

WESTWOOD SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Westwood, Massachusetts

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 18, 2024**

**Attendance and Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by Chair Tony Mullin. Also present were: Maya Khuri Plotkin, Dorothy Parmelee, Amanda Phillips; and JoAnna French. Superintendent Piwowar, Assistant Superintendent Allison Borchers, and Director of Finance and Operations Lemma Jn-baptiste were present on behalf of the district.

Westwood Media Center was recognized for providing a live-stream of the meeting.

Harley Pease recorded the minutes.

**Superintendent's Report**

*Introduction of Food Service Director*

Superintendent Piwowar introduced new Food Service Director, Michael Dimascio, to the committee, and thanked Vinnie Cordon for his work for the district over the years.

*2024-2025 Calendar and Professional Development*

Superintendent Piwowar announced the dates of the 2024-2025 Professional Development days on short Wednesdays.

**Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

**School Committee Chair Update/Liaison Reports**

Chair Mullin announced that the school committee hosted a school committee community roundtable last Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, at Westwood High School. Chair Mullin announced the next one will be in March.

*Pine Hill Project Update*

Maya Plotkin announced that Pine Hill School received the temporary certificate of occupancy.

Ms. Plotkin announced there has been a small setback with the project. Ms. Plotkin also announced that there was a phase imbalance issue on the HVAC system at the Pine Hill Project during the most recent storm. Ms. Plotkin explained that if the balancing phase (through overtime work) is completed, we should still be on track for the February move in date.

Ms. Plotkin announced that the ribbon cutting ceremony will be in April 5<sup>th</sup>, (tentatively) as well as community tours.

Ms. Plotkin announced she will be giving an overview of the Pine Hill project's finances at next School Committee meeting.

*Other Liaison Reports - Planning Board Update*

JoAnna French thanked Director of Equity, Integration, and Community Partnerships Lateefah Franck and Director of Social Emotional Learning Donna Tobin for hosting an excellent Conversation with Caregivers event that occurred last week.

**Discussion Items**

*Fiscal Year'25 Budget*

Superintendent Piwowar presented the proposed FY25 budget. Superintendent Piwowar.

Supt. Piwowar shared how the budget was built which included priorities, budget drivers, and dedicated costs. Supt. Piwowar also shared enrollment considerations and how they impacted building the budget.

WESTWOOD SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Westwood, Massachusetts

Supt. Piowar detailed changes happening at the Pine Hill School with consolidation and changes to elementary specials. Supt. Piowar detailed the FY25 Capital Budget.

TEC Capital Reserve Fund

Superintendent Piowar announced to the Committee a modification to the TEC capital reserve fund. The funds can now be used in a more flexible way going forward.

**Action Items**

**MOTION** made by Maya Plotkin to approve the December 14, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Amanda Phillips.

Roll-call vote:

Anthony Mullin: **Yes**  
Amanda Phillips: **Yes**  
Maya Plotkin: **Yes**  
Dorothy Parmelee: **Yes**  
JoAnna French: **Yes**

**Result: 5-0-0 (Approved)**

**MOTION** made by Dori Parmelee to approve the Robotics Field Trip(s). Motion seconded by Maya Plotkin.

Roll-call vote:

Anthony Mullin: **Yes**  
Amanda Phillips: **Yes**  
Maya Plotkin: **Yes**  
Dorothy Parmelee: **Yes**  
JoAnna French: **Yes**

**Result: 5-0-0 (Approved)**

**MOTION** made by Amanda Phillips to approve the Mandarin Field Trip. Motion seconded by Maya Plotkin.

Roll-call vote:

Anthony Mullin: **Yes**  
Amanda Phillips: **Yes**  
Maya Plotkin: **Yes**  
Dorothy Parmelee: **Yes**  
JoAnna French: **Yes**

**Result: 5-0-0 (Approved)**

**MOTION** made by Maya Plotkin to approve a gift from the Martha Jones PTO. Motion seconded by Dori Parmelee.

Roll-call vote:

Anthony Mullin: **Yes**  
Amanda Phillips: **Yes**  
Maya Plotkin: **Yes**  
Dorothy Parmelee: **Yes**  
JoAnna French: **Yes**

WESTWOOD SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Westwood, Massachusetts

**Result: 5-0-0 (Approved)**

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Executive Session**

**MOTION** made by Maya Plotkin to go into Executive Session to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto. The Committee will NOT return to Open Session. Motion seconded by Dori Parmelee.

The Committee went into executive session at 8:22pm.

	Yea	Nea	Abstain
Mr. Mullin	x		
Mrs. Phillips	x		
Mrs. Parmelee	x		
Mrs. Plotkin	x		
Mrs. French	x		

**Result: 5-0-0**