

WELLFLEET SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES ~ Tuesday, September 8, 2015
Wellfleet Elementary School, Staff Room

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

I. REORGANIZATION

Superintendent Tom Conrad called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Members suggested postponing reorganizing until all members are present at a meeting.

Motion:

On a motion by Jan Plaue, seconded by Jill Putnam, it was voted unanimously to vote for officers and save other appointments for a future meeting.

Motion:

On a motion by Betsy Pontius, seconded by Jill Putnam, it was voted 4-0, to appoint Jan Plaue, Chair of the Wellfleet School Committee.

Motion:

On a motion by Jill Putnam, seconded by Martha Gordon, it was voted 4-0, to appoint Betsy Pontius, Vice Chair of the Wellfleet School Committee.

It was voted 4-0 to appoint Mort Inger as a Payroll Authorizer and Martha Gordon as the Alternate Payroll Authorizer.

Ann Tefft was voted as secretary, pro tem, until another secretary is hired.

Betsy Pontius indicated she would like to keep all the same positions. Martha Gordon indicated she would like to keep working on the School Council.

II. CALL TO ORDER/ AGENDA CHANGES

Chair Pontius called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

III. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Plaue reported that the presentation on Substance Abuse was very informative and wished that other members could see the presentation prior to the next Joint Meeting on October 29th. Superintendent Conrad indicated he is working with Channel 22, Teresa Martin, to have that meeting aired several times before the Joint meeting so that all members could view it. As soon as we get the dates, we will email all School Committee members. A question was raised regarding video streaming and the Mr. Conrad indicated he will find out.

Chair Plaue also indicated that "*Brainstorming*" is no longer on the agenda. If someone has an idea for future discussion, they should bring it up under "*Members' Speak*" and then it will be put on the next agenda.

IV. MEMBERS SPEAK ~ None.

V. CITIZENS SPEAK ~ None.

VI. PRIORITY BUSINESS

Wellfleet Energy Committee

Members of the Wellfleet Energy Committee, Dick Elkin, Larry Frank and Brian Carlson, Asst. Town Administrator, presented plans to the Committee for Solar Panels possibly being placed on the roof at Wellfleet Elementary School. They are looking at four sites for these panels; Landfill, DPW Garage, COA and WES. They will choose three sites for the project.

School Committee members had questions about the installation especially with the new roof that was just put on the elementary school. The members asked if there are any warranty issues if solar panels are put on it. The Committee asked what kind of savings they could anticipate. It was noted that the vendor will be responsible for the panels. The Energy Committee reviewed the timeline with the School Committee indicating that the project should go to Town Meeting in the spring and most likely will be completed next summer. If the school was chosen as a site, the vendor would coordinate installation with the Administration and building Principal. Principal Rodman asked if the company had done this at another school and Mr. Carlson indicated that during the bidding process they will review references. The Energy Committee is working on an RFP and will have Jim Nowack review it. Members asked questions about their line item budget and how it would work.

Superintendent Conrad would like the project to provide an education kiosk for kids where it could be tied into math classes, sciences classes etc. The Energy Committee indicated that it would be available on line for access in several locations. Chair Plaue indicated that the Committee would like to have benefits financially and educationally. This item will be back on the agenda in October.

Administrators' Reports

Principal Rodman's Report:

Principal Rodman explained the "Choose to be Nice" bullying prevention that will be offered along with Second Step and Responsive Classroom. This year, K-2 will be introduced to the importance of choosing to be nice through the stories in *Nine Nice Mice* program. She also reported the date of the first all school meeting which is September 11th when they will choose a theme for the parade. (parade date: June 3rd, rain date: June 10th) Principal Rodman met with Ann Gallagher, Elder Services, who would like to continue the intergenerational knitting group as well as the Intergenerational Book Club. Enrollment to date is 98 students.

Principal Rodman also explained the EngageNY program that would be used as the primary Mathematics resource to support the units that are taught. Betsy Pontius indicated that they piloted "Go Math" last year and that will no longer be used. She also indicated that the EngageNY program is aligned and fits the best right now with the Common Core and standards. EngageNY is aligned with PARCC.

Principal Rodman indicated that she hired a new art teacher over the summer, Meghan Swanson 55% and Andrew Staker 50% music and 50% Educational Assistant.

Assistant Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Gauley's report will be sent to the Committee.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Conrad reported that he has visited all schools 4-5 times this summer. He reported that he loves the energy in Wellfleet and attend the Kindergarten Open House that he thought was wonderful and beneficial so that students and families could feel comfortable on the first day. He thanked Principal

Rodman for all her efforts in creating a welcoming atmosphere and wonderful program for families. He reported that teachers reported directly to their buildings this year on the first day and he moved around addressing each staff. He let the teachers know there would be no new initiatives as we already have so much on our plates with DDM's, data collection and Atlas. He also stated that he believes strongly in the evaluation process. He suggested everyone look at themselves individually and realize their strengths and weaknesses. He would like people to take a common sense approach to this as it is in place to help everyone get better. He has scheduled the Administrative Team meetings afterschool instead of during school hours as his philosophy is that everyone should be in their building during school hours. He is anxious to talk to teachers about doing video segments on Channel 22 and highlight the good things that are happening in our schools. He indicated he is working on an entry plan. He will bring forward the overarching questions he is looking at and in the coming year give you some findings. He attended the opening day ceremonies at Stony Brook Elementary and will attend Wellfleet's opening day next year.

Chair Plaue inquired as to how he will connect his evaluation with the research. The Superintendent indicated he is working with a cohort of new Superintendents. This is part of the program that you must complete an entry plan and goal setting is part of the evaluation. He also indicated he has a coach, Dr. Patti Grenier.

Mr. Conrad also let the Committee know that he is meeting with staff, parents, and community members at each building monthly. It was suggested that Finance Committee and Selectmen be invited.

FY16 Budget Review

Ms. Venditti indicated that there will be no expenditure reports as salaries are still being encumbered.

VI. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Cape Cod Collaborative-Jill Putnam indicated the board meets 9/9/2015.

PTA – No report.

School Council – No report.

Nauset Preschool Enrollment – No report

MASC – Jan Plaue and Jill Putnam will attend.

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Betsy Pontius, seconded by Jill Putnam, it was voted 4-0 to approve the minutes of August 11, 2015 as submitted.

On a motion by Jill Putnam, seconded by Betsy Pontius, it was voted unanimously to approve the Executive Session minutes of January 11, 2011, June 12, 2012, February 11, 2014 and February 11, 2014.

IX. PAYMENT OF BILLS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Martha Gordon, seconded by Betsy Pontius, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:29 p.m., subject to payment of bills.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Tefft, pro tem

Included in packet: Principal Rodman's Report, reorganization sheet, regular minutes, executive session minutes