

# WEST BOYLSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Wednesday, September 10, 2014  
Middle/High School Library-Media Center

Ms. Breen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer Breen  
James Pedone, Jr.  
Richard Shaw  
Erin Palumbo  
Thais Frost

## ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Elizabeth Schaper, Superintendent  
Christopher LaBreck, Associate MS Principal  
Richard Meagher, Elementary Principal  
Roger E. Pontbriand, Jr., Business Administrator  
Sherri Traina, Special Education Administrator

## ALSO PRESENT

Molly O'Connor and Anthony Himmelberger – Student Advisory Council members, audience and press.

## 1. MINUTES

Mr. Pedone moved, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to accept the minutes of the June 11, 2014 regular meeting.

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Ms. Frost, to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 22, 2014.

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

## 2. COMMUNITY INPUT - None

## 3. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Advisory council members stated the National Honor Society had their first and second meetings scheduled and that in high school sports, football had their first game against Littleton and in girls' field hockey they won against Tahanto.

## 4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

Dr. Schaper introduced the newly hired staff to the School Committee and they spoke briefly about themselves and what they are teaching. The following teachers attended:

- Briana Manalo - Music - Elementary and High School
- Nancy Abbott - History - High School

- Kim Connor - Certified Occupational Therapist - Elementary School
- Amy Salvia - Physical Therapist - District
- Liza Sokolowski - Special Education Teacher - Elementary School
- Patricia Wynne - Anatomy/Physiology - High School
- Christina Rosi - Foreign Language Teacher - High School
- John Bennett - Science Teacher - Middle School
- Ann Vassiliadis - Pre-K - Elementary School

## 5. REVIEW OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE TARGETS

The Committee reviewed the School Committee Targets for 2014-2015. In addition to the goals that the committee has been working on for the past several year, a new goal was added to encourage the participation of school committee members in the development of an enhanced district safety plan.

Mr. Pedone moved, seconded by Ms. Palumbo to accept the School Committee Targets for 2014-2015.

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

## 6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Budget - No meeting, no report.
- Legislative - No meeting, no report.
- Communications - Ms. Palumbo indicated she would keep the School Committee Blog updated and that other members of the Committee were free to add additional information.
- Negotiations - No meeting, no report.
- Policy - Ms. Breen indicated that although no meetings had taken place, discussions would continue with regard to the Graduation Policy and that further updates would be forthcoming throughout the year.
- Capital Projects/School Building - Mr. Pedone indicated that work had begun on the energy project throughout the district - natural gas conversion, control units, lighting upgrades in both buildings had taken place, as well as work on heating systems. He also noted that the project was currently ahead of schedule for the heating season. Dr. Schaper also indicated that no interruptions to instruction from the energy project had occurred.

## 7. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

- Edwards Elementary Principal - Mr. Meagher stated that many events were going on at the Major Edwards such as: open house, new student breakfast, Readers and Writers Workshops and PTA field trips were scheduled.
- Middle School Associate Principal - Mr. LaBreck stated students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade had been selected to represent schools across the Commonwealth by participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) test. Mr. LaBreck also indicated the Middle School open house would take place on September 11, 2014.

Mr. LaBreck stated the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students would once again be travelling to Washington, D.C. on April 27, 2015 - May 1, 2015 and an additional day would be added to the trip so that the students could experience Gettysburg. The cost of the trip would be \$880 per student.

Mr. Pedone moved, seconded by Ms. Palumbo to approve the Washington, D.C. trip in 2015.

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

- c. Director of Special Education - Ms. Traina indicated she had nothing to report at this time.
- d. Business Administrator- Mr. Pontbriand indicated he had no budget to present to the Committee at this time, as a new system is currently being implemented. He stated he would have a report after the town accountant places the new information into the system. Mr. Pontbriand explained that with regard to transportation - staff are currently going over policies and procedures with regard to bidding for new vehicles and the hiring of new drivers. Mr. Pontbriand also stated a new sign for the High School would soon be purchased.
- e. Superintendent of Schools - Dr. Schaper reported on the following:
  - PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports) were launched in the elementary school and are ongoing in the middle school.
  - The Center for District and School Accountability will conduct a review of the district in March. Department of Education will be visiting the District to assess District operations.
  - The School Committee sub-committee assignments
- f. School Committee - Mr. Shaw thanked Edward Salate for his Eagle Project work to install new bike racks.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Mr. Pedone to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

**VOTE: 5-0-0**

Respectfully submitted,

Marie K. Johnson, Recording Secretary