

# WEST BOYLSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Wednesday, April 9, 2014  
Middle/High School Library-Media Center

Mr. Owanisian called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

John Owanisian, Chairman  
Jennifer Breen  
Richard Shaw  
Erin Palumbo  
James Pedone, Jr.

## ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

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

## ALSO PRESENT

Tyler Arney, Abby Colangelo – Student Advisory Council members, audience and press.

## 1. MINUTES

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Mr. Pedone, to accept the minutes of March 12, 2014 regular meeting.

**VOTE: All in favor.**

Ms. Palumbo moved, seconded by Mr. Pedone, to accept the minutes of the March 12, 2014 – FY15 Budget Public Hearing.

**VOTE: All in favor.**

## 2. STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARDS

Students from the Elementary and Middle/High Schools were recognized for their achievements – Leah Crowley, Sidney Carter and Rachel Langhill.

## 3. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Advisory council members indicated there were several events going on in the Middle/High School such as – Dickinson's Ribbons spring issue, spring musical – Nashville Jamboree, yearbook news, and MCAS testing for the Middle School.

## 4. COMMUNITY INPUT

None.

## 5. HIGHLIGHT ON SCHOOLS – Technology

Mr. Eric Bokankowitz presented a technology update.

## 6. NATURE'S CLASSROOM

Mr. LaBreck presented information regarding the Nature's Classroom Trip – Ocean Park, Maine - Tuesday, October 14, 2014 through Friday, October 17, 2014. Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Ms. Palumbo to accept the Nature's Classroom Trip in October of 2014.

**VOTE: All in favor.**

## 7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Budget – Mr. Shaw indicated the committee had met with the Town Administrator relative to the amount of money necessary to fund the schools for the upcoming year. The current figure offered to the schools is \$10,778,000.00. Mr. Pontbriand stated that figure is \$141,000.00 less than anticipated, but that no cuts to staff would be made.
- b. Legislative – No meeting, no report.
- c. Communications – The School Committee Blog was discussed.
- d. Negotiations - No meeting, no report.
- e. Policy – Policy IKF regarding graduation requirements was discussed and the information will be brought forward to the May 2014 School Committee meeting for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading.
- f. Capital Projects/School Building –Michael Salate – Boy Scout – presented information relative to his Eagle Scout project to repair/replace the bicycle racks at West Boylston Public Schools. Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to approve the project.

**VOTE: All in favor.**

## 8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

- a. Edwards Elementary Principal – Mr. Meagher presented highlights from his School Committee Update to include: MCAS testing, Open House, Leia Roberts' art display and a first meeting for a group for parents/families that need extra help.
- b. Middle School Associate Principal – Mr. LaBreck offered information regarding MCAS testing, The Day for Change, which was one of the most powerful yet, Middle School Play and the upcoming Middle School Washington trip.
- c. Middle/High School Principal – Mr. Murphy stated that the advisory groups between students and teachers were meeting and the Lion's Scholar Academy took their monthly trip to Gillette Stadium.

- d. Director of Special Education – Ms. Traina advised the West Boylston SEPAC group would be conducting a Basic Rights Workshop on Tuesday, April 29, 2014 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the West Boylston Middle/High School Library/Media Center.
- e. Business Administrator – Mr. Pontbriand explained his monthly expenditure report and indicated that a transfer of funds was necessary from the vocational educational account to the general education account in the amount of \$147,930.00 to offset a special education deficit. Ms. Jennifer Breen moved, Mr. Pedone seconded to approve the transfer of funds.

**VOTE: All in favor.**

- f. Superintendent of Schools - Dr. Schaper reported on the following:
- The math curriculum team heard vendor presentation from Pearson and McGraw Hill
  - The writing across the curriculum team has surveyed staff
  - New teacher evaluation process is more than 60% complete
  - There are approximately 44 students who have currently registered for full day kindergarten
  - Data Dashboard information was reviewed
- g. School Committee – Ms. Breen indicated WestBEST had several events taking place – the Father Daughter Dance, spring book fair at Major Edwards and the Mother’s Day plant sale. Mr. Owanisian reported that he will be interviewing Erick Bokankowitz, Kristen Tokarz and Larry Murphy on Ch. 12.

## 9. ADJOURN

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Mr. Pedone, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

**VOTE: All in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marie K. Johnson, Recording Secretary