

September 2, 2015

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, September 2, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Present were Geoff Swett, Melvin Lazarus, Cliff Sylvia, Judy Caporiccio, Rhonda Veugen, and Student Representative Noah Wambolt as well as Superintendent Kimberly Shaver-Hood, and recording secretary, Mrs. Ruiz.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Swett at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

GOOD NEWS

Superintendent Shaver-Hood showed a CARE Summer Camp Video. Jane Fondulis and Maureen Manning were present to answer questions about the CARE Program. Mrs. Fondulis described some of the programs offered in summer camp including a strings and things group (violin), which will continue for students in grades 3 & 4 at Minot this school year.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood reported that our opening enrollment was 2,649, slightly down from last year.

Mrs. Veugen gave a "hats off" to the elementary PTA on its two open houses for parents and students. There was community support with informational sessions and the students also saw their classrooms that evening.

Noah Wambolt reported the high school was off to a good start.

Dr. Sylvia spoke with some of the parents at the elementary PTA open houses. The parents indicated a faith in the Wareham Public Schools. Dr. Sylvia also read in the newspaper that Wareham students ranked in the top 10 in the state in AP English.

Minutes of the Meeting

Dr. Sylvia moved to approve the minutes of August 19, 2015, seconded by Ms. Caporiccio.

VOTE: yea -4; nay - 0; abstain - 1 (Mr. Lazarus)

Acceptance of Gifts

Dr. Sylvia moved to accept the gift of a Baritone Sax to WHS Music Department, seconded by Mrs. Veugen.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Dr. Shaver-Hood recommended the donation of U.S. Flags for each of our schools from Mr. Pimental of Dunkin Donuts and Franklin Flags.

Ms. Caporiccio moved to accept the donation of U.S. Flags for our schools, seconded by Dr. Sylvia.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

End of Year Financial Report for FY15

The Committee was pleased with the comprehensive report prepared by Mr. MacMillan.

Mr. MacMillan highlighted the following areas in his report:

- “in-kind” i.e. health care (96%), administrative
- Small to no increase in local appropriation
- Revenue from other sources has increased but with strings attached – grants, revolving accounts, circuit breaker
- Other sources of income - chart by revenue and expenditures from 2013-2015
- Trends show shifting pressures

There were questions and comments from Committee members.

It was noted that the 6% over net school spending is eaten up by health in-kind and is not going to programming and that Wareham is spending far below what other communities spend on education.

It was suggested that this report be on our website and shared at meetings with the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen.

Vote on Cafeteria Managers' Contract

Mr. MacMillan reviewed the negotiated changes to the Cafeteria Managers' Contract:

1. Duration is July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2018
2. Some formatting changes
3. Compensation 1.5%; 1%; 0.5%
4. Increase in shoe allowance
5. 1% additional base salary if food service breaks even

Mr. Lazarus moved to approve the contract as presented, seconded by Ms. Caporiccio.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Request for Pilot Club for 2015-16 WHS

Principal Palladino and Teacher/Coach Gardner requested a Cross Country Pilot Club. The goal of the club is to provide an opportunity for cross country, which is offered in schools in our conference. The PE Teacher at Wareham Middle School created a running club with high numbers as a feed in program. This is the 4th season we have not had a cross country team and perhaps with the start of this club we can bring Cross Country back again if the numbers are there.

It was noted that there would be no activity fee and no competitions but perhaps the students can participate in some local 5K races.

Dr. Sylvia moved to approve the request for a Cross Country Pilot Club at WHS, seconded by Mr. Lazarus.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Shaver-Hood thanked everyone for their hard work in preparing the schools this year and thanked our parents and students. She reported:

- STEAM Academy is running at the Middle School
- Dual Enrollment 8th grade at Wareham High School with 38 students
- Dual Enrollment at Bridgewater State University with 9 students
- Volleyball team at Florida competing

- Asked everyone to come support our athletes in the fall season

School Committee Reports

Vote on MASC Resolutions & Designation of Official Delegate

Official Voting Delegate:

Dr. Sylvia nominated Geoff Swett as our Official Delegate, seconded by Mr. Lazarus.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 1 (Mr. Swett)

Alternate: Mrs. Veugen nominated Mel Lazarus as alternate delegate, seconded by Dr. Sylvia.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Chair Swett reviewed the following resolutions to be voted upon at the MASC annual business meeting:

Resolutions:

#1 by Newton School Committee – Commission to study what time middle and high schools should start their day

Dr. Sylvia moved to support Resolution #1 as presented, seconded by Mrs. Veugen.

