

WEST BOYLSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, November 10, 2021 - 7:00 p.m.
Middle/High School Media Center-Library

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
Christopher Fournier, Principal M/HS
Alex Audette, Principal, Major Edwards Elementary School
Roger E. Pontbriand Jr., Business Administrator
Sherri Traina, Director of Special Education

ALSO PRESENT

Faculty, audience and press.

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

1. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Ponticelli moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to accept the minutes of the October 13, 2021 regular meeting.

VOTE 5-0-0

2. Student Recognition Awards: Major Edwards, Middle School, High School

Students from the Elementary and Middle/High School were recognized as Student of the Month: Carmela Renzoni, Ava Matteson, and Anush Panikian.

3. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Student Advisory Council Member Joanna Pano reported on:

- Student Council
 - Turkey Gaggle updates
 - Giving Tree updates
- NHS -Care Packet Event – December 1st
- NAHS – Community service updates
- Wellness
 - Bullying Prevention Week updates
 - Hunger Insecurity & Native American Heritage Month
- Interact – Community service updates
- GSA- Field Trip updates
- Tri-M-
 - Election updates
 - Community service updates
 - District Auditions deadline – November 11th

- International Thespian Society-
 - Updates on Carolyn Somma Scholarship Fund
 - Updates on upcoming shows
- Yearbook updates
- A Capella Club updates
- DECA – Club updates
- Fall Sports updates

4. Acknowledgement of Camera Crew

5. Highlight on Schools: Major Edwards: 2021 MCAS Overview – Mr. Alex Audette

Mr. Audette presented the Major Edwards Elementary School 2021 MCAS Report results.

6. Community Input - None

7. Warrants

Ms. Quirk moved, seconded by Ms. Hubbard to accept the payables warrants dated October 15, 2021 and October 29, 2021.

VOTE 5-0-0

Ms. Hubbard moved, seconded by Ms. Quirk to accept the payroll warrant dated October 18, 2021 and November 1, 2021.

VOTE 5-0-0

8. Subcommittee Report

- Budget and Capital Planning Subcommittee – Mr. Pedone shared with the school committee that they met briefly with FISP on how to properly complete and submit Capital Planning Forms along with timelines. No decisions were made at this meeting as there were not enough present for a quorum. The first set of Capital Planning forms to move forward with requesting a new building will need to be submitted along with evidence by January 1st.
- Policy Subcommittee – Ms. Breen shared with the school committee that the subcommittee met to review the current Policy JH – Student Absences and Excuses. No further action is needed at this time.

9. Communication and Reports

- a. Major Edwards Elementary School Principal Mr. Audette reported on:
 - 5th Grade Plant Project
 - Halloween Parade
 - Staff Ongoing Training
 - Lexia Core 5 and STAR assessments
 - The Thanksgiving Collections begin – November 8th
 - Veterans Day – November 11th
 - Report Cards issued – November 19th
 - Parent/Guardian Conferences – November 22nd and 23rd
- b. Middle/High School Principal Mr. Fournier reported on:
 - Washington DC Trip Information Nights updates
 - Nature’s Classroom Trip updates

- Middle School Halloween Dance updates
 - Trick or Treating for Cans Event updates
 - Turkey Gaggle Collections updates
 - Murder Mystery Event “*Three Doors to Death*” update
 - “*Harvey*” Performances – November 19th 20th
- c. Director of Special Education Ms. Traina reported on: None
- d. Business Administrator Mr. Pontbriand reported on:
- Expense Summary October 2021
- e. Superintendent of Schools Mr. Meagher reported on:
- Test and Stay update
 - Facilities Conditions Assessments
 - Strategic Planning
 - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III
 - FY23 Budget Development Timeline

Mr. Meagher presented the 2021-2022 West Boylston Public Schools District Improvement Plan.

Ms. Breen moved, Ms. Hubbard seconded to approve the 2021-2022 West Boylston Public Schools District Improvement Plan.

VOTE 5-0-0

- f. School Committee reported on:
- Discussion: Snow Day Policy

Mr. Pedone opened the discussion with the school committee on the steps needed to implement a district “Snow Day Policy” along with what a timeline might look like. After all factors were considered it was decided as a school committee to table the discussion until a formal announcement has been made from Commissioner Riley.

10. Executive Session: Non-Union Contract Discussion

Mr. Ponticelli moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to enter into executive session, not to return to open session. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Hubbard – Yes
 Mr. Ponticelli – Yes
 Ms. Breen – Yes
 Ms. Quirk – Yes
 Mr. Pedone – Yes

11. Adjournment

Ms. Hubbard moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to exit executive session and adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Hubbard – Yes
 Ms. Quirk – Yes
 Ms. Breen – Yes
 Mr. Ponticelli – Yes
 Mr. Pedone – Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Pratt, Recording Secretary