

June 20, 2019

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Thursday, June 20, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Multi-Service Center, Room 320. Members present were Michael Flaherty, Apryl Rossi, Laurie Spear and Mary Morgan as well as Superintendent Kimberly Shaver-Hood, Assistant Superintendent Andrea Schwamb and Recording Secretary Michelle Ruiz. Absent was member Joyce Bacchiocchi and student representative Emily Roberge.

Chair Flaherty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He stated that the meeting was being recorded by WCTV for broadcast and an audio recording by Mrs. Ruiz and anyone in the audience recording to please let the Chair know. He then held a moment of silence for the passing of Mrs. Bacchiocchi's father.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

GOOD NEWS

Dr. Shaver-Hood shared that school is out and summer CARE will be starting after the 4th of July. Parents can check on our website for information.

Chair Flaherty, at the request of Mrs. Bacchiocchi, read quote from Renneanna Dillen's valedictorian speech at graduation.

"Speaking of battles, our community has a fight of our own. Whether you're part of the DECA program, or you're a Wareham athlete in football, basketball, hockey, baseball, track, softball, field hockey, soccer, or tennis, (or even a teacher or a member of the community) you have heard the chatter of people who have stereotyped our school, town, and community. Wareham is unique because as diverse as we are, we support each other no matter what. We lift each other up in the face of adversity. And as corny as that sounds, we understand as a town how much potential we have and that we are continuing to grow and improve."

He then shared Mrs. Bacchiocchi's comments about Renneanna recognizing a stereotype placed not just on the students in our schools, but our whole community and for calling out those who have any doubt.

It was noted that Renneanna was accepted to Harvard. Principal Palladino said she was the only student in south coast accepted to Harvard.

Report of the Student Representative

Miss Roberge was not present but Chair Flaherty had a certificate to give her recognizing her service as student representative on the School Committee for the 2018-19 school year.

Minutes of the Meeting

Ms. Rossi moved to approve the minutes of May 23, 2019, seconded by Mrs. Morgan

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Request for 8th Grade Trip to Washington DC in 2020

Indiana Troupe, 8th Grade Class President, gave a recap of the 2019 trip, which was packed with activities for the student.

Principal Palladino stated that a student survey was conducted after the trip and based on the opinions of students, one change was made for a location visit. The cost is the same as last year just over \$500 and using the same travel company and tour guide. 44 students participated and hopefully, with an early approval, more students will attend allowing more time to save. Our goal is 80 students. A student slide presentation was required to tie into the curriculum upon their return.

Ms. Rossi's child attended and felt there was great communication from the school but may want to have a meeting with parents about the payments for the trip.

Ms. Rossi moved to approve the 8th Grade Trip to Washington DC in 2020 as presented, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Elementary Formative Data 2018-19

Principals Chandler & Seamans and Assistant Principal Russo presented assessment results.

Decas School:

- Reiterated the Reading Facts as previously presented by Dr. Schwamb in January and shared that our students are below the norm when entering Kindergarten and the challenges we face. For those students not getting the help at home, our social worker is working with these families and also working with staff through CARE after school.
- Research of Carrie Thurston giving us academic initiatives putting forth in the classroom
- Decas FAST Growth results fall to spring per grade
- Wareham 18-19 EOY benchmark raised average from a 3 / 4 to a 6 more than ½ of our students MET or EXCEEDED
- 18-19 K DRA scores - 18 of these students will be going to BOOST this summer
- 18-19 Gr 1 Reading DRA 4 in fall and must exit with a score of 18
- 18-19 Gr 2 results indicate current second graders are well above in the spring
- % of accelerated DRA Reading Growth 18-19 - 46.6% K; 83.2% Gr. 1; 60% Gr. 2
- Special Education/504 K-2 108 with IEP 20% of population; with 504, 12 students
- Student Support Council cases & referrals for evaluations have improved with 70% reduction using strategies
- Disciplinary Data - decrease in referrals and suspensions from 2017-18; PBIS Fidelity Check went from 85% up to 93%

The committee asked for the following information: data broken up by the subgroups; parent referral data and after the referral how many students qualified for an IEP; breakdown of suspensions by grade.

