

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting – June 19, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Wayland School Committee was held on Monday, June 19, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. in the School Committee Room of the Wayland Town Building.

Present were:

Ellen Grieco, Chair
Jeanne Downs, Vice Chair
Nate Buffum
Kim Reichelt
Kathie Steinberg

Also:

Paul Stein
Superintendent

Brad Crozier
Assistant Superintendent

Marlene Dodyk
Director of Student Services

Susan Bottan
School Business Administrator

Also:

Leisha Simon, Director of Technology & Accountability

Chair Ellen Grieco convened the regular session at 7:03 p.m.; the meeting is being recorded by WayCAM. Ellen thanked Paul for his service to the Wayland Public Schools. Other Committee members reflected on his career in Wayland and thanked him as well. Paul expressed his appreciation and heartfelt thanks to have ended his public school career in Wayland.

1. **Comments & Written Statements from the Public:**

Gretchen Dresens commented that, in her opinion, there is an injustice and a lack of equality by not opening another 5th grade section at Happy Hollow. She continued that there is a difference of 8 students between schools and Happy Hollow students are at a disadvantage when they transition to the Middle School. On another topic, Gretchen asked the School Committee to resist from parking the school buses where school children and surrounding residents can breathe in the toxins from the buses.

A resident referred to the petition that was presented to the School Committee two weeks ago and signed by about 800 residents. This petition was also given to the Board of Selectmen. However, he claimed that one BOS member stated that the bus issue is a School Committee issue and noted there was some confusion in terms of the number of sites being considered for parking. The resident commented that the buses should not be parked at the Middle School and Claypit Hill for the many reasons cited at many meetings. He commented that there should be no budgetary issue when it comes to the health of the residents of this town.

Alexia Obar commented on the decisions made when Loker School was reopened, as she served on the Elementary Reconfiguration Committee. She noted that at that time there were decisions to not move the rising 5th graders to another school and compared that incident to the present. Alexia asked the School Committee to find the money to add an extra classroom at Happy Hollow. In regards to school bus parking, she asked the Committee to remove the Middle School from the potential list of properties for school bus parking and to expand the mile radius to lease property outside of Wayland.

Maryann Borkowski read a statement wishing Paul the best in his retirement and thanked him for his service to Wayland.

Judy Currier of the Dudley Pond Association commented on the school bus parking issue. She referred to the fueling of the buses and is particularly against doing this at the Middle School. However, as noted by Ellen, this is not a consideration.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting – June 19, 2017

Sheila Carel asked if the school bus petition would be discussed during the bus parking discussion and requested that the School Committee think about removing Claypit Hill and the Middle School for the sites being considered. Sheila also commented on the Happy Hollow 5th grade classes and, given her educational degrees and background, she noted what research says about overcrowded classrooms and the negative impacts, such as students' MCAS test scores and frustration among students and teachers. She believes that there is a justice issue in the schools by not adding another classroom and urged the School Committee to find the small amount of money to make it happen.

As a member of the Energy Committee, Tom Sciacca informed the School Committee that the Energy Committee applied for and received a grant for \$250,000. Although Tom is not sure of the process, he suggested that some of the money could be used for a hybrid school bus. As a resident and taxpayer in Wayland, Tom supports the idea of forming a committee to look at class sizes, but he objects to paying extra taxes for requests that are based purely on emotional reasons. Tom also commented on the superintendent's evaluation and believes that evaluations should be done over time longer than one year. Results should be judged, not actions. Finally, Tom commented on the serious health issues and risks that are present when there is a change in the climate and the turf field heats up to about 150 – 160 degrees. He referred to the Boston Globe articles related to this topic that he sent to the School Committee.

Ellen made a public comment regarding the petition that was presented to the School Committee. She noted that it was helpful and shows a pronounced opinion about the buses, given the money that might be spent parking outside of Wayland.

