

October 16, 2013

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, October 16, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Present were Geoff Swett, Michael Flaherty, Rhonda Veugen, and student rep, Nicole Russo as well as Superintendent Kimberly Shaver-Hood, and recording secretary, Mrs. Ruiz.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Veugen at 7:00 p.m.

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None**

#### **GOOD NEWS**

Superintendent Shaver-Hood shared that our schools have participated in making scarecrows placed in downtown Wareham.

She announced the upcoming event "Readers Become Leaders Race" to be held at Minot Forest School on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Swett encouraged people to come out and support WHS PTA Fundraiser Comedy Night on October 26<sup>th</sup> at Salernos in Onset.

#### **Minutes of the Meeting**

Mr. Swett moved to approve the minutes of October 2, 2013, seconded by Mr. Flaherty for discussion.

Mr. Flaherty questioned page 3 paragraph 5 the word "can" under the discussion regarding the police department grant. The Chair and Superintendent both agreed that the minutes are correct as stated.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

#### **Student Art Presentation**

Mrs. Dion, WHS Art Teacher, with students Jamie & Alexis were present and informed the committee of a K-12 Art Show to support our local art on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 3-7 PM. The exhibit will be from October 25-27 from 3-7 PM but refreshments will be only during the opening reception with activities for children at 2421 Cranberry Hwy, Wareham Crossing. Fliers were given out for the event and some artwork was shown. Mrs. Dion stated that all the art teachers in the system are on board and she gave credit to Alexis for her initiative in this project. Wareham Crossing has donated the space and food is being donated by local restaurants in Wareham Crossing.

#### **MCAS Results**

Wareham Middle School - Principal Bankston

- MCAS Historical Data 2011, 2012, 2013 in Math and ELA Grades 6-8, % Advanced/Proficient and Science/Technology Grade 8, % Advanced/Proficient
- Changes to the School Improvement Plan  
The original goal was student achievement increase of 10% in CPI. The revised goal is improve ELA and Math 15 percent points; students with disabilities increase 25 percentage points; subgroups increase of 15 percentage points  
The original goal to maintain a safe and supportive environment for all students has been revised to demonstrate by a decrease of 25% in office referrals and out of school suspensions through PBIS.
- Focus Areas for Improvement

Instruction: Curriculum Aligned to Common Core; Data Driven Instruction; Tiered Instruction; Engagement of Students  
Assessment: Formative Assessments; Progress Monitoring; Common Assessments and Benchmarks  
Intervention – Targeted Instruction Based on Data; Progress Monitoring; Benchmark Assessments; Tier II and III

Questions and comments by School Committee including high standards with a need for overwhelming support to meet the goals; # of teachers on directed growth plans; what has been the effect so far using PBIS compared to last year at this time.

Based on the committees' comments Principal Bankston will go back to discuss the goals with her staff.

Decas School – Principal Panarese

2013-14 Corrective Action Plan for School Improvement

- Reviewed Historical Data 2005 – 2013 ELA, Math, Science performance levels %s (common core with half beginning in 2012 and full in 2013) – Historical CPI
- Specific Target Areas for Improvement ELA/Reading & Math
- Specific Action or Strategy – Teacher Level Improvement Actions; School Leadership Team Improvement Actions

Mr. Flaherty asked Principal Panarese to review each item listed in the research by Leithwood, 2010 that part of successful school turnaround is to identify the right problem to solve.

Other areas addressed were the increase in “high needs” students; involuntary transfers of teachers to different grade levels; grade 4 math CPI improvement; teachers on directed growth plans; common core changes but not affecting the state scores; needs to be reflected in budget presentation.

### **Financial Reports**

Mr. MacMillan reviewed the Function Summary September 2013 report done in a different format as requested by the Committee. The report shows the same as last year in comparison of % of funds available. He stated that the budget will be tight and requires close management.

He then presented the Revolving Accounts Report in a new format showing more data - payments/receipts/ending balances/dept/planned use. The committee asked for more information on FDK receipts, an analysis on whether FDK is a plus to the system, and the funds in the transportation account to purchase a tow truck or service truck.

Mr. MacMillan is working on a student activity accounts report.

The Committee was pleased with the new formats and openness of the reports. Kudos was given to Mr. MacMillan and the staff involved in preparing the reports.

