

Communications Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 15, 2020 9:00 AM

Via Zoom Dial In: 346-248-7799 Passcode: 666001, 24 School Road, Weston, CT
06883-1623

I. Call to Order

II. Review Minutes

III. Website Update

IV. Revised Brochure Update

V. Discussion on Upgrading BOE Meeting Space

VI. Other Business

VII. Adjournment

Communications Committee Meeting

September 22, 2020 9:00 AM

Via Conference Call

301-715-8592

Passcode: 562569

Attendance Taken at 9:02 AM:

Present Board Members:

Ruby Hedge

Taffy Miller

Hillary Koyner

Others:

William McKersie

Daniel DiVito

1. Call to Order

Discussion:

With a quorum met, Ms. Hedge called the Communications Committee to order.

2. Review Minutes

Discussion:

The Committee reviewed the minutes and were approved.

3. WPS Website Update

Discussion:

Mr. DiVito reviewed the WPS website and spoke about the front page with the updated COVIC-19 Resources button. A subscribe button has been added so that families can subscribe to the Google calendars for the District and schools.

Mr. DiVito has been keeping a list of what items on the site need to be cleaned up or added. Currently the mobile version of the website is not working as he would like, and is working with the webmaster to fix this issue.

During the hybrid modes, it was asked if the school calendars could indicate what kind of day it is for families (blue, gold, etc.). Mr. DiVito will work with each school to see what can be added. He would also like to bring in "breadcrumbs", which shows the path you took to get to a certain page and allows you to choose where you would like to go back to, without having to select the back arrow. A home icon will be placed at the top of the website so that it is easy to navigate back to the District home page.

4. WPS COVID-19 Resources Page Update

Discussion:

The COVID-19 page is constantly being updated with information from the State as well as articles under Added Resources regarding social-emotional health.

It was asked if the buttons could be put in rows by categories, such as all the learning scenarios in one row, making it easier for everyone to find the things they are looking for.

5. Social Media Updates-Plans for Pushing Instagram, etc. Roundtable

Discussion:

A discussion was had regarding the use of Instagram and Facebook at the District level and how we can use these platforms in conjunction with the new website. Instagram would

enable us to use the photos within the website and Facebook would allow important communications on behalf of the District and schools, to be posted widely as well.

A review of the Social Media Plan 2018-2020 will be re-sent to the Committee and Dr. McKersie and Mr. DiVito.

6. WPS Marketing Material Plan

Discussion:

Dr. McKersie reviewed the WPS Yearly Marketing Material Plan which was created by Ms. Hedge last year. The plan has been updated for this year due to COVID-19 and resources not available to work on specific items outlined.

The District Brochure will be updated by October 1, 2020 and Noteworthy Achievements and Accomplishments has been moved to at least November 1, 2020.

The two high school documents have been completed. Mr. DiVito will check to see if the 2018-2019 Noteworthy Achievements and Accomplishments are on the District website.

7. Other Business-BOE Roundtable

Discussion:

Ms. Koyner asked regarding additional communications surrounding social-emotional health have been sent. Dr. McKersie mentioned that we have had some and also mentioned the great video that Ms. Skelton created. We can look to involve Ms. Edwards in communicating more social-emotional health resources to families, students and staff. Discussion amongst the Committee was had regarding how well the District has done with communications surrounding COVID-19.

The idea of having the Superintendent doing a Friday/Monday notes as a weekly rollup of things that have happened or things to know was discussed amongst the Committee. A document that would be one page and kept simple.

It was also noted how well the Zoom meetings with each of the school's Principals went and thought that more meetings of this nature versus written updates would be more helpful.

The Fall 2020 Reopening Task Force should have the same conversation regarding how they think the communications have been coming from the District and schools.

8. Adjournment

Discussion:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

Motion Passed: passed with a motion by Ruby Hedge and a second by Taffy Miller.

