

June 22, 2016

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, June 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Members present were Mel Lazarus, Geoff Swett, Mary Morgan, Cliff Sylvia and student representative Jamie Read as well as Superintendent Shaver-Hood and recording secretary, Mrs. Ruiz. Absent was member Judy Caporiccio.

Chair Lazarus called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. He announced that the meeting was being taped for audio and video by WCTV and was being recorded for audio by Mrs. Ruiz.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

John Sousa, Teacher at WHS, responded to the anonymous letter which was printed in the newspaper. He was in support of our schools and administration. Good teachers are not leaving, and the administration is approachable, caring and professional. This type of letter creates a metaphorical cloud surrounding our students and we should focus on the positive. Our students are some of the best. The letter should have been signed and he does not want to be placed under this letter.

Henry St. Julien, as a resident of the town and parent, echoed Mr. Sousa's remarks and as for him, he did not want his name under this letter. Dr. Shaver-Hood's door is always open.

GOOD NEWS

Mrs. Morgan - attended the 8th grade promotion ceremony which was well organized

Jamie Read - the Key Club raised over \$600 with a car wash

Dr. Sylvia - announced that Mr. Swett was chosen volunteer of the year by the YMCA

Dr. Shaver-Hood - announced the preliminary approval of free/reduced lunch/breakfast at all our schools and meals will be offered during the summer. She then introduced new Middle School Principal, Dr. Peter Steedman.

Dr. Steedman stated that he started on Monday and was welcomed by an amazing community and was excited to be here.

Minutes of the Meeting

Dr. Sylvia moved acceptance of the minutes of June 8, 2016, as presented, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea - 3; nay - 0; abstain - 1 (Mr. Lazarus)

School Improvement Plans

Dr. Schwamb stated that the process of the School Improvement Plans began with a presentation and approval of the Strategic Plan in April. A rubric was used to grade each school and then schools began their Plans. She read the vision statement.

Wareham High School - Principal Palladino

Scholarship - 1:1 technology with all students; digital portfolios for freshmen and sophomores

Mrs. Morgan would have liked the plan to show how the high school is addressing the struggling learners.

Mr. Palladino stated that he has increased the number of teachers; there is a freshman program for those struggling and we offer a CORE program.

Regarding a protocol for students taking home chrome books, they will be treated like textbook with a replacement cost. Also a family has the option to purchase insurance.

Leadership - IB Program; training of staff and we are in the process of approval; more IB instructional strategies will be used by those who have been trained

There was discussion on the cost of the IB Program. The program is grant funded for years one and two and the largest expense is front loaded and then spread out in multiple years. 15% of the staff has been trained and after November 8th, 100% will be trained.

Citizenship - safety policy was approved with the ALICE Protocol and we will be utilizing advisory time to present and do dry runs for staff and students; installed the latest technology in surveillance; purchased scanners and added an internet line for security; will engage students more in the democratic process with class election participation

Dr. Sylvia suggested a student leadership team as a tremendous outlet for building citizenship and a solid school community.

Mr. Palladino stated that the high school has a leadership roundtable now.

Stewardship - resources to maintain strategic plan and identify capital needs; competitive bidding

In answer to Mrs. Morgan's question about the Cooperative School for next year, Mr. Palladino stated that it will be a school within a school with an assigned administrator and its own classroom and support with electives.

Mrs. Morgan stated that if the Cooperative was its own school, shouldn't it have a School Improvement Plan?

Wareham Middle School - Principal Steedman

The goal of the middle school is to have students ready for the rigor of high school with differentiating instruction by observation, school climate, and chrome books to students

There were comments from committee members on a very comprehensive plan with measurement of collecting and analyzing data and the role of technology in differential instruction to engage the students at the level needed.

Scholarship - learning with academic rigor, relevance to our students, and relationships for students to grow - student centered experience; accountability and assessment

There were comments on the importance of relationships in the middle school as a key for learning and participation and measuring again and again as a way for progress.

Leadership & Culture - outside opportunities and a diversity of clubs. A Faculty Leadership Council (FLC) will be formed to meet regularly to talk about at-risk students, curriculum, and safety and to develop a common language.

Dr. Schwamb will give Mrs. Morgan the documents she referenced earlier with the names of the people who participated in developing the plans. It was stated that the School Improvement Plans are the action part of the strategic plan.

Chair Lazarus thanked Dr. Steedman for working so diligently in a short period of time with his administrative team.

Minot Forest School - Principal Seamans

Teaching & Learning - increasing student engagement; peer communication; exemplary work; blended learning model and team teaching in grades 3 and 4; case management meetings; school-wide programs; collaboration amongst teachers built into next year's schedule

Scholarship - Accountability & Assessment - FAST 3x year data for progress monitoring - Title I Teacher push in model to teams

Members commented favorably on the use of the Title I Teacher into the classroom

Dr. Schwamb explained that a team of five staff will be attending professional development sessions to learn the competency model.

