

June 27, 2012

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, June 27, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Present were Geoff Swett, Kenny Fontes, Cliff Sylvia, Michael Flaherty, and Rhonda Veugen, as well as Superintendent Dr. Rabinovitch, and recording secretary, Mrs. Ruiz.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Swett at 7:05 p.m.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

GOOD NEWS - None

Minutes of the Meeting

Dr. Sylvia moved to approve the minutes of June 6, 2012, seconded Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 1 (Mr. Fontes)

Mr. Flaherty moved to approve the minutes of June 12, 2012, seconded Dr. Sylvia.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

School Committee Reports

Chair Swett announced that the Superintendent's evaluation and goal setting process will occur in September since a significant part of his goals relates to student achievement and the numbers from MCAS and AP will not be available to the public until the first week in September. His Self-Evaluation will be on September 5th and the Committee's Evaluation of the Superintendent will be on September 19th. The Superintendent will present his Goals for 2012-2013 on October 3rd.

Transportation – Since the Board of Selectmen denied Town Meeting's vote for a debt exclusion ballot question, Chair Swett has initiated contact with Chairman Holmes and the Chair of the FinCom to ask that the Action Committee be restarted based on still having a significant need. We are predicting a deficit in the transportation budget including impacting the revolving account in FY'12. The FY'13 deficit could be even larger with bus repairs.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Rabinovitch announced that the special election will be on July 25th. He showed a slide with the four ballot questions with a cost/\$1,000 valuation, totaling 0.2828 per thousand. For a \$100,000 house the taxpayer would pay \$28.28 per year increase in taxes; \$200,000, \$56.56; \$300,000, \$84.84. After five years we lose the debt exclusions and just have the override. He informed the public to go to the Clerk's Office for an absentee ballot and sign up to vote until July 5th.

Follow-up to Wareham/Carver Co-Op in Hockey and Wrestling

Steve Rumbolt, Dean at Wareham High School, presented, on behalf of Principal Palladino and AD Loranger, Proposal 2 for a Wareham/Carver Co-Op in ice hockey and wrestling. Ice Hockey is in Wareham's budget at \$24,000; wrestling is in Carver's budget at \$11,000. With user fees the cost to operate both programs is \$29,500.

After discussion the Chair noted that a cost of \$14,250 would be budgeted for each school and asked for approval to have a coordinated cooperative program with Carver related to ice hockey and wrestling this winter.

Mr. Fontes moved to approve the cooperative wrestling/ice hockey proposal as presented by Mr. Rumbolt this evening, seconded Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain - 0

School Improvement Plans

- Wareham Middle School – Principal Gilmore, Mr. Minkle and Mrs. Ponte

Challenges and Successes 2011-12 school year

Challenges: Loss of nine teachers with higher class sizes; Social Studies becoming Critical Thinking World View; Foreign Language trimester class; Designation as a Level 3 School; Possibility of 26 Retainees; New Math curriculum to implement; New Literacy curriculum
 Successes: Curriculum - FT Instructional Leader, rigorous Math, three school-wide reading/writing samples, implemented new literacy curriculum, major emphases on informational text; incoming 6th grade MCAS scores proficient

Professional Development – training and collaboration meetings, evaluation and observation conversations

School Climate – formed a scheduling committee, additional 20 hours time on learning ELA, Math and Science, increase in student participation in school activities, 8th grade participation in high school sports

Parents and Community

(Mrs. Veugen entered the meeting at 7:47 p.m.)

Goals for 2012-2013

Student Achievement - new schedule; MCAS intervention once per cycle for students not proficient

RTI for Grade 6

Continue positive action with parents and community

Implementing new teacher evaluation system

Questions and comments were made from the committee including increasing the amount of time students go on line at home for studies; more specifics in parent involvement; more teacher email communications; Middle School parent perception; SGP perspective; the difference between certified and highly qualified teachers.

- John W. Decas School – Principal Panarese

Mission Statement

2011 Improvement Goals in student achievement in ELA and Math; 2011 Initiatives included RTI training; new playground; science fair; implemented National Junior Honor Society for students
 2011-2012 Survey results by parents, by students and by teachers/paraprofessionals

2012-2013 Goals

Improve Student Achievement in Reading by 7%, in Math by 7%, in Writing by 5%, in English proficiency of ELL students by 7%, in science & social studies by 7%

Improve Students' Tech Skills

Improve Student Attendance – newly added K-5 Therapeutic Day School

Improve Community/Parent Involvement

Summary of new initiatives: Use of ILs, RTI Mass. Tiered instruction, Use of data to drive school and student decisions

Questions and comments were heard from the School Committee.

