

WEST BOYLSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Wednesday, September 14, 2016
Middle/High School Library-Media Center

Mr. Pedone called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

James Pedone, Jr.
James Morrissey
Jennifer Breen
Richard Shaw
Jason Ponticelli

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Elizabeth Schaper, Superintendent
Christopher Fournier, Principal Middle/High School
Richard Meagher, Elementary Principal
Roger E. Pontbriand, Jr., Business Administrator

ALSO PRESENT

Faculty, audience and press.

1. MINUTES – Regular Meeting

Mr. Morrissey moved, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to accept the minutes of the June 8, 2016 regular meeting.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 17, 2016.

VOTE: 5-0-0

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

Dr. Schaper invited the newly hired staff to introduce themselves to the School Committee and members of the community.

3. PRESENTATION ON PARKS – Vote to Endorse Parks Plan

Members of the West Boylston Parks Facilities Committee, Mr. Patrick Inderwish and Mr. John Owanisian, presented an overview of the master plan regarding updates to the West Boylston public parks.

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to endorse the parks plan as presented.

VOTE: 5-0-0

4. COMMUNITY INPUT

Ms. Lisa Thompson and Ms. Jill Lenkarski presented information regarding the SEPAC parent advisory group.

5. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Nothing to report.

6. APPROVAL OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE TARGETS

Ms. Breen moved, seconded by Mr. Shaw to approve the School Committee targets as presented for the 2016-2017 school year.

VOTE: 5-0-0

7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Ad Hoc for Vocational Planning – Mr. Shaw stated several Ad Hoc Vocational Planning meetings had been held over the past several months with the opportunity to visit the Leominster Center for Technical Education Innovation.
- b. Policy – Ms. Breen indicated the Policy Sub-committee met this evening and there is a new policy called LBB up for a first reading. This policy establishes partnerships with other public schools. The policy is developed with the Mass Association of School Committees. Policy LBB can be voted on yearly prior to the end of each school year.

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey to approve Policy LBB for 1st reading.

VOTE: 5-0-0

8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

- a. Major Edwards Elementary School Principal Mr. Meagher reported on:
 - Traffic flow - elementary school
 - Two open houses at Major Edwards Elementary
 - New student breakfast
 - Tech updates – new devices installed
- b. Middle/High School Principal Christopher Fournier reported on:
 - Successful opening to the school year
 - Welcomed 6 new teachers at the Middle/High School and 3 new paraprofessionals
 - Thanked PTA for teacher luncheon
 - Middle School boys soccer team
 - New girls soccer coach
 - Golf, football and cheerleaders
 - Leadership theme
 - PBIS
 - Athletic Director, Justin Tienhaara
 - MS open house, progress reports and homecoming
 - College financial aid night for grades 11-12
- c. Business Administrator – Mr. Pontbriand explained the new warrant procedures which were discussed by the School Committee at the summer retreat on August 17, 2016. Mr. Pontbriand stated the procedure would allow the School Committee to take a vote this evening allowing one member of the committee to be able to sign the payroll warrant and one to sign the payables warrant.

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey to have the Chairman of the School Committee be the signer for the payroll warrant with the Vice Chairman as alternate signer; with a report to be provided at the next School Committee meeting.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Mr. Ponticelli to have the Chairman of the School Committee be the signer for the payables warrant with the Vice Chairman as alternate signer; with a report to be provided at the next School Committee meeting.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Pontbriand also reported on:

- FY17 expenditure reports
- FY16 final expenditure report in process
- Building maintenance – summer updates
- EMCOR agreements – new HVAC systems in both buildings
- Building inspections with fire chief and building inspector
- New fire system quotes in process for the M/HS

Ms. Breen noted that there were a large number of late busing applications that came in to the School District. She suggested the School Committee consider assessing a fee for late application.

Ms. Breen moved, seconded by Mr. Ponticelli to review the busing policy.

VOTE: 5-0-0

- d. Superintendent of Schools – Dr. Schaper reported on:
- Administration met with a member of the DESE to discuss the Coordinated Program Review and time line for the action plan. The plan must be executed by June 30, 2017.
 - Demographic report for the start of the school year
 - School choice numbers/trends
 - Retention/truancy rates were reported
 - New teacher induction program
 - 5 year strategic planning efforts to begin in 2016
 - Open Space Technology session held to start the school year
 - List of Subcommittee assignments was presented
- e. School Committee – Mr. Shaw thanked Mr. Fournier for taking the time to meet with both students and himself to discuss the Rotary’s Interact Program. He also asked Mr. Fournier to say a few words with regard to the Haiti project. Mr. Fournier indicated a high school meeting would be held for students and parents with regard to a proposed trip to Haiti in April through the “Be Like Brit” program.

Ms. Breen welcomed Mr. Ponticelli to the School Committee.

Mr. Pedone indicated that as a Parks Commission liaison for the schools, he was asked to advise the committee that a new fence was placed around the High School baseball field and an old fence that is remaining on school property must be removed and needs the vote of the School Committee to do so.

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Mr. Ponticelli to remove the old fence off of the high school property.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Pedone stated that he would like to make a motion to review the smoking policy that is currently in place to include “vaping”, as our current policy does not address that issue.

Ms. Breen moved, seconded by Mr. Ponticelli to have the Policy Subcommittee to review Chairman’s recommendation to add vaping to the smoking policy.

VOTE: 5-0-0

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Morrissey moved, seconded by Mr. Shaw to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Marie K. Johnson, Recording Secretary