

May 29, 2013

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Present were Geoff Swett, Kenny Fontes, Cliff Sylvia, Michael Flaherty, and Rhonda Veugen as well as recording secretary, Mrs. Ruiz.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Veugen at 6:00 p.m.

Deliberation and Possible Vote for the Next Superintendent of Schools

Chair Veugen asked the Committee members to put down the names of their top two candidates on paper to see if the deliberation could be narrowed down to two candidates. The results were:

Dr. Sylvia – Shaver-Hood & Frangos

Mr. Flaherty – Shaver-Hood & Frangos

Mr. Swett – Shaver-Hood & Frangos

Mr. Fontes – Shaver-Hood & Frangos

Mrs. Veugen – Shaver-Hood & Frangos

Each member was asked to address the strengths and weaknesses of each of the candidates.

Mr. Swett made opening comments complimenting Chair Veugen on the thoughtful, open and conclusive search and the screening committee input in the process. He believed Dr. Frangos was an effective grant writer but felt Ms. Shaver-Hood had proven strength in student improvement in a frugal town and had a commitment to students and believes in being an active participant in town.

Mr. Fontes stated that he was happy with either of the candidates and both would bring something different to the table. Ms. Shaver-Hood ranked #1 and #2 for him throughout the entire process. Dr. Frangos would be active in the community but did not have experience as a Principal or Superintendent.

Dr. Sylvia stated that choosing the next superintendent is an important decision to lead our school district forward and both candidates have a skill set to benefit Wareham. Ms. Shaver-Hood has been a superintendent but does not have extensive background in curriculum and a skill set to get funding we need in Wareham. Dr. Frangos has demonstrated her expertise in curriculum and fiscal matters and felt she had nailed her interviews.

Mr. Flaherty stated that he would support either one of these finalists. Dr. Frangos was professional; she helped write the MassCore but had very little collective bargaining experience. Ms. Shaver-Hood is working on her doctorate; experienced; and had an attitude with decisiveness and clarity.

Mrs. Veugen did not go to either of these site visits but commented on Dr. Frangos' passion, ability and knowledge of curriculum but she had a concern with her lack of leadership experience. Ms. Shaver-Hood was a great communicator and approachable who was looking for a challenge. She expressed her desire for the need to raise the bar; putting children first.

Chair Veugen asked for additional comments or questions for the other members.

Mr. Fontes moved that the School Committee go into negotiations to appoint Kimberly Shaver-Hood as the next Superintendent of the Wareham Public Schools, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 1 (Dr. Sylvia); abstain – 0