3 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Chairperson

Superintendent

Creating healthy learning environments is a priority across all schools. The emotional intelligence and mental health of our students is an increasingly important focus for educators. Students need to be explicitly taught the skills associated with being emotionally intelligent individuals able to understand and regulate their emotions, cope with stress and adapt to the challenges they will face entering the world and acting as global citizens. We address the social-emotional needs of our students through several carefully selected, complimentary programs: Dialectical Behavior Therapy (Mindfulness, Distress Tolerance, Emotion Regulation and Interpersonal Effectiveness), Ruler and related strategies from the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, Responsive Classroom and Positive Behavior Supports and Interventions (PBIS). In addition, Weston implemented Effective School Solutions (ESS) at the High School in 2016 to ensure direct therapeutic support for students and their families who may be struggling with emotional difficulties.

Athletics, music, the arts and theater are trademarks of Weston. Over 70% of high school students participate in our athletic program, which currently includes 65 sports teams. Weston High School encourages students to participate and excel in theater, music and other artistic endeavors. Weston Middle School, Weston Intermediate School and Hurlbutt Elementary School also have outstanding co-curricular programs, designed to complement their challenging academic programs.

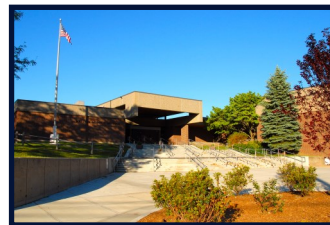


Weston is an exemplary learning community—for students and adults. Recognizing that classroom teachers are key to student success, we provide extensive professional development. Professional learning is integrated throughout the school year, including sessions fully dedicated to Weston educators sharing knowledge and best practice. Administrators and Curriculum Instructional Leaders provide continuous coaching and feedback for teachers. A particular focus is helping teachers maximize digital resources to ensure high quality teaching and connections with students, especially when the District is in a Hybrid or Distance Learning schooling mode during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Developing Critical Thinkers and Innovative Problem Solvers

Ultimately, Weston educators foster critical and creative thinking, collaboration, and the application of knowledge to real-life situations. We empower students to become innovative thinkers and problem solvers, prepared to thrive in our global society. We take pride in developing leaders, with strong minds and compassionate hearts, now and for the future.



Board of Education
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WELCOME TO WESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Empowering Each Student to Achieve Success and Contribute to our Global Society

Excellence with Compassion

Weston is an uncommon school district—in terms of student success, teaching excellence, robust academic and co-curricular offerings, and special attention to the physical, social and emotional well-being of our students. From their earliest days through graduation, Weston students are challenged and cared for by our faculty and administrators. Current and prospective families can be assured that Weston believes “connections” are essential to student success—we insist that all students are known well by many adults.

Excellence with compassion is at the heart of our professional beliefs and priorities. Intellectual rigor--using one’s mind well to solve complex problems--is of the utmost importance. At the same time, compassion is paramount; our excellent students will be the keys to a civil, just, caring nation and world, in which all people are treated with dignity and respect. The Board of Education, administration and staff are aligned in the shared goal of guiding Weston to even greater heights in its stated mission of “empowering each student to achieve success and contribute to our global society...and to serve as part of a caring and supportive community.”



A Unique Public School Setting

Located in Weston, Connecticut, a beautiful New England town in Fairfield County 45 miles north of New York City, Weston Public Schools are situated on a 117-acre wooded campus, ensuring a cohesive learning environment from PreK through 12th grade. Four schools comprise our district: Hurlbutt Elementary School (PreK-2), Weston Intermediate School (3-5), Weston Middle School (6-8), and Weston High School (9-12). Our current enrollment is 2,260 students.



Robust Opportunities for Learning

Students begin their journey with the Weston Public Schools at **Hurlbutt Elementary School** in our nurturing and caring learning environment. Engaging academics, the arts, technology and physical activity support the social, emotional and physical development of our students. Our school community aspires to educate our students toward development of foundational skills and conceptual understandings, to cultivate character, self-reflection and thoughtful behavior and to empower them to discover learning as a process. A strong home and school partnership are a key component of our mission.