Jen Pearlman commented on the size of the 5th grade at Happy Hollow in terms of teachers' stress depending on the number of students in the classroom. It presents a much larger workload for the teachers and this creates a disparity between the schools.

2. **Administrative/Procedural Matters (out of order):**

(a) Discussion of Ongoing and Future School Committee Communications with the Public, including Letter regarding Superintendent of Schools:

Ellen informed the School Committee that based on the speech she gave about Paul at Staff Recognition and his party, she would like to send it to the Town Crier for publication. She gave the draft to the School Committee for its review. The Committee agreed to send the letter to the Town Crier at the end of the school year.

3. **Financial Matters:**

(a) Discussion regarding the High School and Middle School 1:1 Computer Lease Agreements:

Leisha commented that the lease agreements are not ready as of this date and asked the School Committee for its support in terms of expediting the Committee's approval of the leases prior to July 1. The School Committee discussed scheduling another meeting for the purpose of approving the computer lease agreements. A School Committee will be posted at the same time that the Finance Subcommittee is meeting on June 22nd. However, if the leases are not ready, another meeting will be posted.

Leisha thanked Paul for his leadership and support throughout his tenure in Wayland.

(b) Discussion regarding the 2017-2018 5th Grade Enrollment at Happy Hollow School:

Brad addressed the teacher and TA support in terms of the triad model in the 5th grade classes at Happy Hollow. Teachers rotate during the day to teach the core classes, such as math, science and reading. Brad spoke about the real estate turnover in Wayland, especially in the Happy Hollow school district, and the unusual number of upcoming 5th graders. The expansion of the buffer zones should help to alleviate this issue.

Paul addressed the history of class sizes over the past 7 years, some years being more difficult than others in terms of enrollment. Paul added that it is not unusual to reach the maximum class size; however, the reaction is due to the inequity among the schools.

A discussion ensued regarding the cost to taxpayers of adding classrooms and the inequity issue in the elementary schools. Nate suggested that the incoming superintendent form a task force to look at this issue, and Jeanne recommended that the Policy Subcommittee review the class size guidelines. The possibility of drafting a new policy was suggested as well. This issue will be looked at closely and discussed further moving forward.

(c) Review Status for School Bus Parking:

Susan provided three updates regarding school bus parking – the RFP, space or lack of space at the Transfer

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting – June 19, 2017

Station, and the status of the old landfill study.

RFP: Susan addressed the recent remarks made in public comment regarding the preferred four-mile radius to park buses outside of Wayland. A contract with First Student is in place stating that for every mile traveled by each bus, there is a charge of \$4.39 per mile per bus each day over 50 miles. Currently, the buses travel each day within Wayland about 40 miles per day. Given the view by some in Wayland that the RFP process is not sincere and is a “sham”, Susan commented that this process has been put forward with a great deal of effort and integrity. To this end, Susan shared the schedule and work done by Susan leading up to the release of the RFP, including the deadline of June 13 for any potential bidders to ask questions regarding this matter and the due date for all RFP’s is July 11th. The Evaluation Committee will meet on July 13 to review all proposals prior to visiting the sites.

Transfer Station: Susan reported that the only space that might be feasible for bus parking at this site is actively being used by the DPW. However, if the DPW moves from that space to the old landfill, it could become available for the school buses, but will require a huge effort to redesign the land for parking use. Susan added that a portion of the transfer station will be used as a wetland replication area.

Status of the Old Landfill Study: This update refers to the Weston & Sampson feasibility study to include parking at the old landfill at a cost of \$8,650 for the School Department. The study is slated to be completed by December. Jeanne also gave an update regarding the Board of Public Works meeting she attended to make a formal request for the School Department to be included in this process. Depending on the outcome of the feasibility study, especially if the landfill is a possibility, it will take 1 to 2 years for the separate permitting processes for the School Department and DPW.

Kathie updated the School Committee on the Loker Conservation site, given a possible conservation restriction, as noted in a pending court case of a similar nature in the town of Brookline.

