

**Westport School Committee
Special Meeting
DATE: Thursday, August 4, 2022
TIME: 5:00 p.m.
PLACE: Virtual**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82738726561?pwd=OEplZGtmTWeweFhQZjVEEdEs2VEZ2Zz09>
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MINUTES

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

Also Present: Thomas Aubin Superintendent, Jennifer Chaves Extended Day Director, Stacey Duquette Principal Pre-K-Gr.4, Lori Melo Administrative Assistant, Michelle Rapoza School Business Manager, 5 Community Participants

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance - Chair Stanton Cross opened the Virtual School Committee Meeting at 5:05 pm. with a quorum of the members present, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 - There were none.

III. Informational Agenda

A. Superintendent Report -

Ms. Duquette gave an update on summer school. Overall the program was a huge success. A total of 65 children attended Monday - Thursday with Special Education running Tuesday - Thursday. This week was Spirit Week and today was the last day of the program.

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

Superintendent Aubin reported the WES roof project continues. There were minor setbacks due to the temperature, however they are working closely with Mr. Duarte and the team.

The playground people promised more than they could deliver. Ms. Duquette has been working to resolve the issues.

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

IV. Action Agenda

A. Review and Act on Minutes of Thursday, July 21, 2022 -

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of Thursday, July 21, 2022.

Motion by Pacheco, seconded by Cabral

4/0/0

B. Review and Act on the Appointment of the 2 New Special Education Coordinators - Chair Stanton Cross mentioned that SC members were provided with the job descriptions as well as resumes of the candidates. These positions do not add to the budget and will streamline services.

It was noted that a conflict of interest letter was filed. The School Committee is the appointing body of these positions and do not provide supervision. A check with local and town ordinances was also done. They are the same as the state ethics law for waiting periods and conflict of interest law.

A motion was made to accept the 2 appointments for the Special Education Coordinators recommended by the Superintendent.

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

C. Review and Act on Substitute and Out of School Time Rates - Ms. Rapoza gave an overview of the change. They are looking to increase Extended Day rates for Child Care Assistants only from \$14.25 to \$16.00 per hour. Increasing the rates may help to get more staff. There are 3 weeks before a new program begins.

Chair Stanton Cross asked if there were any questions?

Ms. Chaves explained there is a great need for childcare. Minimum wage is going up to \$15.00 per hour in January 2023. Both Ms. Rapoza and Ms. Chaves verified with this increase there will still be a profit.

Discussion took place on looking into using students from Westport to help out with this program. Chair Stanton Cross requested for Ms. Rapoza to look at the daycare programming to see if there are any students that can be drawn from the district and review this possibility at the next meeting.

A motion was made to accept the rates.

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

D. 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.

As mentioned at the last SC meeting, Southcoast Collaborative would like to create a line item for capital improvements.

Superintendent Aubin verified that there is no additional charge. The district pays a per student cost.

A motion was made to accept the Creation of SCEC's Capital Reserve Fund.

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

V. **Routine Matters - Correspondence and Notices** - Mr. Viveiros reported receiving an email referencing bussing. Ms. Rapoza has reached out to this person. Chair Stanton Cross requested to let the members be informed on this matter.

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:

- Ms. Rapoza to look at the daycare programming for students that can be drawn from the district for the Extended Day Program. Review this at the next meeting.
- Ms. Rapoza will inform the members about bussing issues.

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

Motion by Pacheco, seconded by Cabral

4/0/0

Roll call vote:

Cabral Yes

Pacheco Yes

Stanton Cross Yes

Viveiros Yes

The Virtual School Committee Meeting adjourned at 5:26 pm.

MEETING DOCUMENTS

Appointment of the 2 New Special Education Coordinators
Substitute and Out of School Time Rates
Extended Day Revolving Account FY22
Creation of SCEC's Capital Reserve Fund

Submitted by Sharon Pinho School Committee Recording Secretary