



WAREHAM HIGH SCHOOL

7 VIKING DRIVE
WAREHAM, MA 02571



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School Council Meeting November 1, 2022 - 7 a.m.

Invitees: Scott Palladino; Joyce Bacchiocchi; Jill Johnson; Anne Berriault; Lester Smith; Christopher Gardner; Anne Cote; Billie-Jo Bean; Alexandra Bumpus; Asher Hamilton; Meghan Kashner; Jamie Wiksten

In Attendance: Scott Palladino; Alexandra Bumpus; Jill Johnson; Christopher Gardner; Joyce Bacchiocchi; Meghan Kashner

Agenda Item 1 - Approval of October meeting minutes

Minutes were approved 6/0/0

Agenda Item 2 - MCAS Presentation to School Committee

MCAS overall took a dip coming out of the pandemic.

Chronic absenteeism has risen - 16.3% in 2019 (18+ days is considered chronic). In 2022 there was a 35% increase of over 50% absenteeism. In the 2022 - 2023 school year to date (October) we have 93% in school rate - 7% absenteeism. December, January and February will have a higher rate due to exposures and general illness.

Overall WHS is below where it should be pertaining to MCAS

Additional issues that must be addressed:

1. 30% SPED attendance
2. Year two return from the pandemic - how do we bring back core English and core Math classes - these classes were cut due to budget cuts.
3. Although the district is doing a good job overall, we need to look at PSAT Prep requirements.

"HOME OF THE VIKING SHIPS": Scholarship, Citizenship, Craftsmanship, Leadership and Sportsmanship

Questions:

Mr. Palladino - How does everyone feel about removing the mandatory PSAT/SAT prep course? The numbers are going down - of students taking them.

Answer - Alexandra Bumpus - took the SAP Prep online through Khan Academy. Did not take it at school due to a strenuous course load.

Mr. Palladino - Removing the requirement would allow WHS to run 2 core classes again

Joyce Bacchiocchi - Her family didn't get a lot out of it.

Mr. Palladino - It was offered as an elective for years - 1 session in the fall. Once WHS was reporting on PSAT/SAT WHS received pressure to increase the offerings.

Mr. Palladino - Core Math/ELA for 11th & 12th class to help people graduate - can this be moved to a 10th grade class?

Mr. Gardner - Will PSAT still be offered?

Mr. Palladino - Next year will only be offered to 11th graders.

Joyce Bacchiocchi - SAT classes - can that be offered online?

Mr. Palladino - Online is always an option, will keep 20% of the students required to take it, online will stay as a recommendation vs a requirement.

Joyce Bacchiocchi/Mr. Palladino - With all kids being hybrid with ½ days - we only had kids from 7:40 - 11:00 in person and then hybrid. Wednesdays were all online. Biggest cause for our fall is the kids who are not able to take extra "core" classes.

4. Not enough electives - Budget cuts are hitting electives - WHS will have six less electives this year - Science electives specifically.

Mr. Palladino - We really need to support the students that need it. During the pandemic we were able to activate online quickly - we had a great plan, but keeping students engaged was not easy or successful. Ultimately, budget cuts systematically displaced the programs we had.

Jill Johnson - is there data to compare WHS to other schools? D.A.R.T. has information available online that can be provided.

Agenda Item 3 - School Improvement plan

The School Committee Meeting next Tuesday will specifically cover this topic.

WHS will be discussing "The Vision of the Graduate"

Vision between WHS & WPS are very similar.

Questions:

Joyce Bacchiocchi - Why are The Vision of a Graduate different between WHS and WPS?

Mr. Palladino - they are very similar but WHS is focusing on the High School.

2021 - 2022 - Implemented the MYP Piloting Personal Project - we are building on it this year with enhanced online course offerings, WHS Scholarship and Student Learning.

2022 - 2023 Priorities

Five new courses added:

1. Botany
2. Marine Biology
3. A.A. Lit
4. Digital Photography
5. Examining Racism & Genocide in History

New Schedule implemented - MYP Units

Enrichment Advisory Added on Tuesdays and Thursdays - to get extra support

Questions:

Mr. Palladino - Alexandra Bumpus do you use the Enrichment Advisory?

