

March 28, 2018

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Members present were Judy Caporiccio, Joyce Bacchiocchi, Geoff Swett, Laurie Spear, Mary Morgan and student representative, Jamie Read as well as Superintendent Kimberly Shaver-Hood and recording secretary, Michelle Ruiz.

Chair Caporiccio called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She announced that the meeting was being taped for live broadcast by WCTV and an audio recording by Mrs. Ruiz.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brian Fitzgerald joined Deanna Semple of the Wareham Education Association, who commented on the upcoming budget vote. She stated that the School Committee's job is to meet the needs of the students and should vote on the budget amount needed not on the budget amount given by the town manager. The fear town meeting can cut the budget is where we are now; it is worth a try. Speaking as a Wareham taxpayer and for the WEA Board, why would parents have confidence in a school system if its School Committee will not fight for the budget originally asked for by administration.

GOOD NEWS

Vice-Chair Swett thanked Chair Caporiccio for her service to the Committee and gave her a plaque. Her last meeting is tonight by her choice. She has been unselfish with her time and did the job for education and her passion for children, parents and taxpayers of the town. She has demonstrated an unusual level of dedication and always came prepared for a discussion at every meeting.

Ms. Caporiccio stated she has enjoyed her time on the Committee and has been in education all her life. She loves Wareham and still will be volunteering in town. She has enjoyed working with central office staff and the dedicated staff in our school district.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood reported that CNN will be at Wareham Middle School tomorrow to tape a lesson being taught by Mrs. Harriette Sullivan on the effects of e-cigarettes for a documentary.

Dr. Shaver-Hood congratulated WHS DECA students on their success at the 2018 State Conference and congratulated high school teachers, Janine Goulet and Susan Nobrega, for their service to DECA.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi shared the happenings she attended throughout the district: STEAM Night at Decas filled with families tonight; staff basketball game last evening; Middle School play was an amazing show; Credit for Life Fair by Cape Cod 5 at WHS; DECA Home Show was successful and our kids do a great job running the event.

Chair Caporiccio announced that this past weekend she was part of Wareham's Global Education Team, which presented at the ASCD International Conference in Boston. Our team received great feedback and kudos to the school district for this program.

Minutes of the Meeting

Mr. Swett moved to approve the minutes of February 28, 2018, seconded by Mrs. Spear.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Student Advisory Committee

Students Lizzie Ruiz and Jasmine Black spoke about the happenings at WHS: spring sports started last week; National Honor Society Induction next Monday; MCAS testing this week; a planned school walkout but we had a snow day; feedback from survey about our plans.

Mrs. Morgan asked if another day is planned and whether the students would consider instead of a walkout what about a walkup, when students walk up to someone and give compliments.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi stated that the School Council had spoken about another day for the walkout and noted that the Key Club puts sticky notes on student lockers with positive comments.

In response to Mr. Swett's question if a walkout was civil disobedience, Lizzie stated it was worth it because of what it stands for; the point of the walkout is to show support and walk out during school when school shootings take place.

Principal Palladino shared that the students had the walkout pre-planned so it was not civil disobedience and the administration was aware of the plan and adjusted the schedule.

Jasmine responded to Mr. Swett's question of the walkout being a political statement as well by asking the students to participate only if you really believe in it.

Chair Caporiccio asked what accomplishment are you most proud of this past year.

Lizzie was most proud that the outdoor classroom is in motion and is a unique way of teaching and learning.

Athletic Winter Season Report

Principal Palladino thanked Ed Rodrigues and Sandy Barboza for their detailed athletic reports each season.

Mr. Rodrigues highlighted the teams' accomplishments:

- Both boys and girls basketball teams qualified for the state tournament
- Ice Hockey team showed great improvement and was awarded the Boston Bruins Award for demonstrating outstanding sportsmanship

- Girls Basketball Team was recognized by MIAA for their outstanding community service
- Girls Track team won the conference sportsmanship award
- Track teams had two conference champions, Brad Harunkiewicz for shot put and Taylor Gerbig for high jump, both broke school records

It was noted that membership dues for track is a conference fee to use inside facilities and their trainer.

Request to Compete in KSA Tournament

Ben Kaeterle, Girls Volleyball Coach, requested approval for the team to compete once again in the KSA Tournament in Disney World August 28 - September 1, 2018. There are 12 students, 2 coaches, and 2 chaperones and will fundraise all costs.

