

WEST BOYLSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE AGENDA

Wednesday, April 8, 2020 - 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

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Mr. Shaw called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Shaw, Chairman
Jason Ponticelli, Vice Chairman
Jennifer Breen
James Morrissey
James Pedone

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Elizabeth Schaper, Superintendent of Schools

ALSO PRESENT

Faculty, audience and press.

Mr. Pedone read the statement from Governor Baker, dated March 12, 2020, in pursuant of the open meeting law on behalf of the School Committee chairman Mr. Shaw.

Mr. Shaw explained to the School Committee members that all votes taken tonight must be in a roll call fashion.

1. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Breen moved, seconded by Mr. Pedone, to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2020 FY 21 budget meeting.

A roll call vote was taken:

Breen – Yes
Pedone – Yes
Shaw – Yes
Ponticelli – Yes
Morrissey - Yes

Mr. Ponticelli moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey, to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2020 regular meeting.

A roll call vote was taken:

Breen – Yes
Pedone – Yes
Shaw – Yes
Morrissey – Yes
Ponticelli – Yes

2. Warrants

Mr. Ponticelli moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey to accept the payables warrants dated:

- March 16, 2020
- April 6, 2020

A roll call vote was taken:

Breen – Yes
Pedone – Yes
Shaw – Yes
Ponticelli – Yes
Morrissey - Yes

Mr. Pedone moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to accept the payroll warrants dated:

- March 20, 2020
- April 3, 2020

A roll call vote was taken:

Breen – Yes
Pedone – Yes
Shaw – Yes
Ponticelli – Yes
Morrissey – Yes

3. Superintendent's Contract

Mr. Shaw presented the superintendent's contract.

Ms. Breen made a motion and Mr. Pedone seconded to accept the contract for Superintendent Richard Meagher with modifications

A roll call vote was taken:

Shaw – Yes
Breen – Yes
Morrissey – Yes
Pedone – Yes
Ponticelli – Yes

4. Subcommittee Reports

- a) Budget and Subcommittee Update

Mr. Shaw indicated that the town and the schools are still in discussion about the FY21 budget.

5. Communications and Reports

- a) Superintendent of Schools Dr. Schaper reported on:

- Enrichment learning has transitioned to remote learning plans as of April 6, 2020
- Chromebook handout
- MCAS update
- April Vacation

b) School Committee reported on:

Ms. Schaper presented the school committee with the Commissioner's memo from April 3, 2020. The memo explained if School Committees had staff work through April vacation, they could be eligible to be given the permission to get out of school at the 181st day rather than the 185th day.

Mr. Pedone made a motion and Ms. Breen seconded to amend the 2019-2020 West Boylston Public School calendar to remove four days, April vacation.

A roll call vote was taken:

Morrissey – Yes

Breen – Yes

Pedone – Yes

Ponticelli – Yes

Shaw - Yes

Ms. Breen extended her gratitude to the administration for all the work that has been put into all the online learning during this unforeseen situation. Thank you for all the support to the staff, families and students during this time.

Mr. Morrissey expressed his gratitude to the staff, families and administration for all the efforts during this time. Mr. Morrissey also told members this will be his last term as a school committee member.

Mr. Ponticelli expressed his gratitude to staff, families and administration for all their work. He also wants to ensure the communication between the schools and families remains open during this unforeseen time.

Mr. Pedone inquired how elementary students were handling remote learning. Ms. Schaper provided examples of how elementary teachers are using technology to connect with their classes Mr. Pedone is also interested in how MCAS requirements will play a role for future graduation requirements.

Mr. Shaw expressed his gratitude to the staff, families, town, and administration for all the hard work being put in every day. Mr. Shaw also told members this will be his last term as a school committee member.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pedone moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

A roll call vote was taken:

Breen – Yes

Pedone – Yes

Morrissey – Yes

Ponticelli – Yes

Shaw – Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Pratt, Recording Secretary