

Wakefield School Board Public Minutes

Tuesday February 4, 2025

Held in the Library

Approved



| BOARD MEMBERS | | ADMINISTRATORS | |
|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| Robert DeColfmacker, Chair | ✓ | | |
| Bob Ouellette, Vice Chair | ✓ | Frank Markiewicz, Business Administrator via Zoom | ✓ |
| Mary Collins via Zoom | ✓ | Carol Keenan, Student Services Director | ✓ |
| Brennan Peaslee | ✓ | Norma DiRocco, Principal | ✓ |
| Sandra Taliaferro | ✓ | Ivy Levitt-Carlson, Assistant Principal | |

Others Present: Ashia Roy, Aaron Nason, Meghan Nason, Amelia Nason, Milo Rainone, Sara Cook, Heather Wilcauskas, Frank Peaver, Kim Hurley, Tom Leonard, John Powers and Max Gehring from Clearview TV.

Mr. DeColfmacker led those present in the flag salute at 6:00.

Agenda Review

None

Presentations, Public Hearings

Annual Report Cover Winner (Milo Rainone)

Mr. DeColfmacker presented a check to Milo Rainone for winning the district report cover contest. for His drawing will appear on the front cover of the Annual School District Report.

5th Grade Writers (Amelia Nason)

Mrs. Hurley, fifth grade teacher explained that her class had all written scary stories for National Writers Month. They had not only written the stories but then went back and then edited them and explained why they had written them as they had. Amelia (Milli) Nason read her story to those gathered. The story was great and she read it very well.

PTA

The PTA is looking for classroom snack donations. They are also listed on Amazon. They will be hosting dances on February 14th. They will also be selling flowers on February 14th. They are looking forward to their Read-A-Thon in March.

Non Public Mr. Ouellette made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Peaslee, to enter non public under RSA 91-A;3 II (c) at 6:19. Roll Call Vote: DeColfmacker aye, Collins Aye, Ouellette aye, Taliaferro aye., Peaslee, aye.

The Board re-entered public session at 6:29.

Public Comment

None

Reports

Transportation

Mrs. Taliaferro said that the buses have been transferred to Parks and Rec and the lettering will be removed. Diprizio’s is aware that the tires they have in their possession now belong to Parks and Rec. The vans have gone to Diprizio’s for safety inspections and new batteries. The lettering has to be removed. The Board needs to discuss whether we want to do the inspections or wait until after voting to decide. Mrs. Peaslee said if we replace the batteries and let them sit through the winter the batteries will go bad. Mrs. Taliaferro asked why should we inspect them. When someone buys them they need to inspect them anyway. Mr. DeColfmacker feels that they will bring more money if they are drivable and inspected. Inhouse use has been eliminated. Mr. Markiewicz said he needed some direction from the School Board.

Mrs. Peaslee made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Collins, to check with the town to make sure they don’t need the 2017 van or the 2019 van, and If not, have the lettering removed, batteries replaced and the safety inspection completed. Also have radios and cameras removed if they are in them. Then put them out to bid with an end date of ninety days using Kelly Blue Book minimum values in the bids. (Vote 4-1)

The Board received bids from Cressy and are waiting for one from First Student. Mrs. Taliaferro still feels that the vehicles should be put out to bid individually. Mr. Markiewicz will look into getting the bids from First Student. Mr. Peaslee said we can then compare the bids for each individual bus and do what’s best for the district. She asked, do we still have cameras and radios we can sell? She said the SD cards have to also be removed as they have student information on them. Mr. Markiewicz will look into this.

Enrollment

Mr. Ouellette read the current enrollment figures.

Paul School Enrollment Report

| | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June |
|-----------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| LP | 15 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 17 | | | | | |
| K | 30 | 31 | 31 | 30 | 29 | | | | | |
| 1 | 33 | 33 | 33 | 35 | 34 | | | | | |
| 2 | 40 | 40 | 40 | 40 | 40 | | | | | |
| 3 | 39 | 41 | 41 | 40 | 40 | | | | | |
| 4 | 47 | 47 | 46 | 43 | 42 | | | | | |
| 5 | 63 | 65 | 65 | 65 | 65 | | | | | |
| 6 | 55 | 57 | 56 | 56 | 54 | | | | | |
| 7 | 46 | 47 | 47 | 47 | 47 | | | | | |
| 8 | 45 | 45 | 46 | 45 | 45 | | | | | |
| Out of District | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | | | | | |
| Total | 0 | 415 | 424 | 421 | 417 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

High School Enrollment Report

| | Sept | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|
| Spaulding | 171 | 166 | 163 | 161 | 162 | | | | | |
| Kingswood | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | | | | | |
| Bud Carlson | 9 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | | | | | |
| Brewster | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| Out of District | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | | | | |
| Total | 197 | 193 | 190 | 186 | 187 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Mrs. Collins asked about the results of the state testing from last year. Mrs. Keenan said some of that information is in tonight's presentation but she said the Board will have it for the next meeting.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve the Consent Agenda. (Vote 3-2)

Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve the non public minutes session 1 of January 21, 2025. (Vote 5-0)

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve the public minutes of January 21, 2025. (Vote 5-0)

New Business

IT Server

Mr. Leonard said he has been going through the back end of our network with Acapella, our consulting agency and network our network people. Wi-Fi updates have been completed. The switches are new. The bandwidth has been increased from 200 to 500 because of the addition of the cameras and phones. There is also a new firewall. He figures the server is at least ten years old and needs to be replaced. We can't upgrade past 2022. He said if that fails we can't do anything. It's an off brand server. Acapella is managing it right now.

He said he asked Acapella what a new server would cost. That would be removing the old one and building one from scratch and installing it. The price would be \$18,000 built not bought and configured to what this school needs. That would include all the configuration, planning and installation. Everything will be mounted off the ground. This company will also include a five year parts and warranty. He said we have no back up if there is a power outage. He is asking to take money from the Trust Fund for the server. He'd like to do this the end of April during the spring break.

Mr. DeColfmacker said according to our purchasing policy we are supposed to get three quotes. He said this is a proprietary item. Mr. Leonard plans to come back with three bids for the Chromebooks. He said with the two Microsoft upgrades we won't need to replace the server for six to eight years, which is normal. Mrs. Taliaferro asked if we had backup on the cloud. Mr. Leonard said what we have is disc backup. The cloud is expensive. Mrs. Taliaferro asked if there was room for growth. He said it does with modifications.

Mrs. Peaslee made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Taliaferro, to waive policy DJ to accept the Acapella purchase for the new server. (Vote 5-0)

A public hearing to expend the funds will take place at the first meeting in March. Mr. Leonard said the company want's 25% down. He will see that Mr. Markiewicz receives the contract tomorrow.

DOE SAS Improvement Plan

Mrs. DiRocco said that this plan was presented to the full staff at last weeks teacher workshop. The DOE identifies schools based on what they call cut scores based on your SAS data. This is the mandated state assessment test taken every year for grades 3-8 in both math and literacy. Also, science assessment is done in grades 5-8. Parents can opt their child out of this test but it then counts as a zero towards our score if we go over a certain amount of families opting out. In previous years there were many. Mrs. DiRocco said we are doing a better job of having less opt out. This year if a family opts out the building principal has to report it to the state.

Do to the test scores of last year (2023-2024) Additional Targeted Support and Improvement school which puts you on an improvement plan. That gives us three years to show academic growth. Mrs. Taliaferro said she doesn't understand how we have so many making honor roll and end up with this. Mrs. DiRocco said she feels there's a discrepancy between the scores and our grading policy. Mrs. DiRocco said if we don't make the growth we move up to the next level and the more the DOE monitors your school. Right now, we are at the level where she, Mrs. Levitt-Carlson and Mrs. Keenan have developed a plan and submitted it to the state. She said that they are the monitors of the plan and we report how it's going to the state. The explanation by Mrs. DiRocco and Mrs. Keenan followed. (The presentation is at the end of these minutes)

Superintendent Search Committee

After discussion the Board decided to ask Mrs. DiRocco, Mrs. Levitt-Carlson, Mrs. Keenan, Mr. Markiewicz, Mrs. Roy a member of the Teachers Union and a member of the Para Union. Elaine Millian, A middle school teacher and an elementary teacher and two Board members, Mrs. Taliaferro and Mr. Ouellette to be on the Superintendent Search Committee. The final candidates will tour the school and speak with staff. Their final interview will be with the Board who will make the final decision.

Mrs. DiRocco will ask the union reps and the teachers. She was also asked to put the committee together. (times and dates) Mr. Markiewicz suggested that they look at a calendar before they start interviews. The posting has only been out for two weeks. Districts have been looking at applicants in November and December. The Board decided to start scheduling interviews in the first week of March. The committee will meet prior to that to go over the process and choose interview questions.

Committee Updates

Joint Loss Committee

Mr. Ouellette gave the highlights of the Joint Loss Committee. He told the Board that they discussed incident reports and how and when they have to fill them out. They discussed one on one training for CALM. Procedure for non-school events like PTA. Fire alarms outside the building, trash cleanup and snow removal, chemical storage, health concerns, sports injuries were all discussed. Lock down procedure will be discussed at the next staff meeting.

Wellness Committee

Mrs. DiRocco said they discussed the 68 Hours of Hunger program. Wellness activities were offered on the 27th. The twenty minutes activities included physical fitness, art, yoga and a book swap.