Leadership & Culture - Jr. Achievement; expand blended learning model; partnership with Beijing, China; developing a student council with principal's advisory council

Stewardship/Infrastructure - building committee formed; July 9th demolition of portables

John W. Decas School - Principal Noonan

Teaching & Learning - Focus K2 program with training of teachers and ongoing professional development, it's a project based learning program for kindergarteners; Focus K2 is a three year plan being rolled out.

There was discussion on school readiness for incoming kindergarten students. In order to close the gap, assessments are being done, team teaching to meet students' needs, and outreach to students in preschool programs within the community.

Scholarship - Assessment & Accountability - 1:1 chrome books grade 2; carts for K and 1; professional development in technology for teachers; PTA fun run approximately \$40,000 was raised; reflection surveys for students

There was discussion on the necessity of parent connection for a positive school experience and whether attendance in preschool showed an increase in achievement.

(Miss Read left the meeting 8:27 p.m.)

Leadership & Citizenship - a memorandum of agreement with a school in Beijing China; community connections; safe, supportive environment for students; consultation model; social thinking; school-wide common language; social/emotional learning committee; opportunities for students to do community service next year

Discussed was a district-wide expectation for parents to be part of the solution when working with students needing social and academic assistance as well as engaging the assistance of outside agencies.

Stewardship - new boiler and roof project

Mr. Swett moved to accept the School Improvement Plans, seconded by Mrs. Morgan

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Vote on Collective Bargaining Agreement - Unit C Paraprofessionals

Dr. Shaver-Hood presented the memorandum of agreement for Unit C, which was voted by the Union. It is a three year agreement at 2.5%, 2.5%, and 3%. It also addresses speech assistants into the bargaining unit.

Mr. Swett moved the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the collective bargaining agreement for Unit C, Paraprofessionals as presented in the MOA, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Student Handbooks for 2016-2017

District Handbook - Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that the major changes refer to updated policies approved during school year.

Mr. Swett moved approval of the District Handbook for 2016-17, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

Dr. Sylvia asked to go through all the changes before voting, so Mr. Swett withdrew his motion and Mrs. Morgan, her second.

WHS Code of Conduct - Principal Palladino reviewed all the changes being made to the handbook. There were questions and comments by members.

Mr. Swett moved approval of the W HS Code of Conduct Handbook for 2016-17 as presented, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Elementary Handbook - Mrs. Seamans and Mrs. Noonan reviewed the changes, most were formatting issues.

There were questions and comments from members. It was agreed to keep "5% or 9 school days" language on page 8 and change the title back to Administrator of Special Education on page 9.

Dr. Sylvia moved to accept the changes to the elementary handbook for 2016-17 as presented and agreed upon, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Dr. Sylvia moved approval of the changes as presented to the District Handbook for 2016-17, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Acceptance of Gifts

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

- a) \$790.70 from Stop and Shop A Plus Bonus Program to Minot Forest School

Mr. Swett moved acceptance, seconded by Dr. Sylvia

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

- b) \$425.08 from Stop and Shop A Plus Bonus Program to Wareham High School

Dr. Sylvia moved acceptance, seconded by Mr. Swett

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

- c) WHS Class of 2014 class gift of \$19,902.10 for stone/cement paths from the locker room doors to the sidewalk, plants/flowers/shrubs, 1-2 park benches and a sign on Viking Drive placed at the curve right after the middle school.

Mr. Swett moved acceptance, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

- d) WHS Class of 2015 class gift of \$8,952.52 for a bench and garden in front of the school in honor of deceased class member, Chris Dorne, and gym equipment for the weight room to benefit gym classes.

Mr. Swett moved acceptance, seconded by Dr. Sylvia.

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Superintendent's Report - None

School Committee Reports - None

Any other business

Dr. Sylvia requested that the Chair place on an upcoming meeting the report printed in the newspaper about suspension report data from the state for a discussion by the committee and what we will do about it.

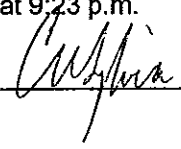
Chair Lazarus asked for this item to be on the agenda.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that the report represents data for the past three years. We are currently looking into this data and she has a conference call on July 6th with the state. She will be happy to place this item on the agenda when appropriate.

Dr. Sylvia moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: 

List of documents:

Correspondence: Notice of Vacancy; Personnel List; Superintendent's Newsletter
SIP 2016-17 Presentation
School Improvement Plans 2016-17
Changes to District Handbook & DRAFT District Handbook 2016-17
Changes to the Student Code of Conduct June 2016
Student Code of Conduct 2016-17 WHS
Elementary Handbook Changes & Elementary Handbook 2016-17
Gifts Minot Forest, Class of 2014, Class of 2015
Memorandum of Agreement - WSC and WEA, Unit C

RECEIVED

JUL 11 2016

TOYIN O. HAPERAM
TOYIN CLERK