### **Acceptance of Gifts**

Superintendent Shaver-Hood recommended acceptance of the donation of equipment from Mr. Jerry L. Smith Jr. of West Wareham to the technology department.

Mr. Flaherty moved to accept the gift with thanks, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

**Composition of Policy Review Committee**

Mr. Flaherty stated that he spoke with MASC and there is no authority for principals to choose teachers and parents for the Policy Review subcommittee. The whole School Committee should appoint its membership. He made the following suggested changes:

- Chair appoint 2 school committee members 1 year term
- Principals are 3 year terms
- Delete Teachers and Parents may elect to extend their term.
- Add Teachers and Parents to be appointed by Chair of PRC

Chair Veugen stated that there could be a perception of a conflict of interest if the Chair of PRC appoints teachers and parents. She asked to consider teachers and parents be recommended by the Chair and approved by the existing membership of 3 Administrators and 2 School Committee.

Suggested change – Teachers and Parents shall be recommended by the Chair of the PRC and approved by unanimous vote of the two SC members.

Mr. Swett recommended changing the language to read “Teachers and Parents shall be recommended by the School Committee members of the PRC and approved by them jointly.”

Mr. Swett moved to approve the changes in the membership guidelines as presented by Mr. Flaherty and amended by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

**WHS Roof – Vote to Pull Motion from Fall Town Meeting**

Superintendent Shaver-Hood reviewed the motion that would allow the Committee to pull the motion from Town Meeting. The percentage not covered by MSBA for a feasibility study will be split between Town and our school’s local budget.

Mr. Flaherty reluctantly supported the motion.

Mr. Swett stated that he did not feel the school’s local budget should be spent on this capital project and he reluctantly will approve the motion but did not want this action to set a precedent on how capital projects are handled in the future.

Chair Veugen stated that during these talks the Board of Selectmen were very supportive of the school needs and it is her understanding that going forward capital projects will not be paid out of the school budget.

Mr. Swett stated for the record the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, and the Finance Committee are doing an excellent job for the town and trying hard in setting a good relationship with the schools.

Mr. Swett moved to withdraw the warrant article regarding the feasibility study for the WHS Roof, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

**Superintendent’s Report**

- At the next meeting the principals of WHS and Minot will present their MCAS results.
- The budget process has started with the principals.

- DSAC has been speaking with the Middle and Decas staff with recommendations forthcoming.
- She invited members to participate in the Veteran's Day Parade and she is asking schools to participate as well.

Chair Veugen asked if the school children would be placing flags at the cemeteries and would there be any costs for buses to transport students?

Mr. Flaherty asked the Superintendent for an update on funds for the School Resource Officer.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that our local budget did not fund the Resource Officer but a request was made and on June 30<sup>th</sup> we transferred money from the school to the police department budget to cover the SRO's salary. There is a grant from the police department that could have covered the \$25,000 which we have not received.

### **School Committee Reports**

Possible Votes on MASC Resolutions – Mr. Swett stated that on November 6, 7, and 8 the annual MASS/MASC Conference will be held in Hyannis where resolutions will be voted on by delegates. Dr. Sylvia is our voting delegate.

Resolution #1 – supplemental funding to school districts to get proper paperwork for transient students

Resolution #2 – PARCC Assessments – technology not ready to allow on line assessments asking Governor to petition DESE Board to delay

Resolution #3 – Teacher evaluation increased costs asking to update Ch. 70 formula

Resolution #4 – School committees have input into the Evaluation of the Commissioner of Education

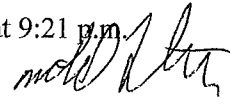
Resolution #5 – Confirming Actions from 2012

**Any other business - None**

Mr. Swett moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: 

### **List of documents:**

K-12 Art Show Flier

10/16/13 Power point WMS

John W. Decas School 2013-14 Correction Action Plan & power point

MCAS Results and Definitions (informational only)

WPS FY2014 Budget Function Summary Sept 2013

WPS Revolving Accounts Report: September 2013

Policy Review Committee Statement of Purpose Membership Guidelines

Report of the Resolutions Committee

Correspondence: Newsletter, Personnel List, Vacancy Notice List