Susan reviewed the options still being considered, such as parcels Claypit Hill and the Middle School, Loker Recreation site, the old landfill, the transfer station, the option to contract with First Student outside of Wayland, and an RFP process to lease land.

4. **Administrative/Procedural Matters (taken out of order):**

(a) Review of the 2017-2018 School Committee Meeting Calendar:

The School Committee discussed its July and August meetings as well as those for the 2017-2018, including those topics that must be discussed before the start of school. The Committee will meet July 24, August 7, and August 21.

Kim stepped out of the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

(b) Finalize and Vote to Approve the Superintendent’s Evaluation:

The School Committee reviewed the edits Jeanne incorporated in Paul’s evaluation based on comments made by committee members at the last meeting.

Kim returned to the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

In response to an earlier public comment, Kathie commented that the evaluation process that is undertaken by the Committee is a requirement of the Department of Education.

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Kim Reichelt, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the evaluation of Dr. Stein as written with the changes just described by Jeanne Downs.

(c) Discussion of an Open Meeting Law Complaint Filed by George Harris on June 7, 2017 regarding the May 8, 2017 Agenda (Item #10c):

Ellen updated the School Committee about contacting the Town Administrator regarding using the town’s attorney to respond to the OML complaint. She is still waiting to hear back. Ellen also updated the School Committee about her discussion with the Attorney General’s office regarding the OML complaint of June 7, 2017 regarding the specificity of listing BASE and The Children’s Way non-union personnel on a meeting notice and what is required by the law. They will contact Ellen at a later date with a response. Ellen will also inform George Harris of this discussion with the Attorney General’s office. A discussion ensued in this regard, including the revenue funds from

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting – June 19, 2017

which the salaries for these employees are paid and who makes the decision of salary adjustments.

5. **Educational Matters:**

(a) Hear Superintendent's Report:

Paul presented a scope of his career in Wayland as Superintendent for the past six years and reflected on the way he strategically worked in terms of how the school system operates. For the purpose of discussion, he incorporated artwork into his presentation and called it, Art as Metaphor 2011-2017, as he did each time he presented his system-wide goals and budgets.

As a follow up to his earlier public comment, Tom Sciacca noted that management is a combination of science and art and Paul has displayed his strength in both areas over the years.

Marlene reported on the budget and last year's enrollment Special Education projections as far as placement of students in or out of the district. She noted that the RADAR project was instrumental and helpful to the leadership team in reallocating resources for the purpose of improving services in special education. Marlene described how they were able to consolidate and reallocate SPED staffing district wide resulting in the elimination of four benefits packages. Marlene also noted for the purpose of future planning that there has been an increase in the ELL population, Grade 1 to Grade 12. In October 2016, there were 75 students and the school year has ended with 90 students. Marlene described how the State recalibrated and lowered test scores for ELL students which could result in ELL students needing services for a longer period of time. Kathie commented and Marlene confirmed that the reallocation of resources is done for the benefit of servicing students in terms of effective and deliberate teaching and not for the sole purpose to save money on benefits packages.

Ellen left the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

6. **Financial Matters (continued):**

(a) Discussion and Review of the BASE Tuition Fee Schedules, One Approved by the School Committee in the Fall of 2016 and the New Proposed Fee Schedule Due to Extended Time in Elementary School Day for 2017-2018:

As a result of the elementary school day extension by 15 minutes, Susan noted that BASE needs to shift and reduce its schedule and tuition fees. This will represent a loss of about \$16,000 in revenue for BASE. However, the net revenue for this year exceeded expectations, so next year's losses will cover the loss of fees.

Upon a motion duly made by Kathie Steinberg, seconded by Kim Reichelt, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the new BASE tuition rates as proposed.

