WESTBROOK BOARD OF EDUCATION
Tuesday December 9, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.
Regular Board of Education Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Maureen Westbrook, Marti White, Michelle Palumbo, Lee Bridgewater, Dee Adorno, Kim Walker, Jackie Lyman,

Absent: Marti White, Sally Greaves

Also Present: Patricia A. Ciccone, Superintendent; Tara Winch, Ruth Rose, Cori DiMaggio, Administrators; Madeline Illinger, Director of Special Education and Student Services; Lesley Wysocki, Business Manager; parents, students

I. CALL TO ORDER – The regular meeting of December 9, 2014 meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Maureen Westbrook, Chair.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. BOARD OF EDUCATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: CAPSS Superintendent Awards (Middle School) – Cori DiMaggio introduced Connor Cruz and Katie Wallace, two students from the middle school, who were recognized by the superintendent's organization, CAPSS, for leadership, scholarship, and community service. Mrs. DiMaggio spoke of the achievements and activities that earned them this recognition.

IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – Lydia Murphy reported on high school and community events including The National Honor Society induction of 19 members on November 24 at which Mr. Hale was honored by naming the Chapter after him. Mr. Becker hosted a Thanksgiving feast. Mr. Bialicki's students hosted a School Climate assembly for the freshman class on December 9th. Lydia reminded the Board of the upcoming events which include a Museum Field Trip on 12/17 to New York, WHS Music Concert on 12/19 @ 7:30; and the boys' and girls' basketball season opens this week. WHS Holiday Reception & Assembly will be on 12/23.

Tara Winch congratulated Lydia on her recognition by the world affairs Model UN. Lydia was awarded at the 2014 World Affairs Council Model UN Simulation for "Best Run Committee." Lydia is the first WHS student to be

chosen as an officer, and she led one of six committees at the two day event. Representatives from the World Affairs Council referred to her Economic Committee as efficient and professionally led, and further noted that it adhered strictly to Parliamentary procedure.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT Re: Matters of General Concern & Agenda Items: None

VI. BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP - *Motion to move agenda item to later in the meeting by Maureen Westbrook and seconded by Michelle Palumbo. Vote unanimous.*
Superintendent Ciccone conducted nominations for officers of the Board of Education. Voting for nominated candidates was done by paper ballot and the results are as follows:

Moved to open up nominations for ***Chair*** *by Pat Labbadia seconded by Lee Bridgewater. Opened discussion at 9:01 p.m. Vote unanimous. Nominated:* ***Chair: Maureen Westbrook.*** *Moved to close nominations by Pat Labbadia and seconded by Michelle Palumbo. Vote unanimous.*

Moved to open up nominations for ***Vice Chair*** *by Lee Bridgewater seconded by Pat Labbadia Opened discussion. Vote unanimous Nominated:* ***Vice Chair: Lee Bridgewater***
Moved to close nominations by Pat Labbadia and seconded by Michelle Palumbo
Vote: unanimous.

Moved to open up nominations for ***Secretary*** *by Pat Labbadia seconded by Lee Bridgewater. Opened discussion. Vote unanimous. Nominated:* ***Secretary Kim Walker***
Moved to close nominations by Lee Bridgewater seconded by Michelle Palumbo
Vote unanimous

Vote for officers: Unanimous as nominated.

VII. ADMINISTRATOR(S) COMMENTS

1. Tara Winch – NEASC/Decennial Visit Preparations - Tara successfully got dates bumped by a year to allow for new administration adjustments. Steve Albrecht is chairing the steering committee. The committee is progressing towards self study.
2. Cori DiMaggio - Grade Reform Initiative. The Superintendent spoke to the basis for district wide grade reform consistency. Cori DiMaggio spoke regarding where WMS is in regards to grading currently, and where they want to be, what variants to include and how to align those variants, as the pilot group for this initiative.
3. Ruth Rose spoke about Daisy Ingraham's Climate and Parent Engagement I nitiative. She highlighted Daisy's platform for this work in fostering positive

relationships among and between parents, staff and students. Ruth spoke about a Parent and Child Magazine article supporting Westbrook's current work in training staff in prevention and in creating an environment of restorative responses to behaviors, etc.

4. Madeline Illinger - Gifted & Talented ID & Services: Madeline Illinger reported that there are twenty-two students identified thru PSIS. Screenings take place through meetings with school psychologists. Westbrook currently has 16 gifted students, 5 talented and 1 both. Screening includes IQ for gifted above 130. These students are top academic performing students. For Talented screening, will include portfolio review. Staff and parents will be educated regarding how students are screened and what Westbrook will be doing for those students.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Curriculum presenters were introduced by Lead Curriculum (K-12) Teacher, Michele Hammond and Lead Curriculum (K-12) Administrator, Cori DiMaggio.

A. Tim Byars, WHS math teacher, presented the high school mathematics curriculum. He spoke to his work with Gerah Ventresca to coordinate the curriculum with the middle school. The curriculum aligns with the Common Core State Standards and prepares students for SBAC, PSAT's, SAT's & ACT's, and prepares students to apply Mathematics in college and in employment.

