

Westport School Committee
Regular Meeting
DATE: Thursday, June 2, 2022
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Virtual

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84170877968?pwd=UytZbXhITVR0bkxtSVlxb254R1EyZz09>

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Or One tap mobile: US: +13126266799

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Webinar ID: 841 7087 7968

Passcode: 280724

MINUTES

Members Present: Gloria Cabral, Melissa Pacheco, Nancy Stanton Cross, Nancy Tavares

Members Absent: Antonio Viveiros

Also Present: Kevin Aguiar Assistant Principal Westport Middle School, Thomas Aubin Superintendent, Laura Charette Principal Middle School, Jennifer Chaves Extended Day Director, Stacey Duquette Principal Pre-K-Gr.4, Darren Elwell Director of Curriculum, Michael Grandfield Assistant Principal Westport High School, John Jack Keane Student Representative, Kerri McKinnon Principal High School, Lori Melo Administrative Assistant, Jason Pacheco Athletic Director, Michelle Rapoza School Business Manager, Elaine Santos Special Education Director, Anthony Tomah Technology Director, 49 Community Participants

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance - Chair Stanton Cross opened the Virtual School Committee Meeting at 6:30 pm. with a quorum of the members present, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Stanton Cross announced:

On February 15, 2022, Governor Baker signed into law a new session law extending certain COVID-19 related measures. The new law, Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, includes an extension until July 15, 2022 of the remote meeting provisions of the Governor's March 12, 2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c 30A sec 20. Public bodies otherwise governed by the OML are temporarily relieved from the requirement that meetings be held in public places, open and physically accessible to the public, so long as measures are taken to ensure public access to the bodies' deliberations "through adequate, alternative means." This meeting will be conducted in-person and virtually. This meeting is being recorded.

II. Comments and Statements from the Public - Norman Abrahamson from the WFT mentioned that the past 2 years have been extremely challenging. There have been lots of changes including a move into a new building and turnover of administration. Through all these changes teachers have provided stability to district, carried on without interruptions and have continued to work without a contract. The WFT has now approved a contract and Mr. Abrahamson urged the school committee members to approve the contract in tonight's vote.

III. Informational Agenda -

Student Representative – John (Jack) Keane reported upcoming school events. Boat Building Launch will take place on June 4 at 3 pm. at the head of Westport, Grade 9 Biology MCAS will take place on June 7 and 8, Athletic Awards are on June 7, early release day will be June 9 dismissal at 11 am, Scholarship Night is June 9 at 6 pm. in the auditorium, Senior Breakfast, Graduation Rehearsal and Senior Stroll will be on June 10, Senior Graduation will be June 11, Credit For Life Fair is on June 15, Class of 2025 and Class of 2023 will have a Paint Night Fundraiser on June 15, high school Drama Club will have a performance on June 17 at 7 pm. in the auditorium, it is state tournament time for sports, best of luck to all, boys will be hosting Smith Academy on June 4 at 2 pm. at the former HS fields, girl's tennis will have an away match on June 6 in Bourne.

Chair Stanton Cross asked if there were any questions for Jack? There were none.

B. Superintendent Report –

Mr. Aubin reported the following items:

- Pod removal at MAC started, complete removal by mid-July is expected.
- On June 27 the WES roof project will start. There will be deliveries by 7 trucks on June 7 and June 8. Everyone needs to plan accordingly for traffic.
- WES playground work has started by the Highway Department. They are currently grading the area.
- MAC air conditioning will start in summer. Funds came from a grant.
- Extended Day is at full capacity.
- There will be other enrichment items over summer.
- Mr. Elwell will be leaving the district to be Principal of the Dudley Charlton Regional School District.
- There will be an Assistant Principal switch with Mr. Aguiar working with Ms. Duquette and Mr. Grandfield working with Ms. McKinnon at the high school.
- LED project is placed on hold.
- Work at new school continues with cleaning of walls and fixing floors.
- Summer school at MS and HS will take place.
- Mr. Aubin thanked the WFT for negotiations, building leadership and ancillary staff as well.
- Mr. Aubin met with Mr. Hartnett and Chief Pelletier to have police presence at the schools until the end of year in order to keep buildings safe. Mr. Aubin contacted state legislators Schmid and Rodrigues to have police remain for the 23 school year.
- Mr. Persico will update the committee on ALICE training.

Chair Stanton Cross requested to have Mr. Aguiar remain as the point person for the new building.

Chair Stanton Cross expressed concerns on the elevations of fields.

Ms. Duquette explained that a private program called Camp Invention will take place at the former JRSRHS June 27 - July 1 from 8:30 am. - 3:00 pm. This is an opportunity for students to explore STEM thinking and creativity.

Chair Stanton Cross recognized Mr. Elwell's service to the district on behalf of the committee.

C. WCS Bill Warrant: 6-3-22 - Chair Stanton Cross reported a Bill Warrant dated 6.3.22 in the amount of \$222,773.96 was emailed to school committee members for review.

Chair Stanton Cross asked if there were any questions regarding the bill warrant? There were none.

D. DESE School Nutrition Program Reviews

1. Administrative Review -

Ms. Rapoza reported this is done every 2-3 years. They look at financials and the process used to serve students. There was a fine of \$101.58 imposed but was under the \$600 threshold, so it was waived. There are some adjustments to the Wellness Policy that will need to be approved concerning food. Ms. Rapoza will send everyone the review to look at.

2. Procurement Review - This concerns repairs of maintenance equipment and services. Ms. Rapoza mentioned the district did a good job with this review. They did not have their write up review ready at this time. Free meals are no longer in effect as of June 30.

