

## **MINUTES OF WESTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE ONLINE MEETING - 7:00pm on 11/22/2021**

**Full Recording:** [Weston.vod.castus.tv/vod/](https://weston.vod.castus.tv/vod/) (Find timestamps for each section in parentheses)

### Documents Used At Meeting

- [Superintendent's Update Slide Presentation](#)
- [Draft District Calendar for 2022-2023 School Year](#)
- [SAC Meeting Minutes from 10/28/2021](#) and [Minutes From 11/8/2021](#) (for approval)
- [Regular Warrant Totalling \\$420,516.99](#)

### Call to order & Opening Business

A meeting of the Weston School Committee is called to order by Ms. Anita Raman, Chair. Also participating were Mr. Ken Newberg, Vice-chair, and Ms. Attia Linnard, Ms. Alyson Muzila, and Ms. Danielle Black of the School Committee; and Ms. Keitric Johnson, BWMP Representative; as well as Dr. Midge Connolly, Superintendent; and Dr. J. Kimo Carter, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning; and Dr. Lee McCanne, Director of Technology and Libraries; and Ms. Sheri Matthews, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; and Health Services Director Dr. Jamy Gaynor, and members of the audience.

Ms. Raman welcomes attendees to their virtual meeting and reviews the brief agenda, which includes updates, reports, and discussions regarding various topics, as well as public comment and consent agenda approvals. She also discusses upcoming School Committee office hours.

### Superintendent's Report (02:15)

Dr. Connolly thanks students and community members for persevering throughout the year. She gives updates regarding volunteer gardening, MS and HS dramatic performances, and Athletics. She adds that we currently expect that the MIAA will maintain masking for indoor winter sports.

### Update and Discussion re: Masking, Public Health Measures, and COVID-19 Response (6:00)

Ms. Raman invites Dr. Connolly and Dr. Gaynor to provide updates on the process of moving towards a mask-optional policy for vaccinated individuals at Weston High School (WHS). Dr. Connolly explains that the masks can become optional at WHS after two consecutive weeks of student testing rates above 65% at WHS. The hope is to begin to implement it by December 6. The administrators and committee members discuss safety plans and other considerations that enable the mask optional policy to move forward. They discuss testing, vaccinations, and other related topics including metrics used in other districts, masks on buses, communication plans to support those who will continue to wear masks in schools and more.

Ms. Raman suggests amending the plans approved at the last meeting to include December 6th as the earliest possible date. After approving the motion, committee members thank Dr. Gaynor.

**MOTION:** Mr. Newberg makes a motion to amended the plans by adding the date of December 6 as the earliest possible date. Ms. Black seconds the motion and members vote unanimously to approve with Mr. Newberg, Ms. Black, Ms. Linnard, Ms. Muzila, and Ms. Raman each voting ""aye" in favor of it.

\*\*The adjournment section of these minutes were updated January 10, 2022 to correct an error. The original minutes were approved on 12/6/2021 and no changes were made other than that.

Update and Discussion re: Draft of 2022-2023 District Calendar (24:00)

Ms. Raman reviews basic updates for the calendar, including an early release day on 12/23 and the scheduling details if there are snow days and related considerations. Members discuss other topics such as scheduling spring breaks, the start and end of the school year, and more.

Subcommittee Reports (29:40)

Ms. Muzila shares that the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) will be hosting an event on December 3rd.

Mr. Newberg discusses the policy subcommittee process and how to make it go more efficiently. For the playground working group he gives an update of the timeline, a little delayed by COVID.

Public Comment (32:00)

Ms. Belen Scully-Power asks about the process of moving to a mask-optional policy at WHS and asks about comparing Weston's process to others. Dr. Connolly and Ms. Raman respond.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items (37:55)

Ms. Raman introduces the following items for school committee consent agenda approval:

- Meeting Minutes from the 10/28/21 Joint Meeting with WHS Student Advisory Council
- Meeting Minutes from the 11/8/21 Regular Meeting
- Regular Warrant totalling \$420,516,99

Mr. Newberg asks about \$5,000 paid to Eversource with regard to solar and Ms. Matthews explains how financially the Town itself receives related credits. Ms Muzila recalls that this was discussed years earlier. Ms. Matthews explains how town hall helps balance the budgeting out.

MOTION: Ms. Black moves to approve the agenda and Ms. Muzila seconds the motion. Committee members vote unanimously to approve the consent agenda items with Ms. Muzila, Ms. Black, Ms. Linnard, Mr. Newberg, and Ms. Raman each voting "aye" in favor of approving all three of the items.

Update and Discussion re: Town Report (41:25)

Ms. Raman explains how the school committee traditionally prepares a section about the school district to include in the annual Town Spring Report. Much of it repeats structure from past years with updated data, although it will also include unique pieces. No members volunteer to write it.

Adjournment\*\*\*\*\*

MOTION: Ms. Black moves to adjourn and Ms. Muzila seconds the motion. Committee members vote unanimously to adjourn with Ms. Muzila, Ms. Black, Ms. Linnard, Mr. Newberg, and Ms. Raman each voting "aye" in favor of adjournment.

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