

MINUTES OF WESTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE ONLINE MEETING

August 6, 2020

Webinar

<https://westonorg.zoom.us/j/84740364921?pwd=eFd6VWpvZEpmM0VUTlIWTVM1aHQxZz09>

Call to Order

A meeting of the Weston School Committee was called to order at 3:00 pm by Mr. John Henry, Chair. Participating were Mrs. Danielle Black, Vice Chair, Mr. Alex Cobb, and Mrs. Rachel Stewart of the School Committee; Dr. Midge Connolly, Superintendent and Ms. Sheri Matthews, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations.

Also present was Dr. Lee McCanne, Director of Technology and School Libraries; Gary Jarobski, Director of Facilities; Jerry McCarty, Deputy Director of Capital Projects; and Mr. Vince Salemi, Mechanical Engineer from BLW Engineers, Inc.

Mr. Henry explained the process for questions during the forum. He then turned it over to Mr. Jarobski to discuss recent planning and activities of the WPS/Town of Weston facilities team. Mr. Jarobski detailed the team's top priorities before reopening and their current protocols/procedures developed for the coming school year, noting the status of analysis and repairs to exhaust fans, windows, unit ventilators, other heating and air conditioning systems, and monitoring systems. Mr. Jarobski also discussed air filtration, efficiency controls, staff, and emergency servicing protocols.

Forum

Mr. Henry began presenting questions from the question and answer chat. Mr. Jarobski discussed control systems and fresh air circulation ratio. Mr. Salemi noted that air circulation depends on the type of system and its surroundings. He then discussed maximizing fresh air circulation and detailed why there is no set optimal level of fresh and recirculated air. Mr. Henry asked how to maximize fresh air input without damaging the system. Mr. Jarobski explained to Mr. Henry that the ventilators can be controlled, but ultimately this process will be trial and error. Mr. Jarobski then discussed the procedure for a unit failure, the possibility of adjusting classroom units daily, and the approximate percentage of the amount of fresh air allowed for each season. Mr. Jarobski then addressed classroom AC, how to introduce fresh air into a room, and exhaust fans in the bathrooms. Dr. McCanne stated the bathroom protocol was to allow one child allowed inside with a mask. Mr. Jarobski discussed the trade-off between filtering air and moving air around the classroom.

Mr. McCarty clarified that all the schools and classrooms comply with building codes. Mr. Jarobski then discussed the collection and distribution of data regarding the systems in each building and classroom. Mr. Jarobski then discussed ventilation and cleaning for bathrooms. Dr. Connolly addressed bathrooms in kindergarten rooms and protocols for all bathrooms. Mr. Jarobski discussed air changes per hour, the percentage of fresh air ventilators let in, and measuring air quality. Mr. Jarobski then explained the protocol for when a problem occurs, verification of air flow, and guidance for fresh air changes. Mr. Jarobski discussed UV light as a disinfectant, outside guidance on developing Weston protocols and communication for large issues. Mr. Henry noted school committee will make funds available to facilities in order to support all their needs.

Mr. Jarobski discussed classrooms sharing air, issues with the effectiveness of UV light as a disinfectant for air systems, and the possible cancelation of school due to temperature extremes. Dr. Connolly

confirmed that administration will close schools in extreme heat as has been done in the past. Mr. Jarowski then discussed staff responsible for closing windows after school.

Mr. Henry thanked everyone for joining and speaking at this forum. If there are any follow up questions, those can be emailed to any administration/faculty/school committee member. The email is schoolcommittee@weston.org.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 pm.

Recording of Meeting provided by Weston Media