

February 7, 2019

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 320 of the Multi-Service Center. Members present were Joyce Bacchiocchi, Mary Morgan, Michael Flaherty, Laurie Spear, Geoff Swett and Student Representative Emily Roberge as well as Superintendent Kimberly Shaver-Hood, Assistant Superintendent Andrea Schwamb and Recording Secretary Michelle Ruiz.

Chair Bacchiocchi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She led the Pledge of Allegiance. She announced that the meeting is being taped for broadcast by WCTV and an audio recording by Mrs. Ruiz.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

GOOD NEWS

Dr. Shaver-Hood announced the following upcoming events: PTA meeting February 12 at Decas School; Wareham Middle School High Honor Roll Breakfast February 14; February Vacation break is the 18th-22nd. She also shared that CPC awarded the schools a grant of \$200,000 to resurface the track and she will be meeting with the Board of Selectmen.

Chair Bacchiocchi welcomed Geoff Swett as member of the Committee for the next two months.

Mr. Swett thanked the School Committee and Board of Selectmen for their support of this two-month appointment.

Report of the Student Representative

Emily shared that spring sports begin mid-March and the High School students will be making a lip dub.

Minutes of the Meeting

Mr. Flaherty moved to approve the minutes of January 17, 2019 and January 24, 2019, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 1 (Mr. Swett)

A Day in the Life of a Middle School Student

Some students in Grades 5, 6 and 7 worked with teacher Mrs. Dever to create a video about a day in the life of a middle school student. Eight of the students were present and introduced themselves. The video was shown and committee members had an opportunity to ask questions and comment. The students were thanked for coming to the meeting and sharing.

Obsolete Equipment Lists

Mr. Flaherty moved the recommendation of the Superintendent to declare the following items as obsolete: list of broken/incomplete musical instruments at Minot Forest School and a

minuteman floor scrubber, two walk behind floor shampooers, and large shelves at the Middle School, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Dr. Shaver-Hood asked if there was any interest in the obsolete equipment to contact her. In response to Chair Bacchiocchi's question about what was being done to save sentimental items at Minot for the new school, Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that items have been identified i.e., pictures, plaque, time capsule, and some trees. We will find a place of honor in the new building.

Mrs. Morgan also suggested the sign A Place To Grow donated by Pam Schluter.

Acceptance of Gifts

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

- \$1,000 from Dicks Sporting Goods to WHS Athletic Department
- School supplies from Atlantic Motel to Wareham Middle School
- Pans and kitchen tools from Plymouth County Club to WHS Culinary Department
- \$50 for Kids Food Drive and \$234 donated by WHS Boys' Basketball Team and the Cheerleaders food drive for the STAGE Weekend Backpack Program
- Cape Cod 5 Mini Grants to our teachers (\$4,939)

Mr. Flaherty noted the many items donated to the culinary department over the years.

Chair Bacchiocchi thanked Cape Cod 5 as a valuable partner to the schools

Mr. Flaherty move to approve the recommendation of the superintendent to accept the gifts, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Mr. Swett announced that next month Cape Cod 5 will be conducting the Credit For Life program for our high school seniors.

Report of the Assistant Superintendent

Formative Assessment Report K-4

Dr. Schwamb and Principal Seamans and Principal Chandler presented the formative assessment results. The data has been collected and analyzed. We are two years in and finding ways to reach and teach all students. We are open to learning and advancing instruction.

- 6 Reading Facts - FAST immediate feedback since 2014 - learning to read is a science

- 3 Challenges - time for instruction - balancing other elements - changing current practices
- CSS Consulting with Carrie Thurston is providing the necessary interventions
- Results – comparisons of PreK participation on Kindergarten measures - student knowledge at the start of Kindergarten charts in Phonics - lower case and upper case

Questions and comments from members:

Increase the survey to delineate special needs and perhaps students in other area preschools, not just Wareham school district.

If we need more time for literacy, let us address this need through our budget.

The fact that reading is a science challenges integrating the neurological element into the literacy. If 7.5% of students had no preschool experience what are the demographics of these students and could these student be from surrounding preschools.

