

June 22, 2011

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, June 22, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Members present were Geoff Swett, Kenny Fontes, Cliff Sylvia, Rachel Gillette, Rhonda Veugen and Jessica Hanson as well as Superintendent, Dr. Rabinovitch, and recording secretary, Mrs. Prada.

Chair Fontes called the meeting called to order at 6:04 pm.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

### **GOOD NEWS**

Dr. Rabinovitch announced that Minot Forest Art Teacher, Nancy Lennon, submitted her artwork to the Massachusetts Art Education Association and was selected to be included in "Artists Teaching in Massachusetts" in Boston from June 20 – September 9.

Chair Fontes recognized Jessica Hanson, student rep, and asked her to join him up front. She was given a certificate and a gift for being so involved and for her participation on the committee.

Mrs. Veugen attended a Kindergarten Transitional Group meeting in Wareham. Parents with children going into kindergarten are invited to attend these meetings to help them transition in. She would like to try to promote these meetings to get more parents involved and attending. She also attended a fair put on by Sippican Elementary School to benefit their music program and wanted people to know that that is an option for Wareham.

Mr. Swett had the opportunity to sit next to the WHS Valedictorian at a dinner and wanted to say that we have some really bright students at WHS and an outstanding individual in our Valedictorian. We produce some outstanding students.

### **Minutes of the Meeting**

Mr. Sylvia moved to approve the minutes of June 8, 2011, seconded by Ms. Gillette.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain -0

### **Report of the Student Representative**

Miss Hanson announced that the CARE Program would be running at WMS this summer and offered lots of opportunities for WMS students. She also stated the registration for Wareham High School's 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter Summer Session would be held June 29, 30, and July 1 from 8 – 12 for high school students.

### **School Improvement Plans**

Wareham Middle School – Principal Gilmore presented key data in the plan.

This year's goals were reviewed with actions taken and whether the goal was met.

1. Attendance Summary
2. Caring, Cooperative and Respectful – Out of School Suspension down
3. Student Achievement – Meet or surpass AYP in ELA, Math and Science, expand professional learning, improve literacy skills, improve math skills
4. Community – use of Global Connect, monthly newsletters, Student of the Month breakfast with Honor Society and School Council, Rachel's Challenge, Grade 6 Orientation with Parent Orientation

5. Technology – Increase Study Island, student survey on technology use

#### SMART Goals for 2011- 12

1. Improve Student Achievement –in the areas of ELA and Math as demonstrated by an increase of 15% by 2014 in performance based on MCAS scores, performing workshops, intervention blocks, writing assessments, SES Tutoring
2. Improvement of Communication and Involvement of Parent and Community – monthly newsletter, website, club showcase, Everyday Math nights, parent volunteers, portfolio night attendance
3. Technology – Pilot site for student use of iPads in Grade 6, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Class for 7<sup>th</sup> grade
4. Professional Development

#### Comments from the Committee included:

- no information given regarding staff status for degrees (how many masters, bachelors, etc)
- lower class size than rest of district
- CPI numbers
- concern that aggregate scores showing regression in ELA and Math
- use of student writing sample
- concern over lack of extra-curricular activities specifically music
- use of mentoring and tutoring
- how the school would approach bullying in start of year for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade
- increase of time on learning
- concern over structure of the plan
- SES Tutoring
- increasing parent involvement and professional development

Wareham High School – Principal Palladino introduced Assistant Principal Deborah Freitas and Guidance Chair Stephen Goldman and presented key data.

This year's goals were reviewed with actions taken and whether the goal was met.

1. Portfolio Requirements – increase in quality of students' portfolios, Senior Exit Interview using Portfolio
2. Increase student learning/performance – Every subject area will be represented in portfolio, improve educational atmosphere during senior finals – decrease disruptions, Advisory Committee with Advisory period daily, 98% of parents accessed PowerSchool,
5. NEASC Self Study – all Standards approved by staff, evidence to support standards, Strengths and needs report
6. Increase relevance of school to career – explore adding more technical and professional sites – not met yet but scheduling changes will put this in pm
7. Initiate Math and Science campaign of “no failures” – increased professional in- house professional development not met due to finish of NEASC Process, first Wednesday of each month for departmental meetings
8. Increased number of observations per department chair (Evaluation Plan)
9. Improve Student Performance – Four Dean positions, small decrease in referrals
10. Attendance – decrease in number of student tardies, One Dean became Attendance Officer

