

Weston Public Schools
 Board of Education Work Session
 Weston Middle School Library Resource Center
 January 22, 2015

Attendance:

Philip Schaefer, Chairperson	Sara Spaulding
Ellen Uzenoff, Vice Chairperson	Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent
Dana Levin, Secretary/Treasurer	Dr. Kenneth Craw, Assistant Superintendent
Nina Daniel	Dr. Jo-Ann Keating, Director of Finance & Ops.
Denise Harvey	Jackson Marvin, Student Representative
Elise Major	<i>Absent:</i> Lewis Brey, Director of Human Resources

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Discussion of Long Term Planning for Facility Utilization and Possible Use of District Facilities by Town

Mr. Schaefer, Board of Education Chairperson, and Dr. Palmer, Superintendent of Schools, provided background on the reason for holding this work session, in addition to the meeting on January 20, 2015. The Board reviewed Selectman Tracey’s questions, which were submitted to the Board on January 21, 2015, and the December 23, 2014, memo submitted by the Board of Selectmen to Dr. Palmer and the Board of Education regarding facilities. Ms. Harvey and Mrs. Levin discussed data analyses they had been working on. Discussion by the Board included the desire to wall off North House as opposed to demolishing the corridor, if North House was no longer needed for educational space; the need to determine the cost benefit to altering classroom space for office space (and then reclaiming if needed), and a request to understand specific needs of the Town.

III. Questions/Comments From Public

Bob Machson, White Birch Ridge. Mr. Machson spoke in favor of the accuracy of the demographic reports and suggested the data be embraced by the Board. He requested clarification on the actual issue behind these discussions (mill rate, etc.) and Town transparency on all facilities and the cost of moving/building each.

Margaret Wirtenberg, Wilson Road. Ms. Wirtenberg spoke about her 1990s Census of Children for the Town and the inaccuracy of the State’s numbers. She volunteered her help to the Board.

Michele Tivey, Godfrey Road. Ms. Tivey spoke positively about tonight’s session and both Mr. Machson and Ms. Wirtenberg’s comments. She feels that it would be beneficial for the Town to come up with a fiscally responsible plan for what they want to do.

Helen de Keijzer, Salem Road. Ms. de Keijzer expressed the residents' support for the school system and asked that the Board think out of the box with regards to grade configurations to help keep the costs of living in Town down.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Markov, Board of Education Clerk.

Minutes reviewed/approved by Dr. Colleen Palmer, Superintendent.

DRAFT