Minot Forest School:

- Grade 3 - Reading accuracy 90%; Reading broad (individually based) 69% with emphasis on vocabulary and comprehensive
- High expectations for all students - percentage of F & P Growth in FAST winter to spring 62% of 3rd graders and 45% of those made growth
- Grade 3 comparison fall to spring
- Grade 4 Reading 98% accuracy and 57% in broad; F & P Growth in FAST winter to spring 67% accelerated and 60% of those made accelerated growth
- Grade 4 comparison fall to spring – Dr. Schwamb is looking at these scores to MCAS scores
- Special Education Grades 3-4 have 86 IEPs and 19 on 504
- Disciplinary referrals went from 366 to 368 with a higher enrollment in 2018-19 but 56 suspensions down to 37
- Our PBIS Fidelity Check was 90%; Student Support Council 17-18 to 18-19 25 cases to 13 and 9 referred for evaluation to 6

DESE Comprehensive District Review

Dr. Shaver-Hood and Dr. Schwamb reviewed the findings.

Overview of CDR Standards and Definitions – The team focused on each standard - two days preparation, 4 days on site, and 2 days reviewing the data. This was an independent team hired by DESE who interviewed school and town staff and observed classrooms throughout the district.

Data/Document Analysis – The collection of documents was immense and intense and were connected to standards. They were downloaded to DESE.

- 1) Leadership and Governance: Impact - goals were set and followed; time and effort by everyone contributed spoke volumes and was noted with the interviews by DESE
- 2) Curriculum & Instruction: Impact - well defined inclusive process; district provides range of rigorous and challenging academic coursework
- 3) Assessment: Impact - organized process in place; shared for improved teaching, learning and decision-making; results collected, analyzed, and shared in an organized way with stakeholders
- 4) Human Resources & Professional Development: Impact - evaluation system; walk-throughs; effective teacher leadership encouraging teachers to positions of Department Chairs; the evaluation system prioritizes opportunities for teachers and administrators to receive high-quality feedback
- 5) Student Services: Impact - support student needs to be successful, allocated staff and programmatic resources

6) Financial & Asset Management: Impact - capital plan; town support; new school

Challenges & Areas of Growth - high chronic absence and suspension rates; high number of students choosing to enroll in other districts; not consistently engage students but commitment has shown impressive gains (2012 compared to 2018 Learning Objectives and Expectations; Student Engagement; Inclusive Practices)

DESE Recommendations - continue effective instruction; strengthen efforts to improve student attendance; focus discipline; work with town officials collaboratively; provide programs for students to be successful; be better advocates for ourselves and share what we have to offer

To address the concerns of member Mary Morgan, enlisting a liaison to help navigate the buildings allowed an increase in classroom observations from 70 in 2012 to 93 in 2018. The executive summary information on consistent school leadership in recent years and staff stability came from DESE data. Mrs. Morgan noted the Middle School had the most student engagement.

Ms. Rossi was concerned with DESE's comments on the 82.8% increase in school choice in 5 years and instruction did not consistently engage students in offering high-order thinking skills.

Chair Flaherty commented that the attendance problem started back to 2012 with an exit of students when the town lost the votes on all override articles and a feasibility study. It was then parents realized the town was not supporting its schools.

Chair Flaherty also commented on the following areas mentioned in the report:

- Wareham is "well resourced", which he did not agree.
- The chronic rates of absences in grades 6, 7 & 9 - Dr. Shaver-Hood shared that we are making every effort to improve with social workers reaching out to families and we'll have a report in the fall to share.
- "Reduce the need to rely on suspension as a response to misconduct." Principal Chandler stated that discipline is an opportunity to learn, to own up and correct the situation, restorative justice.
- The "morale is high at the schools" – great comment

Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that she had been invited to present the DESE CDR Findings to the Board of Selectmen as well and will be doing this in the future.

