

WESTBROOK BOARD OF EDUCATION EDUCATE, CHALLENGE, & INSPIRE

**WESTBROOK BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, April 18, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m.
WHS Library
Regular Board of Education Meeting**

Members Present: K. Walker, Z. Hayden, C. Kuehlewind, M. Palumbo, M. Luft, D. Perreault, A. Miesse.

Absent: S. Greaves, M. Esposito

Also Present: Superintendent Kristina Martineau; Business Manager, L. Wysocki, Administrators T. Winch, R. Rose, M. Talmadge, F. Lagace; Technology B. Russell

MINUTES - April 18, 2023

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** –Kim Walker, Chair, called the regular BOE meeting of April 18, 2023 to order at 6:30 p.m.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- III. **BOARD OF EDUCATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**
 - A. 2023 Education Innovation Showcase – Superintendent Martineau was pleased to announce that WHS was selected as a top 10 Education Innovation Showcase Finalist for Career Pathways and Career Connected Learning and Lesley Carson is attending the Showcase Summit where the top three will be announced.
 - B. CAS Art Awards: Caroline Benzi and Joshua Davey were introduced as recipients of the CAS Art Award; Caroline for her success in theatre and Joshua for his talent in music composition.
 - C. Engineering and Science Award – Enzo Adorno was recognized by the BOE for his participation in a statewide engineering fair and his entry of a high level physics project.
 - D. CIAC Unified Sports Rookie of the Year Award -The Rookie School of the Year award was presented to WMS. This award is presented annually to one school, in its implementation of Unified Sports, which exemplifies the qualities of inclusion. Mr. Talmadge recognized Mr. Jennings and Ms. Gallagher, coaches of the Unified Sports program.
- IV. **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT** –Elliott Koplus reported on high school activities including the music department’s successful trip to Washington DC, Acoustic Café’ on May 5, FBLA and Interact Club activities; spring sports and Student Council Fundraiser for scholarships. Middle School students, Riley Bogart, London Porter, Reagan Zambrello and Grace Vincent captured the school year in a video presentation and each spoke about opportunities and what they have learned while a student in the middle school. “Inclusion” bracelets were distributed to BOE members.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comments

VI. ADMINISTRATOR(S) COMMENTS

- A. Ruth Rose – Mrs. Rose highlighted events at Daisy and presented a handout to BOE members of Daisy End of the Year Events.
- B. Tara Winch – Ms. Winch talked about the WHS Innovation in Education Summit, Career and College Readiness Pathways. Robotics and Technology Education and the Welding program. Seniors are receiving acceptance letters and WHS graduation is on June 16 at 5:00 p.m.
- C. Matt Talmadge – Mr. Talmadge reported that the middle school is working towards living the attributes of Portrait of a Graduate and concentrating on “Inclusion” and was appreciative to the BOE and Superintendent Martineau for their support. Mr. Jennings also acknowledged the Board’s support and the Unified Sports program recognition.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Healthy Food Certification 2023-2024

Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes requires that each local board of education or governing authority for all Connecticut public school districts participating in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) **must take action annually** to certify whether all food items sold to students **will or will not** meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards.

Superintendent Martineau recommends that pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Westbrook Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups.

MOTION 1: MOTION by D. Perreault and SECOND by A. Miesse to agree to comply with C.G.S. Section 10-215f for the 2023-2024 school year as describe. MOTION CARRIES – Vote unanimous.

Superintendent Martineau recommends that the Westbrook Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food sales.

MOTION 2: MOTION by A. Miesse and SECOND by D. Perreault to agree to allow exemptions of food items to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, given the conditions outlined are followed for the 2023-2024 school year. MOTION CARRIES – Vote unanimous.

Information on Beverages

Note: C.G.S. Section 10-221q addresses requirements for the sale of beverages to students in public schools, and allows exemptions if beverage sales meet specific conditions. Beverage exemptions are not part of the annual HFC Statement, which applies only to food sales. If the district chooses to allow beverage exemptions, the CSDE recommends that the board of education or school governing authority conducts the vote on beverage exemptions at the same time as the vote on HFC participation and food exemptions. Sample language for beverage exemptions is below.

Superintendent Martineau recommends the Westbrook Board of Education will allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity. The “school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held, and must be the same place as the beverage sales.

MOTION 3: MOTION by Z. Hayden and SECOND by M. Palumbo to agree to comply with C.G.S. Section 10-221q for the 2023-2024 school year as described. MOTION CARRIES – Vote unanimous.

