

WESTBROOK BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday, February 26, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.
Special Meeting Minutes

MINUTES

Present: Lee Bridgewater, Sally Greaves, Michelle Palumbo, Zachary Hayden,
Don Perreault, Kim Walker, Mary Ella Luft

Absent: Dee Adorno, Jackie Lyman

Also Present: Superintendent Patricia A. Ciccone; Administrators, Taylor Wrye, Ruth
Rose, Tara Winch, Madeline Illinger, Special Services Director; Lesley
Wysocki, Business Manager; Ben Russell, Technology Specialist

I. CALL TO ORDER – The special meeting of February 26, 2019, was called to order by
Lee Bridgewater, Chair, at 7:11 p.m. in the WHS library.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. BUDGET DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP: Superintendent Patricia A. Ciccone
presented the 2019-20 budget in a PowerPoint presentation. She pointed out what
drives the budget and how the budget guidelines align with the school and budget goals.
It is a zero based budget approach, comprised of teacher requests and administrator
requests which are carefully reviewed and recommended by the Superintendent. As is
always the case, the Superintendent stated that salaries and benefits are the largest
segment of the budget. Because AFT negotiations are still pending, there is a placeholder
for that. Purchased services and Transportation figures are down as well as Supplies and
Utilities. She said there are current legislative actions that affect the budget.
Superintendent Ciccone said that she will be in Hartford on Friday for the applicable
legislative hearing on Bill (7150). The slides showed actual figures for salaries, benefits,
purchased services, transportation, tuition, supplies and equipment. This budget does
include 3 positions reflective of current student needs. Mr. Perreault pointed out the last
three years of low budget increases and questioned if our needs are being met. The
Superintendent commented that despite tight management, we have enough to support
our known needs. The Board will approve the Superintendent's proposed budget at the
March Board of Education meeting. A date for the Board of Finance presentation for
both operating budgets and CIP has not yet been confirmed by the Board of Finance. The
Board Chair expressed appreciation to Superintendent Ciccone for the excellent
presentation.

IV. ADJOURN: Moved by Zachary Hayden and seconded by Mary Ella Luft to adjourn at
7:52 p.m. Vote unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Walker, Board Secretary

Cecilia S. Lester, Board Recording Secretary