

Wareham School Committee
February 16, 2023

The Acting Chair (Joyce Bacchiocchi) called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., and announced there was a quorum of three members.

Attendance: Joyce Bacchiocchi, Apryl Rossi and Brennan McKiernan, Dr. Matthew D'Andrea, Dr. Andrea Schwamb, and Jamie Wiksten, recording secretary.

Absent: Kevin Brogioli, Geoff Swett.

(Acting Chair Bacchiocchi)

Public Participation:

Lynn Peterson, Paraprofessional for 18 years in the district, is assigned as a BOOST paraprofessional. Ms. Peterson explained that the teachers she works with assign her to the lowest level learners, and claimed she works with more students than a Special Education Teacher. She defined herself a co-teacher.

Deanna Semple, WEA President, shared that she feels the former Superintendent and School Committee, supported a budget recklessly. The budget was created so poorly., not keeping paraprofessional negotiations in mind. She read a message that was handed to her asking about the new positions that have been created in the district, and began speaking to the District Administrator salaries. Ms. Bacchiocchi interrupted Ms. Semple, as she was addressing personnel information that should not be discussed in a public meeting.

Marilyn Ramsey, paraprofessional, shared that she could quit her job now, become a custodian, and make \$3 more per hour.

Mary Nielsen, Paraprofessional, compared the lyrics of a Beatles song to the life of a paraprofessional.

Lara Schofield, Paraprofessional at the High School. She shared the difficulties of working with her population. She believes in her profession, and the support she provides her students, as a tool and thread between the student and the teacher.

Business Report:

Ms. Flynn shared the January Financial Report, pointing out the utilities, transportation, tuition, and fuel costs. Any other tuitions are now paid out the circuit breaker account and will be applying for extraordinary relief.

The Acting Chair asked about extraordinary relief. Ms. Flynn responded that between filing for the claim, and changes in the district needs, the relief would be reopened if there is a greater need in the district claim from the previous year, as students register into the district that were not budgeted for.

Budget Transfer:

Student Services Home Instruction is coded as a salary for our employees. We discovered it is not coded correctly, and should be marked as contract service for tutoring for outside providers.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the budget transfer, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 3, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 3-0-0

The second transfer is for WES utilities from instructional services. \$145,000 was budgeted, and to date, there has been a transfer of \$135,000, without knowing what the new building expenses would be.

Ms. Rossi asked about the High School and Middle School and why the new efficient building is costing so much. Ms. Flynn responded that everything is so automated, and the smart boards are constantly running and come into play, and the Middle and High School, we will be able to stay within the confines of the budgets for the building.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the budget transfer, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 3, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 3-0-0

CMVS 1%

Dr. D'Andrea shared that Greenfield and TECCA are the two public online virtual schools. Currently, Wareham has a total of 13 students enrolled. The school committee has voted in the past at 1%, and feels it would be in the best interest to stay at 1%.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the budget transfer, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 3, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 3-0-0

Article for Spring Town Warrant

Dr. D'Andrea shared that \$35,711.00 has been submitted to the town from McKinney Vento. The article would be a transfer to the School Department.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the article, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 3, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 3-0-0

PASS: Evening School Semester II Update:

Jane Fondulis provided an update, and informed the committee that 8 students completed their requirements to graduate in June, and there is a total of 32 students.

She shared that she has implemented a financial literacy program, including an investment program.

The Acting Chair asked if 32 students is a low number, and Ms. Fondulis shared that covid impacted the program. Ms. Fondulis also shared that the program is housed in the High School now and it is working out well.

Ms. Fondulis shared there are five 5 School Choice students in the program.

Superintendent's Report:

The Superintendent asked the committee to approve the bill and payroll warrants as listed in the Superintendent's Newsletter

Ms. Rossi made a made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 3, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 3-0-0

School Committee:

Ms. Rossi shared that she will hold the Library Policy until the next meeting.

Policy: Entrance Age:

Ms. Chandler spoke sharing Massachusetts' common start date for kindergarten is August 31st, and asked the district to change our start date from October 1 date to August 31.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the policy as amended, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 3, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 3-0-0

Policy: Concussion Policy:

Ms. Rossi shared that “PreK” was added and to add “school and sports related injury”

The Acting Chair mentioned grade 13.

Mr. McKiernan made a motion to accept the policy, adding grade 13 to the policy, seconded by Ms. Rossi

Roll Call Vote: Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 3, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 3-0-0

Policy: AIDS:

No changes.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the policy, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 3, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 3-0-0

Ms. Rossi made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McKiernan

Roll Call Vote: Joyce Bacchiocchi – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Brennan McKiernan - yea

Yea – 3, Nay – 0 Abstain – 0

VOTE: 3-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ken Byler", is written over a horizontal line.