#### SMART Goals for 2011-12

1. Improve Student Achievement – in grade 10 will improve in areas of MCAS as demonstrated by an increase of 5% in performance based on the following data: DESE MCAS results

2. Align the Wareham High School's Course offerings with the Mass Core requirements, implementation of eight period schedule, increase course offerings by five percent, increase elective offerings by 10 percent, increase STC professional offerings by 25%
3. Professional Development – Professional Development for AP teachers, summer institute for all AP teachers
4. Create a partnership with the community – establish a committee to discuss requirement and present to School Community, network with community, dual enrollment to establish relationships with local colleges
5. Improve the status of the Physical Plant – replace balances on 50 windows, improve air qualities - remove remaining carpet except for auditorium and band room
6. Technology – replace aging computers, aging television and technology, have 25% of classrooms equipped with LCD projectors

Comments from the Committee included:

- Principal and staff should be complimented for bold move
- concern that there is a perception that Deans are administrators
- pleased with MCAS scores
- concern over low numbers involved in extra-curricular activities
- impressed with enrollment in Foreign Language Club
- would like information on what happens to our graduates
- would like information on evaluations by department chairs
- like the dual enrollment opportunities
- pleased with AP teachers' dedication and incentives offered to students
- concern that 5% goal increase for MCAS is too high
- increase opportunities for STC partnerships
- concern over community service requirements
- would like increase communication with parents or parental involvement included
- would like to see use of iPads and going green in plan
- online courses
- major improvements seen

Stephen Goldman, WHS Guidance Dept Chair, gave a brief overview of a new program, Naviance. It is a computer software program to motivate and organize students around career/college planning. A five-year follow up for graduates handout was also provided. Chair Fontes stated that the committee would have Mr. Goldman make a presentation in September.

### **End of Year Athletic Report**

Tina Clark, Athletic Director, provided members with the end of year athletic report, Expenses and Revenue Overviews, and gave a breakdown of individual athletic teams for the 2010 – 2011 school year.

Comments/Questions from the committee:

- why the number of athletes decreased in almost every sport
- Clearer report presentation
- would like to see statements as to why fluctuation on the report
- is there a GPA requirement for participation
- concern over scheduling of games
- disappointment in lack of reports for each season
- how many coaches also teach at WHS

- concern over the loss of more money this year than last year, the lack of student athlete numbers, the cost per participant, and the loss of middle school sports having an impact on high school participation

#### **Introduction of New Athletic Director**

Principal Palladino introduced Marc Loranger, a former teacher and coach in Plymouth.

Mr. Sylvia moved to go beyond 10:00 p.m., seconded by Ms. Gillette.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

#### **Proposed Changes to District Student Handbook for 2011-2012**

Janice Rotella, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, presented the proposed changes to the district handbook. Most changes were grammatical or moved around and were policy changes that have already been approved by Policy Review Committee.

Comments from the Committee included: format for changes a little confusing; change electronic archives language to specify WPS email; and would like BMI data results

Mr. Sylvia moved to accept, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain - 0

#### **Report of the Chair**

Mr. Fontes will be contacting Mr. Cruz to talk about AdHoc Committee continuing and Capital Planning.

#### **Report of the Superintendent of Schools**

- Many professional staff involved in trainings already this week
- Lots of activities going on within the school community and community including a meeting for Parents Involved in Education that happened on June 21, 2011, organized by that group of parents.

#### **Any other business**

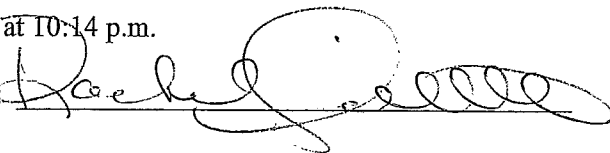
Mr. Sylvia wanted to know who designs the surveys for the School Improvement Plan.

Mr. Sylvia moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

The meeting adjourned at 10:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



#### **List of documents:**

Wareham Middle School Plan for Continuous School Improvement 2011-2012

Wareham Middle School Power Point

Wareham High School Plan for Continuous School Improvement 2011-2012

Naviance Succeed

Wareham Athletic Report 2010/2011

Revisions to District Handbook for FY2012