

**WARE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**

**TIME:** 6:30 P.M.

**MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2010**

**PLACE:** Ware Junior-Senior High School Library

**PRESENT:** Christopher Desjardins; Brian Winslow; Danielle Souza;

**ABSENT:** Aaron Sawabi; Joanne Rys

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mary Elizabeth Beach;  
T. Janey Loehr-School Committee Recording Secretary;  
Lucille Brindisi, Principal WJSHS; Bob Warren, Principal WMS;  
and Marlene DiLeo, Principal SMK; Melissa Fales, Reporter  
Ware River News; Tina Higney; Charlene Desjardins; Rachel  
Desjardins

Chris Desjardins called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

A Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was conducted at this point of the meeting.

**NOTE:** This meeting has been videotaped and is on file in the Superintendent's Office. This is a written summary of the action taken at this meeting.

**NOTE:** Documents referenced with (SEE ATTACHED) are on file in the Superintendent's Office in a file folder marked with the date of this meeting.

**I. Approval of Warrants and Payroll.**

**A. Warrants and Payroll for June 19, 2010.**

MOTION by Danielle Souza and seconded by Brian Winslow to accept the warrants and payroll for June 19, 2010 as submitted. 3 members approved, 2 members (A. Sawabi and J. Rys) absent. Motion Carries.

**II. Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

**A. Minutes from Monday, May 17, 2010 – Regular Meeting.**

MOTION by Danielle Souza and seconded by Brian Winslow to approve the meeting minutes from the Monday, May 17, 2010 regular business meeting as submitted. 3 members approved, 2 members (A. Sawabi and J. Rys) absent. Motion Carries.

**B. Minutes from Monday, May 17, 2010 – Executive Session.**

MOTION by Danielle Souza and seconded by Brian Winslow to approve the meeting minutes from the Monday, May 17, 2010 executive session as submitted. 3 members approved, 2 members (A. Sawabi and J. Rys) absent. Motion Carries.

**C. Minutes from Wednesday, June 9, 2010 – Regular Meeting.**

MOTION by Danielle Souza and seconded by Brian Winslow to approve the meeting minutes from the Wednesday, June 9, 2010 regular business meeting as submitted. 2 members approved, Chris Desjardins abstained because he was absent from the meeting. Motion rescinded by Danielle Souza and moved to table to next meeting. 2 members approved. (A. Sawabi and J. Rys) absent.

**III. Comments and Concerns of Citizens.**

There were no comments and concerns of citizens this evening.

**IV. Sub-Committee Discussion:**

**A. Policy Update.**

The meeting was not posted in time and therefore was postponed. The meeting will take place tomorrow night at 5:00 PM here in the WJSHS library. Prior to the last meeting we did present a bullying policy that Mr. Rogers had drafted up, since then discussion was made about adding information to the policy about informing parents of any issues with bullying. Chris Desjardins added this might be a good time to discuss, since the principals and Dr. Beach are here, about informing the parent/s if bullying is observed or suspected. Dr. Beach said that we do this now, we inform the parent of the student being bullied and also the parent of the student suspected of bullying. Danielle Souza said that a statement will be added about informing parents in the bullying policy and will then submit for approval at the next school committee meeting.

**B. Upcoming Policy Subcommittee Meetings as Follows:**

- June 22, 2010, 5:00 P.M. in the WJSHS library
- June 29, 2010, 5:00 P.M. in the WJSHS library

**V. Reports/Updates.**

**A. Budget Report.**

Chris Desjardins asked Andy Paquette how we look on carryover next year, on target, above or below. Andy Paquette answered that the way we are doing it this year we will probably have very little carryover on our side, because we either have carryover and use choice or we do not have carryover and have choice. Any carryover will probably be from the town's side. He added that we might have some carryover from the town side because of choice and charter numbers coming in, the assessments on the town side lower than what we built the budget for. If you remember back in the FY10 budget we anticipated using school choice for this year, we will not have to use all of what was originally budgeted upwards of a \$100,000 because of the ARRA SPED grant funds used for tuition, which allows us to go into FY11 the way we are. As you know we will rebuild this budget over the summer. Dr. Beach mentioned that we will actually be adding two new positions for some kids that are coming in.

**B. Report from Superintendent.**

- Today was the last day of school and was a ½ day for students and a full day for teachers, our attendance numbers today was 78% at the high school, 86% at the middle and elementary school. Thank you parents for getting your kids here and thank you students for not wanting to leave us.
- Girl's semi-final softball and boys baseball finals, both games were nail bitters. Everyone had a great season and played very well. Congratulations to students and coaches.
- New Assistant Principal at SMK, Lianne Suarez Werlein, she was the Assistant Principal at Fort River Elementary School, Amherst, MA for five years, she will be starting August.
- Summer free breakfast and lunch program begins next Monday at SMK. Everyone ages 1-18 is eligible. Schedule is Monday-Friday 8:00-9:00 AM and lunch from 11:30 AM-12:30 PM, not serving on Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup>. No ID check, we encourage students to come. SMK is the only summer feeding site in Ware. So please spread the word, students from ages 1-18, so if your grandchildren are visiting from Omaha they too can come.
- The school buildings are on a summer schedule open from 7:00 AM-3:00 PM. Central Office will be closing at 3:30 PM beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Enrollment update - Two kindergarten students leaving, one student moving out of state and one student's mom felt there were not enough offerings later on; two first grade students, both moving out of town; two third grade students, both moving out of town; one seventh grade student, moving out of town; and one eleventh grade student, going for GED.

