

WELLFLEET SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Tuesday, August 11, 2015-4:30 PM
Wellfleet Elementary School, Staff Room

Members Present: Betsy Pontius, Jill Putnam, Mort
Inger *Member Absent:* Jan Plaue, Martha Gordon
Admin. Present: Supt. Conrad, Giovanna Venditti, Keith Gauley, Mary Beth Rodman, and
Barbara Lavoine

I. CALL TO ORDER/ AGENDA CHANGES

Vice Chair Pontius called the meeting to order at 4:30PM.

II. CHAIR'S REPORT

None

III. MEMBERS SPEAK –

None

IV. CITIZENS SPEAK – None.

V. PRIORITY BUSINESS

Administrators' Reports

Principal Rodman's Report:

Principal Rodman reported that Galaxy Security is finishing up in the lobby, waiting for a replacement part to complete the project. She also reviewed new staffing at the school that included Meghan Swanson, Laura George, and Jennifer Powers. Discussion ensued about the Reverse Inclusion Kindergarten Program. Principal Rodman hopes this program could benefit Eastham, Wellfleet, Truro, and Provincetown.

Principal Rodman reported that the PTA will provide to the School Committee in September a list of fundraisers and will gift \$10,000 to fund field trips, school assemblies and farm to school programs.

Assistant Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Gauley reported that the Title I Grant has been submitted and should be approved soon. The Title II Grant was submitted today.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Conrad reported that they are reorganizing at the Central Office. A new HR Director has been hired, Carol Forgione, and Laura George will be at Wellfleet soon. Administration is working hard on how we reorganize and utilize the additional .6 position. He indicated that the payroll office is overwhelmed and they may look at giving that office assistance. He also reported that the Central Office is very archaic with communication for the different departments and some new software might be needed. There will be further information on a plan in September. He thanked Ms. Venditti and her staff for identifying needs and priorities.

Mr. Conrad reported that his M.A.S.S. conference was very informative with the theme being social and emotional health in schools and the need to discontinue the way we label students in school. The Nauset Leadership Institute took place at the Central Office August 3-5. Key topics included: bus contract and the need to get the subcommittee on transportation back together to discuss the cost, 33% increase this year. Ms. Putnam suggested the Cape Cod Collaborative and the Superintendent indicated he spoke with Mr. Hilton regarding transportation. The Collaborative would need a lot of lead time to handle this. The Superintendent also mentioned ownership of buses, and collaborating with towns, recreation programs and the Councils to utilize the buses. He will talk more about this at the Joint Meeting in October. He reported that the District is working on

the fingerprinting for staff and a mobile unit will be at the High School on September 1st to help staff get this accomplished.

FY15 Final Expense Review

Ms. Venditti reviewed the final expense report with the committee noting that Principal Rodman followed the approved spending plan. \$1,324 was returned to the Town.

Transportation Update

Ms. Venditti reported that she met with officials from First Student regarding the new buses. They indicated the new buses would not be ready for the beginning of school but will come into the District as they receive them. After discussion, the bus company agreed to charge the old rates of \$6.00 per mile until the buses are in service. Savings will be passed onto the respective schools. She also indicated that the 33% increase has been encumbered and all budgets will reflect that increase. A ridership study will take place in the fall. If any consolidation is recommended, it will go before the Committee. Presently Wellfleet Elementary School has 4 buses. Supt. Conrad stated that he rode the buses in Wellfleet and that the largest group of students on a bus was 12, the smallest was 9 and perhaps smaller buses would be an interesting concept to investigate.

Capital Project Update

Principal Rodman distributed the revised and approved capital plan that was distributed in May noting nothing has changed on the plan.

Technology Update

Barbara Lavoine reviewed the Technology Plan in terms of goals and where Wellfleet stands in Terms of the plan. A spreadsheet showing the iPad needs for teachers and students, what WES currently has and the iPad minimum and iPad maximum ratio costs. Principal Rodman indicated that 10 iPad carts are used within the building. Specialists will need iPads. Wellfleet is in very good shape as the iPad to student ratio is exactly what is in the tech plan. She also noted that this year they will purchase 38 iPads with capital money and the following year they will only need 17 additional iPads. Mr. Gauley noted Wellfleet is three years ahead of the Technology Plan.

Ms. Lavoine reviewed the Goals and the Benchmarks for the Committee noting that WES already has a certified technology teacher, Lisa Holmes. With technology integration, the tech teacher will provide lab instruction and work with staff to help them with the technology in the content area. Superintendent Conrad stated that the integration concept is excellent, especially for teachers not well versed in technology. Bringing in someone to help gives teacher the support they need and is critical going forward. Mr. Gauley stated that the five-year plan has four steps; need equipment, staffing, integration model and students reaching the benchmarks. This is a five-year plan and will take 3-5 years to get to the goal. Ms. Lavoine also indicated that quite a bit of professional development is in place for the iPad, Smart Boards, and Google Apps to name a few. This will help with technology integration in the classroom. Self-assessments for new staff are taking place so that professional development can begin right away.

Ms. Lavoine indicated that the K-5 Technology Committee is in place and will continue. She also indicated that they are currently looking into having the school connect to Local Cape or a local area network and are waiting to get clarification from the town relative to this. Eventually WES could disconnect from ComCast services. She briefly reviewed what the standards are and what students need to achieve before they go to the Middle School. If the committee has any questions regarding technology, Ms. Lavoine asked them to contact her or Mr. Gauley.

Superintendent Conrad stated that technology can be a big ticket item and the School Committee and Administration must make sure citizens know there is a technology plan in place.

Ms. Pontius thanked the Administration for the informative presentation and was pleased Nauset is always reaching a little higher. She felt if teachers, staff and Administration follow the plan, the students should meet with success.

VI. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

A. Cape Cod Collaborative

Jill Putnam reported the last meeting dealt with a lot of housekeeping items. The Articles of Agreement were formally accepted, voted on personnel additions and Reductions, and approved handbooks.

B. PTA

No report.

C. School Council

Principal Rodman indicated the Council will have the same members as last year. They will be needing a new school council secretary. They will meet about eight times this year and will be working with the School Improvement Plan. They are also planning on the One Book One School project. Eastham Elementary and Wellfleet Elementary will plan some events together.

Nauset Preschool Enrollment

No report.

D. MASC -Jan Plaue and Jill Putnam will attend.

E. Brainstorming

The Committee discussed the "brainstorming" item on the agenda and felt it violates the Open Meeting Laws when items are discussed.

On a motion by Mr. Inger, seconded by Ms. Putnam, it was voted unanimously to remove that item from their agenda. Superintendent Conrad suggested "brainstorming" could be topics and then become agenda items for discussion.

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mort Inger, seconded by Jill Putnam, it was voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of June 9, 2015 as submitted.

IX. PAYMENT OF BILLS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mort Inger, seconded by Jill Putnam, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:40p.m., subject to payment of bills.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Tefft, pro tern

REF: Principal Rodman's May Report, Assistant Superintendent's Report, K , End of Year Expenditure Report, Ipad spreadsheet, standards and Minutes of June 9, 2015.