

September 6, 2017

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Members present were Judy Caporiccio, Geoff Swett, Mary Morgan, Laurie Spear, Joyce Bacchiocchi and student representative Jamie Read as well as Superintendent Dr. Shaver-Hood and recording secretary Michelle Ruiz.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

GOOD NEWS

The good news shared by members included a great start to the new school year, excitement at the staff opening, and the talk around town about the bus karaoke video.

Dr. Shaver-Hood thanked everyone for their efforts in getting the schools ready with a shout out to the food service department in the high school for the decorations, painting, and new furniture in the cafeteria.

Presentation of Plaque for Service - Dr. Steedman thanked Maureen Reber for her 33 years of service as a teacher. He read statements from two of Mrs. Reber's colleagues, Cynthia Bliss and Valerie Johnson, about her dedication to the children. Dr. Shaver-Hood then presented Mrs. Reber with a retirement plaque.

Minutes of the Meeting

Mrs. Spear moved to approve the minutes of August 23, 2017, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

Assistant Superintendent's Report

2017 Summer Boost Data - Decas Assistant Principal JoAnn Gibbs reported on the 20-day summer boost program attended by students who were chosen based on testing data and recommendations from teachers. This was an intense literacy program to prepare students for 1st grade.

Jenifer Medeiros and Darlene McQuade were the teachers and described the program. They reported that teachers are already seeing the results of this rigorous and fast-paced program. They reviewed the skills and strategies taught the kids and the centers offered. Carrie Thurston, the consultant, had reviewed the classroom data and established a plan for them to follow. A chart was shared showing the skills assessed for the 24 students involved in the program.

Based on questions from Committee members it was reported:

- There will be a 26-day fall boost program for incoming students based on spring screening.
- The first grade program built by Carrie Thurston will continue with these students and teachers have received the end of year data. We have also added para support for literacy time and there will be training for all K-4 teachers.

- Carrie Thurston combined these known best practices into a regimen for our teachers to deliver to our students
- Expectations and standards for our students have risen over the past 20 years
- Funding for the program is from the CARE grant and professional development funds

Dr. Shaver-Hood shared that she had received positive comments from parents and that their children enjoyed coming to school in the summer. She thanked the staff for their professionalism with these children on the first day lockdown. Keeping this program going is a high priority and we will look at its carryover with academics and discipline.

Director of Student Service's Report

Melissa Fay's report included current student statistics; new developments with out-of-district placements; new in Student Services will be bi-weekly meetings all sped building administrators and team facilitators and attendance at the Special Education South Summit in October; mid-cycle review visit the end of September; 2 Occupational Therapy Assistant Interns and 2 Occupational Therapy Interns this year; Special Education Parent Advisory Council information

In response to questions from members 504 students fall under student services but generally are regular education students with an accommodation plan, and does not involve specialized instruction; 27% of students identified with disabilities is very high; the 3 students transitioned back into our schools are at the Middle, High, and Decas and we are working with teams for strong transition plans to return 4 more students for the 2018/19 school year.

Amend 2017-18 School Calendar

Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that the state released a late date for high school ELA MCAS and Dr. Schwamb has spoken with the WEA. She recommended changing the early release day in March to Monday, March 12, 2018.

Mr. Swett moved the recommendation to amend the school calendar, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

Approval of Articles for October Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. MacMillan presented two articles:

- 1) McKinney-Vento – The town receives money from the state for transportation of homeless and this article asks for these funds to be placed in our transportation revolving account. We are receiving less of a percentage from the state for reimbursement but we are also transporting less students.

Mr. Swett moved approval of the article as presented, seconded by Mrs. Spear.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

- 2) Special Education Stabilization Fund - as part of the budget development process this year, it was proposed to create this fund as a reserve for unanticipated costs for transportation or tuition of special education students. The Town Administrator proposed to transfer \$200,000 into this fund from free

cash. The Board of Selectmen has reviewed and approved this article contingent on a vote by the School Committee. A sufficient reserve would double this amount.
Mr. Swett moved approval of the article as presented, seconded by Mrs. Spear.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

MSBA Minot Project Designer Selection Panel Committee Nominee and Vote

Mr. MacMillan announced that the owner's project manager, PMA Consultants, has been appointed and now we need to appoint a designer. The appointment of a designer is overseen and run by the state MSBA office. Wareham may send up to three people to sit on the designer selection panel – the Superintendent, the Town Administrator, and a designee of the School Committee. The panel will meet the end of September and once in October in Boston.

Mr. Swett nominated our chair, Judy Caporiccio, to be our representative on the designer selection panel committee, seconded by Mrs. Spear.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

Survey Adult Education

Chair Caporiccio reported that a press release has gone out from the Wareham Public Schools asking local residents of Wareham and surrounding towns if they are interested in taking college credit or adult courses and/or offer a course to continue their education in our district. The offerings will be in the evenings and possibly on Saturdays. The survey will be on the Wareham school and town websites until September 30th. We will partner with a college once we find out interest and become a site; cost for courses to be determined.

Superintendent's Report

- o September 18th PTA Meeting at Minot Forest
- o Day one student enrollment was 2,375
- o October 5th Public Forum at WMS Auditorium conducted by the Superintendent

Approval of Bills and Payroll Warrants

Payroll 8/26/17 \$114,588.96

Payroll 9/2/17 \$808,074.69

Mrs. Spear moved to approve the payroll warrants, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

Bill Warrant 9/7/17 \$80,269.54

Bill Warrant 9/14/17 \$30,732.11

Mr. Swett moved to approve the bill warrants, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

At the next meeting Mr. MacMillan and Mr. Palladino will have reports.

School Committee Reports

Chair Caporiccio asked that Mr. Peter Balzarini continue to serve on the Nye Scholarship Selection Committee.

Mr. Swett moved to endorse the re-nomination of Peter Balzarini, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

Chair Caporiccio announced a change in the School Committee meeting date calendar from October 4 & 18 to October 11 & 25.

Chair Caporiccio appointed Joyce Bacchiocchi as Chair of the Policy Review Committee for 2017-18.

Any other business

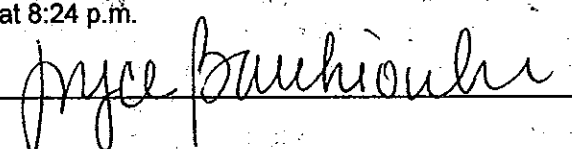
None

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

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

**List of documents:**

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

Minutes of the Meeting August 23, 2017

2017 Summer Boost Data – Decas Elementary School

Office of Student Services Monthly Report

School Calendar 2017-2018

Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Payroll and Bill Warrants