

December 19, 2019

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Members present were Joyce Bacchiocchi, Mary Morgan, Laurie Spear, Apryl Rossi and Michael Flaherty as well as student representative Emily Roberge, Superintendent Kimberly Shaver-Hood, Assistant Superintendent Andrea Schwamb and recording secretary Michelle Ruiz.

Chair Flaherty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He announced that the meeting was being videotaped by WCTV and an audio recording by Mrs. Ruiz. Anyone taping the meeting must inform the chair. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Chair.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

#### **GOOD NEWS**

- Mrs. Morgan announced that under circuit breaker the state will be reimbursing districts for transportation.
- Ms. Rossi announced that Turning Point is using the old Coop building and is still accepting nonperishable goods and toys for the holiday season.
- Dr. Shaver-Hood shared that this past Wednesday, teacher Mr. Murray used the Heimlich maneuver on a student and saved her life.
- Mrs. Bacchiocchi thanked members of the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen who met with the School Committee last week for its public hearing on the budget.
- Acknowledging Students with Exemplary MCAS Scores – All students were asked to come to the stage to be recognized.

WHS Principal Palladino stated that many students were not able to be present due to other school commitments. A total of 42 students were recognized.

Middle School Principal Cote read the names of the students in Grades 5 – 7 who scored exemplary in ELA, Math, and Science. She recognized the perfect ELA score for Felicity Disola.

Minot Principal Seamans called the names of current Grade 4 students and recognized the perfect ELA score for Amelia Benson and perfect Math score for Tyler Cannon.

- Chair Flaherty shared that he had attended Proof, the Viking Theatre Play.

#### **Report of the Student Representative**

Miss Roberge shared that student donations for the holiday will be distributed, updated the recent athletic events, and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

#### **Minutes of the Meeting**

Ms. Rossi moved to approve November 14, 2019 (2 sets), November 21, 2019, and December 12, 2019, as a slate of minutes, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to delete the sentence on page 7 on the November 14, 2019 regular meeting that read “Chair Flaherty asked Mrs. Bacchiocchi and Mrs. Morgan to get together to review these budget priorities and the previous discussion of this evening on School Committee procedures/goals.”, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

There was further discussion on the policy and Chair Flaherty stated the committee will take this under advisement and work together.

#### **Acceptance of Gifts**

Dr. Shaver-Hood recommended acceptance of following gifts:

- \$299.75 to John W. Decas School from Wareham Elks Lodge to purchase 25 sets of Headphone, Earphone and Earbud Adaptors for iPads
- \$125 to the Weekend Backpack program from True Associates in Westwood
- 25 KiwiCo STEM project kits to the Middle School from Scott Schluter of East Wareham to Ms. Remillard/Mr. Fitzgerald's classes
- Hats and gloves from Lois Ladd for the giving tree at Middle School
- \$150 from Noah Young of Onset to the High and Middle schools theatre arts/music programs
- \$500 from Exxon Mobil Education Alliance Program at Middle School for Math/Science

Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to accept the gifts as recommended, seconded by Ms. Rossi.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

#### **FY21 Budget Vote**

Dr. Shaver-Hood and Dr. Schwamb presented the proposed FY21 Budget as follows:

- \$31,551,930 draft budget request
- Applied \$800,000 grants revenue for a total budget of \$30,751,930
- Proposed Major Account breakdown and pie chart with percentages - 45.9% - 10.4% - 9.2% are the three highest areas all for instruction/teaching
- Proposed budget meets all contractual obligations, assumes grants remain status quo, and a modest increase for fixed costs
- Reduced supplies/materials; no requested new staff; reduction of current staff
- Our charge is to reduce to save staff as we move forward.

Net \$28,777,830

Non net \$1,974,100

Total \$30,751,930

Committee members questioned why some accounts were not funded. Dr. Shaver-Hood explained that some are reduced and some funds could have been moved into the proper account; there is no new staff but shifts in the salary lines. Also if the town votes funds for technology and/or capital repairs, these line item amounts can be pulled out. The heating amounts were based on projections.

Chair Flaherty stated that the full line item budget will be on the website once voted upon by the Committee.

Regarding utilities some accounts are quite high with something going on all the time in the schools. There is not sufficient funding in the East utilities this year and we have the building because it can only be used for educational purposes per the deed. The building cannot be shut down due to fire department.

(Chair Flaherty left the meeting room, so the meeting was chaired by Vice Chair Rossi at 8:25 p.m.)