Weston Intermediate School is a caring, responsive community of learners, fostering pride in each student's developing abilities. Reading and writing are taught through a workshop model (supported by Teachers College); Math-in-Focus (Singapore Math) guides math instruction; dedicated science and World Language classrooms broaden learning; student data is a guide for teachers to individualize instruction; physical education, music, theatre and art are priorities; and, many enrichment opportunities extend learning beyond the classroom.



Weston Middle School is committed to providing students with an exemplary middle level education—with dedicated teachers as critical resources to help students develop essential capacities and content knowledge to achieve at high levels. Teaming is essential to effective instruction; interdisciplinary teams share the same students for core academic subjects. Intervention and support programs are offered to ensure that all students have the content knowledge, skills and habits of mind to successfully transition to high school. Practical and fine arts augment core academic work to help develop critical thinkers, creative problem solvers and effective communicators. We also strive to meet the social-emotional needs of our students by implementing lessons from the DBT STEPS-A program in our health and guidance curriculum, which builds on the RULER approach to emotional intelligence. In addition, we offer a wide variety of co-curricular clubs and activities which allow students to further develop their skills and explore interests outside of the classroom.



Weston High School offers a rich array of required and elective courses. They include courses in English/ Language Arts, Science, Technology, Pre-Engineering, Math, Social Studies, World Languages, and Visual and Performing Arts. Innovative courses include Anatomy and Physiology, Micro Economics and Macro Economics, Computer Coding, Publication Design, and Video and Television Production. Attesting to the college readiness of its graduates, Weston High School offers an outstanding selection of Advanced Placement courses. Independent study options and a senior internship allow students to pursue personalized academic and career interests. Student-led clubs number over 60, providing students a diverse mix of opportunities for leadership, learning and service during and after school.



Making an Impact

We are proud that our school system is considered to be among the finest in Connecticut, celebrated for its excellent educational and co-curricular programs and prudent financial management. In 2019, Weston High School was one of only 35 schools recognized as a U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School at a ceremony in Washington, DC and US News and World Report ranked Weston High School as #1 comprehensive public high school in Fairfield County, #2 in Connecticut, #99 in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and #202 nationally.



All four schools contribute to a remarkable outcome statistic: approximately 94 percent of Weston High School graduates matriculate to four-year colleges. Few public school districts nationally can match this impact on their students' future lives. Looking at the Class of 2019, 38 percent of all applications submitted were accepted by "Most Competitive" and "Highly Competitive" colleges and universities. Combined SAT scores for the Class of 2020 class were 1220, with an average of 615 in English, reading and writing and , 605 in math . Weston High School also had 12 national advanced placement (AP) scholars, 60 AP scholars with distinction, 40 AP scholars with honors, and 54 AP scholars. Weston High School has also been a frequent member of the National AP District Honor Roll and ranked #1 in the state for student achievement in AP course assessments.



Districtwide Programs

For all our schools, digital learning and technology is essential. Our students must be digitally proficient to succeed in college and their careers. Beginning with our youngest learners, we integrate digital resources and skills into daily classroom experience. As technology changes the world around us, we also recognize that traditional curricula and teaching methods must adapt and evolve. In the context of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Weston educators are drawing extensively on digital tools to ensure we provide high quality teaching and student support. We intend to have the best of these new capacities and practices carry forward to the time when we return to full in-person learning.

The special education department of Weston provides a continuum of services for students who are identified with special education needs. This continuum includes differentiated instruction in the general education classroom, inclusive support from a special education teacher or paraeducator, small class instruction, and specialized programming for students with more significant disabilities. Related services are provided in the areas of speech and language, occupational therapy, physical therapy and counseling for students who qualify through their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). In addition to special education services, the district provides programs for students with 504 plans, as well as general education interventions in the areas of math and language arts.



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FOR
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TO
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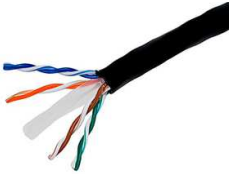

QUOTE NUMBER
21378
DATE
October 9, 2020
VALID UNTIL
February 4, 2021 at 5:40PM


Weston Middle School Board of Education Meeting Solution Camera and Microphone Upgrade

Provide an upgrade to your Camera and microphone system designed to enable networked 4 camera system with capabilities for lesson capture and wireless microphone upgrade integrated into system combining audio and ptz video. With this system you may also use presets for each camera as well as show all four cameras on the screen at the same time. Perfect for you Zoom Board of Education and School meetings especially where social distancing is now the new normal.

