Commission Committee. She learned there is only one cable company for the town that is giving out old equipment. Ms. Stanton Cross would like to explore the resources for a TV Studio moving into the new school. Having the ability to broadcast with a better product and have town and SC meetings there would be ideal. Dr. Reese is presently looking at technology with different vendors.

Ms. Stanton Cross reported that today the town entered into negotiations for the campground. An agreement may be reached soon with Mr. Costa.

Mr. Viveiros shared that the CPIC gave overwhelming support to have the town purchase the campground property.

Cheryl Greeson MAC Principal came up to the microphone and informed everyone that today the MAC had Global School Play Day. Children were given great play opportunities with no screen time. This allowed children to problem solve, play board games, participate in outside play, learn how to share, take turns and talk with friends. Faculty used chart paper and no smartboards.

IV. Action Agenda

A. Review and Act on FY20 Education Budget Amount of \$18,781,131- Dr. Reese presented the FY20 budget to members. There were no additional questions at this time.

A motion was made to accept the FY20 Education Budget in the amount of \$18,781,131.
Motion by Stanton Cross, seconded by Carney 4/0/0

B. Review and Act on WJRSRHS DECA Field Trip Gr. 9-12 – Boston, MA – March 7, 2019 to March 9, 2019 – Dr. Reese mentioned that 12 students qualify to attend this state conference on March 7 - 9, 2019.

A motion was made to approve the WJRSRHS DECA Field Trip Gr. 9-12 – Boston, MA – March 7-9, 2019.
Motion by Carney, seconded by Stanton Cross 4/0/0

C. Review and Act on a \$1500 Donation for WES Special Needs Equipment from the Westport Commission on Disabilities – Dr. Reese reported at the November 26 Commission meeting it was voted to approve \$1,500 for various equipment such as a soft touch chair, sensory stimulation toys, desktop slant boards and autism sensory room materials.

A motion was made to accept the \$1500 Donation for WES Special Needs Equipment from the Westport Commission on Disabilities.

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

D. Review and Act on 2019-2020 School Year Calendar– Dr. Reese presented the 2019-2020 School Year Calendar with the start date of Sept. 3. For grades 1-12. Ms. Stanton Cross would like to see an August start date and look at the 2 vacations in the future. Mr. Viveiros mentioned to think about adjusting the SC meetings back to Tuesdays.

A motion was made to accept the 2019-2020 School Year Calendar.
Motion by Stanton Cross, seconded by Carney 4/0/0

E. Review and Act on Minutes of Wednesday, December 12, 2018 and Wednesday, January 23, 2019 – Dec 12 – 2018 – Mr. Viveiros made several calls to experts in the field concerning the 2-2 vote taken for the December 12, 2018 minutes. The MASC representative informed him that for any public meeting just because you did not attend the meeting does not mean you cannot vote on the minutes. You can watch the recorded meeting and still vote. Mr. Viveiros informed members not to worry if they are not present at a meeting in order to vote.

Dr. Reese mentioned according to Roberts Rules you need a quorum of the SC members present at the meeting to take a vote on the meeting.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes for Wednesday, December 12, 2018 and Wednesday, January 23, 2019.

Motion by Viveiros, seconded by Stanton Cross 3/0/1 (DesJardins abstained)

Mrs. Rapoza announced they have been invited to present the FY20 budget to FinCom on February 26 at 6 pm.

Superintendent Reese will attend the BOS meeting on February 19 for any FY20 budget questions.

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

VI. Comments and Statements from the Public – There were none.

VII. Additional Agenda Issues – There were no additional items.

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 Carney

4/0/0

Roll call vote:

Carney Yes

DesJardins Yes

Stanton Cross Yes

Viveiros Yes

The School Committee meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.

Meeting documents –

FY20 Education Budget

WJRSRHS DECA Field Trip Gr. 9-12 – Boston, MA – March 7, 2019 to March 9, 2019

\$1500 Donation WES Special Needs Equipment from the Westport Commission on Disabilities

2019-2020 School Year Calendar

Submitted by Sharon Pinho School Committee Recording Secretary