

October 25, 2018

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Thursday, October 25, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Service Center, Room 320. Members present were Joyce Bacchiocchi, Mary Morgan, Laurie Spear, Michael Flaherty and student representative Emily Roberge as well as Superintendent Kimberly Shaver-Hood, Assistant Superintendent Andrea Schwamb and recording secretary Michelle Ruiz. Absent was member Rebekah Pratt.

Chair Bacchiocchi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Shaver-Hood recognized retired teacher, Ronnie Oliver, who passed away last week. Instead of a moment of silence, Mary Morgan played the song "Who Let the Dogs Out" as this was a song he would play.

Chair Bacchiocchi announced the meeting was being taped for broadcast by WCTV and an audio recording by Mrs. Ruiz.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizen Rhonda Veugen made a statement seeking support on Tuesday, November 6th to vote Yes on Question 4. She thanked the School Committee, the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee and others for their support leading up to today. We need to talk about the need and the opportunity Wareham cannot pass up. There is information on the district website. The state will match our investment. So she urged a Yes vote for our community and our future.

GOOD NEWS

Superintendent Shaver-Hood invited student Indiana Troupe to share his good news. Indiana briefly explained his involvement with Fuel Up for Play 60 and how at this summer's Student Ambassador Summit he won the grant for mobile desks.

Chair Bacchiocchi shared about the Red Ribbon Night with the community coming together; she thanked those who supported us at town meeting and the cooperation between town boards; she recognized the hard work for all staff and informed the staff that on October 31st, early release day, the Committee will sponsor a luncheon to thank and celebrate all the hard work.

Dr. Shaver-Hood sent congratulations to the Volleyball Team for its win and Field Hockey, Soccer, and Football teams as well as all fall athletes.

Emily Roberge shared that the Sophomores field trip to local colleges went well today.

Minutes of the Meeting

October 4, 2018 - one change was made to the spelling of a name

Mr. Flaherty asked to have the discussion on each individual's vote for each resolution under Report of the School Committee.

Chair Bacchiocchi stated that she had announced that she would be seeking a consensus and not a vote.

Mr. Flaherty stated that he was uncomfortable with not having the individual members opinions noted.

Mr. Flaherty moved to table the approval of the minutes until the next meeting when comments can be put in the minutes, seconded Mrs. Morgan.

yea – 3; nay - 1 (Mrs. Spear); abstain - 0

Update on Elementary Building Project

Dr. Shaver-Hood thanked everyone who came out to vote at Town Meeting and stated that now comes the time to make a decision. She urged people if they have questions to go to the website or call to get their questions answered in order to make an informed decision. Please vote. Early voting is open.

Acceptance of Gifts

- Four Ergotron Standing desks for WHS won by student Indiana Troupe at the Fuel Up to Play 60 2018 Student Ambassador Summit he attended over the summer
- Non-perishable and canned goods donated by Geoff Worrell of Wareham to the STAGE Weekend Backpack Program for Middle and Minot students

Mr. Flaherty moved acceptance of both gifts as recommended, seconded by Mrs. Morgan

yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

CATCH e-cig - CNN, Edutopia and CNBC

Health Teacher Harriette Sullivan at Minot and Middle School gave a presentation. Her vaping lessons have been picked up on CNN and CNBC and Edutopia. She is speaking at conferences and providing professional development and there will be an article in Reuters. She shared part of her presentation when she goes to conferences including:

- Physical, social, mental, and emotional health
- Working with CATCH Global Foundation
- Ingredients - Addiction - Advertising - Flavorings & refusal skills
- Pyramid
- Advocate for health classes and major issues facing students today - stress, anxiety, bullying, depression, suicide, obesity and diabetes, violence, drug abuse and addiction, STI's - all effect academics
- Refusal skills 5th and 7th graders and other areas of discussion
- Wrote grant to obtain copies of the book "Your Fantastic Elastic Brain" for 3rd graders

The Committee thanked Mrs. Sullivan for the presentation and for having these discussions with our students.