Acceptance of Gifts

Dr. Shaver-Hood recommended acceptance of the following gifts:

- Curriculum Leadership Center Project Grant of \$992.82 for the project "Drums Alive" to Karol Welburn at Decas School
- Healthy Start Grant of \$500 to the Minot Forest School to support the educational success of the whole child

- Ohiopyle Prints, Inc. royalty check of \$41.35 based on the sale of spirit wear to Wareham High School
- YourCause, a corporate employee giving program, of \$4.00 to Wareham High School
- A+Rewards Stop & Shop of \$486.69 to Wareham High School

Ms. Rossi moved to accept the gifts as stated, seconded by Mrs. Morgan

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Vote on Collective Bargaining Agreements

- AFSCME, Council 93, Local 30, Bus Driver - tentative agreement ratified by drivers; added steps with a 1%, 1%, 1% and difference between steps was 2% and added longevity payments.

Ms. Rossi moved to approve the Bus Drivers contract as presented, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

- WEA, Unit D, Secretaries - moved to WEA, Unit D affiliation - 3 year contract in the rear 2018-2021

Ms. Rossi moved to approve the Secretaries contract as presented, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Report of the Superintendent

- Approval of Bill and Payroll Warrants
Payroll Week Ending May 25, 2019 \$864,674.56
Payroll Week Ending June 1, 2019 \$143,144.38
Payroll Week Ending June 8, 2019 \$4,364,307.28
Payroll Week Ending June 16, 2019 \$149,776.18
Bill Warrant 5/23/19 \$331.62
Bill Warrants 5/30/19 \$147,497.15 & \$345.56
Bill Warrant 6/6/19 \$380,638.64
Bill Warrants 6/13/19 \$503.09 & \$164,518.46
Bill Warrant 6/20/19 \$1,026,360.30
Bill Warrant 6/27/19 \$305,971.61

Ms. Rossi moved to approve the Payroll and Bill Warrants as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Dr. Shaver-Hood shared that based on the voted minimum wage, the following salaries for substitutes will be in effect for the upcoming year: Permanent Intermittent Substitute Teacher \$97/day; Teachers \$92/day; Para \$87/day; Nurse \$25/hr.; Secretaries, Custodians, Cafeteria Workers, Bus Monitors \$12/hr. and Bus Drivers \$23.12/hr.

Report of the School Committee

- Chair to Announce Executive Session Minutes Appropriate for Release – Chair Flaherty announced that the executive session minutes of February 7, 2018, April 25, 2018, September 6, 2018, and September 20, 2018, were appropriate for release.

Any other business

Mrs. Morgan asked about the Data K-4 previously discussed this evening to continue onto the Middle and High School as well. Dr. Schwamb explained that this type of assessment is for K-5 only. After grade 5 there are common assessments and those assessments are compared to MCAS results.

Chair Flaherty announced that the Proclamation by the Board of Selectmen read at graduation proclaiming June 7, 2019 as the “The Class of 2019 Day” will be placed at Wareham High School in the display case.

Chair Flaherty announced that the next meeting is in August. He thanked the Assistant Superintendent for bringing more value to the table.

Executive Session

Mrs. Morgan moved to enter into executive session for the purpose of litigation Chapter 30A, Sec 21(3) and executive session minutes Chapter 30A, Sec 21(7) and to return to open session to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Spear.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

(8:59 p.m.)

Ms. Rossi moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____

List of documents:

Correspondence: Superintendent’s Newsletter, Personnel List, Notice of Vacancy, Bill & Payroll Warrants

Minutes of the Meeting May 23, 2019
Quote Speech Graduation R Dillen
8th Grade Washington DC Itinerary 2020
Formative DRA, F&P, & Growth 2018-2019 K-4
DESE District Review Report
WPS: DESE Comprehensive District Review 2012 & 2018
WPS Review of Findings 2018
EOS Foundation Grant
CLC Bridgewater State University Grant
Bus Driver Contract Proposals
CBA School Department Secretaries Association
Secretaries Tentative Agreement