

**Westport School Committee
Regular Meeting
DATE: Thursday, April 18, 2024
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: Westport Middle-High School - Second Floor Conference Room**

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88625671541?pwd=dXZOQStEbXRtY3FDc1hWUS8rL25nUT09>

Meeting ID: 886 2567 1541 Passcode: 56sxL6

MINUTES

Members Present: Gloria Cabral, Evan Gendreau, Jason Pacheco, Melissa Pacheco (*via zoom link*), Christopher Thrasher

Also Present: Thomas Aubin Superintendent, Lori Melo Administrative Secretary, 0 Community Participants

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance - Vice Chair Melissa Pacheco opened the Regular School Committee Meeting at 6:00 pm. with a quorum of the members present, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chair Melissa Pacheco attended the meeting using the Zoom Link provided.

Vice Chair Melissa Pacheco thanked Mr. Antonio Viveiros and Ms. Nancy Stanton Cross for their time, effort and commitment to school and town. New School Committee members Jason Pacheco and Christopher Thatcher were welcomed. Both new members introduced themselves and both shared they are happy to be on board.

II. Comments and Statements from the Public - There were none.

III. Special Agenda

A. School Committee Reorganization – Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair -

Everyone welcomed the 2 new School Committee Members Jason Pacheco and Christopher Thrasher.

Nominations for Chair

Gloria Cabral nominated Evan Gendreau for Chair, seconded by Christopher Thrasher

Roll call vote:

Cabral Yes Gendreau Yes Jason Pacheco Yes Melissa Pacheco Yes Thrasher Yes

Mr. Evan Gendreau accepted the nomination for Chair.

Nominations for Vice Chair

Gloria Cabral nominated Melissa Pacheco for Vice Chair, seconded by Jason Pacheco

Roll call vote:

Cabral Yes Gendreau Yes Jason Pacheco Yes Melissa Pacheco Yes Thrasher Yes

Ms. Melissa Pacheco accepted the nomination for Vice Chair.

B. Discuss School Committee Subcommittee Appointments, Payroll and Bill Warrant Approvals -

Annual Appointments

Legal Counsel - Murphy, Lamere & Murphy, P.C.

School Committee Secretaries - Recording Secretary Sharon Pinho, Secretary Lori Melo

School Physician - Dr. Dennis Callen

A motion was made to approve the 2024-2025 Annual Appointments.

Motion by Jason Pacheco, seconded by Gloria Cabral, all were in favor

5/0/0

Town Committee Representatives

Capital improvements Committee - Melissa Pacheco

Cable Committee - Jason Pacheco

School Building Committee (2) - Evan Gendreau, Gloria Cabral

Long Range Building Planning Committee - Evan Gendreau

ADA Transition Team (2) - Gloria Cabral, Melissa Pacheco

Campground Committee - Jason Pacheco

Audit Committee - Evan Gendreau

Educational Fund Committee (2) - Gloria Cabral, Christopher Thrasher

School Committee Subcommittees

Collective Bargaining Representatives

WFT (2) - Evan Gendreau, Jason Pacheco

AFSCME (2) - Melissa Pacheco, Christopher Thrasher

Health Advisory Committee - Gloria Cabral

Budget Subcommittee - Evan Gendreau, Christopher Thrasher

Other School Committee Assignments

MASC Policy Review Subcommittee - Jason Pacheco, Gloria Cabral

Master Plan Update/ED Section - Melissa Pacheco

A motion was made to approve the 2024-2025 Town Committee Representatives, School Committee Subcommittees and Other School Committee Assignments.

Motion by Gloria Cabral, seconded by Jason Pacheco, all were in favor

5/0/0

A motion was made to amend School Committee Subcommittees Collective Bargaining Representatives with one change placing Christopher Thrasher on the WFT and Jason Pacheco on AFSCME.

Motion by Gloria Cabral, seconded by Melissa Pacheco

5/0/0

Discussion was held on having a liaison for Special Education from the school committee. This will be added at a future meeting.

Discussion took place on payroll and bill warrant approvals. Melissa Pacheco will do the bill warrants signing.

C. Discuss Preparation of the School Committee Regular Meeting Calendar -

Discussion took place on the best day and time to meet. It was decided to have the School Committee Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 6 pm. except July and August. In July there is a 7:30 am. meeting to close the books. Tuesday meetings will start on May 21, 2024.

A motion was made to approve the new School Committee Regular Meeting schedule.

Motion by Cabral, seconded by Thrasher

5/0/0

IV. Informational Agenda

A. Superintendent Report – Superintendent Aubin reported good news from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) visit on March 3 and 4. They were impressed with many programs and services and commended the district in many areas listed in a letter dated April 17, 2024. Mr. Aubin shared there will be a Decennial Accreditation Visit in December 2025 that will need to be budgeted.

Mr. Aubin shared the Student Opportunity Act was due on April 1. On April 17, notification of approval was received with no revisions needed. Ms. Kaminski will present further information at the next meeting.

Mr. Aubin reported there is work being done on the Westport Middle High School building.

B. Westport Community Schools Bill Warrant 4/19/2024 - Chair Gendreau reported bill warrant dated 4/19/2024 in the amount of \$432,122.33 was emailed to school committee members for review. Members also have a hardcopy of the bill warrant.

Chair Gendreau asked if there were any questions on the bill warrant? Ms. Cabral suggested to have an informational session for new members.

C. Student and Staff Attendance Report - Chair Gendreau asked members if there were any questions? Mr. Thrasher asked for month to month historical data going back a few years.

V. Action Agenda

A. Review and Act on SC Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 4, 2024 -

A motion was made to accept the SC Meeting Minutes for Thursday, April 4, 2024.

Motion by Cabral, seconded by Melissa Pacheco 3/0/2

(Jason Pacheco abstained, Christopher Thrasher abstained)

B. Review and Act on a \$1000 United Technologies Corporation Grant for STEM related supplies – Rebekah Gendron -

A motion was made to accept the \$1000 United Technologies Corporation Grant for STEM related supplies.

Motion by Cabral, seconded by Thrasher, all were in favor 5/0/0

C. Review and Act on a \$50,000 Greater Fall River Development Grant – Neo-Technical Learning Program advancements -

A motion was made to accept the grant for \$50,000 from the Greater Fall River Development - Neo-Technical Learning Program advancements.

Motion by Thrasher, seconded by Cabral, all were in favor 5/0/0

Superintendent Aubin shared they have applied for additional grants to establish a robotics program.

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

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

Chair Gendreau requested to schedule a Work Session.

Superintendent Aubin informed the members there will be revisions to some budget cuts. Previously the deficit was around \$340,000, now the figure is at \$500,000.

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

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

Roll call vote:

Cabral Yes Gendreau Yes Jason Pacheco Yes Melissa Pacheco Yes Thrasher Yes

The Regular School Committee Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

MEETING DOCUMENTS

Westport School Committee Reorganizations, Appointments, and Authorizations 2023-2024
Westport School Committee Regular School Committee Meeting Dates July 2023 - June 2024
New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) letter dated April 17, 2024
WCS Bill Warrant: 4.19.2024
Student Attendance Report by School 4.1.24 - 4.12.24
Staff Attendance Reports by School
\$1000 United Technologies Corporation Grant for STEM related supplies
\$50,000 Greater Fall River Development Grant Neo-Technical Learning Program advancements

Submitted by Sharon Pinho School Committee Recording Secretary