Mr. Fontes moved to go beyond the hour of 10:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

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

Proposal for Beyond School Time Learning & Family Engagement Time

Mr. Louzan explained that his proposal consolidates the coordination of a lot of grants using existing funds. It proposes two positions – a Coordinator for Beyond School Time and Family Engagement and a Program Facilitator for 21C, Supplemental Supports and Enrichment. This proposal will expand the services by coordinating the grants. The 12 month position of Facilitator would cost approximately \$80,000. The 12 month 0.8 position of Coordinator would cost approximately \$70,000.

After discussion, Mr. Flaherty moved to accept the proposal as written, seconded by Mr. Fontes.

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

School Committee Reports

Policy Review Recommendations

Mrs. Veugen reviewed the policies:

- a) Movies & Films in the Classroom – changes including on line materials – film title in course description – approval one week in advance

Mr. Fontes moved approval, seconded by Mr. Swett.

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

- b) Prohibiting the Act of Hazing – added employees and students

Dr. Sylvia moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

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

- c) Child Custody – added photo identification

Mr. Flaherty moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Fontes.

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

- d) Home Schooling – no changes

Dr. Sylvia moved to approve as presented, seconded by Mr. Fontes.

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

- e) Naming & Dedication

Dr. Sylvia moved to approve as written, seconded by Mr. Fontes.

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

Curriculum & Technology

Chair Swett reported that it was determined at the last advisory meeting the infrastructure does not exist at this time to expand more technology.

Acceptance of Gifts

Dr. Rabinovitch recommended acceptance of the following gifts:

\$1,342 from the Wareham Athletic Association to the WHS Athletic Department for boys and girls sports.

Mr. Fontes moved the recommendation to accept the gift, seconded by Dr. Sylvia.

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

A Cash Register to the WHS Young Adult Program from the Tobey Hospital Guild.

Dr. Sylvia moved the recommendation to accept the gift, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

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

\$1,104.38 from the Stop & Shop A+ Bonus Program to the Minot Forest School.

Dr. Sylvia moved the recommendation to accept the gift, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

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

\$202.32 from the Stop & Shop A+ Bonus Program to the Hammond School.

Dr. Sylvia moved the recommendation to accept the gift, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

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

Vote to Appoint Superintendent to the Board of Directors to PCC

PCC is collaborative held at Stonehill College and offers a 4 week program for students. Superintendents from the various school districts sit on its Board of Directors.

Dr. Sylvia moved to appoint Superintendent Rabinovitch to the Board of Directors of PCC, seconded by Mrs. Veugen.

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

Any other business

Dr. Rabinovitch shared an email he received from Brian Kudish, the new Town Accountant, reaffirming a policy on signing bills effective July 1, 2012. The School Committee may approve bills

- 1) by a majority number of signatures on the bills prior to submittal to the accountant's office
- or
- 2) by vote to appoint one member or non member to be the sole signatory with a letter and copy of the minutes of the meeting

Chair Swett will discuss this email with the Town Accountant. In the meantime, we will have bills ready for meeting nights and call three members to come to the office to sign the bills on off weeks.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Swett announced that the Committee would be entering into executive session for the purpose of collective bargaining and executive session minutes and coming out to adjourn. Roll call vote:

Mr. Fontes – yea; Dr. Sylvia – yea; Mr. Flaherty – yea; Mrs. Veugen – yea; Mr. Swett – yea

VOTE: yea - 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

(10:53 p.m.)

Mrs. Veugen moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____

List of documents:

Power Point Combined PTA and School Council Meeting
Policies – Home Schooling; Naming & Dedication of Rooms/Buildings; Child Custody;
Prohibiting the Act of Hazing; Movies and Films in the Classroom
Wareham/Carver Co-Op in Hockey and Wrestling 2012-2013
Wareham Middle School Improvement Plan 2012-12 & Power Point Presentation
John W. Decas School Improvement Plan 2012-2013 & Power Point Presentation
Proposal for Beyond School Time Learning and Family Engagement Time
Gifts – Tobey Hospital Guild; Stop & Shop A+ Bonus Bucks
Suggested Vote for Superintendent to serve on Board PCC