Alexandra Bumpus - Yes, I use it for test corrections or if I miss a class. I've used it for quizzes and class help. It's much better and easier to keep my schedule straight.

Mr. Palladino - This year you schedule yourself for advisory vs. requesting/hunting down a teacher to request help. We try to be strategic with its use, and help students where possible.

2022 - 2023 - continued:

1. Updating curriculum for two courses per department
2. Create curriculum for five new electives
3. Create at least two cross curricular opportunities per dept - ex: English/Science
4. Bring back Core Math and ELA for 8, 9, and 10th grades
5. Continue with Viking Block

Questions:

None

Social Emotional Learning

1. Additional Social Workers - this year WHS has 2, last year there were 4 to help address student needs.
2. Implement new Guidance Criteria
3. Focused TLC Counselors and resources (Large number of 8th graders)
4. Stronger ties AMP/High Point - worked out well, however High Point had numerous issues and turnover. WHS is not engaging with High Point at this time, however continuing with AMP two days a week.

Last year was a very difficult year psychologically and emotionally with students.

1. 2021 - 2022 - WHS had two Deans only, which resulted in a very tough year.
2. 2022 - 2023 - WHS has three Deans and align Deans with Guidance Counselors

Questions:

Jill Johnson - Is hearing really good things about Mr. Faniel (Dean).

Mr. Palladino - Early information is that everything is going well. The information they have on students is unbelievable and as a team they are creating real relationships with the students.

WHS is implementing for TLC Classrooms AIM (Self Management Curriculum - Accept, Interpret, Manage) curriculum and working with students to get/help them to accept.

Questions:

Joyce Bacchiocchi - What is the setup for Dean's/Counselors?

Mr. Palladino - 8th Grade - Mr. Faniel/Ms. Frazier; A-J/9-12 Ms. Cinelli/Ms. Granville; K-Z/9-12 Ms. Dineen/Ms. Mitchell. Students keep their Dean and Guidance Counselor for all 4 years.

Megan Kashner - Is there a plan to move Andrea Cannon out of TLC Dean?

Mr. Palladino - TLC would be adjusted by Dean, and didn't have consistency in the TLC room. While we know September/October are difficult transition months the hope is it would manage down over time - it's a work in progress. What is needed is continuity from Middle School to High School. High School is very different and has very different expectations. Lots of personnel transitions and culture shock. The hope is that the cohesion is addressed and that there is collaboration between the Middle School and High School starting at the Superintendent's office.

WPS Community: College, Career, Life

WHS would like to improve the "family/school" relationship and get more families involved.

Vision of the Graduate is reported on report cards by each department. Each department has a standard that they report on. Those groups meet monthly to align the Vision of the Graduate with daily school structure.

WPS - WHS - Professional Learning

This year WHS really needed to support new teachers in the classroom.

Agenda Item 4 - Budget Presentation

WHS is in the preliminary stages of budget planning. There is a lot to figure out. Where we are and where we will be are separate issues - currently we are in the process of reviewing all line items.

2022 - 2023 - Total WHS Budget \$8,178,762.88

2023 - 2024 - Estimated WHS Budget \$9,255,936.43

Variance (1,077,173.55) 15% increase 2023 - 2024 vs 2022 - 2023

Approximately a 15% increase.

Largest increase is in contractual salaries. The budget process will be a lot different this

year - hoping to see a budget shortly vs. December.

Agenda Item 5 - NEASC visit Schedule

NEASC visit is scheduled for November 13 - 16, 2022

Excited for the process and the visit - there are three main areas that will be focused on by the NEASC visitors:

1. Vision of the Graduate
2. Process for struggling students - various supports in place including Viking Enrichment block.
3. Building improvements

The NEASC group will be staying at the Rosebrook Marriott in Wareham.

Agenda Item 6 - School Safety

WHS had an Alice Training in October.

1. Staff and students participated in a complete lock down, there are plans for another before the holidays.
2. Hoping to do a weekend or over the holidays drill and practice.
3. Get Police and Fire into the building
4. Mr. Palladino is completing Alice Instructor Training over Christmas break

Agenda Item 7 - Sail program overview

Due to time constraints - this agenda item was moved to the next meeting.

Next Meeting: December 6, 2022

*Please note that the meeting is scheduled to be a hybrid meeting (in person and via zoom).