

WESTWOOD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Westwood, Massachusetts

**MEETING MINUTES**

**December 2, 2020**

**Attendance and Call to Order**

The meeting, held remotely<sup>1</sup>, was called to order at 8:32am by Chair Carol Lewis. Also present were: Maya Plotkin, Vice Chairperson; Charles Donahue, Clerk; Anthony Mullin; and Amanda Phillips. Superintendent Emily Parks and Assistant Superintendent Allison Borchers were present on behalf of the District. John Cianciarulo recorded the minutes.

Mrs. Lewis recognized the live stream of the meeting, which was provided for real-time, public access to the activities of the School Committee. Members of the public were able to view a live stream of the meeting via the Internet at [www.westwood.k12.ma.us/live](http://www.westwood.k12.ma.us/live). Westwood Media Center also recorded the meeting for later broadcast on its platforms.

**Action Item**

**Vote to Accept In-kind Donation for Ginkgo to Provide COVID-19 Testing for Staff**

The School Committee has spent the past few months discussing COVID-19 testing. Ms. Parks reported that Ginkgo, a biotechnology company, is offering a one-time, free, COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test for K-12 school districts. There is a significant market value to this in-kind donation, necessitating a vote of the School Committee.

The district has received a high-response rate of staff that is interested in participating. The tests will be administered by school nurses and other district personnel. Medical training is not required.

Results are anticipated within 48-72 hours. The individual will receive notification of results from Ginkgo; positive results will be reported to the district’s COVID-19 nurse, Karen Poreda.

**Mr. Mullin made a motion to accept an in-kind donation for the Ginkgo testing. Mrs. Plotkin seconded.**

Roll-call vote:

Mrs. Lewis	Yes
Mrs. Plotkin	Yes
Mr. Donahue	Yes
Mr. Mullin	Yes
Mrs. Phillips	Yes

**Result: 5-0-0 (Unanimous approval)**

Mrs. Lewis thanked Ginkgo for the donation.

**Adjournment**

**Mrs. Plotkin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mullin seconded.**

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<sup>1</sup> Remote meeting held in accordance with Executive Order of Massachusetts Governor, March 12, 2020

Roll call vote:

Mrs. Lewis	Yes
Mrs. Plotkin	Yes
Mr. Donahue	Yes
Mr. Mullin	Yes
Mrs. Phillips	Yes

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:40am.

Documents/Exhibits Used at Meeting

- Memo dated November 30, 2020 from E. Parks to School Committee, regarding COVID testing donation