

Weston Public Schools  
 Board of Education Special Meeting  
 Weston Middle School Library Resource Center  
 May 15, 2017

**Attendance:**

Ellen Uzenoff, Chairperson	Dr. William McKersie, Superintendent
Denise Harvey, Vice Chairperson	Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Elise Major, Secretary/Treasurer	Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel
Gina Albert	Dr. Craig Tunks, Director of Digital Learning and Innovation
Jacqueline Blechinger	Ms. Lois Pernice, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Dan McNeill	Mr. Richard Rudl, Director of Finance and Operations
Sara Spaulding	Cameron Isaacs, Student BOE Representative
	Alex Fruhbeis, Student BOE Representative

**I. CALL TO ORDER, VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

Ellen Uzenoff, Board Chairperson

**II. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**1. Matters Pertaining to Personnel**

**A. Discussion of Salary Increase for the District Medical Advisor**

**B. Discussion of Salary Increases for:**

- **Transportation/Energy Coordinator;**
- **Nursing Supervisor;**
- **Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Superintendent;**
- **Administrative Assistant for the Assistant Superintendent of Schools;**
- **Administrative Assistant for the Director of Pupil Personnel Services;**
- **Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Director of Human Resources;**
- **Administrative Assistant for the Director of Digital Learning and Innovation;**
- **Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Directors of Finance and Operations, and Facilities;**
- **Payroll and Benefits Coordinator;**
- **Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable;**
- **High School Bookkeeper;**

- **Athletic Trainer (2);**
- **Coordinator of Innovation Technology and Strategic Services;**
- **Systems Administrator;**
- **District Data Coordinator;**
- **Finance Coordinator;**
- **Board Certified Behavioral Analyst;**
- **Behavioral Specialist;**
- **Vocational Therapist;**
- **Unaffiliated Bus Aides (4); and**
- **Unaffiliated Special Education Drivers (3)**

**C. Discussion regarding matters pertaining to a leave of absence request.**

**2. Discussion of Memorandum of Understanding with AFSCME.**

### **III. RESUME PUBLIC SESSION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **IV. RECOGNITION**

**1. Mrs. Uzenoff, Board Chair, recognized Philip Schaefer for his 14 years of service to the Weston Board of Education.**

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education recognizes Philip Schaefer for 14 years of outstanding service to the students, families, and staff of Weston Public Schools. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Spaulding; all in favor. (7-0)*

**2. CABA Student Leadership Award**

Mr. Dan Doak, Weston Middle School Principal, introduced Weston Middle School students Liam Cavicchia and Chase Isaacs, and Mrs. Lisa Deorio, Weston High School Principal, introduced Weston High School students Alexander Fruhbeis and Cameron Isaacs who have been awarded Student Leadership Awards by the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education.

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education recognizes Weston Middle School students Liam Cavicchia and Chase Isaacs and Weston High School students Alexander Fruhbeis and Cameron Isaacs for being chosen to receive CABA's Student Leadership Award. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Mr. McNeill; all in favor. (7-0)*

**3. Dr. McKersie presented the 2017 CT Music Educators Association participants for All State Orchestra, All State Jazz Band, All State Concert Band, and All State Chorus.**

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education recognizes the 2017 CT Music Educators Association participants for All State Orchestra, All State Jazz Band, All State Concert Band, and All State Chorus. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Ms. Spaulding; all in favor. (7-0)*

**4. Dr. McKersie introduced Weston High School Students Sofia Bara, Lauren Rivera, and Jessica Wang, who were selected as one of the top winners in the**

**School for Ethical Education's (SEE) 2016-17 Academic Integrity Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest.**

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education recognizes Sofia Bara, Lauren Rivera, and Jessica Wang, who were selected as one of the top winners in the School for Ethical Education's (SEE) 2016-17 Academic Integrity Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Mrs. Blechinger; all in favor. (7-0)*

**5. The Board of Education honored its Student Representatives**

Dr. William McKersie, Superintendent of Schools, and Ms. Ellen Uzenoff, Board Chair, honored the 2016-2017 Board of Education Student Representatives.

