

November 20, 2013

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Present were Geoff Swett, Kenny Fontes, Cliff Sylvia, Michael Flaherty, Rhonda Veugen, and 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 had the Outreach Coordinator, Jaime Rebhan, show a video on the happenings for the past two weeks in the Wareham School District. Ms. Rebhan then unveiled what our new website will look like through the work of Justin and Chris in the technology department. The safety icons go directly to the Superintendent.

The Committee members made the following suggestions:

Updated Calendar, School Council Members and contact information, Policy Review Committee membership, feature one of our alumni each week, highlight FWE and fundraising efforts with a donate now button and other fundraising activities by the PTAs with membership, a form to join, and ways to get involved with the schools

It was also suggested to use the video of happenings in the schools for a presentation to the Board of Selectmen or chambers and to open town meeting with a video.

- In recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school, student Emily Schluter will feed 100 families. She is raising funds. If anyone wishes to help with the project, her address will be on the district website.
- Dr. Sylvia mentioned the following: Hall of Fame presentation at Salerno's Saturday after Thanksgiving; Teacher Brian Nobrega retired this week and wished him well and good health; on a sad note a moment of silence was held for those who have recently passed away, former teachers Jerry Flory and Steve Connor and Joe MacDonald, a former student.
- Mr. Swett along with Chair Veugen attended the Minot Forest MCAS Award Ceremony last Thursday and he complimented both the students and parents who came out.
- Chair Veugen attended the Foundation for Wareham Education award ceremony/fundraiser last evening where teachers received grants totaling \$5,000. She thanked Ella's as the host and thanked members of Foundation for their work.
- Mr. Flaherty announced that this Friday evening there is a murder mystery at the library featuring Ken Fontes, Ms. Shaver-Hood and himself among others to benefit the Wareham Library Foundation.
- Mr. Fontes congratulated the two Tiger Football teams playing this Sunday at Mass Maritime and wished them good luck.

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

Dr. Sylvia moved to approve the minutes of November 6, 2013, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

#### **Wareham Community Television (WCTV) Presentation**

Jay Heard, Executive Director, spoke on what WCTV does and has done for education in Wareham. The Board of Directors have made the educational channels a priority with student programs, school sports coverage, and live and

re-broadcast of school committee meetings. WCTV staff member, Christian Fernandes works 35 hours per week in the schools over the last 2 years while on WCTV payroll under supervision of WHS staff. WCTV has a studio and office at WHS and has supplied equipment for students and teachers, equipment for the school committee, 4 desktop edit suites at WHS, 5 camera kits, AV room updates and training students. At the Middle School there is editing/camera equipment for the after school program and used by Ms. Rebhan, Outreach Coordinator. At the elementary schools there are 2 camera kits for qualified kids and teachers to use. WCTV gave the school system an internet portal and license to Eduvision.

The members thanked Mr. Heard and WCTV for their partnership with the school system. Mr. Fontes asked for a clipping of students at the news desk in the next video. Chair Veugen asked the Superintendent to put this information in her in-kind report.

### **Report on Superintendent's Welcome Challenge**

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that this presentation is delayed until the next meeting due to weather conditions.

### **MCAS Results**

Wareham Cooperative – Principal Moore-Minkle made the following presentation:

- School population
- 36% of last year's students transitioned to the high school or middle school.
- AM student and PM student demographics
- MCAS trends most are in needs improvement
- Focus and Assessments in day program and PM Programs included staff development and teachers collaboratively analyzing student work; tutoring and virtual online and adding additional support for MCAS
- Considerations and Direction – moving PM program to former Boys & Girls Club using the Cafeteria and inside gym this year and in September 2014 also using the classrooms

West Wareham Academy – Clinical Coordinator, Wendy Miranda, made the following presentation:

- The school has received a grant from the FWE to partner with the land trust for a nature trail near the school.
- Spring 2013 MCAS results for students in grades 7, 8 and 10 in ELA, Math, and Biology indicate students remaining at WWA for at least one year or more demonstrate growth.
- Focus and plans for improvement in ELA are direct vocabulary and reading instruction; math basic skills, number sense and algebraic expressions by increasing real life applications through hands-on projects
- 2 students transitioned back to the high school this past year through the i.e.p. process.
- Our students would benefit more if we had a vocational piece in the curriculum.

### **Financial Reports from Business Manager**

Mr. MacMillan reviewed the function summary and revolving account reports. The salaries are more than last year because we have had one more paycheck paid out than last year.