Mr. Rodrigues stated that the team raised 100% of the money last year and the tournament takes place during pre-season time, complying with MIAA rules.

Mr. Swett moved approval of the request as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Spear.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Global Education Request for Trip Revision

Joe Marcus, ELL Teacher, standing in for Matt Stanton, trip organizer who could not be present this evening, requested approval for a change of venue due to lack of interest in Brazil. The trip is now a 9-day trip to Eastern Europe offered through Lingo Tours.

In answer to concerns from committee members, there must be a minimum of 10 students and no maximum limit; every student will know about the trip; a chaperone ratio of 1:6; and any parents attending who are not chaperones will pay their cost.

Regarding safety concerns, Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that the Global Education team did research and re-evaluated the trip to Brazil. This trip was part of a student exchange with Dr. Steedman's former school.

Mr. Marcus stated that there are scholarships available to students. Set amounts of scholarships are available to all students. A committee reviews a student's essay and determines the awards.

The Committee wanted more information on the scholarship award procedure as Mr. Swett felt the scholarship was a significant benefit with a subjective process.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to accept the change in the trip as presented, seconded by Mrs. Spear.

VOTE: yea - 3; nay - 2 (Swett; Morgan); abstain - 0

FY19 Budget Presentation and Vote

Mr. MacMillan distributed to members an updated presentation of the budget since the public hearing.

- Budget priorities
- Level service budget was \$30,913,679
- Voted budget is \$29,413,679
- \$28,800,679 is being considered now
- 1st round staff reductions -12 FTE; leadership restructuring -2 FTE; Close Minot temporary measure with building project underway -16 FTE and non-staff savings and savings to town for new building if go ahead is given
- Projected Enrollments
- Transportation savings and other options being explored

Mr. MacMillan then reviewed proposed options if Minot Forest School is not closed: up to 15 FTE additional positions reduced with larger class sizes; Kindergarten to half day only -5 FTE; reduce athletic program; reduce transportation services offered.

The concerns and questions Mrs. Morgan had were addressed as follows:

If Minot is closed and a new school does not pass we would look at other options, but Minot needs a lot of work. The cost of moving is budgeted at \$50,000 and includes the needs of the preschool including a site for a playground. Even though the budget is in dire straits, we still need an increase for substitutes in order to recruit and eventually safety concerns. Due to a reduction in our enrollment, we are held harmless and changing Kindergarten to half time will not affect our Chapter 70 aid. The principal salary and IB candidacy program for the Middle School remain in the budget. The restructuring will include deans and coordinators in order for curriculum development and evaluations.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi thanked Mr. MacMillan for the extraordinary amount of work he did and commented that no one wants to close Minot but with such a large gap we now see options and can understand why this plan was suggested.

Mr. Swett reviewed Plan B, which requires a layoff of more staff raising class size; eliminating the advantage of full-day Kindergarten; eliminating some of our athletic program; and making it more difficult for students to get to school. In response to the remark made during public comment, it is true the School Committee gives the town a budget number; but never in 12 years has that budget number happened. Town meeting does not vote on fixed costs or revenue so the original budget number will be a grossly unbalanced budget leading to town departments competing for the available dollars. Our proposed budget is now \$400,000 above what the Town Administrator gave to the Board of Selectmen but somehow the Town Administrator found these funds.

Dr. Shaver-Hood gave thanks to Mr. MacMillan, the budget subcommittee, and the other members for their questions in this process. We have a hard working staff who will pull together. We have visited the elementary schools and shared the options. Plans to close Minot will continue our

support for children. She noted that 25% of the students at WHS are special education so their budget costs are higher.

Mrs. Bacchiocchi stated that it was up to the Committee to educate people on opening a new school.

Chair Caporiccio stated because an alternate plan was presented tonight, the members should give careful consideration so she would like to have vote on which plan in two weeks; however, the amount of the budget will not change. A vote on the budget was scheduled this evening in order to give the amount to the Finance Committee.

It was noted that if the Committee votes on the FY19 budget this evening, major account dollars will not be fixed until the School Committee determines a method of achievement.

The Committee agreed that a full budget was needed prior to a vote.

Mr. Swett moved to table the budget vote to the next School Committee meeting, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

(Miss Read left the meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m.)

Report of the Business Manager

Monthly Expenditure - January and February - Mr. MacMillan referenced out of district and transportation expenditures; circuit breaker funds for transportation have been earmarked.