*Motion: Moved that the Board of Education recognizes Cameron Isaacs and Alexander Fruhbeis for serving as the 2016-2017 Weston Board of Education Student Representatives. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Albert; all in favor. (7-0)*

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. The Board voted to approve the minutes from April 24 Executive and Regular.**

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the minutes of the April 24 Executive and Regular Session. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Spaulding; 6 in favor – Mrs. Uzenoff, Ms. Major, Ms. Spaulding, Mr. McNeill, Mrs. Blechinger, Ms. Albert; 1 abstained – Ms. Harvey. (6-0-1)*

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT-no comments**

**VII. STUDENT BOARD OF EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS**

Alex Fruhbeis mentioned that seniors are participating in their internship currently and getting ready for graduation. He mentioned how proud he is of all that was accomplished this year within Weston High School and the local community. Cameron Isaacs said having a role within the District's Board of Education was a key factor in all that they were able to accomplish this year. Having firsthand experience working with the Board of Education was extremely beneficial and thanked the Board for all they do on behalf of the school and community.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Discussion of Annual Instructional Update**

Dr. Craw, Assistant Superintendent, reviewed the Annual Instructional Update. All Curriculum Instructional Leaders presented their subject area reports to the Board Curriculum Committee at the May 10, 2017 meeting. Dr. McKersie mentioned the CIL review process that had taken place this year.

**2. Presentation of 2017 Youth Survey Report on Drugs and Alcohol**

Ms. Pernice, Director of Pupil Services, and Dr. Archie Swindell from Positive Directions, presented the 2017 Youth Survey Report on Drugs and Alcohol. The parent survey will be forthcoming. Dr. McKersie mentioned a superintendent's

wellness group, made up of area superintendents, who met to discuss coordinated efforts in providing healthy learning environments within our schools.

### **3. Introduction of Drug and Alcohol Action Plan**

Dr. McKersie, Ms. Pernice, Mrs. Deorio, and Mr. Doak introduced the Drug and Alcohol Action Plan. The Drug and Alcohol Task Force that has been assembled will be direct and purposeful with their approach by not only addressing healthy learning environments, but working to better equip students to deal with underage drinking and drug use. The Task Force will be working in collaboration with schools and community organizations to deal with issues and create solutions for our students.

### **4. Retirements**

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education notes the retirement of the following certified staff effective June 14, 2016:*

- *Steven Santora, 1.0 FTE Physical Education Teacher*  
*Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Albert; 6 in favor – Mrs. Uzenoff, Ms. Harvey, Ms. Spaulding, Mr. McNeill, Mrs. Blechinger, Ms. Albert; 1 abstained – Ms. Harvey. (6-0-1)*

### **5. Resignation**

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education notes the resignation of: Jennifer Gumpert, 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher, Kellie Haggerty, 1.0 FTE Elementary Teacher, and Alison Margo, 1.0 elementary Teacher, effective June 30, 2017. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Mr. McNeill; 6 in favor – Mrs. Uzenoff, Ms. Harvey, Ms. Spaulding, Mr. McNeill, Mrs. Blechinger, Ms. Albert; 1 abstained – Ms. Harvey. (6-0-1)*

### **6. Appointment of District Medical Advisor for 2017-2018**

#### **7. Discussion and approval of salary increases for**

- **Transportation/Energy Coordinator;**
- **Nursing Supervisor;**
- **Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Superintendent;**
- **Administrative Assistant for the Assistant Superintendent of Schools;**
- **Assistant for the Director of Pupil Personnel Services;**
- **Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Director of Human Resources;**
- **Administrative Assistant for the Director of Digital Learning and Innovation;**
- **Confidential Administrative Assistant for the Directors of Finance and Operations, and Facilities;**
- **Payroll and Benefits Coordinator;**
- **Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable;**
- **High School Bookkeeper;**

- **Athletic Trainer (2);**
- **Coordinator of Innovation Technology and Strategic Services;**
- **Systems Administrator;**
- **District Data Coordinator;**
- **Finance Coordinator;**
- **Board Certified Behavioral Analyst;**
- **Behavioral Specialist;**
- **Vocational Therapist;**
- **Unaffiliated Bus Aides (4); and**
- **Unaffiliated Special Education Drivers (3)**

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education postpones appointment of District Medical Advisor for 2017-2018 and discussion and approval of salary increases as mentioned above, until June 19, 2017 Board of Education Meeting. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Mrs. Blechinger; all in favor. (7-0)*

#### **8. Leave of Absence Request**

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves a one year leave of absence to Christine Fernandez for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Albert; all in favor. (7-0)*

#### **9. Ratify the Memorandum of Understanding between Weston Board of Education and AFSCME**

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education ratifies the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board and AFSCME as presented by the Administration. Motion by Ms. Blechinger, second by Ms. Major; all in favor. (7-0)*

#### **10. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws**

Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, provided a first reading of Weston Board of Education proposed Policy 5141.45, Child Sexual Abuse and Assault. Safe School Climate Specialists will be named in the second reading of Policy 5141.45.

