

Wakefield School Board
1-15-19 Public Minutes
Approved

School Board members in attendance:

Board: Robert Ouellette, Tracey Kolb, Sandy Johnson, Tani Moody and Jennifer McCawley

Administration: Student Services Director Anne Kebler, Business Administrator Marie D'Agostino, Principal Jerry Gregoire and Assistant Principal Jim Lampron

Public: Larissa Mulkern, Doug Stewart, Carlene Stewart and their children, Don Stewart, Rosemary Stewart, Jen Kuehl and Donna Martin with Clearview Community TV.

Mr. Ouellette opened the meeting at 5:01 and led those present in the Pledge.

Public Comment

Mr. Stewart asked when it would be appropriate to talk about the lottery. Mrs. Kolb said it is on the agenda so we can talk about it now. Mr. Ouellette agreed. Mr. Stewart said his daughter Hannah is in eighth grade and has put her name in for the lottery. Mr. Stewart asked if the process use to be that ten percent of the graduating class could attend Kingswood and last year it changed to ten per cent of the entire high school population. He said that this negatively affected this year's graduating class. The letter he received said that there was one opening and that changed to two today. In the past it probably would have been four. This will go up and down and will affect the eligibility of each eighth grade graduating class. Did the Board discuss that this may happen by using a different way to calculate? Mr. Gregoire said this was based on the AREA agreement not in discussions of the board itself. Mrs. Kolb said she believed it came from Administration. Mrs. Kebler said it was two years ago, it was a discussion between Wakefield and Rochester. And it was on a warrant article and voted on. Mr. Stewart isn't sure how fair this is. Mrs. D'Agostino is looking up the warrant article.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Kolb made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moody, to accept the Consent Agenda. (4-0) (Mrs. McCawley was not in the room at the time) Mrs. Johnson had a correction to the minutes of 12-10-18, her name was inadvertently omitted from the roll call.

Old Business

Mrs. Kolb asked about E-Rate. Mr. Gregoire said that the money is used over a three year period. There is a small portion left that they can look to writing a grant for. We can reapply the year after next. Mrs. Kebler said we need to match funds for a security grant and there has not been a good conversation as to when this should be done. She believes its \$20,000.

School District Clerk Update

Town Clerk, Valarie Ward has agreed to step in.

SRO

Mr. Gregoire said he had been trading emails with Chief Ventura, He had anticipated the start date would be January 1st. The Chief asked to delay the start until January 7th or 14th. Mr. Gregoire sent him an email asking if they could anticipate the SRO starting at the beginning of this week and received an email back apologizing saying he thought Mr. Gregoire knew what was going on, He said that in some of the budget talks things have changed. And the school apparently decided they were not going to fund the position 100% through June so I cannot place this officer in school until the budget passes in March. Mr. Gregoire responded that he wasn't aware of it but wish he had been. He told the board he didn't know if they were aware and they responded they were not aware. He will respond back to the Chief and ask where that information came from. Mrs. Kolb said they took away all of our choices. Mrs. Johnson asked, weren't we told that was in their budget not ours? Mrs. Kolb said yes. Mrs. McCawley said, so politics before the safety of the kids, that's something the voters should consider.

New Business

Mrs. Kolb read the warrant article from March 2017 Article #11 concerning the agreement between Rochester and Wakefield. Both the School Board and the Budget Committee recommended this article. Mrs. McCawley guessed that the thought was this would increase the number. Mrs. McCawley said we must do something to increase this number. She knows Spaulding wants the money but can't believe they want students that don't want to be there.

Lottery Drawing

Mr. Ouellette pulled the numbers for the lottery. They were number 4, 5, 9, 1, 3, 6, 2, 7. All students will be sent a letter.

Art Selection for Annual Report

The Board viewed the selections for the Annual Report and eighth grader Liana Stewart's drawing was chosen.

Request from scholarship student

Mrs. Kolb said there is a letter from Gillian Currier thanking the board for the scholarship she was awarded for \$750 with half to be applied each semester. She has a 3.557 GPA and she left the information where to send the check for the second semester. Mrs. Johnson said she was requesting that the money be sent directly to her. The Board will look into that further. Mrs. Kebler said a letter will go out to all the high schools letting them know there's an application for a scholarship.

Other Business

Update on Governance Plan (HB1612)

Mr. Gregoire said we put money in the budget for tech support to do the Governance Plan. He's not sure what the update was going to be. He went over the details of the Plan. We must make sure they meet the policies and standards of our technology department. And other policies. This

Plan is for data protection and privacy. Mrs. Johnson said money was taken out of the budget for this and she had suggested that we do a current inventory of what we are using which we can probably do internally. At the workshop that she and Dr. Tyrie attended they were talking about costs of \$15,000 to \$20,000. Mr. Gregoire said that Mainstay does have a team that does nothing but Governance so we will have conversations with them to see what the costs would be. Mrs. Johnson said she feels we're showing good faith as long as we've started the process. Mr. Gregoire will get back to the board with costs.

