

School Committee Meeting
September 30, 2021

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Multi Service Center, 48 Marion Rd.

Call to Order/Roll Call:

Present from School Committee: Joyce Bacchiocchi, Geoff Swett, Kevin Brogioli, and Apryl Rossi and Mary Morgan. Also present, Dr. Kimberly Shaver-Hood, Superintendent, Dr. Andrea Schwamb, Assistant Superintendent, and Jamie Wiksten, Recording Secretary. The meeting was recorded, broadcast and streamed live by WCTV.

The Chair lead us in the pledge of allegiance

No Public Participation.

Senior Privileges:

Mr. Palladino asked for an approval for senior privileges. He explained that good attendance, good GPA, and student debt must be paid, and the student must have parent approval. Deans and the Librarian monitor senior privileges and supervise the seniors. It is a tradition that has been in place and is taken seriously.

Ms. Rossi asked what the senior privileges entail. Mr. Palladino explained that seniors are allowed to take seven courses, and the eighth class period is assigned to the library. Seniors can sign out for this period. That is the only privileges. If the criteria is not met, privileges are removed.

Mr. Swett asked if the program is unique to other districts. Mr. Palladino responded that every school has different privileges for seniors. Some schools have areas designated areas for the seniors and some schools don't have anything in place.

The Chair mentioned that she is not a fan of senior privileges but there are not that many rewards for their hard work and this is one of them.

Ms. Morgan wished the students would utilize the period for college prep.

Mr. Palladino stated there is a small percentage of students who leave the building. The majority of students remain in the library.

Mr. Swett moved to approve senior privileges for the Class of 2022 as described by Mr. Palladino, seconded by Ms. Rossi.

Roll Call Vote:

Geoff Swett– yea, Kevin Brogioli –yea, Mary Morgan – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Chair Bacchiocchi – nay.

yea – 4, nay – 1, abstain - 0

VOTE: 4-1-0

Wareham Athletics Review and Discussion:
Ed Rodrigues and Scott Palladino

The Athletic Director and Mr. Palladino gave a recap of FALL II and Spring Season. Mr. Palladino commended Mr. Rodrigues for his hard work through covid, and it is nice to have some normalcy for the students. He thanked Even Wilga, Jeannine Alexander, and Dave Brogioli for supporting the sporting events, allowing for multiple events to take place at the same time.

Masks and control is not easy. Mr. Rodrigues was pleased the seasons were successful and the enthusiasm is high, supporting all teams.

Mr. Brogioli asked if the two seasons are totaled, where did Wareham fall in the South Coast conference. He also asked for the sake of morale of the students, is it time to join another league where the numbers are more equitable offering more competitive games.

Mr. Rodrigues responded that the league is for the Principal and Superintendent to decide upon. He gives his coaches a lot of credit.

Mr. Brogioli pointed out it takes a lot to coach a team that has the odds stacked against them.

Mr. Palladino added that there is a lot of opportunities for academic competition and trainings. The league decided to expand and added Somerset-Berkley and provide competition for all schools, regional schools and there has been talk to bring in other small schools.

Mr. Palladino continued that the fall season is the hardest season, and what did not help Wareham last year was winter track was pushed into the fall season, and diluted the pool of athletes. The Soccer team is playing non-league schools and having a good season. He gives coaches and students a lot of credit and recognizes it is always better when the school is winning.

Ms. Rossi shared that she grew up in the Mayflower Conference which has smaller schools. She asked Mr. Rodrigues if other conferences like Mayflower offer academic goals like South Coast.

Mr. Rodrigues responded that the Mayflower League has evolved, but Mr. Palladino feels South Coast is the better conference, and Mayflower is the only other conference else Wareham could look into.

Mr. Brogioli stated that South Coast is great and a supportive conference, but now it should be asked what is the best thing for Wareham.

Bus Monitor Pay Increase:
Ms. Christine Suckow

Ms. Suckow shared with the committee there are seven (7) monitors, and an open posting. The monitors work hourly, and at full capacity, this would be an increase of \$22,000 to the budget. Monitors work 6 hours a day, 30 hours a week.

The Chair asked if monitors receive training. Suckow stated that would be an excellent idea to implement and included that Vanessa Coles has been incredible training this department.

Mr. Swett made a motion to approve the increase of Bus Monitor pay, seconded by Mr. Brogioli.

Roll Call Vote:

Geoff Sett – yea, Kevin Brogioli – yea, Mary Morgan – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Chair Bacchiocchi – yea.

yea – 5, nay – 0, abstain – 0

5-0-0

Student Activity Account:

The Superintendent asked that the School Committee approve the newly appointed designees at the high school. Mr. Swett asked what the role of the two employees is. The Superintendent responded they are both secretaries.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the newly appointed designees, seconded by Mr. Brogioli.

Roll Call vote: Kevin Brogioli – yea, Geoff Swett – yea, Mary Morgan – yea, Apryl Rossi – yea, Chair Bacchiocchi – yea

Yea -5, Nay – 0, Abstain - 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

International Baccalaureate Presentation:

Dr. Schwamb shared that the Department of Education sites findings, makes recommendations and accommodations of what they find.

Ms. Cavicchi noted in 2013 there was a lack of programming to support our higher level workers, lacking rigor, student centered learning, a lack of evidence of instruction was not challenging and rubrics to assess student learning and did not foster growth, and the PD had lack of relevance. NEASC was to provide professional development to personalize the instruction.

