

B. Minutes for Wednesday, December 16, 2009 – regular Session.

MOTION by Aaron Sawabi and seconded by Danielle Souza to approve the meeting minutes for the Wednesday, December 16, 2009 regular session as written. All in favor.

III. Comments and Concerns of Citizens.

There were no comments and concerns of citizens this evening.

IV. Policy Discussion.

Danielle Souza reported that the next meeting of the Policy Review Sub-Committee is scheduled for Monday, January 11, 2010 at 5:00 P.M. in the Ware Junior-Senior High School Library. She stated that Policy Section “J” has been reviewed by both her and Christopher Desjardins and that it will be forwarded to Kathleen Parmenter for preparing the appropriate changes and formatting. She further stated that she needs photographs for the cover of the Volunteer Handbook. Superintendent Beach stated that Janey Day can provide student photographs that have been cleared by their parents. Danielle Souza stated that when the photographs have been added to the policy, Kathleen Parmenter will then prepare the policy accordingly.

V. Reports/Updates.

A. Student Council Report.

Annie O'Brien presented the Student Council Report to the members of the School Committee. A summary of this report is as follows:

- The Parent Teacher Student Spirit Association (PTSSA) is meeting on Thursday evening to continue planning the Winter Carnival. The Winter Carnival is February 6th and Spirit Week is February 1st through 5th.
- The Junior Leadership Council is sponsoring the Winter Carnival.
- There is an early release day on January 22nd. Mrs. Toper and the Junior Leadership Council will organize activities during the day and a semi-formal dance in the evening.
- The Student Council is collecting coats for kids.
- Mr. Adam's Performing Arts Class will have a play entitled “The Curse of Frankenstein” on January 22nd at 1:30 p.m. for the Ware Senior Center and on January 23rd for their public performance.
- The Winter Concert is to be held on January 14, 2010 at 6:00 P.M.
- The Football Banquet is to be held on Saturday, January 16th at the Ware Middle School to celebrate their Super Bowl victory. Tickets are on sale for \$20 per person and can be purchased at the Ware Junior-Senior High School office.

B. Superintendent's Report.

Superintendent Beach presented her report to the members of the School Committee. A summary of this report is as follows:

- As a holiday gift, our business management company, Total Management Solutions made a donation worth \$2,800 to World Vision in the name of the Ware Public Schools. The donation will provide resources for a school in one of 100 poverty stricken countries. The donation will equip a school with essentials like textbooks, sports equipment, and chalkboards. We are obviously very pleased with this generous gesture.
- The Ware High Sports Boosters received a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from the Ware Youth Center, Inc. to be used for the football program.
- The new director of the Ware Senior Center (Deborah Rothchild) expressed an interest in our CAD department designing possible plans for the interior design of the Ware Senior Center. She would also welcome Community Service placements.
- There is a great article in the Ware River News about the LEAP Program raising \$301.00 for the Christmas for Kids Program.
- Enrollment update since December 2nd Meeting:

| | | |
|--------|----------|----------------------|
| Female | Grade 2 | Transferred in State |
| Male | Grade 2 | Transferred in State |
| Male | Grade 7 | Transferred in State |
| Male | Grade 7 | Transferred in State |
| Female | Grade 8 | Transferred in State |
| Male | Grade 8 | Transferred in State |
| Male | Grade 9 | Transferred in State |
| Female | Grade 10 | Transferred in State |

These transfers are not School Choice transfers.
- She reported on the Race to the Top Memorandum of Understanding status. At this point of the meeting, she made reference to the December 22, 2009 memorandum from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Mitchell D. Chester (SEE ATTACHED). She reported that the Ware Teachers Association voted today to sign the Memorandum of Understanding and she asked that the School Committee authorize the Chairman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding. Chairman Desjardins stated that he would prefer that Vice Chairman Aaron Sawabi sign that document because it pertains to teachers (his wife is a teacher). After a review and discussion of this document, the following motion was made.

MOTION by Chairman Desjardins and seconded by Joanne Rys to authorize Vice Chairman Aaron Sawabi to sign the Memorandum of Understanding pertaining to The Race to the Top when prepared by Central Office for submission by January 13, 2010. All in favor.

As a result of Brian Winslow seeking to know how far students moved from the Ware School District, Superintendent Beach stated that she would include a question for likes and dislikes in the student exit interview. She will also determine how far a student moves when their transcripts are requested from the school they enrolled.

Brian Winslow asked how donations are accounted for and do we know that we collected all the revenue for particular student activities. Lucille Brindisi reported that donations go into an account for the particular student activity. Superintendent Beach will check into the process for collecting revenue and knowing that it is complete for collections received.

VI. Old/Unfinished Business.

There was no old/unfinished business addressed this evening.

VII. New Business.

Danielle Souza noted that Student Activity Cards were discussed last August, but nothing has been discussed since. Chairman Desjardins stated that he originally brought up having Student Activity Cards, but it would not be financially feasible for students and parents at this time. Superintendent Beach reported that the Town of Ware has a 60% poverty rate and families just can't afford such costs right now.

Athletic Director Position:

Discussion was held pertaining to the process for hiring for the Athletic Director position. Superintendent Beach stated that applications were requested and reviewed. She stated that given the fact that performing the Athletic Director position when the applicant is also a coach is difficult so we decided to explore have two individuals split the position of Athletic Director. She reported that Scott Slattery and Nick Vantangoli are Co-Athletic Directors. However, she will update the School Committee for she understands that Mr. Vantangoli has since expressed his not wanting to participate as a Co-Athletic Director.

VIII. Communications.

There were no communications this evening.

IX. Special Projects.

A. School Choice Sub-Committee Update.

Chairman Desjardins reported that after the last meeting of the School Committee several School Districts were contacted for them to join with the Ware School Committee to remedy the School Choice situation. He stated that the next meeting of the School Choice Sub-Committee is scheduled for Monday, January 11, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the Ware Junior-Senior High School Library. He stated that we hope to

have some responses for review. He stated that we seek to make School Choice fairer to all school districts and it is better to have more than one school district presenting the request. He will keep the School Committee updated.

MOTION by Chairman Desjardins and seconded by Aaron Sawabi to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 P.M. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Mary Elizabeth Beach
Superintendent of Schools

_____, Chairman
