

WEST BOYLSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Wednesday, September 13, 2023 - 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  
Emily Lehman-Miller

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Richard A. Meagher, Superintendent of Schools  
Christopher Fournier, Principal M/HS  
Alex Audette, Principal, Major Edwards Elementary School  
Cristy Morrison, 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 August 17, 2023 retreat meeting.

**VOTE 4-0-1**

2. Approval of Warrants

Ms. Breen moved, seconded by Mr. Ponticelli to accept the payables warrant dated August 21, 2023 and September 5, 2023.

**VOTE 5-0-0**

Ms. Hubbard moved, seconded by Ms. Lehman-Miller to accept the payroll warrant dated August 18, 2023 and September 1, 2023.

**VOTE 5-0-0**

3. Highlight on Schools: Introduction of New Staff

Mr. Fournier introduced the new West Boylston High School staff before the School Committee members.

4. Community Input – None

## 5. Communication and Reports

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

- Updates to start of the school year
- Kindergarten Screening/Open House Updates
- Professional Training Updates
- Playgroup Update
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Demo- September 14, 2023
- Picture Day for Students-September 14, 2023
- Picture Day Retakes – October 26, 2023
- Open House (Grades 1-3) –September 20, 2023
- Open House (Grades 4-5) – September 21, 2023

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

- Updates to start of the school year
  - Admin updates, Scheduling updates, Staffing updates
- Fall Sports Updates
- Middle School Magazine Drive Updates
- Middle/High School Trip Updates
- Homecoming Week Updates

Mr. Asuque presented the School Committee with a trip to The National A Cappella Convention taking place in Orlando Florida April 4-7, 2024. This would be a choir trip based on educational purposes and not recreation.

Mr. Asuque stated he was currently working with a travel agent on bookings.

- Vote to approve Choir trip to Orlando in April 2024.

Mr. Ponticelli moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to approve the Choir trip to Orlando in April 2024.

### **VOTE**

### **5-0-0**

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

- Updates provided on the Special Education Professional Development Training

d. Business Administrator Ms. Cristy Morrison reported on:

- August 2023 Expense Summary

e. Superintendent of Schools Mr. Meagher reported on:

- Massachusetts School Building Authority Meeting – October 5, 2023
- School Crisis Planning Meeting – September 20, 2023
- Facilities Updates
  - Boiler at Major Edwards
  - Impact Fire Work at Major Edwards
  - Water Tank Update at Major Edwards
  - Middle/High School Auditorium Seating Updates
- Transportation Report
- School Enrollment
- Grant Updates

f. School Committee reported on:

- Vote to approve 2023-2024 School Committee Targets.

Mr. Ponticelli moved, seconded by Ms. Hubbard to approve the 2023-2024 School Committee Targets.

**VOTE 5-0-0**

- Discussion on streaming/hybrid future School Committee Meetings.

The School Committee had discussion on streaming/hybrid of future School Committee Meetings.

Ms. Breen shared with the committee that she has observed a positive atmosphere in the Middle/High school. Ms. Breen also stated that students may feel more accountable with the new schedule in place.

Mr. Pedone shared with the committee that the Pride Park playground equipment is in and the installation will begin immediately. The end date is estimated to be November 4<sup>th</sup>.

6. Adjournment

Mr. Ponticelli moved, seconded by Ms. Lehman-Miller to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

**VOTE 5-0-0**

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Pratt  
Recording Secretary