Rochester School Calendar

Mr. Gregoire sent an email to all staff asking for input. He said he will be advocating for adding the four professional development days back to the beginning of the school year. Staff feels that four days work much better. This allows for up to two and a half days of professional development and the teachers are anxious to have the students back in the building. He said Rochester has a teacher's workshop on the last day of school in June and he feels this is a colossal waste of time, no one wants to be here on their last day doing PD. He has received feedback from the Union as well and will come back with a list of concerns.

NHSBA Delegate Proposals

Mrs. Johnson told the board that before Christmas she had received new proposals. The board will take them home and send Mrs. Johnson their recommendations on the proposals as they won't be meeting until after the Delegate Assembly. And then she will collectively give opinions to board members.

Old Business (continued)

FY20 Budget Review

Mrs. McCawley said she thought they would be done with warrant articles before this. Mrs. Kolb said we just want a 5-0 vote with Ms. Moody included. Mrs. McCawley said she was just thinking about the lottery and the article Mrs. Kolb read. But said, it's just too late to address that now. Mrs. D'Agostino said she will go over the articles again and the board will have a chance to modify their vote. Mr. Ouellette asked that she just go through the articles with changes. All articles that already have a vote of 5-0 will be skipped.

Article #7 Mrs. Kolb said we're not changing our mind, we just want all member present to vote. Mrs. Kolb read the article. Mrs. Kolb made a motion, seconded by Mrs. McCawley, to accept Warrant Article #7 Operating Budget at \$10,523,990 and a Default of \$10,195,596 a difference of \$328,394 (Vote 5-0)

Article #12 Gym Floor Expendable Trust Fund. Mrs. Kolb explained that the Budget Committee had changed this article amount and one member wanted to go back to the \$60,000. Mrs. Kolb made a motion, seconded by Mrs. McCawley, to accept the amount of \$20,000. (Vote 4-1)

Article #14 SAU Capital Reserve Maintenance and Equipment. Mrs. Kolb said the reason we are voting on this again is because the Budget Committee reduced it from \$26,500 to \$16,500 and

the Board has decided to leave it at the \$16,500. Mrs. Kolb made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Johnson, to recommend article 14. (Vote 5-0)

Article #15 Maintenance Contingently Fund. Mrs. Kolb said, once again, the reason we are voting on this again is because the Budget Committee reduced this, in error, from \$20,000 to \$10,000 and the board has decided to leave it at the \$10,000. Mrs. Kolb made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Johnson, to recommend article 15. (Vote 5-0)

Article #16 Mrs. Kolb thought the board had decided to leave off this 2 ½ percent article. Mrs. D'Agostino said this does not have a money value so she left it there. Mrs. Kolb said is it confusing to leave it there? Mrs. Johnson said we should leave it there so the public will know it's in our realm to do this. Mrs. D'Agostino said it might have money value in the future. No vote was taken.

The warrant articles will go to the Budget Committee because they need to recommend these warrant articles on Thursday January 24th. Mrs. McCawley asked, are they going to understand that we made changes in response to changes that were made that weren't supposed to be or are they going to be angry again? Mrs. McCawley said they have been told what they did was incorrect or illegal. Mrs. D'Agostino said meeting the DRA timeline is a very tight schedule. This has to be approved by the DRA before the mandatory posting on Monday. The School Board and the Budget Committee are going to have to come in to sign off on the reports. The signing must take place between Friday afternoon and Monday.

Non Public Session

Mr. Ouellette made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kolb, to enter non-public session at 5:33 under RSA 91-A:3, 11 (c) The hiring of any person as a public employee. (Vote 5-0) Roll Call: Ouellette aye, Kolb aye, Johnson aye, McCawley aye, Moody aye

The board returned to public session at 6:32.

Mrs. Kolb made a motion, seconded by Ms. Moody, to come out of non-public at 6:32. Roll call: Kolb aye, Ouellette aye, McCawley aye, Johnson aye, Moody aye (Vote 5-0)

Last meeting the board discussed, but never took a vote on the Transportation Directors raise as of January 1st she will receive a 3 ½ percent increase in her pay. Mrs. McCawley made a motion seconded by Mr. Kolb, to give, as of January 1st, the Transportation Director a 3 ½ percent raise. Mrs. Kolb said there is enough in the Transportation Fund to cover this.

Mrs. McCawley made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Kolb, to adjourn the meeting at 6:34. (Vote 5-0)

Respectfully submitted for approval at the next School Board meeting.

Priscilla Colbath
School Board Secretary

