

May 25, 2011

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, May 25, 2011 at the Wareham Middle School Auditorium at 6:00 p.m. Members present were Dr. Cliff Sylvia, Ken Fontes, Rhonda Veugen, Rachel Gillette, and student representative Jessica Hanson as well as Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Rabinovitch, and recording secretary, Mrs. Ruiz. Member Geoff Swett arrived at 6:15 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Chair Fontes

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

GOOD NEWS

Dr. Sylvia announced that Town Meeting approved the budget last evening and thanked those involved in the budget process including the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen. He gave kudos to those involved in a well attended DECA spaghetti auction fundraiser.

Miss Hanson announced the Senior Athletic Banquet tomorrow evening at 6pm and on June 2nd the WHS Senior Scholarship Awards Night at 7pm.

Dr. Rabinovitch announced that the Awards Night for underclassmen will be on June 9th.

Chair Fontes echoed Dr. Sylvia's thanks with regard to the budget process and thanked those working on the health trust agreement, which the School Committee supported 100%.

Minutes of the Meeting

Dr. Sylvia moved to approve the minutes of May 11, 2011, seconded by Mrs. Veugen.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain -1(Ms. Gillette)

Report of the Student Representative

Miss Hanson reported on the following:

- Senior exit interviews continuing this week
- Promenade and prom on May 27th
- Graduation June 3rd with a rain date June 4th
- School elections coming up

(Mr. Swett arrived at 6:15 p.m.)

Request from Cafeteria Managers to Increase School Lunch Prices

Dr. Rabinovitch presented a certificate and pin to Mary Klueber, Cafeteria Manager at Wareham Middle School for her 20 years of service. Mrs. Klueber was not able to attend the last meeting.

Dr. Rabinovitch stated that meal prices have not changed since 2006. The cafeteria department operates on its own funds.

(Present were Managers Jean Smith, Mary Klueber, Eileen Haley, Deborah Perry)

West Wareham Academy

Mrs. Miranda described West Wareham Academy as a therapeutic day school which has been in operation for 2 years. She reviewed the school population, attendance and discipline, staffing, student performance data, and parent and community involvement. This year a school council was formed. She reviewed the extra curricular activities, professional development, and parent, student, and staff survey results and summarized the progress on the goals for 2010-11: student achievement, technology, community. The goals for 2011-2012 are Improvement of Student Achievement, Expand Community Involvement, and Integration of Technology.

Questions, comments and suggestions on some goals were given by the committee members. Mr. Swett asked for information on whether any of the students applied to vocational schools and the response.

Reconsider Vote on School Choice for 2011-2012

Dr. Rabinovitch reported that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education alerted him to a problem of an equity issue with the vote taken on school choice limiting the number of children with special needs attending the Cooperative School. An audit from another office in the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education said we should not go over a certain % of students in sped because the school is a regular education program.

Dr. Rabinovitch recommended the Wareham Public Schools continue as a School Choice district for the 2011-12 school year and accept students in grades Kindergarten through Grade 12 depending on class size and that no students will be accepted to the West Wareham Academy.

Dr. Sylvia moved to reconsider the vote taken on April 6, 2011 relative to school choice, seconded by Mrs. Veugen.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Mr. Swett moved the recommendation of the Superintendent, seconded by Ms. Gillette.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Acceptance of Gifts

Dr. Rabinovitch recommended acceptance of 100 15” or 17” flat screen monitors from Boston HealthCare System valued at \$36,956 for the school district.

Dr. Sylvia moved the recommendation of the Superintendent, seconded by Mrs. Veugen.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Dr. Rabinovitch recommended accepting the \$200 grant gift from Commonwealth of Mass Big Yellow School Bus for the Wareham Middle School Lloyd Center field trip.

Mr. Swett suggested, if possible, to include in the field trip a visit to the Coalition for Buzzards Bay Learning Center in New Bedford.

Ms. Gillette moved the recommendation of the Superintendent, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

requested that the Superintendent ask the Town Administrator to keep the Ad Hoc Committee leading towards October Town Meeting with a capital plan and the FY'13 budget process.

Release of Executive Session Minutes – December 8 and 15, 2010

Chair Fontes reviewed the executive session minutes of December 8, 2010 and December 15, 2010 and announced that these minutes are fine to release for public.

Any other business

Dr. Sylvia announced that Town Meeting is not over and last night there was a lack of a quorum. The meeting reconvenes next Tuesday 7PM at the WHS Auditorium.

Chair Fontes announced that the committee would be entering into executive session for the executive session minutes from May 11, 2011 and for contract negotiations and will be coming out to vote.

Roll call vote: Mrs. Veugen – yea; Dr. Sylvia – yea; Mr. Swett – yea; Ms. Gillette – yea; Mr. Fontes – yea

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

(9:55 p.m. The committee moved to a classroom.)

Vote to Renew Contract for Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Swett made a motion to authorize the Chair to offer the Superintendent a new contract under the terms agreed to in executive session and the contract to be made public when signed by the Superintendent, seconded by Dr. Sylvia.

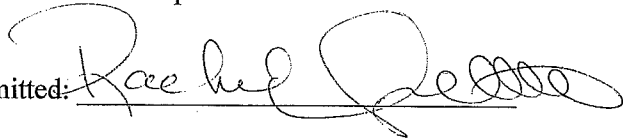
VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

Dr. Sylvia moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Gillette.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



List of documents:

- SY2011 – 2012 School Meal Price Increase
- Wareham Cooperative Jr./Sr. High School Plan for Continuous School Improvement
- West Wareham Academy Plan for Continuous School Improvement
- Memorandum May 17, 2011 Recommendation Gift
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts – Standard Contract Form
- Wareham School Function Summary May 18, 2011
- Revolving Accounts
- Town of Wareham End-of-Year Financial Report Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010
- Town of Wareham Reports on Federal Award Programs Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010
- Meeting Dates 2011-2012
- The China Exchange Initiative
- Ockers Company Wareham Project Timeline

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