- K DRA Fall to Winter graph and K FAST Growth - where on the graphs are the 11 students who were retained in the fall?
- Grade 1 DRA chart Fall to Winter – Principal Chandler stated that the teachers need more help and we have added two paras, the PTA will be purchasing more readers, and we began implementing new training exercises recommended by CSS Consulting. A factor with teachers is working on trust within the 90-minute literacy groups. The Priority 1 & 2 groups in Grade 1 have 41 students (1 teacher w/para for 20 kids then broken out into flexible groups) The Committee asked for data on how many students can get out of the struggling groups.
- Grade 1 FAST Growth
- Grade 2 DRA Fall to Winter - this was the first group in Kindergarten
- Grade 2 FAST Growth
- K-2 Special Education & Discipline Referrals (2 years) - 38 to 25 sped referrals and 307 to 225 in discipline referrals from 17-18 to 18-19
27% of students in Wareham are on IEPs compared to the state at 17%. There was a 34% decrease from last year in sped referrals.
The Committee asked to delineate the 25 referrals by teachers and/or parents and how many of the 25 qualified for services.
Principal Chandler noted that discipline is a judgment and we are more refined with definitions.
- Grade 3 F&P chart – It was noted that the further along in a grade the more difficult to affect growth but many of these students are at average to above. Would it be helpful to look at data from the end of grade 2 to the beginning of grade 3?
- Grade 4 F&P chart – We are making a concerted effort in fluency. It would be interesting to see if these students attended our summer program or not.
- Grade 4 FAST Growth
- Grades 3-4 Special Education & Discipline Referrals (2 years)
- Goal 90% Proficient by the end of the school year in DRA and F&P. We are looking at what we need to do to maintain and continue to move forward from December to June.

To address the concern of Kindergarten from 90% to 68% proficiency, Principal Chandler stated that teams changed this year with different dynamics. She believed the June data would show improvement.

- 16-17, 17-18 and 18-19 charts of growth and norm for Kindergarten, grade 1, and grade 2 benchmarks

Dr. Shaver-Hood thanked Dr. Schwamb, the Principals and the teachers for their work as evidenced with this presentation.

Report of the Business Manager

Monthly Financial Report – Ms. Owen presented the financial report for December 1, 2018 - January 30, 2019. The report included a summary page by major categories – budget; expenditures; ending balance; % expended with FY18 and FY19 comparisons. \$6.2 million is available to the end of June. Areas of concern are Minot building slightly over due to shift and HS supplies account over but was cut in FY19. Special education tuition is coming down and there is a slight freeze on spending. We are watching the requests for expenditures.

In response to committee's questions the 6.5% spent by Jr./Sr. Coop, some salaries come out of school choice funds and the day school comes out of HS budget salaries. \$20,000 in East account is for electric, water for sprinkler system and custodian weekly checks of the building. We are still looking to lease the building but it must be for educational use. The accounts encumbered are salaries, special education tuitions and monthly charges. The reduction in special education tuitions was explained by Ms. Fay as using grant money for some tuitions and not for positions, hired positions instead of spending for contracted services, and also bringing students back into our system. The transportation fee is offsetting some costs this year in the transportation account.

Report of the Superintendent

- Approval of Bill and Payroll Warrants

Payroll Week Ending January 12, 2019 \$156,457.05

Payroll Week Ending January 19, 2019 \$908,291.62

Payroll Week Ending January 26, 2019 \$142,923.87

Payroll Week Ending February 2, 2019 \$861,320.03

Bill Warrants 1/8/19 \$1,070.59 & \$30.00

Bill Warrant 1/12/19 \$3,285.64

Bill Warrants 1/24/19 \$400,870.91 & \$1,001,363.23

Bill Warrant 1/26/19 \$4,199.17

Bill Warrant 1/31/19 \$291,529.84

Bill Warrant 2/2/19 \$2,428.40

Bill Warrant 2/9/19 \$9,976.32

Bill Warrant 2/14/19 \$103,274.68

Mr. Swett moved to approve the warrants as listed, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

- The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has notified us that WHS was selected to participate in the 2019 behavior survey. Information will be going out to parents/guardians.
- We have a new Middle School Principal. Mrs. Tracie Cote has accepted the position.

Report of the School Committee

- The January Policy Review Committee was postponed.
- The Legislature Breakfast is tomorrow if you want to attend. Mr. Swett will attend and report back to the members.
- School Building Committee – Mr. Swett reported that detail work is now being done with experts i.e., security, energy, design, etc. We will be addressing air conditioning in the building. The project is on schedule and below budget with a grand opening in late 2021. The school has not been named yet and the School Committee is the entity to make this decision. The Chair would like the architect and project manager to report to the School Committee at an upcoming meeting.

Any other business - None

Mrs. Morgan moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____

List of documents:

Correspondence: Superintendent's Newsletter, Personnel List, Notice of Vacancy, Bill and Payroll Warrants

Minutes – January 17, 2019 & January 24, 2019

Minot Forest Instruments Obsolete

WPS: Formative DRA, F&P & Growth 2018-2019 Grades K-4

FY19 WPS Financial Review December 1, 2018 – January 30, 2019