

School Committee
6/9/22
Minutes

A special meeting of the Wayland School Committee was held on Thursday, June 9th, in the School Committee room at the Town Building.

Attendees:

Chris Ryan, chair
Ellen Grieco, vice chair
Jeanne Downs
Erin Gibbons
Jess Polizzotti

Also Attending:

Dr. Omar Easy, Superintendent
Tom Lafleur

Chris Ryan called the meeting to order at 6:11 pm and noted the meeting was being recorded by Waycam.

1. Interview with Director of Finance and Operations Finalist Tom LaFleur

Tom LaFleur introduced himself and gave the committee his background including starting in the private sector in the school software industry and then crossing over to the public sector and working in the public school setting. He has held business administrator or similar positions in Gloucester, Peabody, and Dracut.

The School Committee asked Mr. LaFleur a variety of questions including his previous work responsibilities, his management style, how he approached the budget process, and how he handles difficult situations. Mr. LaFleur noted that he has walked into contentious situations in the past and has found that being transparent and working together for kids helps for a smooth transition and working relationship. He also spoke to his work with facilities, buses, and the budget process. He also spoke about SpEd budgeting and what he has seen in other towns. He currently supervises 12 people directly with a responsibility for approximately 50 total employees. Lastly, Mr. LaFleur spoke to his priorities for his first 6-9 months which include listening, understanding, and absorbing for the first 90 days, looking at the district's use of MUNIS, and planning.

Mr. LaFleur left the meeting.

The committee discussed Mr. LaFleur's candidacy. They agreed, among other things, that he appears to know the role and intricacies of the position, he likes structure, and he sees things that arise as a task and not a crisis. Dr. Easy spoke to his reference checks.

Dr. Easy recommended to the committee that they hire Tom LaFleur as the next Director of Finance and Operations. Upon a motion made by Ellen Grieco and seconded by Erin Gibbons, the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to hire Tom LaFleur as its next Director of Finance and Operations. The School Committee delegated contract negotiations to Dr. Easy.

2. Matters Not Anticipated

There were none.

3. Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Erin Gibbons and seconded by Ellen Grieco., the School Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn at 7:22 pm. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Downs