

# WEST BOYLSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Wednesday, April 8, 2015  
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.  
Erin Palumbo  
James Morrissey

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Richard Shaw

## ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Elizabeth Schaper, Superintendent  
Lawrence Murphy, Principal Middle/High School  
Christopher LaBreck, Associate Middle School Principal  
Richard Meagher, Elementary Principal  
Roger E. Pontbriand, Jr., Business Administrator  
Sherri Traina, Director of Special Education

## ALSO PRESENT

Joe Debonis – Student Advisory Council member, faculty, audience and press.

## 1. MINUTES

Ms. Palumbo moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey, to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2015 regular meeting.

**VOTE: 4-0-0**

Ms. Palumbo moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey, to accept the minutes of the FY16 Budget Hearing of March 11, 2015.

**VOTE: 4-0-0**

Ms. Palumbo moved, seconded by Mr. Pedone, to accept the minutes of the School Committee Special meeting on March 30, 2015.

**VOTE: 4-0-0**

## 2. STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARDS

Students from the Elementary and Middle/High Schools were recognized for their achievements – Anthony Marrone, Kayla Mead, and Michelle Loven.

### 3. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Student Advisory Council members Anthony Himmelberger and Molly O'Connor reported on - NAHS going to Claytime on April 2, 2015 to paint plates for auction; proceeds of which go to charity, Student Council trip to Hyannis, walk for hunger on May 3, 2015, Lions Scholar Academy field trip to Boston for a college fair, the Spanish NHS field trip and several sports have been held back due to the weather.

### 4. COMMUNITY INPUT

Ms. Lisa Thompson, president of SEPAC presented an update for the School Committee as to their group's progress.

### 5. HIGHLIGHT ON SCHOOLS - Major Edwards Elementary School - Peer Leaders

Ms. Tracey Frohock, counselor at Major Edwards Elementary School gave a presentation on behalf of the elementary school peer leaders group. Several members of the group stated why they like to be a peer leader and what it means to them.

### 6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Budget - Mr. Pedone stated the Budget Subcommittee meeting met this evening. He stated the town has offered \$11,015,000.00. The current budget as presented at the budget hearing was \$11,086,003.00. The administrators will continue to work to see where cuts can be made.
- b. Legislative - Ms. Breen indicated the committee had met before tonight's meeting and discussion was held as to vocational school acceptances. She indicated there are some rules that are changing and the committee will keep everyone up to date on this matter. Ms. Breen also indicated they were looking into someone attending "The Day on the Hill" in Boston, which allows the committee to meet with other school committee members, superintendents and legislators to keep up to date as to the laws for education funding.

### 7. VOTE TO APPROVE SCHOOL DELAY PROCEDURE

Mr. Pedone moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey to change the school delay procedure to allow a one or a two hour delay.

**VOTE: 4-0-0**

### 8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

- a. Edwards Elementary Principal - Mr. Meagher stated the field trip season has begun; grade one is going to "Charlotte's Web" and grade three is going to the Discovery Museum in Acton. The first section of MCAS has wrapped up. Pre-school screening occurred today and Kindergarten screening will take place after April vacation. Open house is scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2015 from 6 - 7 p.m. and a clothing drive and sports equipment swap will take place in the gym soon.
- b. Middle School Associate Principal - Mr. LaBreck indicated the middle school play - School House Rock - will be held this Friday (April 10<sup>th</sup>) and Saturday (April 11<sup>th</sup>) in the auditorium. Christine Holland - the Project 351 ambassador, has organized a clothing drive to benefit "Cradles to Crayons," which will run until Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. The middle school is preparing for the annual trip to Washington, D.C. and will also travel to Gettysburg during April vacation week.

- c. Middle/High School Principal - Mr. Murphy stated MCAS tested had been completed; play competitions were a success; and they are currently looking for a replacement for the football coach and hope to have a new coach by May 7, 2015.
- d. Director of Special Education - Ms. Traina indicated she had nothing to report at this time.
- e. Business Administrator - Mr. Pontbriand stated the Finance Committee met on April 7, 2015 to discuss the budget and that Capital plans for summer maintenance are taking place.
- f. Superintendent of Schools - Dr. Schaper reported:
  - District received a visit from the Center for School and District Accountability and DESE
  - Mathematics and English Language Arts complete curriculum documents are now available in our district web portal
  - Superintendent and WBTA are working on developing survey items to use in Educator Evaluation
  - Safety App development - anticipated start date for the 2015-2016 school year
  - Announcement of Christopher Fournier as the new principal of West Boylston Middle/High School who will begin on July 1, 2015
- g. School Committee - Ms. Breen indicated the need to appoint a member to the Parks Commission. Mr. Pedone currently serves on this committee and indicated his willingness to continue to serve on the Parks Commission.

Ms. Palumbo moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey that Mr. Pedone remain on the Parks Commission.

**VOTE: 4-0-0**

#### 9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Pedone moved that the School Committee enter into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation and to return to open session only to adjourn.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

- Breen, yes**
- Pedone, yes**
- Palumbo, yes**
- Morrissey, yes**

#### 10. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Palumbo moved, seconded by Mr. Morrissey to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

**VOTE: 4-0-0**

Respectfully submitted,

Marie K. Johnson, Recording Secretary