Policies

Second Reading

EBCH – Chemical Safety and Chemical Hygiene Plan

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve Policy EBCH. (Vote 5-0)

IHBA-Programs for Pupils with Disabilities – Notice of Parental and Student Rights

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve Policy HIBA. (Vote 5-0)

IHBA-R

Mrs. Collins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to approve Policy HIBA-R. (Vote 5-0)

First Reading

DJ-R Purchasing Procedures

Mrs. Peaslee made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Taliaferro, to add “*will be implemented after School Board notification*” to the end of the last paragraph. (Vote 5-0)

Mrs. Taliaferro made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Collins, to add “*within thirty days*” to the end of the second paragraph on the second page.(5-0)

This policy will go back to the Policy Committee and Mr. Markiewicz will also look at it.

JFACC – Tuition Expense for Wakefield Residents

This policy will go back to the policy committee to add priority for siblings. The sibling must be currently enrolled and be in that school next year and add a time limit to submit their letter by September 1st.

Deliberative Session

Mrs. Taliaferro clarified that Article 9 was not for the gym divider. The gym divider is in the operating budget under special projects. Article 9 is for unanticipated items.

Follow Up Nominations/Resignations

FYI Brittany Joy

Public Comment

None

Non Public

Mrs. Peaslee made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ouellette, to enter non public under RSA 91-A;3 ll (c) at 8:29. Roll Call Vote: DeColfmacker aye, Collins Aye, Ouellette aye, Taliaferro aye, Peaslee aye.

The Board returned to public session at 8:52.

Adjournment

**Mr. Ouellette made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Taliaferro, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45.
(Vote 4-0)**

Respectfully submitted for approval at the next School Board meeting,

Priscilla Colbath

School Board Secretary

SAU 101 School Board Presentation:
DOE SAS
Improvement Plan
February 4, 2025

DOE has identified The Paul School as the following:

- Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) which is a DOE SAS Improvement Plan.
- If in a 3 year period we do not show academic growth on our SAS scores then our school is moved to the next level, a more intense Improvement Plan, which will include more monitoring from the Department of Education.
- Academic growth is measured by SAS indicators and subgroups

Next Steps:

- Develop an academic improvement plan that must be submitted to the DOE, this includes:
 - A shift in interventions to use diagnostic formative assessment and progress monitoring
 - Resource Allocation (done by administrators with support from teachers)
- Monitoring from the Principal/Superintendent(designee) of academic progress this year 2025
- Revise as necessary to improve SAS scores

Intervention Shift

- All grade levels
 - IXL driven interventions
 - Grades K-2 will dedicate 1 hour a week to IXL work for both ELA and Math
 - Grades 3-8 will dedicate intervention block to IXL for both ELA and Math
 - All students will be given the IXL diagnostic in ELA and Math to determine current placement for the instructional levels
- IXL Diagnostic in ELA and Math will be run every 6 weeks by classroom teachers and Special Education Case Managers.

Why IXL?

1. We own it! But more importantly, there is evidence that improvement in IXL improves SAS scores! The diagnostic in IXL allows students to work directly at their level in both Math and ELA.
2. DOE requires an evidence-based intervention model with data collection that directly correlates to SAS

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Beyond intervention block expectations:

- Grades 3-8 will complete modular assessments via SAS weekly starting mid February
 - This means having students complete these or viewing whole group
 - Use these to talk about correct answers and testing strategies
- Grades 5 and 8 will add time to their science block to viewing and completing the science modulars
- Grades 7 & 8 will use advisory time after February Break to run SAS Prep Course
- Practice Tests (Interim)
 - In March and April we will have dedicated school wide-time for Interim SAS Tests which are much shorter than the actual SAS assessment. These will be monitored and viewed by administrators.
 - Teachers will set up an appropriate test environment and practice facilitating this assessment to simulate the expectations of testing environment.
- Non-testing grades will support the building
 - Honoring all grades that test by quieting the halls and cheering on the grades as they work through their tests. We need a Whole School Testing Environment during SAS Testing Time.

Beyond Interventions Continued:

- All grades will begin to utilize the SAS vocabulary lists.
 - Grades K-2 will use the 3rd grade list
- All grades will begin to utilize the SAS writing rubrics as part of their tool set for grading writing pieces.
- Early Release and Teacher Workshop Days will include time dedicated to whole school and classroom level data review to inform our progress
- Admin will be running IXL Data Reports every Sunday night to monitor IXL Usage and Academic Growth.
- Admin will be running SAS data reports to ensure progress monitoring and exposure to SAS is occurring.

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What are our academic goals for SAS in 2025?

- Move Level 1 students to Level 2
- Move Level 2 students to Level 3 OR maintain Level 2 students at Level 2 (based on each individual student)
- Maintain Level 3 students at Level 3 OR Level 4

Concluding Thoughts

- An improvement plan is ownership from all staff and all grade levels.
- Review, revise, improve as this is what our students deserve.
- Take pride in being an educator and having our students demonstrate SAS growth.
- All of the above plans/schedules/implementations will be on submitted to DOE on our SAS Improvement Plan.