Electrical and Data by others including two switches setup on your network.
Please call me to go over final thoughts on placement and questions regarding this solution!

Lumens 20x Optical Zoom, 1080p Hi-Definition PTZ IP Camera, 60fps, NDI, Black The VC-A50's come with ceiling mount in box.	2,299.00 x 4 9,196.00
Camera Ceiling pole mounts	319.00 x 4 1,276.00
Lumens CaptureVision System - 4 HDMI Inputs and IP Video Source and Standard RTSP Streams	3,018.00 x 1 3,018.00
IP Camera Controller for Pan/Tilt/Zoom (PTZ) Video Cameras	1,799.00 x 1 1,799.00
Lumens VC-AC09 HDMI to USB 3.0 Capture Box	459.00 x 1 459.00

<p>Intermediate LC200 MEdia processor training with PTZ camera control training for VC- A50 PN 4 hours of total remote training split into two different two hour sessions Direct from Lumens</p>	<p>949.00 x 1 949.00</p>
<p>Smart Managed 10-Port Gigabit PoE Switch including 2 Gigabit SFP Ports, 130W PoE Budget. Warranty: Lifetime</p>	<p>195.00 x 1 195.00</p>
<p>Connectors, misc. cables and adaptors</p>	<p>189.00 x 1 189.00</p>
<p>Bulk CAT6 Cable - 1000ft, Black Solid, 550Mhz, UTP, CMR, Riser Rated, Pure Bare Copper Wire, 23AWG</p> 	<p>129.00 x 1 129.00</p>
<p>Installation Services Installation of above products by a licensed installer</p> <div data-bbox="138 1066 540 1161" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">  <p>INSTALLATION SERVICES ></p> </div>	<p>2,376.00 x 1 2,376.00</p>
<p>Audio Mic Upgrade Below Starts Here!</p>	
<p>SHURE SCM810 8ch automatic mixer 2 To Go Dante much more money!</p>	<p>1,499.00 x 2 2,998.00</p>
<p>SHURE MXWANI8 8 channel Audio Network Interface</p>	<p>1,239.00 x 2 2,478.00</p>
<p>SHURE MXWAPT8--Z10 8 ch Access Point Transceiver</p>	<p>3,398.00 x 2 6,796.00</p>
<p>SHURE MXW8--Z10 Wireless Desktop Base Transmitter</p>	<p>580.00 x 15 8,700.00</p>

SHURE MX415LP/C 15" Shock-Mounted Gooseneck Microphone	239.00 x 15 3,585.00
SHURE MXWNCS8 8 ch Networked Charging Station	1,289.48 x 4 5,157.92
Middle Atlantic BRK12-28SP (10.5") RACK, 18"DEEP Rack	381.00 x 1 381.00
CBI CAT5E-ULT-50 Cable 100% Shielded 4 Pair Neutrik	79.65 x 2 159.30
CBI CAT5E-ULT-6 100% Shielded 4 Pair Neutrik	23.12 x 2 46.24
CBI MLN-3 22ga Mic Wire - Very Flexible cable necessary	16.00 x 2 32.00
Mics Wires, connectors and adaptors for audio	189.00 x 1 189.00
Total System Design, layout and system integration	2,064.00 x 1 2,064.00
Installation Services Audio Installation of above products by a licensed installer <div data-bbox="138 1339 540 1430" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;">  INSTALLATION SERVICES > </div>	2,376.00 x 1 2,376.00
Total	\$54,548.46

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Please Note: RnB has licensed E1 Electrician on staff license # ELC.0202483-E1, should you require any electrical installation to accompany your Audio-Visual needs.

The above project is non-plenum, non-prevailing wage and electrical is to be provided by others unless otherwise specified. A walkthrough (if necessary) will be scheduled once the PO has been received by RnB Enterprises.