

**Westport School Committee
Regular Meeting
DATE: Thursday, July 21, 2022
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Westport Middle-High School Auditorium / Hybrid**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
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MINUTES

Members Present: Gloria Cabral, Melissa Pacheco, Nancy Stanton Cross, Antonio Viveiros

Also Present: Kevin Aguiar Assistant Principal, Thomas Aubin Superintendent, Laura Charette Principal Middle School, Stacey Duquette Principal Pre-K-Gr.4, Mike Fernandes Start Em Young Coordinator, Michael Grandfield Assistant Principal Westport High School, Lisa Kaminski Director of Curriculum, Kristin McDaniel Human Resources Coordinator, Kerri McKinnon Principal High School, Lori Melo Administrative Assistant, Sean Persico Assistant Principal Westport Middle School, Anthony Tomah Technology Director, 15 Community Participants

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

Chair Stanton Cross announced:

On July 15, 2022, Lt. Governor Polito signed into law a new session law extending certain COVID-19 related measures which includes an extension until March 31, 2023 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 is being recorded.

II. Comments and Statements from the Public -

Resident Jenna Markovich spoke in behalf of parents on middle school sports. She has children in grade 2 and 6. She mentioned not being in favor of using middle school children to play on high school sports. All students need to participate and have equal opportunity to play sports with their peers.

III. Informational Agenda

A. Superintendent Report – Superintendent Aubin began by introducing the new Director of Curriculum Lisa Kaminski. The roof project at WES is in good shape. Custodial staff are busy clean the buildings. AC project at MAC is being done. Work continues on the new school. Clean up during the summer is on time.

B. WCS Bill Warrant: 7-29-22 - Chair Stanton Cross reported a bill warrant dated 7.29.22 in the amount of \$1,306,249.75 was emailed to school committee members for review.

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

C. Discussion of Letter Grade for all Subjects and a GPA to Determine Honors and Rank – K. McKinnon - Ms. Pacheco recommended to table this matter until the next meeting. She will be getting more information.

D. Discussion of Middle School Sports - Chair Stanton Cross reported that Mr. Pacheco is not in attendance. They had several meetings on middle school sports. The 6.16.22 meeting had lots of conversation about this item and gathered numbers based on a survey.

Chair Stanton Cross is happy to report there is money in the budget rolled over from the previous year to have middle school sports.

Chair Stanton Cross mentioned the Athletic Director's recommendation as the best model for Westport is to have grades 5,6,7 for middle school sports and to have grade 8 move up to high school sports.

Discussion took place on the grade configurations for middle school and high school sports.

Chair Stanton Cross asked Mr. Fernandes if the Start Em Young program will be brought into the middle school? Mr. Fernandes responded that he is confident that doing this can work. There are lots of opportunities for the middle school model. They are already rolling out flag football and pep band at the middle school.

A motion was made to accept the Athletic Director's recommendation to have middle school sports for grades 5-7 and high school sports for grades 8-12.

Motion by Viveiros, there was no second, motion failed.

A motion was made to make middle school sports grades 5-8.

Motion by Cabral, seconded by Stanton Cross 3/1/0
(Viveiros No)

E. Subcommittee Updates - Mr. Viveiros reported that work continues. They have been meeting with the company principals, making headway on some items.

Ms. Cabral met with Kerri and Mike today and she is learning about different policies.

IV. Action Agenda

A. Review and Act on Minutes of Monday July 11, 2022 -

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of Monday July 11, 2022.

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

B. Review and Act on Substitute and Out of School Time Rates - Chair Stanton Cross requested to table this to the next meeting.

C. Review and Act on the Creation of SCEC's Capital Reserve Fund with a balance limit of \$3,000,000 for the purpose of accumulating funds for the acquisition, maintenance, and improvement of capital items.

Mr. Aubin explained that the Southcoast Educational Collaborative is looking for each school committee to approve creating a reserve fund.

Chair Stanton Cross asked if there were any questions?

Mr. Viveiros requested to table this item.

D. Review and Act on the Special Education Director Job Description - Chair Stanton Cross mentioned all the information on the job description are in member's packets.

A motion was made to accept the job description as presented.

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

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

Chair Stanton Cross announced that school committee member Nancy Tavares filed her resignation from the committee. Chair Stanton Cross thanked Ms. Tavares for providing diligent service to the district and wished her well on behalf of the committee.

Mr. Aubin thanked all the parents for coming out.

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

Chair Stanton Cross added an item to vote on middle school sports.

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

Motion by Viveiros, seconded by Cabral

4/0/0

Roll call vote:

Cabral Yes Pacheco Yes Stanton Cross Yes Viveiros Yes

The Hybrid School Committee Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

MEETING DOCUMENTS

WCS Bill Warrant: 7-29-22

Letter Grade for all Subjects and a GPA to Determine Honors and Rank

Middle School Sports

Substitute and Out of School Time Rates

Creation of SCEC's Capital Reserve Fund

Special Education Director Job Description

Submitted by Sharon Pinho School Committee Recording Secretary