Chair Stanton Cross asked if there were any questions? There were none.

E. Discussion of Summer Programs - Mr. Aubin reported building leaders will met this Wednesday about summer programs and academic enrichment programs. A comprehensive report will be given at the next meeting. Most programs will take place at the former JRSRHS, some will take place in the new school. WES will be closed. Extended Day has moved to the former JRSRHS.

F. Discussion of Summer Reading - Mr. Aubin met with leadership to explore an alternative program for summer reading. Groups doing reading over the summer are AP and Honors English classes. This will be solidified at the next meeting and will be placed back on the agenda.

G. Discussion of Changing the End of Year Virtual Meeting from July 8th to July 11th at 7:30 am.- Chair Stanton Cross announced a date change for the meeting. All agreed with moving the meeting date.

H. Discussion of Graduation Plans and Costs – Ms. McKinnon went over the graduation cost comparisons. Due to the leaching field on front lawn, the outdoor graduation will take place in the west parking lot. Stage will be centrally located between the buildings and the school will be shown in the background. A benefit to outside graduation is that people can bring their own chairs. After sending out a graduate ticket survey, the number of tickets has been expanded to a total of 6 tickets maximum for seniors that need them.

I. Discussion of Westport Middle-High School Sports Survey – All members received the WMHS Athletics Survey results breakdown. There were 231 responses with 2/3 of them from middle school parents of 5-8th graders.

Chair Stanton Cross asked what is drop date to decide for the Fall season? Mr. Pacheco informed everyone the timeframe is by end of school on June 24.

Mr. Pacheco shared his opinion and recommendation moving forward and would like to stay with the status quo. Mr. Pacheco would like grades 7 and 8 to continue to play high school sports like they are doing this year. The district offers programs that are what is wanted.

Discussion was held on having a middle school sports program as well as fielding JV, varsity and freshmen teams.

Chair Stanton Cross asked if it would be possible for winter sports to have a middle school boys' team and a JC Varsity program? Mr. Pacheco would need to check with the Massasoit Middle School League to see if this is allowed.

It was mentioned lacrosse numbers look good and a lacrosse program should be brought to Westport. Mr. Pacheco reported the MIAA rule states the district that has the most students participating must be the hosting school. Mr. Pacheco shared that it would not be good to start a lacrosse team with less than 18 students.

Discussion was held on co-ops transportation being a problem for parents, especially for younger students.

Chair Stanton Cross requested for Mr. Pacheco to estimate costs for a co-op program having the games in Westport or having games away. Include transportation and officials for home games. Mr. Pacheco shared Westport does not have fields to play on, no equipment, would need bus transportation daily, uniforms, and road games.

Chair Stanton Cross asked if there were any further questions? There were none.

J. Subcommittee Updates -

Chair Stanton Cross reported the school band and the school committee had a presence at the Memorial Day Parade on Monday May 30, 2022. It was a great ceremony.

Ms. Cabral met with Irene Buck Chair of the Westport Cable Advisory Board about collaboration between the community and schools to get more programs. Using PEG funds to support TV programming should be looked at in the future.

IV. Action Agenda

- A. Review and Act on Minutes of Thursday, May 19, 2022 -
 A motion was made to approve the Minutes of Thursday, May 19, 2022.
 Motion by Cabral, seconded by Pacheco 4/0/0
- B. Review and Act on the Acceptance of the 2022-2023 School Lunch Bids/Quotes -
 A motion was made to approve the 2022-2023 School Lunch Bids/Quotes.
 Motion by Cabral, seconded by Pacheco 4/0/0
- C. Review and Act on Policy ADF – School District Wellness Program -
 A motion was made to approve Policy ADF – School District Wellness Program.
 Motion by Tavares, seconded by Cabral 4/0/0
- D. Review and Act on Westport Middle-High School Sports - Item tabled to next meeting until more information can be provided. Item to be placed on the Information Agenda and Action Agenda.
- E. Review and Act on WFT MOA -
 A motion was made to accept the WFT MOA.
 Motion by Tavares, seconded by Cabral 4/0/0

Chair Stanton Cross asked if there were any comments? There were none.

- F. Review and Act on SY22-23 School Year Calendar - The calendar has been included in the packets and reflects a start date of August 25, 2022.
 A motion was made to approve the SY22-23 School Year Calendar.
 Motion by Tavares, seconded by Pacheco 4/0/0

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

Superintendent Aubin recognized Ms. Orlando and Chair Stanton Cross for their work on negotiations.

Mr. Aubin thanked the committee for tabling a decision on sports. Mr. Aubin mentioned his commitment to retain as many students in district. Sports activities play an important role.

VI. Topics the Chair could not Reasonably Anticipate Forty-eight (48) Hours in Advance of the Meeting - There were none.

FOLLOW UP ITEMS

The committee requests:

- Summer reading be discussed further.
- Mr. Pacheco to check with the Massasoit Middle School League to see if they allow having middle school boys and a JC Varsity program.
- Mr. Pacheco estimate costs for having a co-op program and a lacrosse program.

- 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 Pacheco 4/0/0

Roll call vote:

Cabral	Yes	Pacheco	Yes	Stanton Cross	Yes	Tavares	Yes
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The Virtual School Committee Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm.

MEETING DOCUMENTS

WCS Bill Warrant: 6-3 -22

Westport Middle High School Athletics Survey Results

Graduation 2022 Cost Comparison

2022-2023 School Lunch Program Food Contracts

Administrative Review

Policy ADF – School District Wellness Program

Westport Middle-High School Sports

SY22-23 School Year Calendar

Submitted by Sharon Pinho School Committee Recording Secretary