After further discussion the Board requested to discuss this earlier in the year (August/September) and to explore food options for the future, have discussions with students, survey other shoreline schools and cost effects in budget. L. Wysocki will report her findings back to the Board in August or September.

B. Oxford Academy – Light on Westbrook Fundraiser – The Light on Westbrook fundraiser was a huge success and Oxford Academy generously donated \$2500 from the fundraiser for the summer meals program. The BOE is appreciative and pleased to accept the donation. **MOTION by Z. Hayden and SECOND by M. Luft to accept a \$2500 donation from Oxford Academy used to support the meal program for Westbrook youth. MOTION CARRIES – Vote unanimous.**

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- A. Enrollment** – Superintendent Martineau reported April enrollment of 255 Daisy students, 157 middle school students and 199 high school students and 4 out placed students for a total of 615 students (Pre K through 12).
- B. Portrait of a Graduate Update** – Superintendent Martineau unveiled a draft logo for POG – and stated that the Committee prefers the boat logo as district wide representation. She credits the Committee and student, Andrew Scotella, for his work on the draft logo and expects the Board will see the final artwork by the June meeting.
- C. Budget Update** – Superintendent Martineau reminded the Board of the Budget Hearing on April 19 at the Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. May 15 is the budget vote in the WHS auditorium.
- D. Welding Lab – Renovation and Planning update** – Superintendent Martineau extended appreciation to L. Wysocki and “the crew” for the work done during April break to prepare the room for the welding booths. She was pleased to announce that the Westbrook Foundation is committing \$43,259.08 to fund welding booths and is extremely grateful for Westbrook Foundation’s generosity. The May BOE agenda will include a vote to accept this donation.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - None

X. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes:

1. Regular Meeting – March 14, 2023
2. Special Meeting – April 3, 2023

MOTION by Z. Hayden and SECOND by M. Palumbo to approve the minutes of March 14, 2023 and April 3, 2023. MOTION CARRIES. Vote unanimous.

XI. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Review of Check Listing: Board members reviewed check listings for March 2, 2023 in the amount of \$77,604.83 and March 16, 2023 in the amount of \$214,658.22 and March 20, 2023 in the amount of \$104,835.16.
- B. Budget Narrative/Review of Expenditure Report – L. Wysocki provided an update.
- C. Line Item Transfer - none
- D. Insurance Report – The Board received a current Insurance report.

XII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Policy– K. Walker (no report)
- B. Long Range Planning – A. Miesse (no report)
- C. Fiscal & Budget – Z. Hayden (no report)
- D. Teaching & Learning – C. Kuehlewind (no report – next meeting on April 26)
- E. Communications & Marketing – M. Luft reported the committee viewed the “excellent” PoG video and made a few suggestions.
- F. Negotiations – D. Perreault (no report but will meet soon)
- G. Town Energy Ad Hoc Committee – A. Miesse (no report)
- H. LEARN – Z. Hayden (no report)
- I. PTO Representatives - M. Luft (Daisy), Z. Hayden (WMS), K. Walker (WHS) (no reports)

XIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION GOALS

- A. BOE Retreat update – Superintendent Martineau is working with Mary Broderick from CABE for possible dates for the Board Retreat. The Retreat may need to be moved to June or August. More information will follow. Z Hayden will soon be sending out an email to BOE members on the BOE self-evaluation.
- B. Legislative Update – Z. Hayden spoke about the many bills before the legislature. CABE will be providing a summary and if anyone can attend there is a webinar on April 20 at 11 :00 a.m. (Appropriations Committee Update).
- C. Professional Development and Activities: Z. Hayden and A. Miesse attended the Daisy Dash.

XIV. PERSONNEL

- A. Non-Certified Resignation(s)
 1. Tina Bennett – WHS/WMS School Nurse resigned from her position.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Contract Negotiations: Evaluation of Legal Services
MOTION by M. Palumbo and SECOND by D. Perreault to move into Executive Session at 7:52 pm. Vote unanimous.

Discussion of matters that would result in disclosure of exempt matter
Moved out of Executive Session at 7:59 p.m.

XVI. PUBLIC SESSION

A. Legal Services – discussion and review of legal services

It was the consensus of the Board to continue with the current legal services

XVII. ADJOURN: MOTION by M. Palumbo and **SECOND** by A. Miesse to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Kuehlewind, Board Secretary

Cecilia S. Lester, Board Recording Clerk