

Weston Public Schools
Board of Education Special Meeting
Weston Middle School Library Resource Center
November 21, 2016

Attendance:

Ellen Uzenoff, Chairperson	Dr. William McKersie, Superintendent
Denise Harvey	Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Elise Major, Secretary/Treasurer	Dr. Craig Tunks, Director of Digital Learning and Innovation
Jacqueline Blechinger	Ms. Lois Pernice, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Sara Spaulding	Mr. Richard Rudl, Director of Finance and Operations
Dan McNeill	Cameron Isaccs, Student BOE Representative
Gina Albert	Alex Fruhbeis, Student BOE Representative

I. CALL TO ORDER, VERIFICATION OF QUORUM
Ellen Uzenoff, Board Chairperson

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. RECOGNITION

- 1. Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction introduced Christina Conetta, Weston 2017 Teacher of the Year.**

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education recognizes Christina Conetta, Weston 2017 Teacher of the Year, for her outstanding service to the students of Weston. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Ms. Major all in favor. (7-0)

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICER

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education elects Ms. Denise Harvey as the Board Vice-Chairperson, to complete the term formally being served by Philip Schaefer. Motion by Ms. Spaulding, second by Ms. Major; 6 in favor – Mrs. Uzenoff, Ms. Major, Mrs. Blechinger, Ms. Spaulding, Mr. McNeill, Ms. Albert; 1 abstained - Ms. Harvey. (6-0-1)

Ms. Uzenoff introduced Gina Albert as the newest member of the Board of Education.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1. The Board voted to approve the minutes from October 24**

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the minutes of the October 24, 2016, Regular and Executive Sessions. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Blechinger; 4 in favor – Mrs. Uzenoff, Ms. Major, Ms. Harvey, Mrs. Blechinger; 3 abstained – Ms. Spaulding, Mr. McNeill and Ms. Albert. (4-0-3)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Nina Daniel, First Selectman, welcomed Gina Albert to the Board of Education.

VII. STUDENT BOARD OF EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

Mr. Fruhbeis and Ms. Isaacs highlighted the CABE conference which they attended on November 19 as student representatives to the Board of Education. WHS is currently participating in 26 Days of Kindness and will be sponsoring a new charity to support in its fundraising efforts.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Gifts

Dr. McKersie, as per Board Policy #3280, has accepted, with appreciation, four art tables valued at \$6,800, for the Weston High School art program.

2. WHS Class of 2016 Statistical Report & Analysis of College Applications

Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Ms. Lisa Deorio, Principal of Weston High School, and Meredith Starzyk, WHS Director of Counseling, presented the WHS Class of 2016 Statistical Report & Analysis of College Applications for the 2015-2016 academic year. Noted was that more students took the ACT exam than in previous years, forty percent of the students were recognized as AP Scholars, and the Counseling Department is scheduling additional workshops for students and parents. Discussion by the Board followed.

3. NESDEC Demographic Study Presentation

- 4.** Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, reviewed the NESDEC Annual Enrollment and Projections Report. This report is the updated enrollment history and forecast from the New England School Development Council (NESDEC). These enrollment projections, developed annually, provide important data for program, budget planning and staffing for the 2017-2018 school year. Mr. Brey noted that in-migration, and not births, are increasing Weston's enrollment in the lower grades. The District will be looking at additional sources to obtain a clearer picture of how the housing market is affecting District enrollment overall. Discussion by the Board followed.

5. Analysis of Second Grade Location

Dr. McKersie, Dr. Craw, Ms. Falber and Mrs. Kaddis reviewed the Analysis of Second Grade Location and recommendation to the Board that the second grade remain at Hurlbutt Elementary School for the next three to five years. The analysis studied enrollment, educational programming, instructional space needs for academic and special education services but for other services, and financial implications in

relocating grade two to Weston Intermediate School. The impact on Hurlbut Elementary School of being solely a K-1 school also was noted. Discussion by the Board followed.

6. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

Mr. Brey provided a first reading of Weston Board of Education Policy 5141.24, Accommodating Student with Special Dietary Needs (Food Allergies).

7. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

Mr. Brey provided a first reading of Weston Board of Education Proposed Policy 6143, Parent Access to Instructional Material.

8. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

Mr. Brey provided a first reading of Weston Board of Education Policy 6184, Unexpected Broadcast. As there were additional questions regarding the language of the Policy, it will be brought back to the Policy Committee for further review.

9. Fourth FY 2017 Financial Update and Approval of Transfers

Mr. Rudl, Director of Finance and Operations, provided a monthly financial update. Transfers were presented for approval totaling \$99,547, five of which were in excess of \$5,000.

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the transfers as presented by Mr. Rudl in the Fourth FY 2017 financial update. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Mrs. Blechinger, all in favor. (7-0)

IX. OLD BUSINESS

1. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

Mr. Brey reviewed Weston Board of Education Policy 4122, Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness for Intramural and Interscholastic Athletics.

2. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

Mr. Brey reviewed Weston Board of Education Policy 2260, Holds on Destruction of Electronic Information and Paper Records.

3. Approval of Policies

Motion: Move that the Weston Board of Education approves Policy 4122, Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness for Intramural and Interscholastic Athletics, and Policy 2260, Holds on Destruction of Electronic Information and Paper Records. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Spaulding, 6 in favor – Ms. Uzenoff, Ms. Major, Mrs. Blechinger, Ms. Spaulding, Mr. McNeill, Ms. Albert; Ms. Harvey absent for motion and vote. (6-0-1)

X. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. District Update

Dr. McKersie noted that budget preparations for 2017-2018 are in process. He attended the WEF Trivia Night with Dr. Tunks and Dr. Craw, which highlighted the MakerSpace initiative throughout the District. Last week, Dr. McKersie attended the CABA/CAPPS Convention and was pleased that both student representatives to the Board were able to attend. A Superintendent's Roundtable was held at CES regarding enrollment issues and how to work collaboratively throughout Fairfield County in obtaining better information. Members of the administration attended the Tri-State Consortium Conference in Stamford this month. Dr. McKersie has been a guest reader in all kindergarten and third grade classrooms, as well as speaking to the AP Language classes at WHS. Also noted was the fact most of the presenters during the recent staff professional development day were WPS staff members, which was well received by all involved.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Communications Committee – Sara Spaulding, December meeting TBD**
- 2. Curriculum Committee, Denise Harvey, next meeting December 14 at 8:00 a.m.**
- 3. Finance Committee – Denise Harvey, next meeting December 15 at 8:15 a.m.**
- 4. Facilities Committee – Elise Major, next meeting December 2 at 9:00 a.m.**
- 5. Policy Committee – Daniel McNeill, next meeting December 7 at 9:00 a.m.**
- 6. Negotiations Committee – Ellen Uzenoff**
- 7. CES – Elise Major, SFFCS Legislative Branch meeting on December 9 at 8:15 a.m.**
- 8. CABA – Daniel McNeill**
- 9. Weston Education Foundation – Sara Spaulding, fundraising efforts underway.**

XII. WRITTEN REPORTS

- 1. Principals' Reports – distributed with BOE meeting materials.**

XIII. NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING IS ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2016 AT 7:30 P.M.

- 1. Dr. McKersie reviewed agenda items for the next meeting.**

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

*Motion: Motion to adjourn by Ms. Spaulding, second by Ms. Major, all in favor. (7-0)
Meeting adjourned at 10:28 p.m.*

Minutes prepared by Meredith Herman, Board of Education Clerk.

Chairman

Secretary

Approved by the Board of Education December 19, 2016.