

WARE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

TIME: 5:41 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2011

PLACE: Ware Junior-Senior High School Library

PRESENT: Chris Desjardins; Aaron Sawabi; Brian Winslow; Danielle Souza

RESIGNED: Joanne Rys

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools-Dr. Mary Elizabeth Beach;
T. Janey Loehr-School Committee Recording Secretary; Dr.
DiLeo; Charlene and Rachel Desjardins

Chris Desjardins called the meeting to order at 5:41 P.M. with interviews for the vacancy on the School Committee. Candidates were interviewed and then discussion took place on which applicant to put forth. The committee was impressed with both applicants.

MOTION made by Aaron Sawabi and seconded by Brian Winslow to select Michael Meehan to bring forward to the Board of Selectmen for the school committee vacancy. 4 members approve. Motion Carries.

Chris Desjardins called the regular business meeting to order at 6:48 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.

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

I. Approval of Warrants and Payroll.

A. Warrants and Payroll for August 13, 2011

MOTION by Danielle Souza and seconded by Aaron Sawabi to approve the warrants and payroll for August 13, 2011 as submitted. 4 members approved. 1 member (J. Rys) resigned. Motion Carries.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

A. Minutes from Wednesday, August 03, 2011 – Regular Meeting.

MOTION by Aaron Sawabi and seconded by Danielle Souza to approve the meeting minutes as submitted from the Wednesday, August 03, 2011 regular business meeting. 4 members approved. 1 member (J. Rys) resigned. Motion Carries.

B. Minutes from Wednesday, December 08, 2010 – Regular Meeting.

MOTION by Danielle Souza and seconded by Aaron Sawabi to approve the meeting minutes as submitted from the Wednesday, December 08, 2010 executive meeting. 4 members approved. 1 member (J. Rys) resigned. Motion Carries.

C. Minutes from Wednesday, December 22, 2010 – Regular Meeting.

MOTION by Danielle Souza and seconded by Aaron Sawabi to approve the meeting minutes as submitted from the Wednesday, December 22, 2010 executive meeting. 4 members approved. 1 member (J. Rys) resigned. Motion Carries.

III. Comments and Concerns of Citizens

There were no comments and concerns of citizens this evening.

IV. Sub-Committee Discussion

Danielle Souza was asked to look over the sexual harassment policy File: GBAA before it is added to the staff packets for the upcoming orientation day. Danielle Souza questioned if this is the updated policy. The Policy-Subcommittee changed page 2 and 9 which lists the Title IX coordinators to read: "The Title IX Coordinators for the Ware School District are: SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE or SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE", so that this file does not have to be updated each year. In the 2011-2012 Student Handbook we have listed the names of Mr. Warren, *WMS Principal* and Mrs. Iwasinski, *SMK Assistant Principal* as the Title IX Coordinators. Aaron Sawabi took the time to further discuss this policy; he thought that according to Massachusetts General Law (MGL) 151B we should add to the opening paragraph that, "*It is unlawful to engage in sexual harassment.*" Chris Desjardins suggested referencing the actual MGL. Aaron Sawabi asked the following questions: When are police notified, and do parents know they can contact police? A hearing is requested and then goes to the School Committee and is held under the Open Meeting Law, Is this true? What is the School Committee's role in something like this? Is this a public or private issue? When would the School Committee be notified and/or get involved? Mr. Sawabi mentioned that in the past we have been contacted by folks in the community regarding harassment and as school committee members we do not always know our roll. He mentioned running our policy through legal counsel. The committee wants to send the message to the community that we take this and bullying very seriously, we are working to get more

educated on this issue. Dr. Beach said she will send to the attorney the policy and highlight the areas that have been mentioned.

V. Reports/Updates

A. Report from the Superintendent

- Custodian and facilities folks have been working tirelessly to get the campus ready for the opening of school appreciate their efforts – looking good.
- The Superintendent is in the process of interviewing for an Administrative Assistant.
- Kindergarten is at 105 students, we are exploring whether or not we have to open up another classroom which would cost around \$100,000.
- Asbestos inspectors will be on campus tomorrow.
- Bus orientation is Monday at 9:00 AM.
- Faculty and staff return next Wednesday the 24th for school orientation and professional development – through contract negotiations we reduced the two day opening to one day. The policy and legal reviews will be done on line with a sign off sheet. Mike Brown and Stephen Nathan built a Moodle site for that. Not many changes over the past couple of years. We also have a video of Attorney Fred Dupere on the legals.
- Students in grades one through twelve begin on Monday, August 29th and Kindergarten on Tuesday, September 6th.

Brian Winslow asked if First Student has given an updated list of drivers, ages of buses and licenses. He mentioned that the new bus licensees need to have CPR certification as well. Dr. Beach has the updated list for drivers and licenses will see if she has the age of the buses. Chris Desjardins asked if Dr. Nathan is still interning. Dr. Beach said yes, he has finished his first 300 hours and has about another 250 to go. Brian Winslow asked if we have any teachers on waivers and if so how many. Dr. Beach said we may, we need to wait until the test scores come out, and then apply for a waiver if one is needed. We may have two we may have none. Chris Desjardins asked what happens if the waiver is denied, Dr. Beach said we make a decision whether to terminate the person. He asked if this happens often, Dr. Beach said not to her knowledge.

VI. OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. School Committee Goals for 2011-2012 School Year

Chris Desjardins stressed the need to finish in draft form tonight our goals, and need to have them adopted by the end of the month as per Dr. Beach's contract. We have discussed a few times getting these goals down but still need to get a draft form out. He will create a draft and then send out to members to be voted on at the

next meeting. The committee discussed the new goals which included: Holding a refresher course with the Massachusetts Association of School Committee, increase school committee member attendance at school events, changing/updating the Superintendent Evaluation Form and to develop a communication plan. Aaron Sawabi will tentatively be added as a member of the virtual school planning committee previously held by Joanne Rys.

B. Gala Parade on September 4th

Chris Desjardins asked Dr. Beach about school presence at the parade. Dr. Beach said the band is playing, athletes are marching and student government members have been asked to carry banners for other groups. Danielle Souza felt the committee and administration should march, Dr. Beach and Aaron Sawabi are not available Labor Day weekend, Dr. Beach will ask if principals are available. There are forms that need to be filled out if school committee members want to march. The parade is at 1:00 PM.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Vacancy on School Committee – Discussion of Candidate(s)

This was covered before the regular business meeting in open session. Brian Winslow asked if we can add under new business at our next meeting a form that we received that deals with Dr. Beach's days earned and is this something we do in open session or in executive session. Chris Desjardins answered open session.

VIII. Communications

A. Review calendar of events for School Committee attendance

The school calendars are not out yet for the month of September.

IX. Special Projects

There were no special projects tonight.

X. Other Business.

There is no executive session this evening.

MOTION by Chris Desjardins and seconded by Aaron Sawabi to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 P.M. 4 members approved. 1 member (J. Rys) resigned. Motion Carries.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

C. Desjardins.....	yes	A. Sawabi.....	yes
B. Winslow.....	yes	D. Souza.....	yes
J. Rys.....	resigned		

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Mary Elizabeth Beach
Superintendent of Schools

_____, Chairman
