

October 12, 2011

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Members present were Geoff Swett, Kenny Fontes, Cliff Sylvia, Rachel Gillette, Rhonda Veugen and student representative, Jessica Hanson, as well as Superintendent, Dr. Rabinovitch, and recording secretary, Mrs. Ruiz.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chair Swett

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - none

GOOD NEWS

Mrs. Veugen announced that the staff at Hammond School was given a citation for its fight against hunger.

Mr. Fontes announced that Girls Volleyball Coach Hellyar gives the girls the message to believe in themselves and that A.D. Loranger held a Captain Lunch with the focus to lead by example.

Miss Hanson announced that PSAT for juniors ran smoothly; next week is the NEASC accreditation with a presentation at 1PM this Sunday; the next SAT is November 5th at WHS; October 24-28th WHS Spirit Week with Homecoming 29th; lip dub video was made by the student body.

Chair Swett presented seven students from Decas School with a citation from the MSBA My Ideal School Contest: Allison Horton, Joselyn Marinelli, Makalis Semado, Amber Rosigno, Jemari Pires, Matthew Curry, Devante Tavares.

A DVD was shown LipDub by students WHS Pride.

(The chair called a five minute break at 7:33 p.m.)

Minutes of the Meeting

Mr. Fontes moved to approve the minutes of September 21, 2011, seconded by Mrs. Veugen.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 1 (Ms. Gillette)

School Committee Reports

Policy Review – Mrs. Veugen reported that the 1st meeting was held. The committee is recommending changes in catalog the policies. The recommendation will be on the agenda at the next meeting.

Budget Advisory – Mr. Sam Gray is the school FinCom liaison.

Mr. Swett announced that the committee members are invited to the MASC District VII meeting on November 12th. The focus of the meeting will be the significant reductions in the number of students on the cape. Mr. Swett provided an analysis. Over the last 21 years there is a 1% growth, but a decrease over last 10 years.

Superintendent's Report

- At the FinCom meeting on September 22nd, Article I was discussed which includes leasing 7 buses. The FinCom supported the creation of another adhoc – Chair School Committee, Chair FinCom, Chair Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator and

Superintendent – to discuss the needs of the town and submit a plan. A member of the Capital Planning Committee as an advisory member. The Transportation Manager will provide information as needed relative to the buses. All items in Article I will be separate bids. It was stressed at this meeting the need to appropriate funds at every April Town Meeting for 5 new buses. The committee will wait to see if a motion is needed to support the creation of another adhoc

- At the Capital Planning Committee the leasing of 7 buses was discussed as well and voted to support Article I and the need for a long term solution.
- A letter from the MTA requesting to open negotiations with Unit B.
- A reminder that School Committee members will be interviewed at 2PM this Sunday as part of the NEASC accreditation.

Reorganization of Maintenance Personnel within Transportation Department

Mr. Tatro gave a transportation update report on bus inspections, staffing in the garage including a third full time Mechanic which is on hold until decision on leasing, and reallocating the part time staff to create a new position of Garage Assistant, the continued use of EasyBus for records, the school bus bid lease, and activities for National School Bus Safety Week next week.

Mr. Fontes moved to create the position of Garage Assistant, seconded by Ms. Gillette.

The committee had concerns regarding a need to focus on bus monitors, an additional cost in benefits for a full time position, and more clear cut job duties for a third mechanic

Mr. Tatro will come back to the Committee and present a full budget impact with detailed job description for the Garage Assistant.

Mr. Fontes withdrew his motion and Ms. Gillette withdrew her second.

Update on Department of Student Services

Director of Student Services, Bob Louzan, gave an overview of his department as follows:

- Staffing, budget, population, revenues
- Early intervening, expanded formats for preschool services, crossing binary 'regular v. sped' lines
- West Wareham Academy successes and achievement
- Fact Sheet Title I – focus Rti, interventionists, tutoring
- Response to Intervention – progress report for the rollout, Gr. K-6 ELA training schedule and the impact to FY'13 budget
- Bullying Prevention – staff training, student involvement, parent & community, web page built
- Community Services, Activities, and Resources calendar
- Populations – Section 504; Homeless; Foster Children; English Language Learners ELL
- FY'12 budget expenditures
- Revenues from grant sources \$1,560,913; other sources \$971,917

Acceptance of Gift

Dr. Rabinovitch recommended accepting a gift of 32 books donated by Carolyn Lessard valued at \$500 to Wareham High School. Mrs. Veugen moved to accept the gift, seconded by Ms. Gillette

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

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Any other business

Mrs. Veugen announced:

- OPL/Town Moderator pre-town meeting on October 13th at 6:30 p.m. in Town Hall
- A public forum October 17th at the Multiservice Center for CETA at 6PM

Chair Swett announced that the committee would be entering into Executive Session for the purpose of litigation and coming out to adjourn only, moved by Dr. Sylvia, seconded by Mrs. Veugen.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Fontes - yea; Dr. Sylvia - yea; Ms. Gillette - yea; Mrs. Veugen - yea; Mr. Swett - yea

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

(9:23 p.m.)

Mr. Fontes moved to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Sylvia.

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



List of documents:

Memo Finance Committee Meeting of September 22, 2011
MTA Contract Reopening dated September 27, 2011
Transportation Department October 12, 2011 Status Update
Notice of Vacancy Garage Assistant
Memorandum of Agreement AFSCME Council 93, Local 30
National School Bus Safety Week
Invitation for Bid School Bus Lease
Department of Student Services Update
Donation Carolyn Lessard - email 10/04/11



