A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 320 of the Multi-Service Center. Members present were Michael Flaherty, Joyce Bacchiocchi, Mary Morgan, and student member Emily Roberge as well as Superintendent Kimberly Shaver-Hood, Assistant Superintendent Andrea Schwamb, and recording secretary Michelle Ruiz. Members absent were Apryl Rossi and Laurie Spear. Ms. Rossi was being honored in her field of work and Mrs. Spear was absent due to work commitments.

Chair Flaherty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and then led the Pledge of Allegiance. He announced that the meeting was being taped for broadcast by WCTV and an audio recording by Mrs. Ruiz. If anyone else wishes to record the meeting let the chair know. Chloe Shelford, of Wareham Week, announced that she was recording the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

GOOD NEWS
None

Report of the Student Representative
Miss Roberge reported that fall sports are underway, global education has an upcoming trip to Sweden, there are 2 exchange students from China and 1 from Italy at WHS this year, more information to come on the Haunted Hallway, and WHS Open House is September 24th.

Minutes of the Meeting
Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to approve the minutes of September 5, 2019 seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to approve the minutes of September 10, 2019 seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 2; nay – 0; abstain - 1 (Mrs. Morgan)

Request for Trip to Quebec for French Students WHS
Elena Mytarkina, French teacher, requested a trip to Quebec on April 13-16, 2020, 4 days, 3 nights, approximately $730 per student. There is room for 40 students and 4 chaperones. Students under 18 do not need a passport but require special permission from school to cross the border. Food, lodging, and insurance are included in this cost. There will be a quality bus, a night monitor, fundraisers planned, and online payment by the individual student held by the organization. She distributed the trip’s itinerary.

In response to committee members’ questions, the company is based in Canada and the United States and the trip will first be offered to French students and if seats are open, for students learning Spanish as well.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to approve the Trip to Quebec as presented, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0
Acceptance of Gift
Dr. Shaver-Hood recommended acceptance of fitness equipment from Wareham Chiropractic and Wellness in Wareham to WHS for the weight room.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to accept the gift, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Discussion and Vote on Name of New Elementary School
● Project update
Dr. Shaver-Hood reported that the Building Committee met and voted to recommend to the School Committee the new elementary school be named the Wareham Elementary School, which offers neutrality, is inclusive and brings the two schools together. This name follows the similar school names in the district.

It has been suggested to name grades 3 & 4 area Minot Forest and the innovation hub John W. Decas because of the gracious support of the family to technology. Also discussed was naming the lower wing Ethel E Hammond. There will be a reflection area to honor Wareham educators who made a positive impact on children and also honor the memory of our students gone. We will bring trees, benches and other mementos with us to the new building. A committee of faculty and staff will choose the areas and identify the criteria of people to be honored.

The members discussed the proposed name of the building. Chair Flaherty stated that according to town counsel and Selectmen Chair Tropeano, the school was named The Decas School at Minot Forest. He gave a history of how this came about. On April 30, 2018 the Building Committee met with Mrs. Parola who presented her families involvement in the Decas School then recommended the school be named Decas at Minot Forest. No vote was taken. August 24, 2018 the School Committee voted to put forth an article to fund the school at town meeting to the Board of Selectmen for the warrant. On September 11, 2018 the school department made a presentation to the Board of Selectmen, who then voted on the warrant article after the School Committee left. Chair Tropeano said the article needed a title Decas School at Minot Forest was what they decided. However, no vote was taken by the School Committee on a name. Now this is the name of the school according to town counsel. There has been lots of confusion since then.

Since the School Committee policy requires a ⅔ vote on naming a building, Chair Flaherty announced that a vote will be taken at the next meeting when more members are present.

At the School Building Committee meeting on Monday evening, September 16, 2019, both names were discussed and it was a 15-3 vote to recommend to name the school Wareham Elementary School and bring this recommendation to the School Committee.

Chair Flaherty then read into the record the correspondence from Bill Chamberlain dated July 31, 2019.

Hi Mr. Flaherty, my grandfather, William Decas, donated funds for the construction of the John W. Decas elementary school. I know that a new school is being constructed to combine the John W. Decas and Minot Forest School and that the school committee has not officially named the new school. I want to express my thoughts that my grandfather donated the funds to honor his only son who was killed during World War II. It seems as if most people, including myself, refer to the John W. Decas school as the “Decas” school. I want to make it clear that the school was not named after the Decas family. Please
consider this when the committee decides on the name of the new school. It should also be noted that my mother, Georgia Chamberlain, donated funds to support the library at the school to support education and to honor her brother. I believe there is a tree and maybe a stone to honor my mother's gift, I hope you would consider that when the school is vacated. Bill Chamberlain

Chair Flaherty stated that he felt the name on the article is not honoring the original intent of the John W. Decas School. He then read an excerpt from the article “Wareham voters to answer $90 million school question on Nov. 6” stating the new school was tentatively named the Decas School at Minot Forest.

Chair Flaherty stated that Town Counsel informed him the name needs to be voted at Town Meeting next April.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi stated she did not see this (naming buildings at Town Meeting) in the Town Charter and hopes Town Counsel will point this out to the School Committee.

