

WEST BOYLSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Wednesday, May 14, 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

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

James Pedone, Jr.

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

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

ADMINISTRATORS ABSENT

Roger E. Pontbriand, Jr., Business Administrator

ALSO PRESENT

Tyler Armev, Rachel DeAngelis – Student Advisory Council members, audience and press.

1. MINUTES

Ms. Palumbo moved, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to accept the minutes of April 9, 2014 regular meeting.

VOTE: All in favor.

2. STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARDS

Students from the Elementary and Middle/High Schools were recognized for their achievements – Alexandra Stevens, Matthew Cassella and Shalitmar Perez.

3. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Advisory council members indicated there were several events going on in the Middle/High School to include – election of new student advisory council members, nine new members inducted into the National Art Honor Society, blood drive at the Middle/High School, and senior dinner at Wright's Chicken Farm.

4. COMMUNITY INPUT

The parent advisory group SEPAC provided updates as to the newly formed group's progression.

5. HIGHLIGHT ON SCHOOLS – Major Edwards Art Club

Ms. Leia Roberts gave a presentation regarding the work of the Major Edwards Art Club to include – a community mural painted in the gym, a school wide art installation of an artist inspired chandelier, and the 4th and 5th grade art club's renovation of the cafeteria.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Budget – Mr. Shaw stated there were no changes since the last report. Dr. Schaper indicated the budget information was included within the School Committee's packet and that in addition to money requested from the town we were also allocating money from school choice and circuit breaker funds.

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Ms. Breen to approve the total FY 15 school district budget of \$11,915,226 and asked the town to appropriate \$10,774,500 towards this budget.

VOTE: All in favor.

- b. Legislative – No meeting, no report.
- c. Communications – Ms. Palumbo stated the new School Committee Blog was located on the District's website and that the Student of the Month articles continued to be run in The Banner and online, as well on The Banner's website.
- d. Negotiations - No meeting, no report.
- e. Policy – Policy IKF regarding graduation requirements was discussed and the information will be brought forward to the June 2014 School Committee meeting for a 1st reading.
- f. Capital Projects/School Building – Dr. Schaper indicated that an April update was made to the Capital Improvements Plan, which was presented to the Finance Committee.

7. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

- a. Edwards Elementary Principal – Mr. Meagher presented highlights from his School Committee Update to include: MCAS testing was wrapping up at Major Edwards, a Memorial Day program would be held on May 23, 2014, band and chorus concerts were upcoming as well as the golf tournament to benefit the cubs at Cyprian Keyes.
- b. Middle School Associate Principal – Mr. LaBreck offered information regarding the completion of MCAS, PARCC testing the last week of May, the 8th grade Washington, D.C. trip, 8th grade graduation on June 18, 2014 and 5th grade parents will be invited to the Middle School on May 22, 2014 to hear about Nature's Classroom for next year.
- c. Middle/High School Principal – Mr. Murphy indicated the high school is very busy with activities such as – the music and art show last week, National Art Honor Society indication and senior graduation preparation.
- d. Director of Special Education - Ms. Traina indicated she had nothing to report at this time.

e. Business Administrator - Dr. Schaper indicated to the committee that the monthly expenditure report was included within their packets. She stated that Mr. Pontbriand indicated that we are clear through the end of the year. We are currently waiting on two important decisions with regard to Special Education funds, to come in June.

f. Superintendent of Schools - Dr. Schaper thanked Ms. Carolyn Somma for her work on the play “Nashville Jamboree” and then reported on the following:

- The faculty of Major Edwards Elementary School selected the
- EnVisions Mathematics Program for use in grades K-5 and the Middle School has selected MyMath.
- The Writing Across the Curriculum Team met to review survey data and will offer professional development courses to district teachers next year.
- Ms. Erin Klemm Middle/High School librarian will be certified as a Google Docs/Google Apps trainer. She will begin offering training to teachers in the fall.
- Currently there are 48 students enrolled for Kindergarten in the fall.
- The new information on background checks for employees will involve both the Policy and Budget Subcommittees input.
- A PARCC/MCAS testing updated was given

g. School Committee – Mr. Shaw stated that Shannon Downer from West Boylston Middle/High School had won a scholarship from the Wachusett Area Rotary Club. Ms. Breen thanked those involved with the Father Daughter dance and for those who have helped with other WestBEST events such as the Mothers’ Day plant sale. Mr. Shaw, Ms. Breen, and Ms. Palumbo thanked Mr. Owanisian for his work as Chairman of the School Committee and Mr. Owanisian shared his memories as Chairman.

8. ADJOURN

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Ms. Breen, to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

VOTE: All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie K. Johnson, Recording Secretary