

December 4, 2013

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, December 4, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Present were Geoff Swett, Kenny Fontes, Cliff Sylvia, Michael Flaherty, and Nicole Russo, Student Representative, as well as Superintendent Kimberly Shaver-Hood, and recording secretary, Mrs. Ruiz.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Sylvia in the absence of Chair Veugen due to illness at 7:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None**

**GOOD NEWS**

- Recognition of Student for MCAS – Principal Palladino introduced student Devon Cleveland, senior at WHS, who received the Abigail Adams Scholarship and was unable to attend the meeting in November.
- Happenings Video – Jaime Rebhan, Outreach Coordinator, showed the video of happenings in the district since the last meeting.
- Superintendent Shaver-Hood announced upcoming events in the district.

**Minutes of the Meeting**

Mr. Fontes moved to approve the minutes of November 16, 2013, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain – 0

Mr. Fontes moved to approve the minutes of November 20, 2013, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain – 0

**Presentation by JROTC Students**

Instructors Major Mark Gabriele & Sergeant Sherri Hudson were present with some of the JROTC students.

Sergeant Hudson explained that the purpose this evening was to provide information about Army JROTC at WHS and inform the school committee on specific curriculum goals and objectives. JROTC also provides resource support to the program.

Cadet Battalion Commander LTC John Mahar reviewed the WHS JROTC Mission to encourage citizenship and education and develop friendships. He explained the Task Organization, how the battalion is structured, and the Program Curriculum in leadership, training, extracurricular and summer programs.

Cadet Executive Officer MAJ Kelley Peterson reviewed the events, primarily community service projects.

Command Sergeant Major CSM Cory Harunkiewicz gave a brief history and a testimonial video prepared by the students was shown.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood asked if some cadets could go to the elementary schools to read to the students as role models.

Mr. Fontes, as Director of the Boys & Girls Club, asked if cadets could come to the Club to work with the kids.

Questions and discussion included how the cadets have personally grown within the program, what the ribbons on the uniforms represent, and Wareham having the only JROTC program in the cape area with the closest programs in New Bedford and Brockton.

The School Committee thanked the students and leaders for what they have done in our community.

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

Maureen Manning explained how the welcome challenge came about the end of August when Superintendent Shaver-Hood played a video We Are Wareham and issued a challenge to create a warm environment and an inviting entryway in our schools.

Ms. Rebhan showed a video "Mission Possible" with before and after pictures of the schools. The judges chose Minot Forest School as winner of the Welcome Challenge.

Mrs. Fondulis explained that proposals were submitted to the Superintendent and grant funds from Beyond School Time were used for supplies. All staff, parents, and students went beyond and received donations and are still moving forward with the challenge.

The Committee expressed a great job was done by all and thanked the Superintendent for coming up with challenge.

#### **Request for WHS Student Trip Abroad, April 2015**

Staff members Deb Freitas, Sandi Ponte, and Kristi Prada were present to seek permission for a student trip abroad to Italy. They distributed a brochure with an itinerary and the price which covers all motels, transportation while there, air fare, two meals/day, entrance fees, full-time tour director, pre-planning, and tour guides for city sites.

Mrs. Ponte and Ms. Prada spoke as chaperone parents on the benefits they saw for their children who went on the last trip to Spain and a past trip to Greece.

Ms. Freitas stated that for safety EF Tours requires a 6:1 ratio. Approximately 30 students expressed interest but official sign ups and meetings will take place if the trip is approved by the School Committee.

Mr. Fontes moved to approve the student trip abroad to Italy in April 2015, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain – 0

#### **Request for Pilot Clubs at WHS & at Decas School**

Principal Palladino and Mr. Rumbolt proposed a Badminton Pilot Club at WHS for the 2013-14 school year. Over 55 students expressed interest for competition amongst themselves.

Mr. Rumbolt was willing to volunteer and use the stipend for equipment needs. The club would take place between seasons and perhaps mid February through end of year if there is no Boys' Volleyball.

Dr. Sylvia asked about protection goggles but was informed by Principal Palladino the shuttles are soft in nature and there never has been an injury in physical education classes with the equipment.

Mr. Swett moved to accept the Badminton Club as pilot club at WHS, seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain – 0

Superintendent Shaver-Hood recommended a pilot Global Education Team at the Decas School on a volunteer basis, the person forgoing the stipend.

Mr. Fontes made a motion to approve the Global Education Team at Decas on a pilot basis, no second. Motion lost.

The request will be brought back to the School Committee and ask Principal Panarese and/or the teacher to be present at a future meeting to answer the committee's questions and concerns.

#### **Wareham Middle/Wareham High School Dual Enrollment Program**

Principal Palladino and Assistant Principal Freitas proposed an Accelerated Academic Academy which would transition freshman into the high school by offering them courses for high school credit. They reviewed the advantages to our students with this type of program. The students would be based at the middle school and come to WHS for two classes every day. The goal is to have more middle school students choose to continue at WHS.

The academy would start with up to 35 grade 8 students taking two AM core classes each day and have a bus drop off at WHS and back to WMS. The Criteria for Enrollment would include a review of a student's current grades, attendance, discipline, letter of application, and interviews.

Principal Palladino reviewed the dual enrollment timeline including presentations, applications, and deadlines.

The dual enrollment program had the support of the Superintendent.

There were comments and questions from the School Committee. The members felt that this program was long overdue and liked the increased rigor offered to the students.

Mr. Swett moved approval of the Wareham Middle/High School Dual Enrollment Program, second by Mr. Fontes.

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain – 0

#### **Fall Athletic Report**

Mr. Ed Rodrigues, Athletic Director, gave highlights of the season including awards, community service projects, and fundraising activities. Three teams received Team Sportsmanship Awards. The Average GPA was 82.57 and 25 Eighth Graders participated this fall.

The Committee members asked questions pertaining to Basketball, Wrestling, the number of participants signed up for winter sports, Police Detail costs, equity in finances on a sport-by-sport basis, evaluation of coaches, coaches being more visible at youth athletic events, and meet the coaches for parents.

Mr. Rodrigues shared his goals to get the younger students interested in playing sports at WHS, i.e. having clinics. He is also looking for coaches who love their sport and are passionate about winning. He thanked Michael MacMillan and secretary Brenda Parsons for help in preparing the report.

#### **Superintendent's Report**

- Budget Advisory Committee – A brief overview was given by Mr. MacMillan
- Superintendent's Advisory Committee – Applications closed and the Superintendent will bring a list of members to the next meeting and ask the Chair to appoint its two members.

**School Committee Reports**

- Mr. Flaherty stated that the Policy Review Committee will meet on December 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Flaherty previously asked the Chair about a time for the next meeting with the Board of Selectmen which was going to be scheduled after December 15<sup>th</sup> but Chair Veugen has not received any communication.

**Any other business**

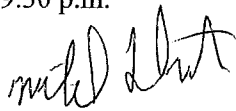
At the next meeting Mr. MacMillan will have his budget reports and the student activity accounts report.

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

VOTE: yea – 4; nay – 0; abstain – 0

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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



**List of documents:**

Power Point "What is WHS JROTC?"

Minot Forest Before and after pictures of our beautification project

Request for 2015 April Vacation Student Trip Abroad

Pilot Club WHS

Proposed New Club Decas

Wareham Middle/High School Dual Enrollment Program

WHS Athletic Department Fall Report 2013/2014

Fall Athletic Financial Report

Correspondence: Newsletter, Personnel List, Vacancy Notice List

