

MINUTES OF WESTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 9, 2012

I.A. Call To Order

A meeting of the Weston School Committee was called to order at 7:10 PM at Boston Police Headquarters, One Schroeder Plaza, Roxbury, by Mr. Rick Manley, Chair. In attendance were Mrs. Danielle Black and Dr. Ed Heller of the School Committee; Mrs. Elizabeth Nagarajah and Mrs. Cheryl Antoine, Alternating METCO Representatives to the School Committee; Dr. Cheryl Maloney, Superintendent; Mrs. Cynthia Mahr, Director of Finance and Operations; and Mrs. Amber Bock, Assistant Superintendent. Dr. Sanjay Saini joined the meeting at 7:20PM; Mr. Court Chilton joined the meeting at 7:25PM.

Also in attendance were Mr. David Fuller, Director of Weston METCO, and members of the Weston METCO staff: Mrs. Riola Lazo, Ms. Teresa Dryden, Mr. Howard Horner, Ms. Madelaine Kenyon, and Ms. Katie DeFoe.

I.B. Chairman's Report – None presented.

I.C. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Maloney reported that members of the High School Chorus sang the National Anthem at a Boston Celtics game on March 28 and that the High School Theater Company had a great weekend at the finals of the State Drama Festival, with acting awards presented to Miranda Burrage-Goodwin, Grace Harper and Sammy Hooper. She informed the Committee that Country School preschooler, Quinn Colleran, has been selected the winner in the Under 6 category in DeCordova Museum's Farewell to Ozymandias. She noted that a poem written by Quinn will be published on the DeCordova Museum website and published in the *Lincoln Journey* and he has been invited to read his poem during the Ozymandias deinstallation scheduled April 19. Art teacher Colleen Lucas and Principal Chris Price are planning to attend the program. Dr. Maloney noted that this was a pilot interdisciplinary project for the entire school, funded by WEEFC that focused on Science technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM).

Dr. Maloney shared some statistical data regarding athletics, noting that Weston has 413 student athletes registered for a sport in the current spring season, much higher than recent years. She also noted that Mr. Fuller would be presenting his last Annual Report.

I.D. Open Forum – held at conclusion of other business.

MAJOR BUSINESS

II.A Weston Education Enrichment Fund Committee

Mrs. Bock presented WEEFC project grant proposals for Committee approval.

MOTION: Upon motion made by Mrs. Black and seconded by Dr. Heller, the School Committee voted unanimously to approve the WEEFC grant proposal as presented, totaling \$31,210, per memo of April 3, 2012.

II.B. 2011-12 Report on Weston METCO Program

Mr. Fuller presented the annual report of the METCO Program. He summarized the achievements of the students, reviewed his goals, academic achievement initiatives, and fundraising initiatives. He presented some indicators of success, including statistical data on test scores, the SOAR Program, enrollment of METCO students in Honors and Advanced Placement courses, and college acceptance of all but two students thus far. Mr. Fuller discussed the roles and value of community groups, including the Community Coordinating Committee (CCC) and the Boston Weston METCO Parents Organization (BWMPO) and praised his entire staff. In noting that this was his last report prior to retirement in June, which he acknowledged as bittersweet, Mr. Fuller thanked the School Committee, Administration, faculty, support staff, Transportation Department, Custodial staff, and Food Services Department for their roles in

Approved by School Committee 4/24/12

supporting him and the students over the past 27 years. The Committee discussed some aspects of the report and expressed appreciation to Mr. Fuller and his staff for providing the useful statistical data.

MOTION: Upon motion by Mrs. Black and seconded by Dr. Heller, the School Committee voted unanimously to receive the 2011-2012 METCO Program Annual Report.

II.C. Boston/Weston METCO Parent Organization (BWMPO) Report

Mrs. Cheryl Antoine presented an update on the parent organization. She highlighted events during the year, meeting topics and attendance statistics, and goals for the upcoming year. She expressed appreciation to the School Committee for providing her the opportunity to present the report and for welcoming representation and participation at Committee meetings.

MOTION: Upon motion made by Mrs. Black and seconded by Dr. Heller, the School Committee voted unanimously to receive the BWMPO Report

II.D. Report on METCO Budget and Funding

Mrs. Mahr discussed the uncertain status of the METCO budget for FY13 and recommended the Committee authorize the administration to submit the annual METCO grant application. She informed the Committee that she expected to have funding information by July 1, but was assuming a level funded budget. She indicated that the summer program funds charged do not completely cover the cost of the program but noted that fundraising helps support the community coordinator position as well as summer programs. She noted that May 4 is the deadline for summer program registration and staffing patterns would be determined then.

MOTION: Upon motion made by Mrs. Black and seconded by Dr. Heller, the School Committee voted unanimously to authorize the school administration to submit the annual METCO grant application.

II.E. Facilities Update

High School Science Facility Update

Mrs. Black reported that there was a new superintendent on the project (for CTA). She indicated they were waiting for prices on furnishings and cabinetry for the second floor classrooms is scheduled to be delivered this week. No action taken.

Field School Project Update

Dr. Heller updated those present on what he reported last meeting, that the project had reached the 100% Design Development stage, the submittal required at this point by our agreement with the MSBA had been made, and a process called Value Management had formally begun to simplify design and to assure compliance with the project budget. He indicated that they expect to be at 60% construction drawings by the end of May and anticipate an early bid request to go out in June for selected site work. He noted that site work would take place during the summer and construction should begin in late fall. No action taken.

Middle School Boiler

Mrs. Black reported that a bid request for design work has gone out and indicated the PBC would like a voting member from the School Committee as a representative on this project. She volunteered to serve in that role. Dr. Maloney and Mrs. Black commended the PBC for their work and understanding of the ongoing building projects.

MOTION: Upon motion made by Dr. Heller and seconded by Dr. Saini, the School Committee voted unanimously to appoint Mrs. Danielle Black as a temporary member of the Town of Weston Permanent Building Committee for the Middle School Boiler Project.

III.A. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Heller asked that the Field School update be revised.

MOTION: Upon motion made by Dr. Saini and seconded by Mrs. Black, the School Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of March 26, 2012, as amended.

III.B. Personnel Information – Dr. Maloney reported that she hoped to announce a new METCO Director and new Mathematics Department Head by the end of the week. She noted that finalists for the Elementary Science Specialist were visiting Weston this week.

III.C. Business Actions –

Certificate of Warrant

Mrs. Mahr presented a Certificate of the Secretary, approval of warrants for payment.

MOTION: Upon motion made by Dr. Heller and seconded by Dr. Saini, the School Committee voted unanimously to approve the warrant for payment of \$1,660,671 by the Director of Finance and Operations.

IV. Open Forum – No comments.

V. Adjournment

MOTION: Upon motion made by Dr. Heller and seconded by Mrs. Black, at 8:45PM, the School Committee voted unanimously to adjourn.