



## WOCSD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

### MISSION STATEMENT

*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.*

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### MINUTES

The Wells-Ogunquit C.S.D. School Committee held a regular meeting on Wednesday, **October 7, 2020**, at the Wells High School Performing Arts Center, 200 Sanford Rd., Wells, ME,

School Committee members attending included: Chair Helena Ackerson, Vice-Chair Jason Vennard, Aneliya Georgieva-Petrov, and Heather Sittig. Member Borianna Dolliver was absent.

Administrators in attendance included: Superintendent, Jim Daly; Director of Instruction/Spec Svcs, Stacey Schatzabel; Director of Finance/HR/Operations, Jay Moore; Director of Technology, Michael Richards; Director of Athletics 6-12, Pierce Cole; K-12 Instructional Strategist/IEP Coordinator, Karen Tufts; WHS Principal, Eileen Sheehy; WHS Asst. Principal, Kevin Jackson; WHS Director of Student Activities, Jack Molloy; WJHS Principal, Josh Gould; WJHS Asst. Principal, Doug Perley; WES Principal, April Noble; and WES Asst. Principal, Theresa Curran.

Community Resource Coordinator Maryanne Foley was also in attendance.

**1. Call to Order/ Mission Statement**

- Chair Ackerson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
- Chair Ackerson read the Mission Statement.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

- Chair Ackerson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

**3. Adjustments to the Agenda**

- There were no adjustments to the Agenda

**4. Public Comment**

- There was no public comment

**5. Consideration and approval of minutes of the School Committee meeting held on:**

A. September 2, 2020

**Motion to approve the WOCSD School Committee Meeting Minutes of September 2, 2020 as written.**

**Moved:** *Vennard*

**Seconded:** *Sittig*

**Vote:** *4-0*  
(Dolliver was absent)

## 6. Superintendent's Report

### A. Items for Information

#### i. Superintendent's Update

- Supt. Daly welcomed everyone back to the in-person meeting format. He thanked the students, teachers, staff, and administrators for their hard work, cooperation and diligence in adhering to the COVID-19 safety protocols in place. Supt. Daly also thanked the custodial staff for their continuous hard work, day and night, inside and outside, to keep everything sanitized and safe at every building.
- Supt. Daly reported that the District had been allotted upwards of \$980,000 or so in the first round of COVID Relief Funds and that to date about \$955,000 has been spent in order to get the schools up and running and ready for reopening. No reimbursements for those expenditures have been received from the state yet but it is expected those funds will be received in late October or early November.
- Supt. Daly reported that much of the COVID Relief Fund money has been spent on equipment for cleaning and sanitizing and that due to the increased needs of social distancing mandates, two district vans have been purchased for the transportation of Special Ed students. Funds have also been used to replace staff who are out because they may have been exposed to the virus through a family member and also to backfill any support staff that is needed.
- Supt. Daly shared that October 1st enrollment is at 1,344 students. Of that number, 270 students have opted to work remotely. Currently, one-two requests are being received per week for additional students opting to work remotely. The lower number of in-person learners and resulting smaller class sizes have worked well for the District to accommodate the social distancing measures required this year.

#### ii. MSBA Annual Delegate Assembly Information

-included in the packet

#### iii. *MSBA Update* - September 2020

-included in the packet

### B. School Calendars - October 2020

-October calendars from each building were shared with the School Committee

### C. Notification of Resignation

#### i. WJHS Gr. 8 Team Leader

-Supt. Daly shared that Anne Gallo has resigned from her position as WJHS Grade 8 Team Leader, effective immediately.

### D. District Reports

#### WES Principal's Update - A. Noble

Principal Noble shared:

- Students and teachers are all happy to be back in school and there have been no discipline issues at all around wearing masks, social distancing or hand sanitizing. She also said there is a lot of learning taking place in the outdoor spaces.
- Currently there are five classrooms at each grade level and four classes in kindergarten, with 17 or fewer students in each class, enabling social distancing protocols to be met.

