

Joint School Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 31, 2016
Eastham Town Hall

Present for the Committees:

Region: John O'Reilly, Chris Easley, Sarah Blackwell, Chris Galazzi
arrived late, Ed Lewis, Sue Skidmore and Tracy Vanderschmidt
Brewster: Claire Gradone, Jessica Larsen, Dave Telman, Marie Enochy
Eastham: Mary Lou Sette, Amy Handel, Judy Lindahl, and Ann Crozier
Orleans: Josh Stewart and Hank Schumacher
Wellfleet: Jan Plaue, Jill Putnam, Mort Inger, Martha Gordon and Betsy Pontius (arrived late)

Present for the Administration:

Thomas Conrad, Superintendent, Keith Gauley, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Ann Caretti, Director of Student Services, Giovanna Venditti, Director of Finance and Operations, Principal Elaine Pender

Call to Order

Chair Plaue called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the Joint School Committee meeting.

Citizens Speak

None

Substance Abuse Task Force Presentation

Superintendent Conrad thanked the Substance Abuse Task Force for the time and effort they put into their very difficult work that will dovetail into a master plan over the next two years. Committees will be updated on the District efforts at monthly school committee meetings going forward.

Dr. Ann Caretti gave a brief history of the Substance Abuse Task Force indicating it was formed after the Joint School Committee meeting last July. People reacted positively to that meeting and wanted to do more to help our kids. The Superintendent gave the Task Force a charge which stated:

“The Task Force will develop, organize and recommend programs, services, and partnerships to assist students, families and parents with substance abuse issues. These initiatives should be coordinated with other efforts by any groups currently working on the same issue of substance abuse in our communities. This work will continue throughout this school year with a discussion of next year’s agenda in June 2016.”

Dr. Caretti thanked the Subcommittee for all their dedication and commitment in meeting and brainstorming solutions to a very difficult subject. The Subcommittee met monthly from November – March for one and a half hours. They brainstormed ideas on how to move forward. They worked on ideas for this year, 5 years, and in the future. They brought these ideas to the Nauset Administrative Team who came up with the top five preferences. The Task Force narrowed the recommendations down to three which includes:

This year: Form collaboration with town agencies/departments. Make connections with other local schools that have effective prevention programs in place. Have information programs available throughout the District – all elementary, middle and high school including websites and backpack mail.

Next year: Survey High School/Middle School students – what do they know, have been exposed to, don't talk down to them. Nauset Wide – same at all school, language, expectations, curriculum. Education middle/high school and parents – dangers of prescription drugs. Work with all staff on perceptions/drug addiction and stigma.

Five Years: Easy access to mental health services at this end of the Cape. Satellite site @Nauset location for services for families/students. Teen center/community center and parent support group (for users and parents of student who use).

Dr. Caretti indicated the Committee has completed their charge. How can we develop these recommendations into a strategy and move forward? She suggested the committee view the film, "What Happened Here?" and "Heroin-Cape Cod." There are also films scheduled for viewing at the Wellfleet Library on April 4, May 2nd and June 6th at 7:00 p.m. Martha Gordon hoped all could attend. Martha Gordon also indicated that there is a grant available, helping families and babies who are born with addiction, and she is talking with the people at Outer Cape Health. Martha Gordon stated there is a lot of grant money out there right now. Josh Stewart asked if we could reach out to offer support to Nauset alumni. Dr. Caretti indicated that Mary Ellen Reed, Nauset's Nurse Coordinator, is working on a grant. Mr. Lewis suggested speaking with Beth Albert on obtaining a grant.

Increase cost of Lunch

A reimbursable lunch costs \$2.78 so in order to stay within the federal guidelines; we must show that we are moving toward that number by increasing the cost of lunch at the elementary schools by five cents. (\$2.75)

Eastham – On a motion by Ann Crozier, seconded by Mary Lou Sette, it was voted unanimously to increase the price of lunch to \$2.75.

Orleans – no quorum, will vote at their meeting in April.

Wellfleet – On a motion by Mort Inger, seconded by Jill Putnam, it was voted unanimously to increase the price of lunch to \$2.75.

Brewster – On a motion by Dave Telman, seconded by Marie Enochy, it was voted unanimously to increase the price of lunch to \$2.75.

Increase Cost of Substitute Nurse

Superintendent Conrad report that is met with Mary Ellen Reed, District Nurse Coordinator, and she shared how difficult it is to get a substitute nurse because the surrounding towns pay more to nurse substitutes per diem. (Truro-\$150, Falmouth-\$140, Sandwich-\$140, Martha's Vineyard-\$180, Mashpee-\$150) Nauset is presently paying \$100. The Superintendent indicated that the nurses deal with so many issues such as Diabetes, Asthma and life threatening allergies, to name a few. Having a building without a nurse is not a good situation

John O'Reilly asked how the budgets would be impacted by the increase and the Superintendent indicated that it is about an \$80 increase compared to what we have in the budgets.

Martha Gordon suggested offering more and Mort Inger was in agreement.

On a motion by Mort Inger, seconded by Dave Telman, it was voted to increase the nurse substitute pay to \$150. Discussion ensued about what was recommended by the Superintendent and what was being proposed by the committee. The Superintendent indicated that this will be revisited next year. This needed to be voted by individual committees.

Motion:

Eastham - On a motion by Judy Lindahl, seconded by Amy Handel, it was voted unanimously, to increase the substitute nurse pay to \$150 effective April 1, 2016.

Orleans did not have a quorum and will vote at their April meeting.

Region – On a motion by Ed Lewis, seconded by Sue Skidmore, it was voted unanimously, to increase the substitute nurse pay by \$50 to \$150 effective April 1, 2016.

Wellfleet – On a motion by Mort Inger, seconded by Jill Putnam, it was voted unanimously, to increase the substitute nurse pay by \$50 to \$150 effective April 1, 2016.

Brewster – On a motion by Dave Telman, seconded by Marie Enochy, it was voted unanimously, to increase the substitute nurse pay by \$50 to \$150 effective April 1, 2016.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mort Inger, seconded by Chris Easily, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of January 28th as amended. (Dave Telman's name corrected)

Adjournment

On a motion by John O'Reilly, seconded by Chris Easley, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann M. Tefft

Included in the packet: back up for lunch increase, minutes, Legislative Letter on opiates, and outline from Substance Abuse Task Force