

# MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting – January 9, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Wayland School Committee was held on Thursday, January 9, 2020, at 7:00 P.M. in the School Committee Room of the Wayland Town Building.

*Present were:*

Jeanne Downs, Chair  
Ellen Grieco, Vice Chair  
Nate Buffum  
Kathie Steinberg

*Absent:*

Kim Reichelt

*Also:*

Arthur Unobskey  
Superintendent

Parry Graham  
Assistant Superintendent

Susan Bottan  
Director of Finance & Operations

*Also:*

Allyson Mizoguchi, WHS Principal  
Betsy Gavron, WMS Principal  
Heath Rollins, Athletic Director  
Ben Keefe, Public Buildings Director

Chair Jeanne Downs convened the open session in the School Committee Room at 7:03 p.m.; the meeting was recorded by WayCAM.

**1. Comments & Written Statements from the Public:**

There were no comments and written statements from the public.

**2. Educational Matters:**

(a) Superintendent's Report:

- *Update on Social Emotional Learning:*

Arthur updated the School Committee about the professional development work on “Super Wednesdays” related to social emotional learning. For instance, grades 3-5 teachers are meeting with McLean Hospital staff to identify sources of anxiety in children and how teachers can help them in the classroom. Mindfulness in the classroom is one technique. Sensory pathways at each elementary school are available for students when they feel anxious.

- *Update on Elevating Achievement:*

Arthur observed middle school math classes recently and saw different approaches taken by students to similar problems. Arthur identified some of those approaches taken by students.

- *Update on School Start Times:*

There has been positive feedback about the later pickup times in the morning. Arthur informed the School Committee that a pre-study survey will go out in a few days to families and teachers asking about their positive and/or negative experiences due to the change in start times.

**3. Financial Matters:**

(a) Review of and Possible Vote to Approve Warrants for the Five-Year Computer Lease and Audio Visual Equipment Lease:

This agenda item was passed over because the Town will write the articles.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Regular Meeting – January 9, 2020

(b) Discussion of FY2021 Budget, including Budget Drivers, Assumptions, Fees and Funding Sources, and Requests for Information:

*Wayland High School:*

Allyson Mizoguchi identified the high school staffing requests in the FY21 budget and the reasons for the potential additions to the staff. They include .2 FTE (one section) for the intermediate Algebra I course, a third .25 anatomy and physiology section teacher for this science elective course, and a 1.0 ALRT special education teacher. In terms of the 1.0 ALRT position, two professionals are needed in this space to support 18 students with very comprehensive needs. However, there is a potential for four more students in this classroom, and accessibility, supporting social emotional needs and communicating with the families is imperative. Allyson explained the budget capacity to fund these staffing requests, particularly the additional ALRT position. In addition, Allyson feels that a social worker would be beneficial and accommodate the increasing needs of students. Although not included in the FY21 budget, WSPN has a need for an additional staff member, as there are 45 students in the classroom/newsroom. Allyson elaborated on the potential request for this additional staff member, as well as the need in increased software costs. Allyson described the function and benefits of the Panorama On-Line Survey Tool that asks questions related to social emotional learning.

*Nate Buffum arrived at the meeting at 7:30 p.m.*

Relative to the district's needs, Allyson praised the work and new awareness that Caroline Han, Diversity and Equity Coordinator, has brought to the entire staff. She supports this position in the FY21 budget.

*Athletics:*

Heath Rollins commented that the FY21 athletic budget has not changed much from past budgets, even though some costs have increased, and particularly where transportation is concerned. He is hopeful that transportation challenges can be resolved once a new bus contract is in place. Heath explained why equipment costs have decreased. He also addressed the future possibility of including all athletic sports into the athletic budget, adding that this would be a substantial increase to the budget. Wayland coaching stipends are lower than in most districts, and the district is losing coaches, adding that there is the need to fill these coaching positions.

Heath updated the School Committee on the high school master athletic project. The work is moving along, as he detailed the progress of the work in several areas. The paving has been postponed until April, and the grand opening will be coordinated with the first track meet on April 28. The weather has played a role in the progression of the project.