- Proprietary Systems Vote
Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that bids are opened to match the specs in the bid document. If something is very similar in a bid and it’s the low price, we must take that bid. We can specify a certain item and make it a proprietary system if voted as such by the School Committee. We would like the cameras at the new elementary school to be the same as the ones at Middle and High so we can interface.

The electrical engineers recommended to the School Building Committee that the video security and access control system at the new elementary school be proprietary so the system remains per the manufacturer's listing and is able to communicate with the existing district system. The Building Committee approved this request.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the video security and access control system at the new elementary school be proprietary, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

The Superintendent announced that Minot is an active worksite and no one can go on the site. Signs are posted.

**FY21 Budget Timeline**
Dr. Shaver-Hood reviewed the FY21 Budget Timeline which follows last year’s timeline. The all-day budget meeting is November 5th, the budget presentation is November 21st, the Public Hearing is December 12th, and the School Committee vote on the budget is December 19th. This timeline follows Town Charter.

**Presentation and Vote on Superintendent’s Goals for 2019-20**
Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that she took her goals as discussed at the workshop meeting and made adjustments. The goals are:
#1 - continue to develop and support the district’s capital plan
#2 - work collaboratively with administrator and staff to improve academic and social outcomes for all students
#3 - work with stakeholders increase the employees’ emotional intelligence to impact all stakeholders
#4 - enhance their connections to families and the community
Chair Flaherty stated that the Committee will take a vote on the goals when we have a full committee.

**Report of the Superintendent**

- **Approval of Bill and Payroll Warrants** - Under MGL Chapter 41, Section 56 committees must approve bills or payment warrants by majority vote at a meeting subject to the Open Meeting Law.
  
  Payroll Week Ending August 31, 2019 $2,806.31  
  Bill Warrant 8/29/19 $1,410.00  
  Bill Warrant 9/12/19 $392,029.56  
  Payroll Week Ending September 7, 2019 $130,023.49  
  Payroll Week Ending September 14, 2019 $901,471.13

  Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to approve the payroll and bill warrants, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

  **VOTE:** yeas – 3; nays – 0; abstain - 0

- **Warrant Article(s)** - Dr. Shaver-Hood wanted to make the Committee aware of a change to the warrant article voted on at a previous meeting. She added Chromebooks for $423.88 and this amended article was brought to the Board of Selectmen who voted to place it on the town meeting warrant.

  Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to approve the amended article, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

  **VOTE:** yeas – 3; nays – 0; abstain - 0

- **Capital Update**
  
  Dr. Shaver-Hood read a list of completed projects done over the summer at the High School, Middle School, Decas School, Transportation and Fields and Grounds (the list will be placed on the website).

  She read the list of continued projects - resurfacing track; fields grounds mower replacements; snow removal equipment; fire control panel at WHS; lighting board in Auditorium; replacement textbooks; exterior doors at WHS; HVAC at WHS/Middle; textbooks at WMS; buses and vans; Palmer field

  It was noted that water bubblers are replaced with bottle fillers. The Superintendent has attended Capital Planning meetings and that committee is very supportive.

- **Dr. Shaver-Hood announced that China schools are working with our preschool. China will be sending young students/parents to Wareham. PreSchool Coordinator, Anne Marie Fillion, will be leaving with the Superintendent to work with their staff on professional development with our teachers. For our work China will be making a $10,000 donation to our Global Ed fund each year for three years for a total of $30,000. Wareham students will be able to apply for this scholarship to be used for a global education trip and based on a rubric score, a determination will be made for an award.

- **MCAS Schedule** - Dr. Schwamb informed the Committee that on September 24th the embargo will be lifted and she asked the press to talk with the district before publication of any results. On September 30th the parent/guardian report will be received. A presentation on the MCAS Results will be made to the School Committee on October 3rd.

- **Budget Report** - Dr. Shaver-Hood gave a line-item FY20 budget report for the committee to review. She noted that some lines are in the negative and noted is the reason. The Committee will receive similar reports in the future.
Report of the School Committee
Mrs. Bacchiocchi stated that the Operating Protocols was signed by four members last year. If members did not want to sign it, perhaps the committee can look at this again.

Chair Flaherty stated that Mrs. Bacchiocchi can ask to have this on an agenda.

Policy Review Committee – The first meeting is on October 7th. These meetings are public and we are looking for parent volunteers.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi stated, “the superintendent’s goals are not the school committee goals” and perhaps the school committee should have its own goals.

Chair Flaherty asked isn’t the strategic plan the school committee’s goals?

Dr. Schwamb responded that the strategic plan is the district’s plan but the committee can create its own goals from the strategic plan as this is what all stakeholders in the system currently do.

Any other business
Dr. Schwamb thanked Dr. Shaver-Hood for all of her work in the business office, carrying two jobs now and stated that we are in phenomenal shape.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: __________________________________________

List of documents:
Correspondence: Superintendent’s newsletter, Personnel list, Notice of vacancy, Bill & Payroll warrants
Minutes of the Meeting September 5, 2019 and September 10, 2019
Request for Trip to Quebec
Donation Fitness Equipment WHS
Naming & Dedication of Rooms/Buildings Policy
FY21 Budget Development Timeline
Superintendent’s Goals 2019-20
Warrant Article(s)
Capital Items – September 19, 2019
FY20 Budget – September