Mr. Swett felt the resolution was not the solution to the problem.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 1 (Mr. Swett); abstain - 0

Noah Wambolt agreed with the study but by pushing back the start time everyone in the conference has to agree or students may miss half of the school day or unable to participate in after school activities.

#2 by Framingham School Committee – Poverty and Children

Mr. Swett stated the focus should be more on resources to educate students, other agencies address poverty. He recommended voting against this resolution.

Dr. Sylvia moved that the Wareham School Committee not endorse Resolution #2, seconded by Mr. Lazarus.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

#3 by Framingham School Committee - Tying Test Scores to Chapter 70 Funding

Mr. Swett explained the resolution did not want MCAS scores to count for the district if a student was not educated in Framingham schools at the time.

Dr. Sylvia moved that the Wareham School Committee endorse Resolution #3, seconded by Ms. Caporiccio.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

#4 by Framingham School Committee - Support for an Equitable and Sustainable Placement Program for students covered under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act

Dr. Sylvia moved that the Wareham School Committee not support Resolution #4, seconded by Mr. Lazarus.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 1 (Mrs. Veugen); abstain - 0

#5 by MASC Board of Directors - Tax Reform Ballot Question

Chair Swett stated that this resolution was advocating for a graduating income tax and he recommended to not support this resolution.

Mr. Lazarus moved not to support Resolution #5, seconded by Ms. Caporiccio.

Dr. Sylvia supported the resolution as a feeble attempt for equity.
Mrs. Veugen stated that the resolution was a start for discussion.
Mr. Lazarus stated that the legislature ignored tax reform in the past and he would not support the resolution as written.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 2 (Mrs. Veugen, Dr. Sylvia); abstain – 0

#6 by MASC Board of Directors - Membership of a School Committee Member on the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

Dr. Sylvia moved to support Resolution #6, seconded by Ms. Caporiccio.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

#7 by Arlington School Committee - Relative to the Teaching Strategies Gold Assessments for Kindergarten Students

Superintendent Shaver-Hood urged the Committee to support this resolution.

Dr. Sylvia moved to support Resolution #7, seconded by Mr. Lazarus.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Any other business

Dr. Sylvia asked to separate AP and SAT reports on future agendas. In answer to his question about when the Middle School Handbook will be presented again, Dr. Shaver-Hood stated that the Council is reviewing it now and the Committee will have the handbook back on an agenda in October.

Chair Swett informed the Committee of the following:

- 1) CPR final report and our response are due September 24th. A presentation will be made by our new Administrator of Special Education on the September 16th meeting agenda.
- 2) A bus inspections presentation by Mr. Tatro will be on the September 16th agenda.
- 3) Superintendent's evaluation schedule: copy of self-evaluation at the next meeting; first meeting in October the Chair will give documents for members to fill out with an explanation and the second meeting in October the Committee will do the evaluation. The same document will be used for self-evaluation and School Committee evaluations.
- 4) At the request of the Superintendent we will begin the process of re-negotiating her contract. Chair Swett and Mr. Lazarus will negotiate.

- 5) The Superintendent and Director of Curriculum will prepare a workshop on MCAS scores and indicators of performance to occur before the first meeting in October. The management teams of the individual schools will present for comments and questions from committee members. Chair Swett will come back to the committee with the indicators and meeting date, prefer evening meeting.

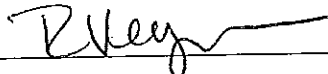
Mr. Lazarus referenced the email from the Superintendent regarding 14% of our buses failed inspection and how this was given to and reported by FOX news. Press Releases are always by the Superintendent.

Chair Swett stated that FOX News went to the state inspector for this data.

Mrs. Veugen moved to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Sylvia.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:  _____

List of documents:

Correspondence: Notice of Vacancy, Personnel List, Superintendent's Newsletter
FY2015 End of Year Report August 2015
DRAFT Cafeteria Managers – School Committee Agreement July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2018
Letter from Christopher Gardner requesting Pilot Cross Country Club
MASC Voting Delegate & Resolutions

RECEIVED
OCT 8 2015
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NEW YORK