

Wakefield School Board Public Minutes

Board Work Session



July 5, 2023
Held in Paul School Library
Approved

BOARD MEMBERS		ADMINISTRATORS	
Mary Collins, Chair	✓	Anne Kebler, Superintendent	✓
Bob Ouellette, Vice Chair	✓	Shari Colby, Business Administrator	
Robert DeColfmacker		Sarah Howard, Director Student Services	
Sandrea Taliaferro via Zoom	✓	Norma DiRocco, Principal	
Brennan Peaslee	✓	Ivy Levitt-Carlson, Assistant Principal	

Others present: Katie Roy, Ryan Manning, Facilities Manager Brad Davis and Mary Soares from Clearview TV

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Collins at 5:00.

AGENDA REVIEW

Mrs. Collins added a fifteen minute Q&A at the end of Mr. Davis's presentation.

NEW BUSINESS

Lead Remediation Plan

Mr. Davis said on June 6th he completed his first round of water testing. The governor lowered the allowable amount of lead for schools from 15 ppb to 5 ppb. He took forty-one samples. The highlighted amounts on the Chain of Custody Form came in over 5 ppb. He provided a layout of the school and the rooms affected. The primary problem area is the original school building, the primary wing. These are first draw, stagnant samples which is the harshest it will be. All drinking fountains came back within limits. All the issues are in the bathrooms in the primary wing.

He pointed out a flow chart on page 16 of the packet that shows the different remediation strategies. All retesting is paid for by the state. We can test as much as we want. Mr. Takis from Pioneer Mechanical recommended replacing all the screens as sediment gets lodged behind them. Mr. Davis would like to follow that recommendation prior to going any further, retest and see where we are. The only requirement from DES is that we mark outlets with handwash only which he has already done. He said there is grant money up to 50% of the remediation costs available for a big remediation project if needed. Mr. Davis said this is a common issue in school since the governor lowered the rate. The towns limits are still 15ppb.

Mr. Davis suggested having a briefing with the teachers and ask them to monitor and also let them know there will be more testing. He must respond to the State with what has been done to remediate each outlet. There are three or four different makes of faucets in the school. He will check the models and order the replacement screens. Screens and aerators are one unit. Mrs.

Kebler said we don't have children drinking out of the sinks in the classrooms. If this isn't written in the staff handbook it will be for the next school year. Mr. Davis will keep a file on all testing and results. If a tested unit comes back within the limits it is deemed acceptable, no more remediation is required and the signage can be removed. He said none of the kitchen or food prep areas came back high. As soon as he changes the aerators he will get new testing bottles from the state to retest. Mrs. Peaslee asked Mr. Davis to keep the Board updated. Mrs. Taliaferro asked if the screens should be changed yearly. Mr. Davis said there's no rule unless there's a problem.

Q&A

Mrs. Roy stated the prices she found on amazon for the screen units. She suggested a filter for the faucet. Mr. Davis stated some potential options for the future. Mr. Manning said the filters do help. Mrs. Roy asked if there was a flushing system. Mr. Davis said you could open the faucets and run them manually. Mr. Davis spoke with Water Commissioner Paul Morrill who was surprised at the results not knowing of the change in ppb. He said to feel free to contact him with any questions. Mrs. Taliaferro asked about previous testing. Mrs. Kebler said she had no logs of previous testing. She will check on that.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ADJOURNMENT

**Mrs. Peaslee made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to adjourn the meeting at 5:30.
(Vote 4-0)**

Respectfully submitted for approval at the next School Board meeting,

Priscilla Colbath
School Board Secretary