Weston Public Schools
Board of Education Special Meeting
Weston Middle School Library Resource Center
December 19, 2016

Attendance:

Ellen Uzenoff, Chairperson	Dr. William McKersie, Superintendent
Denise Harvey	Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel
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	Pattie Falber, Principal of Weston Intermediate School
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. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Discussion regarding matters pertaining to personnel.**

2. **Discussion of Written Communications from the Board of Education's Counsel which is Subject to the Attorney-Client Privilege.**

III. RESUME PUBLIC SESSION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. RECOGNITION

1. **Dr. William McKersie, Superintendent of Schools, presented the Weston High School 2016 Girls Swimming and Diving Team Class S State Champions and coaching staff**

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education recognizes the Weston High School 2016 Girls Swimming and Diving Team Class S State Champions and coaching staff. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Ms. Major, all in favor. (7-0)

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **The Board voted to approve the minutes from November 7**

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the minutes of the November 7, 2016, Executive and Regular Sessions. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Spaulding, 4 in favor – Mrs. Uzenoff, Ms. Major, Ms. Harvey, Ms. Spaulding; 3 abstained – Ms. Blechinger, Mr. McNeill and Ms. Albert. (4-0-3)

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2. **The Board voted to approve the minutes from November 21**

   Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the minutes of the November 21, 2016, Regular Session. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Mr. McNeill, all in favor. (7-0)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – no comment

VII. STUDENT BOARD OF EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

Mr. Fruhbeis mentioned that Weston High School wrapped up the 26 Days of Kindness on December 14, which resulted in increased school morale. A food drive was held to support Weston Food Pantry. A Candy Cane exchange has been going on at WHS, with all proceeds benefitting the winter charity Person to Person, which offers services anyone in need living at or in need in Weston, Westport, Wilton and Norwalk.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Update on Healthy Learning Environments**
   Ms. Lois Pernice, Director of Personnel Pupil Services, provided an update on the Effective School Solutions (ESS) program and Emotional Intelligence training. The ESS program began with six students at the beginning of the year. They currently have nine students and expect 12 students next semester. The SRO has worked collaboratively with the counseling department and ESS professionals as well. Discussion by the Board followed.

   Ms. Pernice also updated the Board on the Emotional Intelligence training, which began training two teams from Weston Intermediate School and Weston Middle School at the Yale University Center for Emotional Intelligence. The teams will provide additional rollout to faculty in the January professional development day. Next year, teams from Hurlbutt Elementary School and Weston High School will attend training. Once staff has been trained, they will begin developing ways to incorporate the practices in the classroom with students. Discussion by the Board followed.

2. **Postponed Fifth FY 2017 Financial Update and Approval of Transfers until January 2017 Board of Education Meeting**

IX. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Analysis of Second Grade Location**
   Dr. McKersie presented the final review of the second grade location analysis and recommended the grade structure at Hurlbutt Elementary School and Weston Intermediate School remain the same.

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Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education affirms the current grade structure at Hurbutt Elementary School and Weston Intermediate School. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Ms. Albert, all in favor. (7-0)

Board discussion followed regarding the analysis and overall space in Hurlbutt Elementary School and Weston Intermediate School, and how space is used outside of the classrooms.

2. **Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws**
   Mr. Brey will review Weston Board of Education Policy 5141.24, Accommodating Student with Special Dietary Needs (Food Allergies).

3. **Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws**
   Mr. Brey will review Weston Board of Education Proposed Policy 6143, Parent and Guardian Access to Instructional Material.

4. **Approval of Policies**

   Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves Policy 5141.24, Accommodating Student with Special Dietary Needs (Food Allergies), and Policy 6143, Parent and Guardian Access to Instructional Material. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Spaulding, all in favor. (7-0)

X. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. **District Update**

   Dr. McKersie and Dr. Ken Craw presented the Gauging Progress Report to the Tri-State Consortium Superintendents meeting in December. Dr. McKersie reviewed the handouts that were reviewed during the discussion. Dr. Tunks organized a visit to Ridgefield Public Schools regarding digital learning 1:1. Our team was able to review their processes and how we can prepare for this initiative in our schools. Board discussion to follow.

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Communications Committee – Sara Spaulding**
2. **Curriculum Committee – Denise Harvey**
3. **Finance Committee – Denise Harvey**
4. **Facilities Committee – Elise Major**
5. **Policy Committee – Daniel McNeill**
6. **Negotiations Committee – Ellen Uzenoff**
7. **CES – Elise Major**
8. **CABE – Daniel McNeill**
9. **Weston Education Foundation – Sara Spaulding**

XII. WRITTEN REPORTS

1. **Principals' Reports**

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XIII. NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING IS ON MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016 AT 7:30 P.M.

1. **Dr. McKersie will review pending agenda items for the next meeting and in January will vote to move the April Board of Education meeting from April 17, 2017 to April 24, 2017.**

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education resume executive session at 8:48 p.m., to discuss matters pertaining to personnel and discuss written communications from its counsel which is subject to the attorney-client privilege. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Ms. Spaulding.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion to adjourn by Ms. Harvey, second by Mrs. Blechinger. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Meredith Herman, Board of Education Clerk.

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Chairman

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Secretary

Approved by the Board of Education January 21, 2016.

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