

September 5, 2019

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Thursday, September 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 320 at the Multi-Service Center. Members present were Michael Flaherty, Joyce Bacchiocchi, Apryl Rossi and student representative Emily Roberge as well as Superintendent Kimberly Shaver-Hood, Assistant Superintendent Andrea Schwamb, and recording secretary, Michelle Ruiz. Absent were members Laurie Spear and Mary Morgan.

Chair Flaherty called the meeting to order and announced that the meeting was being recorded for broadcast by WCTV and an audio recording by Mrs. Ruiz. Anyone else wishing to record the meeting was asked to let the Chair know. Chair Flaherty led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

GOOD NEWS

Mrs. Bacchiocchi stated she was thankful to be able to attend opening day. This was echoed by Chair Flaherty.

Dr. Shaver-Hood shared the closing video from the opening day giving appreciation to all staff by our graduating seniors.

Report of the Student Representative

Miss Roberge shared the following news:

- Honor Society and Student Council with other clubs are holding a Haunted Hallways event where kids go trick or treating door-to-door; date to be determined
- Painting school bathroom stalls with inspirational messages
- Late bus starts the end of September

Minutes of the Meeting

Mrs. Bacchiocchi moved to approve the minutes of August 22, 2019, seconded by Ms. Rossi.

Ms. Rossi asked about changing her vote at the last meeting on the budget.

Chair Flaherty stated that votes cannot be changed but that if she wished to make a statement about the vote, it would be noted in this evening's minutes.

Ms. Rossi noted that she would not have voted in the affirmative if there had not been Wi-Fi issues. Since she was not able to pull up the document on her laptop, she was not able to ask her questions for clarity.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain – 0

Back to School Overview - Students/Principals

- Decas School Principal Bethany Chandler showed some pictures of opening day. Grade 2 student, Amarianna Martins, shared her first day in school. Also present was Amarianna's teacher Mrs. Matathia and Assistant Principal Russo. Mrs. Chandler stated that it was a spectacular beginning and the time capsule was revealed celebrating 50 years.
- Minot School Principal Joan Seamans was present with students, Lilly Grade 3; Liam, Grade 4; and Chloe, Grade 3. Each student shared his/her favorite things about being back to school. Mrs. Seamans stated that open house was tonight and tomorrow is Patriot's Pride Day. Dr. Shaver-Hood invited the students to come back in January to share again.
- High School Principal Scott Palladino was present with students Jasmine Black, Grade 12, Laura Clements, Grade 9, and Indiana Troupe, Grade 9. Jasmine spoke about her dual enrollment classes at Bridgewater State University and her friending one of our foreign exchange students from Italy. Laura was in WHS in Grade 8 last year and the high school is very welcoming. Indiana shared about the dual enrollment program and taking courses this year in culinary and hospitality/tourism, and the great environment and class opportunities at WHS.

There was a brief discussion on the number of freshmen and Principal Palladino noted that the number is similar at upper cape but is being offered for those needing to learn a trade; more students are enrolling and coming back to the high school; and over 35 new students enrolled over the summer, some because of what they heard about IB and dual enrollment opportunities. There are 32 students in dual enrollment BSU.
- Middle School Principal Tracie Cote was present with two Grade 7 students Emma and Felicity who shared about their school, Nature's Classroom and clubs and pictures were shown.

The committee members and administration had the opportunity to ask questions of the students and received current enrollments.

Request for Senior Privileges

Principal Palladino introduced students Jocelyn Hendricks, VP and Jasmine Black, President of the Senior Class who reviewed the requirements needed for seniors to have the privileges and how many students use this opportunity to study, write college essays/applications, and do homework.

Principal Palladino stated that there is space in school if all seniors want to stay in school and based on last year the majority of students stay in the library to study. This is the same form used in the past.

Principal Palladino answered the questions from members on the statements, "may not sign out for lunch only" and "will attend advisory". Since lunch is only twenty minutes, there is not enough time and students must attend advisory in order to receive important information and trainings. Jasmine, through the student council, is working on getting a message board in the cafeteria so students don't miss announcements.

It was noted that senior privileges replace a student taking an elective.

Ms. Rossi moved to approve the request for Senior Class Privileges as presented, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Request for JROTC Pilot Club at Wareham Middle School

Principal Cote stated that Colonel Stanton approached her to have JROTC High School students come every other Thursday this year as a pilot program at the middle school to run an introduction to JROTC which will be open to all students now.

