

WELLFLEET SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES ~ Tuesday, December 10, 2013 ~ 4:30 PM

Wellfleet Elementary School Staff Room

Members Present: *Chair*, Jan Plaue *Vice-Chair*, Betsy Pontius, Terri Frazier, Mort Inger, and Jill Putnam **Members Absent:** Terri Frazier

Administration Present: *Superintendent*; Dr. Hoffmann, *Director of Finance and Operations*: Giovanna Venditti

Accounts Manager: James Nowack *Principal*: Mary Beth Rodman *Staff*: Lynn Dalton, Susan Deschamps, Marianne Millette-Kelley

I. CALL TO ORDER/AGENDA CHANGES

- Jan Plaue said that Accounts Manager James Nowack would be joining the meeting. Upon his arrival she would like to jump to Section V Item D; Update on the Roof.

II. CHAIR'S REPORT

- Jan asked if anyone wished to make discussion suggestions for the Union 54 meeting
- Thursday, December 12, the Committee will present the FY15 Budget to FINCOM, and Selectmen @ their 6:00 PM meeting at the Wellfleet COA.

III. MEMBERS SPEAK

Mort Inger suggested investigating the possibility of including four year olds in FY15 Kindergarten. The Chair suggested addressing the idea under FY15 budget later in the meeting.

IV. CITIZENS SPEAK ~ None.

V. PRIORITY BUSINESS

Upon Mr. Nowack's arrival Item D was addressed at this time:

D. Update on the Roof

Jim Nowack shared the status and details of the roof project relative to the MSBA consideration of reimbursing the Town of Wellfleet 37.95% of the cost. The estimated cost at this time is \$436,000/ \$165,000 of which is the estimated reimbursement from the state/ and \$71,200 is set aside in Capital Money, leaving an estimated \$200,000 net cost. It was emphasized that the Town must vote to encumber the entire amount of \$436,000. Jim said the bids will be solicited after Town Meeting. Jim shared that Town Administrator Harry Terkanian has been on top of the progress and is a supportive conduit of information to those who need to know. Jim said the MSBA will make their final decision on January 29, 2014. The discussion concluded and Jim took his leave.

A. Administrators' Reports

1. Principal's Report:

Jan shared that she has heard positive feedback regarding Art Teacher Mrs. Roberts's Intergenerational Art Project pairing the third graders at WES with Wellfleet Elders through the COA.

Jan asked how many students participated in the Child Identification Program this week (CHIPS) presented by the Masons. Mary Beth Rodman said 6 or 7 students in grades 1 and 4 participated.

Mary Beth raved about the Nauset Regional High School Jazz Band and Orchestra performance at WES this week. The concert was mesmerizing to the students and was deemed a professional performance on all levels.

Mary Beth clarified that WES is now a Peanut "Aware" school, and the language will no longer refer to WES as a Peanut "Free" school.

Mary Beth shared that the Masons have adopted 2 families in need this holiday season and will provide holiday gifts and meals. Our Lady of Lourdes is also gifting to 6 families.

2. Assistant Superintendent's Report

- There was discussion on the staff survey
- Dr. Hoffmann said there were 850 est. parent surveys still being tallied.
- Dr. Hoffmann brought attention to the Technology implementation plan that is down the road for all Nauset schools.

3. Director of Student Services Reports

4. Superintendent's Report

- Jan shared that the Capital Improvement Plan is due in June.
- Dr. Hoffmann attended the Food Play presentation at WES.
- Dr. Hoffmann is visiting second grade classrooms throughout the district.
- Jan asked about the water bill at WES. Janet Ferro was asked to share a conversation she had with Terri Frazier on the subject. Mrs. Rodman will continue to investigate ways to lower the metered water bill by contacting the TA.

B. FY14 Budget Update

Giovanna Venditti shared that the FY14 budget is tracking nicely. Giovanna distributed a handout on the Cafeteria Revolving Fund.

C. FY15 Budget

- FY15 Budget binders were assembled today and distributed by Dr. Hoffmann.
- It was noted that Nauset ELL Director is now Svetlana Stepanchenko and no longer Jen Lyons.
- Mary Beth gave details on the proposed budget relative to staffing, including:
 - reduction in force of one classroom teaching position (8 classrooms down from 9). Seniority dictates that the latest hire, the tech teacher, is the one to be let go.
 - shifting a current classroom teacher into the 80% technology teaching position
 - reducing the 60% curriculum support position to 20%
 - increase guidance to 100% from 60% (to assist with the significant increase of SN students to est. 14 from 5).

Mary Beth noted that a January, 2014 retirement of a 100% SN teacher will result in a salary difference savings for part of FY14 and in the budget for FY15.

Spring boarding off an idea offered by Mort at the start of this meeting, the committee discussed ways to increase incoming K enrollment including; opening limited seating to school choice and/or inviting pre K students into the K classroom. No action was taken.

The meeting addressed item F under section V; Policy Updates, to accommodate Betsy Pontius who has to leave momentarily. (See item F later in these minutes.)

- Mary Beth spoke to the changes among tech requirements in the FY15 Budget.
- Mary Beth will investigate if SN money may support the Guidance increase of 40%.

D. Update on the Roof (see above)

E. Preschool (post script. This agenda item refers to the subcommittee that is investigating the idea of Pre K at WES)

The anticipated update from this subcommittee was not received by members since last discussed in November. No action was taken.

F. Policy Updates

Jill Putnam motioned and Mort seconded to:

- **take no action on the Fundraising Policy**
- **take no action on Policy G; Personnel.**
- **Approve Policy H; Negotiations for a second reading and approval “in form” as recommended by the Policy Committee.**

All present voted in favor of the motion.

A. Cape Cod Collaborative

Jill's report included these highlights of the November 13 meeting:

- Thanksgiving luncheon paid for by staff saw 200 attendees.
- Michele from DESE visited/ she is involved with reviewing the regional agreement.
- Five attendees at the meeting were from Nauset.
- Dr. Hauser was given more hours.
- Way Point school reports increased membership (60 students) at Otis.
- 20 students worked with counselors at Camp Burgess.
- Some students viewed the Ann Frank movie.
- Jill is unable to attend the December meeting.

B. PTA

Betsy reports the Officers are trying to mentor new candidates, but there is a lack of interest so far.

C. School Council

Working on School Improvement Plan

D. Joint Meeting

Dr. Hoffmann gave updates on the anticipated agenda.

E. Nauset Preschool Enrollment

F. Chair's Annual Report

Jan will provide a written draft to Secretary Janet Ferro to type and submit to Town Hall.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jill motioned and Mort seconded to approve the minutes from November 12, 2013 as submitted. All present voted in favor of the motion.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jill motioned and Mort seconded to enter into executive session at 6:20 PM to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with union personnel, not to return to open session. Members were polled and each voted in favor of the motion.

IX. PAYMENT OF BILLS

X. ADJOURNMENT

Mort motioned and Terri seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Ferro

REF: Agenda for December 10, 2013, Assistant Superintendent's December Report, Principal Rodman's December report, WES Expenditure Report-Comparison, Nauset Integrated Preschool Enrollment Report for December, Minutes from November 12, 2013.