

A Special Meeting of the Wayland School Committee was held remotely on Thursday, January 21, at 5:15 pm broadcast by WayCAM in the Wayland Town Building.

*Present and participating remotely were:*

Jeanne Downs, Chair  
Ellen Grieco, Vice Chair  
Kim Reichelt  
Chris Ryan  
Kathie Steinberg

*Also participating remotely:*

Omar Easy, Superintendent Candidate Finalist

Chair Jeanne Downs convened the open session at 5:17 pm. WayCAM recorded the meeting and it was livestreamed via ZOOM. The meeting was conducted remotely due to the COVID-19 health pandemic and according to the revised open meeting law that allows remote participation. A roll call was taken:

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

**1. Discussion with Superintendent Finalist Candidate Omar Easy:**

The Committee met with Omar Easy and discussed various topics related to his Superintendent candidacy. Dr. Easy feels that the best metric to judge a “best school” is how the school educates the whole child. Dr. Easy discussed the portrait of a graduate and a cross discipline approach including PLCs to help determine where students are struggling. He noted the importance of students owning their education. Dr. Easy described himself as an over achiever. Regarding staff morale, Dr. Easy noted the importance of deep listening and supporting staff.

Dr. Easy feels that to achieve balance between academics and pressure, the School Committee and Superintendent need to be on the same page. He spoke about class size and the need for teachers to get around a classroom easily. Dr. Easy noted the importance of modeling what he expects from staff and students. He emphasized the importance of always thinking of the wellbeing of the students and leading with data. Dr. Easy addressed his commitment to Wayland noting that commitment means a great deal to him and if hired as Superintendent, he knows there would be lots that he would want to accomplish. While Wayland and his previous district are very different, Dr. Easy feels that at the end of the day it is about educating the students no matter the place.

Dr. Easy noted the importance of building trust with parents. He also spoke to implementing new initiatives with the Administrative Council and the process he would follow noting that he is not a top down leader but one who builds consensus. Yet he can make a difficult decision. Dr. Easy spoke to his involvement with secondary curriculum and the importance of seamless transitions between the various levels. He also described his role in developing the Academies in Everett including his research, the purpose and how students choosing the Academies take ownership of their education.

Dr. Easy responded to a question about improvements in the district based on his tours earlier in the day. He noted renovating the elementary schools, responsibilities of the high school assistant principals, and freshman teaming. Dr. Easy thanked the Committee.

**2. Adjournment:**

Upon a motion duly made by Jeanne Downs, seconded by Kathie Steinberg, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn at 6:25 p.m. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Downs, Chair  
Wayland School Committee

**Corresponding Documentation:**

1. Agenda