Ms. Cannon shared that Special Education programming needed solutions to further develop and refine our support programs.

Mr. Palladino shared that from a financial stand point, the strained relationship such as updating technology was needed to receive accreditation.

Dr. Schwamb shared that at this time data was collected, but not shared with staff for improvement. There were no bench marks. There wasn't a language between Grade K-12 to move forward. IB provided us somewhere to move as we were making major changes in the district. It needs to foster student centered learning, not foster to the test.

Ashley Yates-Paquin shared the original focus was to implement vocational with traditional. In January 2, 2016, Wareham started aligning Grades 6- 12 programming ensuring quality and fidelity. As an IB school. The standards (purpose, environment, culture, and learning) have been implemented keeping the students at the center. IB developed a program and provided authentic opportunities for the student.

In 2018, both DESE and NEASC noted that the district now had a robust curriculum.

Ms. Cannon shared that she trained on the MYP program. This is the essence of what Special Ed is. The focus is to take each individual student, and talks about ways and how that student learns and how they grow. The philosophy works if a child can't learn the way you teach, perhaps we should teach the way they learn. MYP supports this.

AP exams cost \$96 and \$118 per exam in IB. Title IV absorbs the IB and AP fees for IB and AP testing.

The fees for IB is an average cost of \$34,000 and AP fees is \$21,000.

Ms. Rossi asked if there is an increase of students who are school choice because of the IB program.

Mr. Palladino responded that we have a high profile student who transferred from Rochester to Wareham for the program, and can think of 5 students who have done the same.

Mr. Brogioli asked what is the actual number of students who participate in IB.

Mr. Palladino shared that from a scheduling point of view: there are periods when the IB class monopolizes the schedule and it is difficult to offer everything. We are spending a tremendous amount of time on the schedule to not have conflicts.

Dr. Schwamb feels the growth is tremendous, and feels good by what is offered, but when adjustments are made, and programs build, there is growth.

The Chair asked for students who are not in IB diploma or class, how do you measure the success for that student.

Mr. Palladino responded that many of the teachers have trained in IB, and it may not be an IB class, but there will IB philosophy within the teaching.

Dr. Schwamb shared with the MYP program up and running, it will help build the IB program at the High School.

Dr. Schwamb concluded that without IB, Wareham would not have had a foundation to help transform the district.

The Chair responded that she has a hard time attributing all of that success to IB. We cannot give IB all of the credit.

The Chair asked about available classes. When a junior has to choose between an honors, AP or IB, leads her to the question: is the high school big enough for both AP and IB?

Mr. Palladino like the challenges and to push the envelope. English 11 Honors was cut and another course cut to accommodate both the AP and IB courses.

Dr. Schwamb shared that we still needed to add the Project Coordinator, and foreign language at the middle school.

Mr. Brogioli feels it is great that we offer this programs, and I want to be sure we look closely at the size of our school when offering these multiple programs.

Dr. Shaver-Hood concluded with the journey the district and it is our job to decide what is working and what is not working. Our district desperately needed technology, we provided the PD for these tools. Our journey has not stopped. What works, what is not working, and we have the basis, and now can move forward. Sometimes we need to work smarter, and this has given us time to pause. It has always concerned me that we do not honor the prior work, what history has established, and by implementing AP and IB and dual enrollment, and we will continue to move forward.

Report of the Superintendent:

The Superintendent asked the committee to approve the gifts as listed in the Superintendent's Newsletter.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the gifts, seconded by Mr. Brogioli.

Roll Call Vote:

Geoff Swett— yea, Kevin Brogioli —yea, Mary Morgan — yea, Apryl Rossi — yea, Chair Bacchiocchi — yea.

yea — 5, nay — 0, abstain - 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

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

Mr. Brogioli made a motion to approve, seconded by Geoff Swett

Roll Call Vote:

Geoff Swett— yea, Kevin Brogioli —yea, Mary Morgan — yea, Apryl Rossi — yea, Chair Bacchiocchi — yea.

yea — 5, nay — 0, abstain - 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

The Superintendent shared that a notice to parent and staff was sent out and the Commissioner has extended the mask mandate to November 1. We have the Test and Stay program to begin and Dr. Schwamb has been working with the company.

Mr. Swett asked how we are collecting the data for the vaccinations. The Superintendent responded that it is a volunteer process at this time, but due to confidentiality, the nurse has the names, and are kept confidential.

The Superintendent shared that at the next meeting we should have a proposal for Turning Point and vote from the School Committee at that time.

Report of the School Committee:

Mr. Swett shared that the Elementary School is working on the punch List, the actual school is getting very close, and the furniture is trickling in. Hopefully there will be a date determined for students, and the occupancy certificate is just a few weeks away.

Policy Review Committee: Mr. Brogioli shared that there will be five meetings and is still searching for a Special Ed Parent to serve on the committee.

The Chair thanked WCTV and announced the next meeting would be held on October 14, 2021.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Swett.

Roll Call Vote:

Geoff Swett— yea, Kevin Brogioli —yea, Mary Morgan — yea, Apryl Rossi — yea, Chair Bacchiocchi — yea.

yea — 5, nay — 0, abstain - 0

VOTE: 5-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

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