#### **11. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws**

Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, provided a first reading of Weston Board of Education proposed Policy and Administrative Regulation 1257, External Defibrillators. Due to events held in the schools in the evening, a request was made to have custodians trained in external defibrillator use.

#### **12. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws**

Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, provided a first reading of Weston Board of Education proposed Policy 4253, Vacation Holidays.

#### **13. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws**

Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, provided a first reading of Weston Board of Education proposed Administrative Regulation 1411, Questioning and Arrests by Law Enforcement.

**14. Discussion and Vote on 2017-2018 Board of Education Meeting Dates**

Mrs. Ellen Uzenoff, Board Chairperson, reviewed the dates for the 2017-2018 Board meetings and changes from last year's meeting schedule.

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the proposed Board of Education meeting schedule for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Harvey; all in favor. (7-0)*

**15. Tenth FY 2017 Financial Update and Approval of Transfers**

Mr. Rudl, Director of Finance and Operations, provided a monthly financial update. Transfers were presented for approval totaling \$112,703, seven of which were in excess of \$5,000.

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves the transfers as presented by Mr. Rudl in the tenth FY 2017 financial update. Motion by Ms. Harvey, second by Ms. Blechinger; all in favor. (7-0)*

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws**

Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, provided a second reading of Weston Board of Education proposed Policy and Administrative Regulation 1312, Public Complaints.

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves proposed Policy and Administrative Regulation 1312, Public Complaints. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Mr. McNeill; all in favor. (7-0)*

**2. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws**

Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, provided a second reading of Weston Board of Education proposed Policy 4153, Family and Medical Leave.

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves proposed Policy 4153, Family and Medical Leave. Motion by Ms. Albert, second by Ms. Harvey; all in favor. (7-0)*

**3. Weston Board of Education Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws**

Mr. Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources and Internal Counsel, provided a second reading of Weston Board of Education proposed Policy and Administrative Regulation 4118.13, Disability Accommodations and Discrimination.

*Motion: Moved that the Weston Board of Education approves proposed Policy and Administrative Regulation 4118.13, Disability Accommodations and Discrimination. Motion by Ms. Major, second by Ms. Harvey; all in favor. (7-0)*

**X. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**1. District Update**

Dr. McKersie noted that the Dates to Remember document, provided to the Board, will be sent weekly. The District will hold a Realtor's Open House on May 24 at Weston High School. A new Welcome to Weston pamphlet has been generated in conjunction with the open house and will be distributed throughout the District. The Superintendent's Wellness Group met and will continue to meet, with the goal of healthy learning environments within area districts. Dr. McKersie mentioned that all Weston WOW's are now posted on the District website. He also updated the Board on the WEF board meeting, and a future brainstorming meeting with principals and administration to discuss needs going forward. Effective School Solutions (ESS) provides a monthly briefing, which will be forwarded to the Board.

## **XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 1. Communications Committee – Sara Spaulding**
- 2. Curriculum Committee – Denise Harvey**
- 3. Finance Committee – Denise Harvey**
- 4. Facilities Committee – Elise Major**
- 5. Policy Committee – Daniel McNeill**
- 6. Negotiations Committee – Ellen Uzenoff**
- 7. CES – Elise Major**
- 8. CABA – Daniel McNeill**
- 9. Weston Education Foundation – Sara Spaulding**

None of the Committees had anything to add to the written minutes that were already provided to the Board.

## **XII. WRITTEN REPORTS**

### **1. Principals' Reports**

None of the Principals had anything to add to the written reports that were already provided to the Board.

## **XIII. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

- 1. June 19, 2017 AT 7:30 P.M., with Executive Session at 6:45 P.M.**
- 2. Dr. McKersie will review pending agenda items for the next meeting.**

## **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion: Motion to adjourn by Mr. McNeill, second by Ms. Harvey; all in favor. (7-0)  
Meeting adjourned at 9:59 p.m.*

Minutes prepared by Meredith Herman, Board of Education Clerk.

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Chairman

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Secretary

Approved by the Board of Education July 17, 2017.

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