

WEST BOYLSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.  
Middle/High School Media Center-Library

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

James Pedone, Jr., Chairman  
Jennifer Breen  
Nancy Hubbard  
Emily Lehman Miller

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Richard A. Meagher, Superintendent of Schools  
Christopher Fournier, Principal Middle/High School  
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

Ms. Breen moved, seconded by Ms. Hubbard to accept the minutes of the May 10, 2023 regular meeting.

**VOTE 3-0-1**

Ms. Hubbard moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to accept the Executive Session minutes of May 10, 2023.

**VOTE 3-0-1**

2. Acknowledgement of Recording Secretary.

3. Highlight on Schools: Volunteer of the Year and Retiree Recognitions

Mr. Meagher recognized the 2022-2023 “Volunteer of the Year”, Sue Smith.

Mr. Meagher recognized the following 2022-2023 West Boylston Public Schools Retirees, Gary Ward and Roger Pontbraind, Jr.

4. Community Input - None

5. Warrants

Ms. Breen moved, seconded by Ms. Hubbard to accept the payables warrants dated 5/15/2023; 5/30/2023; 6/12/2023.

**VOTE 4-0-0**

Ms. Hubbard moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to accept the payroll warrants dated 5/12/2023; 5/26/2023; 6/9/2023.

**VOTE 4-0-0**

6. Appointment of representative to the Keystone Collaborative Board of Directors for FY24.

Mr. Pedone requested the motion for a representative to the Keystone Collaborative Board of Directors for FY24.

Ms. Breen moved, seconded by Ms. Hubbard to appoint Mr. Meagher as the FY24 representative to the Keystone Collaborative Board of Directors.

**VOTE 4-0-0**

7. Appointment of a Middle/High School Curriculum Coordinator.

Mr. Pedone requested a motion for a Middle/High School Curriculum Coordinator.

Ms. Lehman Miller made a motion for Dr. Khalaf to be appointed as the Middle/High School Curriculum Coordinator, seconded by Ms. Hubbard.

**VOTE 5-0-0**

8. Appointment of Title I Director

Mr. Pedone requested a motion for a Title I Director.

Ms. Breen made a motion for Mr. Audette to be appointed as the Title I Director, seconded by Ms. Hubbard.

**VOTE 4-0-0**

9. Approval of Major Edwards Tree Removal

Mr. Pedone requested a motion for the removal of two trees at Major Edwards.

Ms. Lehman Miller made a motion for the removal of two trees at Major Edwards, seconded by Ms. Breen

**VOTE 4-0-0**

10. Subcommittee Report

Negotiations Subcommittee - Ms. Breen shared with the committee that the Negotiations Subcommittee met to review the teaching load and the amount of prep time teachers should have when the new scheduling goes into place in the fall. Other items that were discussed were language updates that are needed due to scheduling updates as well.

Policy Subcommittee – Ms. Hubbard shared with the committee that the Policy Subcommittee met and reviewed the Wellness Policy. There are still updates needed prior to the committee voting on a first reading. At this time the Policy Subcommittee is omitting language that doesn't fit West Boylston Public Schools and making the policy better fit the district.

## 11. Communications Report

a) Major Edwards Elementary School Principal Mr. Audette reported on:

- MCAS, STAR and Literacy assessments updates
- Wax Museum updates
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Ultimate Obstacle; June 8<sup>th</sup>
- End of the Year Festival; June 13<sup>th</sup>
- End of the Year Kindergarten presentation; June 14<sup>th</sup>
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade End of the Year BBQ; June 14<sup>th</sup>
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Fun Day; June 15<sup>th</sup>
- Move-Up-Day; June 16<sup>th</sup>
- Community Meeting; June 16<sup>th</sup>
- CFCE-Passport to Kindergarten; June 20<sup>th</sup>

b) Middle/High School Principal Mr. Fournier reported on:

- Graduation Celebration updates
- West Boylston College Application/Accepted List
- Final Exams; June 14<sup>th</sup>- June 16<sup>th</sup>
- MCAS updates
- Scheduling for the fall updates
- Staffing for the 2023-2024 school year

Ms. Perkins presented the School Committee members with the proposed trip to Europe in February of 2025 for the Middle/High School students.

Mr. Pedone requested a motion to approve the Middle/High School trip to Europe in February of 2025.

Ms. Breen made a motion to approve the Middle/High School trip to Europe in February of 2025, seconded by Ms. Hubbard.

### **VOTE 4-0-0**

c) Director of Special Education Ms. Traina reported on:

- 2022-2023 Special Education Department Team Chair
  - Updated on making reporting seamless

d) Business Administrator Mr. Pontbriand reported on:

- May 2023 Expense Report

e) Superintendent of Schools Mr. Meagher reported on:

- School Security/Crisis Planning
- Staffing updates
- Bench Dedication location
- Facility updates
  - ADA updates
- Grant System Training; June 26th

f) School Committee Reported on:

- New Member Welcome
  - Member Emily Lehman Miller

Mr. Pedone requested a motion to approve a date for the August 2023 School Committee Retreat date.

Ms. Breen made a motion to approve August 17, 2023 as the date for the August 2023 School Committee Retreat, seconded by Ms. Hubbard.

**VOTE 4-0-0**

12. Executive Session: To Conduct Strategic Session in Preparation for Negotiations with Nonunion Personnel.

Mr. Pedone made a motion to go into executive session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, and the School Committee will not return to open session and will adjourn the meeting from executive session, Ms. Breen seconded at 7:55 pm.

A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Breen – Yes

Ms. Hubbard – Yes

Ms. Lehman Miller – Yes

Mr. Pedone - Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Pratt, Recording Secretary