

WEST BOYLSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, October 12, 2022 - 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
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. Hubbard to accept the minutes of the September 14, 2022 regular meeting.

VOTE 4-0-0

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

Students from the Elementary and Middle School were recognized as Student of the Month: Grace Leonardo and Davi Ferreira.

3. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Student Advisory Council Member Lucy Allen reported on:

- Student Council
 - Homecoming Week updates
 - Trick or Treating for Cans Event updates
 - Door to door collections - October 30th
 - MASC Officershop – October 29th
- NHS -Community service hours updates
- NAHS-Calendar Fundraising updates
- Wellness
 - Executive Board Elections
 - Meeting updates
- Interact
 - Meeting updates
 - Community service hours updates
- GSA

- Executive Board Elections
- Meeting updates
- Yearbook - Seniors deadline for turning in info October 31st
- Fall Sports updates
- Class Updates

4. Acknowledgement of Camera Crew and Recording Secretary

5. Highlight on Schools: District MCAS Results – Mr. Meagher

Mr. Meagher presented an overview of the Spring 2022 results for West Boylston Public Schools along with highlighting the state trends from Spring 2022.

6. Community Input

Annelle Benson – 247 Goodale Street, West Boylston- Requested to be added to the November 9, 2022 School Committee agenda to further discuss the growing popularity of girl’s lacrosse in West Boylston.

7. Warrants

Mr. Ponticelli moved, seconded by Ms. Quirk to accept the payables warrants dated September 19, 2022.

VOTE 5-0-0

Ms. Quirk moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to accept the payroll warrant dated September 16, 2022 and September 30, 2022.

VOTE 5-0-0

8. Subcommittee Report

- Budget and Capital Planning Subcommittee – Mr. Ponticelli shared with the committee that the Budget and Capital Planning Subcommittee met to forecast the current FY23 budget.
- Negotiations Subcommittee – Ms. Breen shared with the committee that the Negotiations Subcommittee had not met yet however, they will be meeting on October 17th to start discussions with the West Boylston Teachers Association about contract updates along with scheduling updates in the future.

9. Communication and Reports

- a. Major Edwards Elementary School Principal Mr. Audette reported on:
 - Updates on student bench march assessments
 - Open House updates
 - Students reviewing school expectations
 - Professional Development – October 7, 2022
 - STAR, Lexia, BAS, DIBELS
 - Hispanic Heritage Month Awareness
 - World Wide Smile Day Celebration
 - First whole school assembly – October 7,2022
 - “Community Meeting”
 - Field trip updates
 - Picture Retakes – October 27, 2022
 - Halloween Parade – October 31, 2022 @ 1:00 – 1:45

- Trunk or Treat Event – October 30, 2022
 - Classroom Newsletters – (Nov./Dec.) – November 3, 2022
- b. Middle/High School Principal Mr. Fournier reported on: Not Present
- c. Director of Special Education Ms. Traina reported on: None
- d. Business Administrator Mr. Pontbriand reported on:
- September Expense Summary
 - Estimated Rate of Inflation FY24
 - Capital Planning
- e. Superintendent of Schools Mr. Meagher reported on:
- FY23 grants updates
 - New District Website updates
 - Middle/High School Attendance
 - School Committee Targets 2022-2023
- f. School Committee reported on:

Mr. Pedone presented the Superintendents Evaluation.

Mr. Ponticelli moved, seconded by Ms. Hubbard to approve the Superintendents Evaluation.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Breen moved, seconded by Ms. Quirk to approve the 2nd reading and adoption of Policy IJNDB – Acceptable Use of Technology.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Hubbard moved, seconded by Hubbard to approve the 2nd reading and adoption of Policy JEDB – Student Dismissal Precautions.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Ponticelli moved, seconded by Ms. Hubbard to approve the 2nd reading and adoption of Policy JJ – Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Breen moved, seconded by Mr. Ponticelli to approve the 2023 student trip to Puerto Rico.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Ms. Hubbard moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to approve the 2023 student trip to Canada.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Mr. Ponticelli expressed concerns over Middle School Open House/Conference night being the same night as other school functions. Further expressing it may make it difficult for parents of multiple students within the district to attend events in one evening and therefore they may have to pick and choose missing out on one event.

Ms. Quirk and Ms. Breen had expressed concerns of the attendance and tardy statistics from 2021-2022, and while acknowledging that the attendance details for September 2022 Report noted improvement, the desire for continued monitoring remains intact. Mr. Meagher stated that the monthly report for Middle/High School attendance will continue to be included in the School Committee report.

Mr. Pedone acknowledged the current 7% above the state average MCAS goal West Boylston Public Schools has set for the district. The School Committee will review and discuss in the future if the goal should remain at the current percentage or be adjusted.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Pedone moved, seconded by Ms. Quirk to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

VOTE 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Pratt
Recording Secretary