

**Wayland School Committee
7/19/23 Regular Meeting
Minutes**

Attending:

Erin Gibbons, Interim Chair
Ellen Grieco, Vice Chair
Jeanne Downs
Erin Mueller
Christina Rodrigo

Also Attending:

David Fleishman, Acting Superintendent
Betsy Gavron, Interim Assistant Superintendent
Susan Bottan, Director of Finance and Operations
Debbie Dixson, Interim Director of Student Services

Welcome and Call to Order

Erin Gibbons called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and noted it was being recorded by Waycam. She introduced the administrators and welcomed everyone.

School Committee Member Updates

School Committee member updates included Jeanne's highlights of the middle school Walden bike ride in June, Erin Mueller and Christina Rodrigo's report on the After School Solutions group, and Ellen's update on the Wayland Public Schools Foundation (WPSF) end of year report.

Public Comment

There was none at the time.

Acting Superintendent Update

David reported that he is in the midst of listening and learning around the district meeting with many administrators, School Committee members, and union leadership among others. He noted that he had visited Wayland's Extended School Year (ESY) summer program and attended the Massachusetts Association of Superintendents (MASS) conference. He then introduced Susan, Debbie and Betsy.

Public Comment

Public Comment was reopened. Carol Plumb, Bald Rock Road, wants to understand what happened to Dr. Easy and what students are being told about racism. She noted concern about the expense of a fall town meeting to approve the teacher contract and lawsuit expenses.

Executive Session Minutes

Erin Gibbons announced the June 7, 2023 and June 21, 2023 approval of the May 10, 2023 and May 24, 2023 executive session minutes with the intent to withhold said minutes.

Erin Gibbons announced the Interim Chair's review of all released executive minutes for 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 to confirm continued non-disclosure of redactions, exclusive of the following executive session minutes which are being submitted for subsequent review to the Committee for potential disclosure pursuant to MGL c30A, section 22(g)(1): January 4, 2016, December 4, 2017, December 3, 2018, September 9, 2019, September 25, 2019 and August 3, 2020. The Committee noted that hard copies of all released executive session minutes, both partial and full, are available for review in the district's central office. As a courtesy to the public, those minutes from 2014 to the present are also on the district's website. Jeanne noted the 2013 dates of redacted executive session minutes.

Consent Agenda (taken out of order)

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Erin Mueller, the Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the consent agenda.

School Committee Retreat (taken out of order)

The Committee continued its discussion of a retreat. The retreat will take place on August 22, 8:00 am – 12 noon. Erin Gibbons and Erin Mueller will work on the details with David.

Committee Roles and Liaison Positions

Ellen proposed that Erin Gibbons continue as chair. Erin Mueller, Christina and Jeanne agreed. Upon a motion duly made by David Fleishman, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to appoint Erin Gibbons as chair.

Upon a motion duly made by Ellen Grieco, seconded by Erin Gibbons, the Committee voted (4-0-1) to appoint Jeanne as vice chair. (Jeanne abstained from vote.)

The Committee discussed and agreed to the following roles:

Policy Subcommittee – Ellen (chair), Christina

Finance Subcommittee – Jeanne (chair), Erin M

Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee – Jeanne (chair), Erin M

Youth Advisory Committee – will revisit in August

WHS Liaison – Ellen

WMS Liaison – Christina

Claypit Hill Liaison – Erin G

Happy Hollow Liaison – Jeanne

Loker and TCW Liaison – Erin M

Communications – will revisit in August

PTO – Christina (Erin M alternate)

TEC – Erin M

WPSF – Ellen

Wellness Advisory Committee – Erin G
SEPAC – Christina
Athletic Advisory Committee – Erin G (Ellen alternate)
Negotiations – Open
Legislative Liaison – Open
PMBC – Jeanne, Angela Young
Athletic Master Plan – Jeanne
Recreation – Christina
Bus Parking – Jeanne
Housing Partnership – will revisit in August
Open Meeting Law/Minutes – Christina and Jeanne

Ellen left the meeting at 6:52 pm.

FY23 Budget Update

Susan updated the Committee on the FY23 budget noting an approximate \$75K end of year balance. There are still invoices coming in and by mid-August she will have an updated balance. Any year end balance will be transferred into circuit breaker to use for unanticipated SpEd costs in FY24. Susan reminded the Committee that circuit breaker funds were depleted this year. Susan noted that the town plans to close FY23 in September and that the DESE End of Year report is due by September 30.

Upon a motion duly made by Christina Rodrigo, seconded by Jeanne Downs, the Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to approve a \$5K stipend for Parry Graham. Jeanne noted that Parry had received no additional compensation for his role as Acting Superintendent from February through June. Jeanne and Erin will draft a letter to notify Parry of the stipend.

Matters Not Anticipated

There were none.

Executive Session

Upon a motion made by Erin Gibbons, seconded by Jeanne Downs, the Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to enter executive session at 7:03 pm for the purposes of (a) Discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with Wayland Educational Secretaries Association (WESA) and Custodians, as permitted by M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3), as discussion in open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the School Committee; (b) Discussing strategy with respect to negotiations with non-union personnel, as permitted by M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2), as discussion in open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the School Committee; (c) Approving executive session minutes, as permitted by M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 22: January 9, 2020, January 16, 2020, February 24, 2020, March 9, 2020, February 8, 2023, June 7, 2023, June 21, 2023; (d) Reviewing executive session minutes for potential release with redactions, as permitted by M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 22: February 24, 2020, March 9, 2020, and May 24, 2023; (e) Reviewing previously released executive session minutes for redactions for potential release of prior redacted content, as permitted by M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Sections 22: January 4, 2016, December 4, 2017, December 3, 2018, September 9, 2019, September 23, 2019, and August 3, 2020;

(f) Discussing the July 3, 2023, July 5, 2023 and July 18, 2023 Open Meeting Law complaints filed by George Harris, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(1), and

(g) Discussing strategy with respect to the following litigation matters where an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee: Richard Whitehead v. Omar Easy and Wayland School Committee (CA No. 23-1862) and Easy v. Wayland Public Schools, et al (MCAD Complaint), as permitted by M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3). A roll call vote was taken:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Erin Gibbons	X	
Ellen Grieco	absent	
Jeanne Downs	X	
Erin Mueller	X	
Christina Rodrigo	X	

The School Committee will be joined David Fleishman, Acting Superintendent, Susan Bottan, Director of Finance & Operations, and Diane Marobella, recording secretary. The School Committee will adjourn in executive session and will not reconvene in open session.

Ellen returned at 7:05 pm.

Upon a motion duly made by Erin Gibbons and seconded by Jeanne Downs, the Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to include Betsy Gavron, Interim Assistant Superintendent, and Debbie Dixson, Interim Director of Special Services, in the executive session. A roll call vote was taken:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Erin Gibbons	X	
Ellen Grieco	X	
Jeanne Downs	X	
Erin Mueller	X	
Christina Rodrigo	X	

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made by Christina Rodrigo, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn at 9:54 pm. A roll call vote was taken:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Erin Gibbons	X	
Ellen Grieco	X	
Jeanne Downs	X	
Erin Mueller	X	
Christina Rodrigo	X	

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Downs
Wayland School Committee

Corresponding Documents

- WPSF End of Year Report
- Accounts Payables Warrant
- June 5, 2023 Draft Minutes
- June 7, 2023 Draft Minutes
- June 20, 2023 Draft Minutes
- June 21, 2023 Draft Minutes