Transfers - maintenance grounds to maintenance of buildings and equipment

Mr. Swett noted that short-term subs was in the positive. He asked the amount being spent when using teachers to cover others teacher absences. Mr. MacMillan agreed that perhaps this amount should be include in this line item, if possible.

Mr. Swett moved approval of two transfers as requested, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Acceptance of Gifts

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

- \$1,000 from Cape Cod 5 to WHS for the Credit for Life Fair

Mrs. Morgan moved acceptance of the gift, seconded by Mrs. Spear.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

- Mini Grant Awards by the Wareham Middle & High School PTA to provide financial support needed to expand academic learning outside the confines of the classroom to: Steve Rumbolt, Christine Cinelli, Charlene Dineen, Deans - \$750.00 for the Top 10 Percent Dinner; Heidi Foley, Teacher - \$173.77 to purchase items for Life Skills/Young Adult Program; William Trial, Teacher - \$250.00 to start a Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu after school program; John Flynn, Teacher - \$250.00 for printing costs associated with The Viking Times newspaper; John Sousa, Teacher - \$50.00 to purchase items for the summer SAIL Class of Fishing
- \$1,760 value of items to the fine arts department at WHS from community member Louise Martling: a Canon Digital Rebel DS6041 Camera and a Canon Digital Rebel XTi Camera; Art Supply Kits; a Maestro XG Standard Digital Mini-Baby Grand Piano
- Monetary donations of \$140, gift cards valuing \$634.75 and other services/merchandise valued at \$402 totaling \$1,176.75 from sponsors of the WMS Science Fair as per the enclosed list.
- YourCause, a corporate employee giving program at AT&T, donation of \$2 to Wareham High School
- \$292.32 from Judy Caporiccio to Wareham Global Education

Mr. Swett moved approval to accept the gifts as recommended, seconded by Mrs. Spear.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Superintendent's Report

Approval of Bills and Payroll Warrants - The committee agreed to waive the reading of the warrant numbers.

Mr. Swett moved approval of the warrants as printed in the Superintendent's report, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

School Committee Reports

Recommendations from Policy Review Committee - Mrs. Bacchiocchi presented the changes to the policies.

Advanced Studies Program - no change

Mr. Swett moved approval to the policy Advanced Studies Program as presented, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Hiring - language added reflecting new law. Dr. Shaver-Hood also asked to add "marital status" to the policy as reflected in the town policy.

Mr. Swett moved to amend the Hiring policy to include marital status, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Textbook Selection and Adoption - 2nd paragraph Assistant Superintendent replaced Director of Curriculum.

Mr. Swett moved approval of the Textbook Selection and Adoption policy, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Any other business

Mrs. Caporiccio stated that she had not mentioned previously that she enjoyed working with the committee members and Mrs. Ruiz. Being this was her last meeting, she wanted to address the following issues:

- 1) The Superintendent's contract was renewed at the right time according to her contract; the attorney was consulted and everything was done legally. There was no impropriety involved as stated on a blog.
- 2) The School Committee accused of being blind in making budget reductions is inaccurate. A lot of work has gone into this process and members will deliberate another two weeks before taking a final vote.
- 3) Members have been called out on social media on threats in the schools. It is illegal for the School Committee to say anything and not the role of the committee. People are appalled with what is seen on social media. This misinformation is dragging our schools down. The solution is for residents to come to meetings or email School Committee members to be fully informed and be part of the solution.

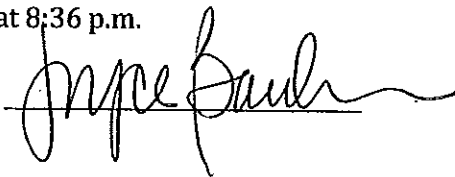
Ms. Caporiccio thanked everyone for allowing her to serve over the last three years.

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

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

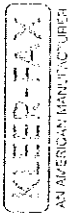
The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



List of documents:

Correspondence: Superintendent's Newsletter, Personnel List, Notice of Vacancies



Minutes of the Meeting February 28, 2018

WHS Athletic Department Winter Report 2018

April 2019 Lingo Tours Enchanting Eastern Europe

WPS - FY 19 Budget Presentation, March 23, 2018 DRAFT and Update; Line Item Budget DRAFT

WPS Monthly Expenditure Report - January and February

WPS Financial Report Transfer Requests

Cape Cod 5 Donation

WMS Science Fair Donors

Advanced Studies Program

Hiring

Textbook Selection and Adoption