(b) Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve Agreement with ATI Physical Therapy FY2018 Fund from Personnel to Non-Personnel Budget:

The School Committee reviewed and discussed the proposed agreement with ATI Physical Therapy Services, which provides athletic training services for our students. If contracted out for the next fiscal year, the result would be a savings of about \$9,400. The total cost for this proposed agreement is \$29,999 and it would replace an athletic trainer. The funds would come from the revolving account. Brad commented that the advantage to this type of agreement is having more than one trainer when there are multiple sporting events at the same time. Susan noted that school counsel has not reviewed this agreement.

Upon a motion duly made by Kim Reichelt, seconded by Kathie Steinberg, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the agreement with ATI Physical Therapy pending legal review.

Upon a motion duly made by Kathie Steinberg, seconded by Kim Reichelt, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to approve moving \$30,000 from the athletic personnel budget to the athletic non-personnel budget.

(c) Update regarding the High School Master Athletic Plan:

Jeanne updated the School Committee regarding the Finance Subcommittee's discussion with Ben Keefe, Heath Rollins, Brian Keveney, the Finance Committee, and the Recreation Commission concerning the High School Master Athletic Plan, which could potentially be part of the Community Recreation Plan. A fall Town Meeting warrant article is being considered for the design fee of the WHS Master Athletic Plan and part of the overall recreation town plan. The deadline to get in the article in time for Special Town Meeting on November 14 is August 28 and, if passed, there could potentially be another article for construction money in the spring of 2018.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting – June 19, 2017

Kathie added that the Recreation Commission is interested in sponsoring this article jointly with the School Committee if it goes ahead. Kim asked for the purposes of a later discussion if the possibility of changing school start times would affect the plan in terms of the number of fields.

It is the sense of the Committee members to move forward with the exploration of a possible warrant article.

7. Administrative/Procedural Matters (continued):

(a) Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve the Carroll School as a Private School within the Town of Wayland:

Paul informed the School Committee that all private schools are required to obtain approval from the city/town in which they plan to reside, and the private school must follow the requirements as presented by the Department of Education. As part of the requirements and upon receipt of documentation, Paul visited the Carroll Upper School for 7th and 8th graders and was satisfied that the basics are in place, such as staff, curriculum, instruction, and many of the ongoing inspections necessary to continue. Paul recommended that the School Committee move forward with its approval pending receipt of the building certificates.

Marlene added that the Carroll School is DESE approved until June 2018 and at that time will go private. She explained the funding (collaborative share) for Wayland students to attend all private schools in town. A brief discussion ensued in this regard.

Upon a motion duly made by Kathie Steinberg, seconded by Kim Reichelt, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the Carroll School as a private school within Wayland, contingent upon the receipt of the pending documentation noted.

(b) Update regarding School Start Times, including a Task Force Update:

There are no meetings scheduled until the fall, however, there will be specific tasks accomplished over the summer. Kim commented that the task force is on target to make a recommendation by November 1.

(c) Discussion of Ongoing and Future School Committee Communications with the Public, including Letter regarding Superintendent of Schools:

There was no update.

(d) Update regarding Appointment to the Audit Committee and Possible Vote to Appoint Michael Hoyle to the Permanent Municipal Building Committee:

Jeanne contacted Chris Ryan about serving another term on the Audit Committee and Michael Hoyle to continue on the Permanent Municipal Building Committee. They both agreed to serve another term..

Upon a motion duly made by Kathie Steinberg, seconded by Kim Reichelt, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to appoint Chris Ryan to the Audit Committee and Michael Hoyle to the Permanent Municipal Building Committee for one-year terms.

8. Policy Subcommittee Update:

(a) Review and Possible Vote to Approve the Following Policies:

- IMG – Service Animals
- JK – Student Discipline
- JLCA – Physical Examination of Students

Public comments were not received for Policies IMG and JK.

Upon a motion duly made by Jeanne Downs, seconded by Kim Reichelt, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to approve Policy IMG (Service Animals) and Policy JK (Student Discipline) as written.

Policy JLCA was passed over.

