

WEST BOYLSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Meeting of Wednesday, November 12, 2014
Middle/High School Library-Media Center

Ms. Breen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer Breen
James Pedone, Jr.
Richard Shaw
Erin Palumbo
Thais Frost

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

Molly O'Connor and Anthony Himmelberger – Student Advisory Council members, audience and press.

1. MINUTES

Ms. Frost moved, seconded by Mr. Pedone, to accept the minutes of the October 8, 2014 regular meeting.

VOTE: 5-0-0

2. STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARDS

Students from the Elementary and Middle/High Schools were recognized for their achievements – Thomas Scalera, Mackenzie Shea (October's Student of the Month), Christina Hollander, and Stephanie Peterson.

3. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Advisory council members provided information on - The Big Sibling Program, National Art Honor Society and their annual auction, the National Honor Society, FISH - Haunted Woods and Wellness Week and West Boylston's In It to End It.

4. HIGHLIGHT ON SCHOOLS - Middle/High School MCAS

The Middle/High School MCAS reports on English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science were presented by Mr. William Walker, Ms. Leslie Garrison and Mr. Jason DiSalle.

5. ABM - ESCO Update

Mr. Dave Eckhardt gave an update on the ABM project. He stated that boilers were fully installed in both schools. He indicated the project is approximately 90-95% complete and that controls for heating systems were to be installed by Christmas.

6. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Middle/High School and Elementary School improvement plans were presented to the committee.

Mr. Shaw moved, seconded by Mr. Pedone to approve the Middle/High School and Major Edwards Elementary School Improvement Plans.

VOTE: 5-0-0

7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Budget - Mr. Pedone indicated that the committee met with Dr. Schaper who provided a FY16 Budget Timeline. Mr. Shaw stated there were discussions with relation to the purchase of Van Transportation. Mr. Pontbriand indicated they had also discussed the cafeteria budget.
- b. Legislative - No meeting, no report.
- c. Communications - No meeting, no report.
- d. Negotiations - No meeting, no report.
- e. Policy - Ms. Breen indicated the committee had been discussing the IKF Graduation Policy and the survey which had been sent to teachers regarding same. Dialogue ensued regarding removal of the policy stating seniors must pass all credits in order to be able to graduate.

Ms. Palumbo moved, seconded by Mr. Pedone to accept removing Section 5C from Policy IKF on the 1st Reading.

VOTE: 4-1-0

- f. Capital Projects/School Building - Mr. Pedone indicated discussions had taken place relative to the Facilities Rental Agreement and further information would be brought forth at next month's School Committee Meeting.

8. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

- a. Edwards Elementary Principal - Mr. Meagher indicated a survey was conducted regarding parents' night for the elementary school's open house night with 65% of the respondents opting for the two night option.
- b. Middle School Associate Principal - Mr. LaBreck spoke about the Nature's Classroom trip, parent conferences, and the establishment of the Data Team.
- c. Middle/High School Principal - Mr. Murphy stated the girls' soccer team had made the district playoffs. Mr. Bokankowitz was helping to make the District's web page more user friendly and report cards will be available on School Brains through the Parent Portal. He gave an update on

the Lion's Scholars Academy's recent trips. Mr. Murphy also presented a letter of retirement indicated he will be retiring as of the end of June 2015.

- d. Director of Special Education - Ms. Traina had nothing to report at this time.
- e. Business Administrator - Mr. Pontbriand presented a summary of accounts and indicated a final accounting would be done after the Town completes the updates to the new software.
- f. Superintendent of Schools - Dr. Schaper reported:
 - She met with the WBTA to develop to negotiate language for including District Determined Measures into the contract.
 - All support documents for the new math curriculum are being organized into files that will be accessible to all.
 - The first of three sessions of Writing Across the Curriculum was offered on October 15th and three additional sessions are scheduled for November, January and February
 - Police Chief Minnich, Fire Chief Walsh and Officer Tavano had met with Dr. Schaper on October 30th to review the district safety plans
 - Thanked Mr. Murphy for his hard work as principal of the Middle/High School and stated she will initiate a search process soon.
- g. School Committee - Mr. indicated he was very happy with the success of the girls' soccer team. Mr. Pedone had nothing to report. Ms. Palumbo stated she was very happy to see the Middle/High School new sign being put up in front of the school. Ms. Frost and Ms. Breen had nothing to report.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Frost moved, seconded by Mr. Shaw to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m.

VOTE: 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Marie K. Johnson, Recording Secretary