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

### **Report from the Director of Student Services**

Mrs. Fay reviewed the special education trends in enrollment and Wareham is above state average. Our substantially separate programs are therapeutic learning center, learning center and autism spectrum disorder. Both special education teachers and paraprofessionals have participated in professional development. Updated information for the number of students serviced under McKinney-Vento and Foster as of 12/16/19 are 15 homeless; 20 foster; 47 out of district. The SEPAC upcoming events were announced.

In response to questions from the committee, an average of 5-10 parents attend SEPAC events and foster care students are not always from our community. There is a small drop in out of district students and Ms. Fay's responsibilities include nursing, guidance, therapists, out of district.

Dr. Schwamb stated that with a change in the referral rate at Decas School, we are financially saving \$1,000-\$1,200 per evaluation.

### **Report of the Superintendent**

- Approval of Bill and Payroll Warrants

Ms. Rossi moved to approve the following bill and payroll warrants, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi:

Payroll Week Ending November 23, 2019 \$953,506.25

Payroll Week Ending November 30, 2019 \$129,253.63

Payroll Week Ending December 7, 2019 \$932,993.59

Bill Warrant 11/7/19 \$3,564.37

Bill Warrant 11/14/19 \$4,000.00

Bill Warrant 11/26/19 \$43,556.86

Bill Warrant 11/27/19 \$3,395.17

Bill Warrant 12/5/19 \$3,395.17

Bill Warrants 12/12/19 \$1,055.50; \$3,829.00; \$3,395.17; \$190,331.29

Bill Warrant 12/19/19 \$432,579.23

Mrs. Morgan expressed concern with reimbursement requests having a date, time, and what the reimbursement is for. Is the work above and beyond the normal duty?

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

- Monthly Financial Statement – Dr. Shaver-Hood stated we are looking into transfers/journal entries. She is concerned with the School Committee Contractual Services legal fees and Substitutes accounts. Budget spending has been frozen and we are tracking all accounts.
- Revolving Account Report – It was noted that a couple of accounts are in deficit, waiting for deposits to be made. Other sources of revenues in transportation besides fees include field trips. Donations are deposited in Gift accounts. Funds had not been deposited yet in July for the daycare account and global education is for exchange student tuitions.
- Rebuttal to Evaluation  
Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that she appreciated some of the committees evaluations then read her rebuttal referencing the DESE comprehensive evaluation 2013 report and the law, 603 CMR 35.00, indicating the purpose of evaluation. The 2018-19 evaluation timeline began August 1 and ended July 31 and the most recent evaluation did not honor the timeline. There

The policy was tabled until January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

It was recommended to make the title of the policy "AP/IB Testing Fees" and to spell out what AP and IB means in the first sentence.

Mrs. Morgan moved to amend the policy as stated, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

- Entrance Age  
Delete wording #1 effective 2015-16 school year and delete sentence completion Kindergarten as a prerequisite, as Kindergarten is not required but must meet the readiness testing for first grade.

Ms. Rossi moved to approve the Entrance Age policy as amended, seconded by Mrs. Morgan.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

- Guest Speakers – reviewed with no changes  
Mrs. Morgan moved to approve the Guest Speakers policy as is, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

- MASC Resolutions Report – Ms. Rossi distributed the report and reviewed the actions taken. The report is available on the MASC website.
  - #1 – Banning Polystyrene from Schools - passed
  - #2a – Pertaining to Educator Diversity and Professional Licensure -passed – elimination of MTEL and MaPAL as licensing requirement for educators
  - #2b – Governance/License - passed – vested in a board comprised of licensed educators
  - #3 – School Transportation - amendment accepted; passed as amended
  - #4 – Climate Change - adopted as amended
  - #5 – Full funding of Transportation Costs for Students in Foster Care and State Care - adopted
  - #6 – Universal Quality Pre-Kindergarten Access in Massachusetts - adopted as amended
  - #7 – Poverty and Children - adopted
  - #8 – Resolution for Access to Menstrual Supplies - adopted
  - #9 – Charter School Reform - adopted
- MASC By-Laws adopted as presented

#### **Subcommittee for Superintendent's Evaluation Instrument**

Chair Flaherty assigned Mrs. Bacchiocchi and Mrs. Morgan as a subcommittee for the superintendent's evaluation instrument. Mrs. Bacchiocchi will be the chair and they will decide who needs to be on this subcommittee and make a recommendation back to the school committee. Must post agendas and do meeting minutes as this is a subcommittee of the School Committee.

Training on the evaluation system by law and statute was suggested by Dr. Schwamb.

**Any other business - None**