MTA Resolution for Funding our Future

WEA Vice President Michele LeFrancois formally requested the School Committee to sign and pass the resolution supporting the MTA's new initiative Fund our Future. Massachusetts is underfunding education. In 1993 the foundation budget was set and in 2003 the state no longer is using their own formula. The funding for our schools must be fixed, modified, or changed. The estimated deficit in Wareham is over \$2 million. In July 2018, new legislation was brought forward but did not make it to the state for a vote. We want to bring this issue to the forefront and have legislation in the spring 2019 again. Full funding public education is our hope for all communities. Mrs. LeFrancois read the resolution (see list of documents).

Mr. Flaherty moved to support the resolution, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Request for 8th Grade Class Trip to Washington D.C.

Principal Palladino, Assistant Principal Freitas, and student Indiana Troupe requested a class trip to Washington DC for experiential learning. This is an optional student field trip from March 31 - April 3, 2019. The 8th graders were surveyed and 87% of the students expressed interest. The cost would be \$599 per student with 1 chaperone for every 10 students.

Principal Palladino stated that he has quotes from four companies at this time and the price includes all expenses. There is a full itinerary included. Indiana shared one of the fundraising ideas.

The Washington DC trip for 8th graders was a tradition they wished to bring back.

Mrs. Spear moved to approve the request for an 8th Grade Class Trip to Washington D.C., seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Strategic and School Improvement Plans

Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that prior to presenting each improvement plan a video will be shown on what is happening in the building.

Chair Bacchiocchi thanked the administrators, council members and Dr. Schwamb for their work.

Dr. Schwamb presented the WPS 2021 Annual Report. Members received this document on October 4th and is available on the district website. Our WHY is passion, to positively impact those we serve, and provide the best possible education for the children of Wareham - Every Student Every Day. She thanked all who worked on this plan WPS 2021. The plan is fluid with data driven decisions based on surveys and collaboration.

Decas School - Principal Chandler and Assistant Principal Russo reviewed the Goals and Action Steps for 2018-19:

Scholarship-Learning

Student Agency & Voice

Scholarship-Teaching

Content Knowledge

Pedagogy and Learning

Scholarship-Assessment and Accountability

Staff Knowledge and Readiness

Leadership & Citizenship-Culture

Establishes Environment of Student Agency

Building a Trusting, Safe and Supportive Environment

Principal Chandler thanked the teachers, school council, leadership team and student services team.

In answer to members' questions, the changes came through listening and forming sub committees. Also noted was embracing literacy, mathematics, PBIS team, and positivity and great climate in the building. The 2nd grade teachers were amazed with the skill level of the students coming into 3rd grade who began with the Boost program.

Minot Forest School - Principal Seamans and Assistant Principals Murphy and Ponte thanked the staff, school council and department chairs shared with the Middle School. They presented the Goals and Action Steps for 2018-19:

Scholarship-Learning

Student Voice

Scholarship - Teaching

Pedagogy and Learning

Distributed Leadership

Leadership & Citizenship

Establishes an Environment of Student Agency

Stewardship

Environmental/Physical

In answer to members' questions, they are working towards innovation, pairing up students with middle school students, and using the library to open in December. The morning meetings have been successful as well as adapting from a 3-teacher team to a 2-teacher team.

Discussion on data test results DRA included accelerated growth at 117 from fall to winter but winter to spring drops to 56 or 40%. The issue may be FAST is given right after MCAS but this is being studied.

Dr. Schwamb reported that some of the data was revised because she used the early accountability data from the state then the state released numbers to the public that were different.

Mr. Flaherty commented on the 3rd grade Math MCAS results exceeding with the new test and that 2nd graders were prepared for the 3rd grade test.

Dr. Schwamb stated that the English MCAS results were overall phenomenal. She is not sure how the state is going to measure this data between the legacy test vs new test.

Middle School – Interim Principal Cote and Assistant Principals Ponte and LeFavor along with Department Chairs Sue Taber, Bonnie Lasorsa, Lisa Breese, Katherine Fraine, and Andrea Erickson presented the Goals, Action Steps & Analysis for 2018-19. Ms. Cote thanked members of the school council for attending.