**VI. Old/Unfinished Business.**

There was no old/unfinished business this evening.

## **VII. New Business:**

### **A. School Improvement Plans (SIP) – Approval\*.**

Chris Desjardins suggested that we start with the S.M.K. School Improvement Plan and that the committee will be voting on whether to except the SIPs from each school tonight. Dr. Beach added that the principals are here tonight to answer any questions.

In summary, Brian Winslow asked Ms. DiLeo if any consideration on improvements were applied to the S.I.P. because S.M.K. is hiring a full time Assistant Principal. Ms. DiLeo answered that yes we applied these improvements prior to writing the S.I.P. Danielle Souza mentioned that the school improvement plans look great.

MOTION by Danielle Souza and seconded by Brian Winslow to approve the 2011 School Improvement Plan for Stanley M. Koziol Elementary School as written. 3 members approved, 2 members (A. Sawabi and J. Rys) absent. Motion Carries.

Next up is the W.M.S. School Improvement Plan. Mr. Warren took this time to thank school committee and Dr. Beach for adding back in the budget a full time Assistant Principal. Chris Desjardins then asked if reinstating the full time Assistant Principal position is this going to help with discipline. Mr. Warren answered yes and that it actually goes beyond just discipline into other areas of student life for example, working closely with the adjustment counselor in other programs to assist students before they get involved in the disciplinary process. Mr. Winslow then mentioned that the enrollment looks the same as last year, and does Mr. Warren anticipate any major changes. Mr. Warren answered no major changes just the norm of students moving in and out of the district. Brian Winslow then asked if we are stepping it up with bullying prevention. Mr. Warren mentioned that last year the middle school students saw an Anti Bullying play and other varies activities and that we will be building on these initiatives this coming year. Dr. Beach added that district wide we are adding anti bullying initiatives. Dr. Beach also mentioned that there will be training for the adults as well and will also invite the bus company.

MOTION by Brian Winslow and seconded by Danielle Souza to approve the 2011 School Improvement Plan for Ware Middle School as written. 3 members approved, 2 members (A. Sawabi and J. Rys) absent. Motion Carries.

Lastly, up is the Ware Junior-Senior High School Improvement Plan. Ms. Brindisi mentioned new this year the W.J.S.H.S. conducted a bullying survey for students. The student council then asked her to make the survey an annual event. Ms. Brindisi told them yes the W.J.S.H.S. will conduct a bullying survey each year and use the information to help guide us. Ms. Brindisi also began an anti bullying group with seventh graders; it was a lot of fun and she would like to continue this group next year. She is also working with the Ware Domestic Violence on a Social Norm

Program not solely for bullying but that will be a big part of it. We are also trying to grow the AP Program our goal is to make sure all of our students are challenged academically, this year we will offer AP English and AP Biology in the coming year and perhaps another AP the year after that. Brian Winslow asked if the total enrollment matches last year. Ms. Brindisi answered the numbers were only slightly higher this year, they always start out a little higher but into the year some transition takes place. Dr. Beach added that there were 19 new entries to the roster, Ms. Brindisi said yes, some private school students and some new the district.

MOTION by Brian Winslow and seconded by Danielle Souza to approve the 2011 School Improvement Plan for Ware Junior-Senior High School as written. 3 members approved, 2 members (A. Sawabi and J. Rys) absent. Motion Carries.

### **B. Open meeting law requirements\* - Discussion**

Chris Desjardins mentioned that the Open Meeting Law is scheduled to change. However the changes to the law are going to be a delayed, so we still have time to go over them. There will be additional requirements to comply with when we post the meetings, for example to have agendas posted outside where the meeting is going to be held for the public to view.

## **VIII. Communications.**

Danielle Souza wanted to bounce the idea off the committee; she attended a personal branding workshop at her employment, where the presenter mentioned that it would be huge benefit to offer this workshop to our students on how to market themselves. Mrs. Souza thought it would be great to offer to grades 10-12. Dr. Beach asked if it's free. She will look into the cost and forward the information to Dr. Beach and the committee.

## **IX. Other Business.**

### **A. Schedule Future Meeting (s)**

- July 14, 2010 in the WJSHS library at 6:30 P.M.
- August 4, 2010 in the WJSHS library at 6:30 P.M.

### **B. Executive Session (Under Massachusetts General Laws M.G.L.) Chapter 39, Section 23B, Qualification No. 3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation.**

MOTION by Chris Desjardins and seconded by Danielle Souza to move into executive session at 7:00 P.M. under M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B, Qualification #3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation and to not return to open session at the conclusion of this executive session.

3 members approved, 2 members (A. Sawabi; J. Rys) absent. Motion Carries.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

C. Desjardins.....yes  
B. Winslow.....yes  
J. Rys.....absent

A. Sawabi.....absent  
D. Souza.....yes

**NOTE:** The meeting adjourned in executive session at 7:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Mary Elizabeth Beach  
Superintendent of Schools

\_\_\_\_\_, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_