

**Westport School Committee
Regular Meeting
DATE: Thursday, September 7, 2023
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Westport Middle-High School Auditorium**

MINUTES

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

Also Present: Thomas Aubin Superintendent, Lori Melo Administrative Secretary, Michelle Rapoza School Business Manager, 25 Community Participants

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance - Chair Stanton Cross opened the Regular School Committee Meeting at 6:36 pm. with a quorum of the members present, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Stanton Cross announced there are members of the press in the audience and may be recording.

Chair Stanton Cross announced that the Comments and Statements from the Public section gives the opportunity for community members to voice concerns or things they are happy about. It is not for questions and answers or to provide feedback. Each person may be allotted up to 3 minutes.

II. Comments and Statements from the Public

Carolina Africano voiced she has grave concerns with what occurred with one of the teachers. She stated the action of administration compromised the teacher's future and the administration should have backed the teacher.

David Cass stated his child had this teacher and in his opinion the teacher did nothing wrong. He stands in support of the teacher.

III. Informational Agenda

A. Superintendent Report – Superintendent Aubin reported there was a water pump failure, however within 24 hours a new pump was installed and the district's 3 schools were open.

Superintendent Aubin read a statement concerning a highly charged national issue dealing with choice of curricular for public school systems.

Superintendent Aubin reported building leaders were provided guidance by DESE on temperatures. It was noted that 14 million dollars was value engineered removing funds from the school building project earmarked for air conditioning. Macomber School used some rotation of classes into the cooler rooms with air conditioning. Westport Elementary School also had no air conditioning. Superintendent Aubin gave credit to staff in taking care of everybody.

There was a problem with a parking situation at Westport Elementary School that was resolved quickly.

The district had a successful opening.

B. WCS Bill Warrant: 09/08/2023 - Chair Stanton Cross reported bill warrant dated 9-8-23 in the amount of \$102,911.37 was emailed to school committee members for review. Members also have a hardcopy of the bill warrant.

Chair Stanton Cross reported she sent questions to Ms. Rapoza and asked if there were any further questions regarding the bill warrant? There were none.

IV. Action Agenda

A. Review and Act on Minutes of Thursday 8/24/2023 -

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of Thursday 8/24/2023.

Motion by Cabral, seconded by Pacheco 5/0/0

B. Review and Act on Updated District Chromebook Policy - Chair Stanton Cross asked if this policy will be moved forward? Mr. Aguiar from the Westport Elementary School did not provide any update on this policy to be adapted for the Westport Elementary School at this time.

Superintendent Aubin requested to table this item until the next school committee meeting on September 21, 2023.

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

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

Chair Stanton Cross reported receiving many emails about the excessive heat. It was noted the district did everything possible to the best of their ability.

Chair Stanton Cross reported in the statement previously made by Superintendent Aubin, the issue of concern was not in the school’s curriculum. Administration is giving due diligence for an investigation.

Chair Stanton Cross urged community members to support the upcoming budget to keep the staff, supplies and funding.

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

Motion by Cabral, seconded by Pacheco 5/0/0

Roll call vote:

Cabral Yes Gendreau Yes Pacheco Yes Stanton Cross Yes Viveiros Yes

The Regular School Committee Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

MEETING DOCUMENTS

WCS Bill Warrant: 9-8-2023
Updated District Chromebook Policy

Submitted by Sharon Pinho School Committee Recording Secretary