Scholarship-Learning

Student Voice

Scholarship - Teaching

Pedagogy & Learning

Scholarship-Accountability & Assessment

Planning & Implementation

Assessment Tools

Leadership & Citizenship -Culture

Builds a Collective Vision

Establishes an Environment of Student Agency

In answer to members' questions, the middle years IB program is an all or nothing proposition. We have been a candidate school for the last 3 years, now a partnership in grades 6-10.

Chair Bacchiocchi asked members to come back at another meeting for a presentation on project lead the way. She was impressed with the community service projects, the positive improvements in the surveys and the plans to manage student behavior.

In response to discipline concerns, Principal Cote stated that we have non-negotiables as a collective vision. Her #1 priority is not accepting disruption in the classroom by having a child removed from class, have counselors available, hold parent meetings, and set expectations and constantly remind students of the expectations through the Viking Block and PBIS lessons.

Mr. Flaherty commented on the 5th Grade MCAS results going from 1% exceeding in 16-17 to 2% exceeding in 17-18.

Principal Cote stated that being positive with staff and having them love their jobs results in positive student behavior, having only 24 referrals and 5 out school suspensions in September.

Wareham High School – Principal Palladino, Assistant Principal Freitas, along with Department Chairs Brent Ruter, Andrea Cannon, Kim Cavicchi, Amy Dion, and Michael Murray reported on the 2018-19 WHS & Coop Goals, Action Steps & Analysis. Principal Palladino thanked his staff, department heads, and school council.

Scholarship - Learning

Student Voice

Scholarship - Teaching

Pedagogy & Learning

Scholarship: Assessment & Accountability

Staff Knowledge and Readiness

Distributive Leadership

Create an Environment of Agency

In answer to members' questions, the 8th graders into the high school are doing great and we have interventions for the small group of students who are struggling. The dropout rate being down is due to having an alternative program in the district and giving students other options rather than dropping out.

Mrs. Morgan commented on special needs students and the Cooperative School not in the presentation at all nor its principal listed on the report. She asked how many special education students are in the IB program and dual enrollment.

Principal Palladino stated that the special needs students are involved in everything done at the high school and he will get the numbers regarding IB and dual enrollment.

Mr. Flaherty commented on the disconnect of staff survey results with all the success; an all legacy MCAS comparison; math scores in the last 3 years exceeding; and the high school being a good school with plenty of great students.

In response to the cost of the IB tests, the cost is the same as AP tests with a Title IV grant to subsidize the cost to students.

Report of the Superintendent

- Approval of Bills and Payroll Warrants
Payroll Week ending October 6, 2018 \$131,512.73

Payroll Week ending October 13, 2018 \$846,688.21
Payroll Week ending October 20, 2018 \$149,467.03
Bill Warrant 10/18/18 \$3,211.48; \$391,881.80; \$4,940.25
Bill Warrant 10/25/18 \$4,021.50

Mr. Flaherty moved to approve the bill and payroll warrants as presented, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

- Oct 31st early dismissal with professional development for staff
- Nov 2nd term closes at WHS
- Nov 5th grades close at Wareham Middle School
- Nov 6th - all day budget workshop for School Committee
- Next week bus safety drills

Report of the School Committee

- MASC Voting Delegate – Chair Bacchiocchi stated that due to a change we need to appoint a new delegate. Mr. Flaherty agreed to be the delegate and Mrs. Bacchiocchi will be alternate.
- Cape Cod Collaborative - Mr. Flaherty reported that he had attended the Cape Cod Collaborative regular meeting and a finance meeting. He will send the agendas and minutes to the members.
- Policy Review Committee – A meeting was held on Monday evening with a 13-member subcommittee. A report will be on our next agenda.

Any other business

None

The next regular meeting is in three weeks November 15 and we will be in WMS Auditorium due to the number of people invited to attend.

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

yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____

List of documents:

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

Minutes of the Meeting – October 4, 2018

Request for Washington DC Trip

Fund Our Future

WPS 2021: Strategic & School Improvement Plans