

MISSION STATEMENT
ENSURING CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT FOR EACH LEARNER

The Wells-Ogunquit C.S.D. commits to ensuring that each scholar develops the social, academic, critical and creative thinking skills necessary to meet with success in college, career, citizenship and life. The responsibility for education is shared by student, family, school and community.

MINUTES

The Wells-Ogunquit C.S.D. School Committee held a workshop meeting on **June 6, 2012 at 8:00 p.m. (immediately following the Annual Budget Meeting at 7:00PM)** at the Olenn Auditorium at Wells High School, 200 Sanford Road, Wells.

School Committee members attending included Damon Russell, Russell Fox, Marc Saulnier, Diana Allen, David Johnson and Les LaFond.

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Fox called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

II. Public Comment

Kevin O'Shaughnessy, WHS teacher

- expressed concerns with the last day of school and graduation for 2012-13;
- discussed Jupiter Grades versus Infinite Campus
- stated a zero based budget makes it difficult to teach
- urged the School Committee to start with a new building, saying don't renovate a flawed building.

Zak Harding, Wells resident stated zero based and zero percent increase are two different things. The School Committee asked for a zero percent budget.

John Trafton said he feels the building is solid. John was on the original building committee and said at that time it cost \$3.5 million to build (the current high school).

Cindy Roche, Wells resident and teacher, explained ways the building is out of date.

Les LaFond explained when the building was built it was probably state of the art, but isn't not anymore. There are compliance issues that need to be addressed.

Andy Bridge, Wells resident and teacher, shared problems with his classroom, including leaks in the winter. He asked when a decision will be made. The answer was possibly June 13.

Les LaFond expressed it is hard to make a \$28 million decision when the School Committee has heard from 20 people.

Russell Fox said he would like to see a non-binding referendum to have the voters make the decision.

III. School Committee Workshop – Wells High School Building Project/Options

Superintendent Tomaszewski provided a presentation answering many of the questions the School Committee had from the last meeting, including: any interest in re-use of the building, cost of razing and any salvage value, tax impact of both options, possibility of completing a third floor addition, square footage for classrooms, and prices for recently built schools.

IV. Public Comment

Many individuals adamantly stated the School Committee needs to make a decision so we can move forward with the process.

Discussion took place regarding use of the current building including leasing/selling/zoning options and that we are limited as to what goes into the current building in terms of keeping our children safe.

Vicki Aldridge, Wells resident and staff member, explained the issues that arose with renovating the junior high. She shared they ran out of money and there are still items in the junior high that never got fixed despite going back to the voters for \$1 million additional funds. She urged the School Committee not to renovate the high school.

Motion to prepare for a straw poll by September 23 with both options and to educate people

Motion: Les LaFond Seconded: Russell Fox Vote: 5-1 (Allen)

Zak Harding asked about the recent survey that went to students, staff and community. Superintendent Tomaszewski shared all but two surveys said the high school needs to be fixed.

Many individuals from the audience expressed displeasure regarding the motion to have a straw poll. Most stated the School Committee is made up of elected officials whom should be making this decision.

Ashley Breton, Wells resident, asked if option B (phasing in renovation) was still “on the table”. All School Committee members agreed it is not.

Superintendent Tomaszewski pointed out the motion/vote does not hold as this is a workshop meeting.

V. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:52 p.m.

Moved: Diana Allen

Seconded: David Johnson

Vote: 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Tomaszewski, Secretary
Wells-Ogunquit C.S.D.