

<p>WESTBROOK BOARD OF EDUCATION Tuesday, October 17, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m. Special of Education Meeting</p>

MINUTES

Present: Lee Bridgewater, Sally Greaves, Michelle Palumbo, Don Perreault, Dee Adorno, Kim Walker, Mary Ella Luft

Absent: Marti White, Jackie Lyman

Also Present: Superintendent Patricia A. Ciccone; Administrators, Sharon Weirsman, Ruth Rose, Tara Winch, Madeline Illinger, Special Services Director; Technology, Ben Russell; Guest Taylor Wrye & Family; Faculty/Staff

I. CALL TO ORDER – The Special Meeting of October 17, 2017 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the WHS library

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. BOARD OF EDUCATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Superintendent Ciccone expressed appreciation for Tara Winch, Principal of WHS, Caitlin Eichler, Co Chair of NEASC Decennial Steering Committee, Nancy Malafronte, Co-Chair of NEASC Decennial Steering Committee and high school faculty for the depth of their conscientious commitment to the work of preparing for a meaningful and purposeful Decennial review. Acknowledgement was also given to the WMS Principal Search Committee which included Board members Sally Greaves, Mary Ella Luft and Kim Walker, and WMS faculty members, Dana Runkle and Alicia Ferro; and WPS Administrators. Madeline Illinger, Tara Winch, and several screeners.

IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – Katelyn Wallace reported on school activities which included field day activities, Senior Breakfast at the Elks Club, the Spirit Rap Battle, upcoming performance of “Legally Blonde” (Katelyn invited the Board to see a preview during the November 14 BOE meeting), and Katelyn spoke about the students’ involvement with the NEASC Visiting Committee.

- V. INTRODUCTION TO THE WMS PRINCIPAL FINALIST:** Superintendent Ciccone introduced Taylor Wrye and his family and provided the Board with Taylor Wrye’s full dossier, including his current position as principal of Williams Middle School in Longmeadow, MA, details of his history, education/credentials, as well as documented specific talents and technical skills. She talked about the impressive reviews she received from references and specific qualities that led the Committee to select Mr. Wrye as the finalist. She stated that Mr. Wrye believes in the power of voices; (children/parents/staff members), and the power of relationships and understands the value of listening. He is anxious to get involved in assuring the success of our students. *Superintendent Patricia A. Ciccone offered her highest recommendation that the Westbrook Board of Education appoint Taylor Wrye to lead, serve, and support the children and families of Westbrook as Principal of the Westbrook Middle School. Moved by Kim Walker and seconded by Mary Ella Luft. Vote unanimous.*

The Board adjourned for a brief “Meet & Greet,” public reception to welcome Mr. Wrye as the WMS Principal

- VI. PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments**

VII. ADMINISTRATOR(S) COMMENTS

- A. T. Winch – NEASC Decennial: Ms. Winch talked about the activities related to the NEASC Visiting Committee, beginning with their arrival on Sunday, 10/15. She said it has been a rigorous process for the high school and for the visiting committee as well. Tomorrow is the final day of the visit and the Committee will present to each other and will provide a general sense of the assessment at the end of the day. The official report will come later. Ms. Winch said that the recommendations made from the NEASC Visiting Committee will be used to make WHS even better.
- B. R. Rose - Pre-school Screenings; additional students enrolling into integrated pre-school program. With the assistance of Mrs. Illinger and Mrs. Pernal, Mrs. Rose talked about the pre-school screening process. With the screenings, the preschool total will be 46 students. Mrs. Illinger said the pre-school screening committee meets every Friday. She stated that it is important to keep a balance of at risk and special needs students. There are also EL students coming in. Jen Pernal gave an overview of the screening process and how information is disseminated to families; how data is collected on each student screened, and the collaboration efforts with WECC and area day cares. A curriculum is being introduced and Mrs. Pernal is reviewing the book, *Creative Curriculum*. The pre-school meets 4 days per week.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Budget Guidelines – 2018-19: Superintendent Ciccone reviewed the budget guidelines with the Board. She pointed out a couple of things to be mindful of including class size guidelines and the fact that it is a negotiations year. She mentioned that some things are policy related.

B. Out of State Field Trip Request(s)

1. Vail Resort, Colorado. A ski trip request to Vail, Colorado was submitted for the week of February break (2/19/18 – 2/24/18) for the WHS Ski Club.
2. WHS Music Dept. requested approval for a trip to Philadelphia, PA from March 16-18, 2018 for high school seniors.

Moved by Michele Palumbo and seconded by Mary Ella Luft to approve the recommendation of Superintendent Ciccone to approve the field trip to Vail, Colorado for the WHS Ski Club (2/19/18-2/24/18) and the WHS Music Department to Philadelphia, PA (3/16-3/18). Vote unanimous.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Enrollment – Superintendent Ciccone reported October 1st enrollment is 733 students; current enrollment is 734 students which includes 6 outplaced students.
- B. S.A.A.P. Parent Forum – October 26, 2017 – Superintendent Ciccone gave a brief review of the panel format and the work of curriculum delivery as it will be presented to parents/guardians. Mr. Russell will videotape the forum and archive for replay as a webinar to benefit those who cannot attend.
- C. CT Teacher Shortage Areas – The Superintendent reviewed the current CT teacher shortage areas to illustrate current vacancies and needs assessment to support course overload requests, long-term/durational positions and possible substitute rate increases. She said that Westbrook's current rate of sub pay is \$70 a day and to keep up with other districts in the area suggests raising our sub pay to \$80 per day.

X. OLD BUSINESS: None

XI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes:
 1. Regular Meeting – September 12, 2017 : Moved by Kim Walker and seconded by Michele Palumbo to approve the minutes of September 12, 2017. Aye(s) M. Palumbo, L. Bridgewater, S. Greaves, D. Adorno, K. Walker, D. Perreault; one abstention – M. Luft

XII. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Review of Check Listing: Board members reviewed check listings for September 7, 2017 in the amount of \$136,578.83 and for September 21, 2017 in the amount of \$119,154.80.
- B. Budget Narrative/Review of Expenditure Report: An overview of the budget was provided to the Board
- C. Line Item Transfer: No transfers
- D. Insurance Report: The Board reviewed the insurance report for July/August.

XIII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. LEARN - D. Adorno reported on the recent LEARN meeting and the purchase of a Synagogue and the expected renovation and opening of the new school in 2018. The Clinton Public Schools' superintendent was their speaker who presented her goals, and Dr. Howley talked about the state budget effects on LEARN.
- B. Policy - No report
- C. Communications – No report
- D. Long Range Planning – No report
- E. Insurance- No report
- F. Negotiations - S. Greaves – Negotiations will begin soon. Committee members have been provided with dates. There is a discrepancy for the 11/14 date and as soon as a new date is determined, the committee members will be made aware.
- G. Town Energy Ad Hoc Committee – No report
- H. PTSO Representatives – No reports

XIV. PERSONNEL

- A. Non Certified Appointments:
 - 1. The Board was informed of the hiring of Jennifer Knight, WHS Secretary.
- B. The Board was informed of the teachers having achieved Tenure: Cheryl Albaine, Jennifer Bellizzi, Jenna Brady, Joanna Brother, Corey Ehrlich, Linnea Fitzgerald, Abigail Fredrickson, Nicole Hartt, Susan Hourihan, Seana Nygard, Dana Runkle, Jenny Szewczyk and Emma Voytek

- XV. ADJOURN:** Moved by Michelle Palumbo and seconded by Sally Greaves to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Vote unanimous.