9. Matters not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair:

None.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting – June 19, 2017

10. **Consent Agenda:**

(a) Approval of Accounts Payables & Payroll Warrants:

- Wayland Public Schools Accounts Payables Warrant, dated June 19, 2017, in the amount of \$563,239.44
- Wayland Public Schools Accounts Payables Student Activities Warrant, dated June 19, 2017, in the amount of \$7,234.61

(b) Approval of WHS Wellness Trip to the Grand Canyon

(c) Approval of Minutes:

- May 22, 2017

Upon a motion duly made by Kathie Steinberg, seconded by Kim Reichelt, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the Consent Agenda without the Minutes of May 22, 2017.

11. **Executive Session:**

Upon a motion made by Jeanne Downs, seconded by Kathie Steinberg, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to enter Executive Session at 9:40 p.m., to discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for collective bargaining with Custodians, WESA, and Food Service workers, as permitted by M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3) as such discussion in open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee and an Executive Session is necessary to protect the bargaining position of the School Committee; discuss strategy with respect to and in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel as listed on the meeting notice, as permitted by M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(2), as such discussion in open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee and an Executive Session is necessary to protect the bargaining position of the School Committee; update and discuss a residency matter, as permitted by M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(7), in order to comply with the Massachusetts Student Records Regulations, 603 CMR 23:00; the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C., §1232g; and the Massachusetts Right to Privacy Law, M.G.L. c.214, §1B; review for declassification and redaction correction of Executive Session minutes, as permitted by M.G.L. c.30A, §22: April 24, 2017 (#2) and May 8, 2017 (#2); and approval of the following Executive Session minutes, as permitted by M.G.L. c.30A, §22: May 22, 2017 and June 5, 2017. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Ellen Grieco, Chair	absent	
Jeanne Downs, Vice Chair	X	
Nate Buffum	X	
Kim Reichelt	X	
Kathie Steinberg	X	

The School Committee will be joined by Paul Stein, Superintendent of Schools, Brad Crozier, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, and Diane Marobella, recording secretary.

The School Committee will reconvene in open session for a possible vote to declassify amended Executive Session minutes as listed on the meeting notice.

12. **Regular Matters (continued):**

(a) Possible Vote to Declassify Executive Session Minutes:

- May 8, 2017 - #2

Upon a motion duly made by Jeanne Downs, seconded by Kathie Steinberg, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to re-release the Executive Session Minutes for May 8, 2017 (#2) as amended and redacted.

(b) Re-vote to Appoint Michael Hoyle to the Permanent Municipal Building Committee:

Jeanne noted that a re-vote was needed on the appointment of Michael Hoyle to the Permanent Municipal Building Committee as the vote to appoint the Audit Committee representative was inadvertently included in the earlier vote.

Upon a motion duly made by Kathie Steinberg, seconded by Kim Reichelt, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to appoint Michael Hoyle to the Permanent Municipal Building Committee.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting – June 19, 2017

13. **Adjournment:**

Upon a motion duly made by Jeanne Downs, seconded by Kathie Steinberg, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to adjourn at 10:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Stein, Clerk
Wayland School Committee

Observers:

Mary Ann Borkowski, Wayland
Tom Sciacca, WVN, Wayland BUZZ
Sheila Carel, Joyce Road
Alexia Obar, Wayland
Judy Currier, Dudley Pond Association

Corresponding Documentation:

1. Agenda & Backup Information
2. Draft Superintendent's Evaluation
3. Public Statement by Mary Ann Borkowski
4. List of Questions regarding RFP for School Bus Parking
5. Weston & Sampson Proposal for Engineering Services at Old Landfill, Boston Post Road
6. BASE Current & Proposed Tuition Rates
7. ATI Physical Therapy Services Agreement
8. Weston & Sampson Summary Report re: WHS Master Athletic Plan
9. Proposed 2017-2018 School Committee Meeting Schedule
10. Policy IMG – Service Animals
11. Policy JK – Student Discipline
12. WHS Trip Proposal to the Grand Canyon
13. Executive Session Motion