*Wayland Middle School:*

Betsy informed the School Committee that, given other buildings have greater needs and priorities in FY22, she is not requesting additional funds for FY22. This year, there is a grant funded a .2 position in the math center and, given the new schedule in FY21, it has been maintained. To make up for this position, Betsy explained that next year, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade math teachers will pick up an extra section over a four-day period. For example, they will teach 5 sections in four days rather than 4 sections in five days. Betsy noted some of the things that she would like to ask for in future budgets, such as increasing accessibility for students in the math center and expanding the hours of the writing center.

Betsy commented on the space limitations of the music program for 85 students in the band. The master schedule needs to be changed and a .2 staff member has been added. Betsy described what is done to prepare for band practice in terms of separating 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade ensembles.

Betsy added that she is very excited about what Caroline Han brings to the district and the staff.

(c) Review of and Possible Vote to Approve Updated Capital Budget:

The School Committee reviewed the adjusted FY21 capital budget requests. Ben Keefe joined this discussion regarding the roof air handlers at Claypit Hill, Loker and the Middle School in terms of priority and funding. The middle school air handlers were postponed to FY22 because the school will be used for the 2020 summer program and, although it may not have been confirmed, the funding for the middle school air handlers was removed from the FY21 voted adjusted capital budget. A discussion ensued in this regard.

After discussing the total cost of about \$287,500 for the design and construction of the '99 section of the Loker roof air handlers and exhaust fans, including the design for Claypit Hill and Middle School air handlers, the School

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Regular Meeting – January 9, 2020

Committee asked for an updated sheet reflecting these costs which Susan will provide at the next meeting. It was noted that the Loker parking lot will be designed but completed in the summer of FY22 at a total request of \$198,000.

The Feasibility Study for Claypit Hill and Loker Schools modulars and some renovations appears in the adjusted capital budget at \$100,000, but is anticipated to double given the current market costs. Susan also commented that there is another funding request that was initially at \$1.8M, but is currently anticipated at \$2M for the WHS athletic fields project regarding movement of fields. Susan recommended asking for design funds of \$200,000 at the outset. She explained further and was discussed by the School Committee in terms of moving forward in this process. Susan will also update the spreadsheet with these potential two requests.

(d) High School Master Athletic Plan:

- *Project Update:*  
Updates were provided by Heath Rollins during the athletic budget discussion.
- *Grand Opening Update:*  
Updates were provided by Heath Rollins during the athletic budget discussion.
- *Review of Warrant Article for Phase 3:*  
This topic was passed over.

4. **Administrative/Procedural Matters:**

(a) Review and Discussion of any Outstanding Document and/or Minutes Requests:

None.

(b) Review and Discussion of any Outstanding Open Meeting Law Matters:

None.

(c) Discussion of School Committee Communications and Information for the Buzz:

This topic was passed over.

5. **Policy Matters:**

(a) Update/Review of Policies to Put Out for Public Comment:

- IJNDD – Policy on Social Media

(b) Review of Policies for Possible Approval:

- BEDH – Public Comment at School Committee Meetings
- ILD – Student Submission to Educational Surveys and Research
- IHAM – Health Education

This agenda topic was passed over.

6. **Matters not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair:**

None.

Jeanne noted that she will attend the budget presentation at the Council on Aging and Ellen will attend the Loker presentation.

8. **Executive Session:**

Upon a motion duly made by Jeanne Downs, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to enter executive session at 9:03 p.m. for purposes of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Wayland Teachers Association (WTA), as permitted by M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3), as a discussion in open session may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the School Committee; discussing strategy with respect to and in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel, the Superintendent, as permitted by M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(2).

The School Committee will be joined by Arthur Unobskey, Superintendent of Schools, Parry Graham, Assistant Superintendent, and Diane Marobella, recording secretary.

MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Regular Meeting – January 9, 2020

The School Committee will reconvene in regular session for adjournment purposes only. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Jeanne Downs, Chair	X	
Ellen Grieco, Vice Chair	X	
Nate Buffum	X	
Kim Reichelt	Absent	
Kathie Steinberg	X	

9. **Adjournment:**

Upon a motion duly made by Jeanne Downs, seconded by Ellen Grieco, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to adjourn at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Unobskey, Clerk  
Wayland School Committee

**Corresponding Documentation:**

1. Agenda & Backup Information
2. Revised/Adjusted FY21 Capital Plan Projects – FY21 to FY25
3. Warrant Article for WHS Athletic Complex Renovation – Part 3
4. Voted FY21 FinCom Capital Budget
5. Executive Session Motion