In regard to the substitute line costs Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that she signs all leave requests including professional development. There are costs working with DSAC and teachers are out of the classroom.

Regarding transportation Mr. MacMillan stated that an RFP is going out to purchase used vehicles. Also in the revolving account report the transport vehicle will not tow buses. The Kindergarten revolving account money is from the Income Eligible Program and we will have a specific account now.

Chair Veugen asked about the AD Makepeace account and the status of teacher grants from last year.

Mr. Fontes asked when a report would be given on student activity accounts. Mr. MacMillan will have this report at the next meeting.

**Acceptance of Gifts**

Mr. Flaherty moved the superintendent's recommendation to accept the donation from CMB Pavement to re-paint the parking lot lines at Decas School, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

Mr. Flaherty moved to accept the donation of a news desk for WHS students from James Bruce of E.L. Morse valued at \$1,000, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

**Superintendent's Report**

- a) Meeting Monday with the Superintendent's Budget Advisory Committee and the Principals/Directors.
- b) Teacher expectations at each grade level are being worked on. This vertical/horizontal articulation will be presented to the School Committee to implement summer school at the beginning of August giving the students as a jump start.
- c) Developing a STEAM academy in grade 7 through grant applications and will be coming to the School Committee outlining the proposal.
- d) The work project with MSBA is continuing. We have signed an agreement with a project manager and still need an architect.
- e) Through a AD Makepeace Grant we have purchased 100 nooks for elementary students throughout grade levels.
- f) Focus on WHS at our next meeting.

**School Committee Reports**

- Policy Review Committee – Mike Flaherty, Chair

(Mr. Fontes left meeting 8:50 p.m. – 8:53 p.m.)

**Bus Transportation** – changed policy to reflect current practice

Mr. Swett moved approval of the Bus Transportation policy as amended, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 3; nay – 0; abstain – 1 (Dr. Sylvia)

**Charging Student Meals** – change Mynutrikids.com to MyschoolBucks.com; instead of 2 lunches and 2 breakfasts allowed to charge to “up to \$10”; negative balance reports take out “to elementary”; “reach out to parents/guardians with negative balances”.

Mr. Fontes moved to approve the Charging Student Meals policy as amended, seconded by Mr. Swett.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

**Criteria for Approval of a Private School by the Wareham School Committee** – changed Directors of Operations & Finance, Student Services to Business Manager, Administrator of Special Education – changed MA State Frameworks and Learning Standards to MA Curriculum Frameworks and Common Core State Standards.

Dr. Sylvia moved approve Criteria for Approval of a Private School by the Wareham School Committee policy as amended, seconded by Mr. Fontes.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

**School Committee Standing Rules of Procedure-** Part III Self Evaluation was removed. The committee felt a self-evaluation was not unimportant but should have its own policy. There was discussion on Part II #5.

Dr. Sylvia moved to strike “The Chair shall not take part in debate on a motion unless the Chair is relinquished for that purpose until after the vote is taken.”, seconded by Mr. Fontes for discussion.

Mr. Fontes stated that this was part of Roberts Rules of Order and should not be deleted.

Dr. Sylvia withdrew his motion and Mr. Fontes, his second.

Dr. Sylvia moved to ask the Policy Review Committee to reconsider this policy, seconded by Mr. Fontes.

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

- MASC Conference Report

Voting Delegate, Mr. Swett, reported that all resolutions were passed; new officers were chosen; he is now Chair of Division VII and on the MASC Board of Directors. Topics of interest were Technology with PARC, legislative updates, and an active discussion relating to voc tech.

Dr. Sylvia also attended and reported on legislative updates, review of mandates, school committee role in the School Improvement Plan, more flexibility for Level 3 schools, foundation formula.

**Any other business**

Mr. Swett asked to have the ASLP scholarship program information on the district website.

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

VOTE: yea – 5; nay – 0; abstain – 0

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

**List of documents:**

Wareham Cooperative School State of the School 2013/2014

West Wareham Academy Plan for Continuous School Improvement

WPS FY2014 Budget Function Summary November 15, 2013

Revolving Accounts Report: October 2013

Policies: Bus Transportation; Charging Student Meals; Criteria for Approval of a Private School by the Wareham School Committee; School Committee Standing Rules of Procedure

Correspondence: Newsletter, Personnel List, Vacancy Notice List