B. Presentation of Middle School Family and Consumer Science Curriculum – Linda LaBrec talked about the WMS Family and Consumer Science Curriculum in regard to creating budgets, goals, and managing resources to be successful adults. (finance/sewing/nutrition/consumerism). She provided a review of grades 5-8 and covered the goals and expectation of each year.

The Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the high school Mathematics curriculum and the middle school Family and Science Curriculum as presented. Moved by Kim Walker and seconded by Lee Bridgewater. Vote unanimous.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Enrollment: December 1, 2014 enrollment: Superintendent Ciccone reported enrollment for December is 798 in-district students and 9 out-placed, totaling 807 students.

B. Calendar 2015-16 Update: As discussed at the November BOE meeting, two options of the calendar were brought back to the December meeting. The Superintendent reported that a WEA indicated that there is not a clear consensus among teachers between Option A and B. School administrators prefer to keep the full week of February vacation.
Superintendent Ciccone recommended 185 days with 5 days of February break. *Moved by Pat Labbadia and seconded by Jackie Lyman to approve the*

recommendation for Option B which includes a full week of February break and the addition of built in days to provide for inclement weather. Vote unanimous.

C. English Language Learners (EL) background & update: The Board was informed that Westbrook has 44 students (Spanish and Portuguese predominating) who need services. Madeline Illinger presented state requirements of services, how to meet the requirements, teacher certification requirements, and Title III monies to support services. In 2014, $5000 is being spent on professional development, supplies, and resources (books for strategies) that is anticipated to increase.

D. Budget Process Update: The Board was informed that the administrators' input is completed. Maureen Westbrook set 2/10 @ 6:30 p.m. to open with the regular meeting, followed by a recess to a budget workshop.

E. China/Westbrook Exchange Update: The Superintendent reported having limited success with interest regarding the China Exchange program. Afternoon informational sessions at the library with Sara Garafolo and Ginny White will continue to try to garner interest.

X. OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Policy 3541**: Changes were made to Policy 3541 to refer to a child's grade rather than age throughout the policy and to reference the safety issue under Walking Guidelines – *Moved by Lee Bridgewater and seconded by Dee Adorno to approve the revisions to Policy 3541. Vote unanimous.*
2. **First Reading: Policy 5145.5 Suicide Prevention and Intervention:** The Policy Subcommittee reviewed language added to this policy referencing the Emergency Mobile Psychiatric Services and the role of the Student Assistance Team in referring students to Special Services and the addition of "Red Flags of Adolescent Behavior." This policy will be brought back to the Board for a second reading and vote at the January 2015 meeting.

XI. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approval of Minutes:

1. Regular Meeting – November 11, 2014. Moved by Michelle Palumbo and seconded by Pat Labbadia to approve minutes of November 11, 2014. *Vote: (Ayes) M. Westbrook, M. Palumbo, D. Adorno, K. Walker, J. Lyman, L. Bridgewater Abstained: Pat Labbadia*

2. BOE Subcommittees: *Moved to accept the subcommittees as currently stands by Kim Walker and seconded by Pat Labbadia. Vote unanimous*

XII. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

A. Review of Check Listing: Board members reviewed check listings for November 6 in the amount of $248,432.05 and on November 20 in the amount of $112,856.07.

B. Budget Narrative/Review of Expenditure Report: Mrs. Wysocki provided an overview of the budget as it stands.

C. Line Item Transfer: There were no line item transfers to report.

D. Insurance Report – Maureen Westbrook asked for more detail for the budget process regarding insurance.

XIII BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Communications: No report

B. Long Range Planning – Pat Labbadia reported that the LRP Committee reviewed the projects identified on the 2015-19 Capital Improvement Plan and discussed a draft of the 2016-2020 plan. Further discussion will occur prior to a vote by the entire Board in January. As the large bonded projects are nearing completion, future project management was contemplated. For continuity of service to Westbrook, the consensus of the Committee was to engage Roger LeFleur, now of Project Management Resource Company, LLC, on a project by project basis, as a consultant for the Board of Education.

C. Insurance- No report

D. Negotiations – The committee continues to meet and negotiations are progressing. The next meeting is scheduled for December 16.

E. PTSO Representatives – No reports

XIV. PERSONNEL: The Board was informed of two internal postings on 11/21/14:

1. Bilingual teacher or TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)
2. Tutors of Spanish Speaking Students
3. Superintendent's Goals: *Motion to move to Executive Session @ 9:16 pm by Dee Adorno and seconded by Michelle Palumbo. Vote unanimous.*

Executive Session: Superintendent Ciccone presented her annual goals and objectives for 2014-15 to the Board.

Moved by Pat Labbadia and seconded by Michelle Palumbo to move back into Regular Session at 9:38 p.m.

The Board will reconvene in January at the next Board of Education meeting after further reviewing the Superintendent's 2014-15 goals and objectives.

XV. ADJOURN: *Moved by Michelle Palumbo and seconded by Pat Labbadia to adjourn at 9:39 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Walker, Board Secretary

Cecilia S. Lester, Board Recording Clerk
Tammy Dokurno (Substitute)