Ms. Rossi moved approval of the pilot JROTC Club at Wareham Middle School, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Transportation Overview

Jamie Andrews, Manager, gave the following information on transportation:

16 high/middle buses, 14 elementary buses, and 8 out of district runs

He explained the route set report provided which showed the route #, driver, bus #, how many students on the bus, location, and distance and total time of route.

There was discussion on enrollment and the number of students who applied to ride the bus, 1545 to date. There are just under 600 students who have not returned an application. There are 51 seats on a bus for high/middle students and 77 seats on a bus for elementary students.

We have 30 drivers including out of district. It depends on the part of town students live whether we can accommodate more riders. We now have a waiting list on 4 buses for high/middle.

Ms. Rossi expressed concern for parents who paid and their child does not have a seat on the bus.

Mr. Andrews explained that those who did not turn in the bus application form and pay by the deadline were not counted when forming the routes. We currently have six buses out of commission, not repairable, and not enough drivers for more buses.

Dr. Shaver-Hood read the dates notifications were sent to parents since April up through August. We held to the cutoff date. When bidding bus routes, we needed the number of routes and the number of drivers. If we open another run, we will need to pull a driver from out of district and this will cost more money to contract out the out of district service.

Ms. Rossi stated that a parent new to town, told her she was told the bus was full so the transportation office moved her child's bus stop so the child can get picked up but must walk 20 minutes on a road with no sidewalk.

There was discussion on the bus fleet. The average cost per bus for repair of the out of commissioned 2005, 2007 buses start at \$8,000. We currently have eleven 2005-2008 out of total 30 buses. A 2019 bus would cost approximately \$70,000-\$80,000 with a warranty.

Dr. Shaver-Hood reiterated that all our busses currently on the road passed inspections and are safe. There was discussion on adjusting routes and the statewide problem in finding school bus drivers.

Mr. Andrews stated that we have one spare large bus and two spare sped buses. All regular buses have working cameras and we have enough bus monitors.

Chair Flaherty expressed concern with losing six buses before school opened because they did not pass inspection and the need to get four to six more buses before the next inspections.

Dr. Shaver-Hood told the committee that she had conversations with the capital planning committee about purchasing buses and Town Meeting approval is required. We can purchase a used bus under \$25,000 and have been diligently searching and looking into leasing buses using the McKinney Vento and transportation revolving account funds.

Acceptance of Gifts

Dr. Shaver-Hood recommended acceptance of the \$5,000 proceeds from the Daniel Taber Memorial Golf Tournament to the Yes Club, Beyond School Time.

Ms. Rossi moved to accept the gift, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Report of the Superintendent

- Approval of Bill and Payroll Warrants
 - Payroll warrant August 24, 2019 \$130,264.94
 - Bill warrant 9/5/19 \$168,150.53
 - Payroll warrant August 31, 2019 \$869,123.38
 - Bill warrant 9/12/19 \$11,749.90

Mrs. Bacchiocchi move approval of the warrants as listed, seconded by Ms. Rossi.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

- MCAS scores have been received but are in embargo. The principals and administrators are analyzing the results for a presentation at a later date.

- PTA Meeting – September 10, 2019
- Preschool and kindergarten students begin September 9, 2019
- All outdoor activities conclude by 6:00 p.m. until further notice.

Report of the School Committee

Chair Flaherty announced a scheduled workshop meeting on September 10, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 27, at Town Hall on the superintendent's goals to be broadcast by WCTV.

Any other business

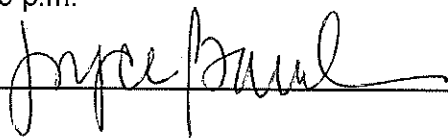
None

Ms. Rossi moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Bacchiocchi.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____

**List of documents:**

Correspondence: Superintendent's newsletter, Personnel list, Notice of vacancy, Bill & Payroll warrants

Minutes of the Meeting August 22, 2019

Senior Privileges Class of 2020

Request for JROTC Pilot Club Middle School

Route Set Report; 2018-19 Bus Application Break Down; 2019-20 Bus Application Responses; Inspection Reports

Daniel Taber Memorial Golf Donation

