

WEST BOYLSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
QUESTION AND ANSWER FORUM
Tuesday, August 11, 2020 - 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
MEETING CONDUCTED REMOTELY, VIA ZOOM

Mr. Pedone opened the meeting at 4:06 p.m.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

James Pedone, Jr., Chairman
Jason Ponticelli, Vice Chairman
Jennifer Breen
Nancy Hubbard
Christine Quirk

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Richard A. Meagher, Superintendent of Schools
Sherri Traina, Director of Special Education
Christopher Fournier, Principal M/HS
Alex Audette, Elementary Principal

ALSO PRESENT

Faculty, audience and press.

Mr. Meagher opened the “Question and Answer Forum” stating this special meeting was set up to address the many concerns that were being sent in regards to the reopening of the West Boylston Public Schools. He continued to review the proposed phased in reopening plan for the district, technology updates, the mask wearing policy for the district, social distancing guidelines in buildings, cohort breakdowns, and modes of instruction families would have the option of choosing from.

Marion Karsina, the school nurse at Major Edwards Elementary School, spoke about the protocols that West Boylston Public Schools would follow if staff/students were COVID positive and followed up by stating COVID testing would not take place at the schools. She also covered the current procedures in place for staff/students to return to work/school after exposure and or positive COVID results. Ms. Karsina further stated there would be multiple trainings for staff on PPE, physical distancing, proper cleaning, hand washing and contact tracing.

Kate Rota, the school nurse at the Middle/ High School, spoke about the protocols that are currently in place for visitors that enter the West Boylston Public School buildings, normal illness protocols and stated that students will not have their temperatures taken when entering the buildings.

Sherri Traina, Director of Special Education, reviewed the Special Education timelines before the reopening of schools along with kindergarten and preschool screening procedures. She further covered that students with an IEP would be considered high priority during the phased in reopening along with sharing the process that would be followed this school year for students that only received services from the district.

Chris Fournier, Principal of the Middle/High School, spoke about the work being put into the student schedules along with cohort assignment work. Furthermore he addressed the senior class process for college applications.

Alex Audette, Principal of Major Edwards Elementary School, spoke about student schedules, cohort assignments, along with reviewing the average day of an elementary student. He also briefly discussed the building specific drop

off and pick up procedures for this school year and also how the general traffic flow inside of the building would be reviewed with students.

Mr. Pedone closed the meeting at 4:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Pratt
Recording Secretary