- Teachers are currently building relationships and reviewing content to gauge student knowledge levels.
- WES remote classes are slightly larger and Principal Noble reviewed the daily schedule for remote learners and teachers.
- As the teachers and students learn how to best use the remote tools, changes have been made which are helping pave the way and set up the structure for what a remote day at WES would look like should our District be required to go remote.
- Improvements have been made around the initial hurdles with morning drop-off and afternoon dismissal of students. Things are running more smoothly and dismissal time is actually shorter now than in the pre-pandemic era.

#### WJHS Principal's Update - J. Gould

Principal Gould reported:

- Progress has been made at the Jr. High addressing the initial challenges and traffic issues surrounding morning drop-off and afternoon dismissal.
- Remote learning with one central platform is working well and is receiving praise from parents. It is also serving as a baseline template in case the school needs to transition to all remote learning.
- In-person class sizes of 14-17 students have enabled social distancing protocols to be met and that the organization of the building into grade-level wings is able to support cohort groups of staff and students.
- Utilizing the outside tents, or "Tent City" as it is called, has been very useful and provides flexibility for teachers and mask breaks for every classroom. Each grade has a tent assigned to them that they rotate through daily. Teachers have also been utilizing the entire campus for outdoor learning environments and PE classes are currently conducted 100% outdoors.
- "Warrior of the Week" has been implemented in an attempt to cultivate more pride and more positive behavior within the school. He also shared that the greenhouse has been renovated and updated and is being used in lesson plans for science classes. The renovation is also a way to promote pride in the building and lets students see the productive use of district resources.

- Chair Ackerson commented that both the smooth drop off procedures and providing lunches to the students have been wonderful for parents. She noted that the caliber of education is up and that in-class and virtual instruction seems very well aligned.

-Vice-Chair Vennard asked if there has been an effort to assess the decrease in student knowledge resulting from the remote learning from last school year.

- Principal Gould shared that teachers are reviewing material and cited the example of the 5th grade math team who, before introducing new concepts, is revisiting the 4th grade math curriculum from last trimester and reteaching fundamentals as necessary. He noted that the Jr. High is making an effort to change the phraseology from "being behind" scholastically to being "resilient students".

-Supt. Daly added that reassessing missed concepts from the spring term is a national problem due to COVID related school shutdowns. Schools everywhere are needing to review and reteach fundamentals.

-Member Sittig asked if statewide standardized testing would be given this year?

-Supt. Daly said the state is discussing it but as of now no decision has been made.

-Member Georgieva-Petrov asked about the remote learning platform and if the District needs to go all remote, would teachers be teaching lessons from the classroom or from home?

-Supt. Daly responded that if we were forced to go totally remote, where teachers would teach from depends on the circumstances. Many educators have children at home to care for which would make teaching from the actual classroom difficult for them unless they had a daycare option. He noted that we would have to be flexible but that our District teachers have become skilled at teaching remotely as a result of the shutdown from March through the end of the school year.

-Member Sittig asked about "snow days" going forward given the access to the remote learning platform.

-Supt. Daly shared that with the remote platform, traditional snow days would not be necessary. Students, teachers and staff could work remotely and days would not have to be made up at the end of the year.

#### WHS Principal's Report - E. Sheehy

Principal Sheehy reported:

- Things at the high school are going well with everyone adapting to the new routine. There have been no issues with mask wearing or social distancing.
- Teachers are reviewing and reteaching concepts from last trimester as necessary.
- Zooming is going well and remote students are able to connect and participate in real time with the class being taught. There have been no absenteeism issues with remote learners and absenteeism for in-school learners is about the same as last year. Students are being careful with their symptom checking and can Zoom into a class if they need to stay out of school for health reasons.
- SAT tests that were cancelled in the spring are being offered to seniors on October 14th at the high school and are being funded by the District.

-Chair Ackerson inquired about the morale of students at the high school.

-Principal Sheehy noted that the students are grateful to be able to attend school in person and that the remote learners are happy to be able to reconnect with their teachers.

-Supt. Daly added that the common variable throughout each of the schools is that students are happy to be back in school.

#### Director of Finance/HR/Operations - J. Moore

Dir. Moore noted:

- The second round of COVID Relief Funds is available and will be reimbursed through the federal grant reimbursement system.

- The plans and purchases to reopen the schools this fall began in March as soon as we shut down. The District was able to order all of the PPE we needed on our own resulting in a large supply of masks, gloves and sanitizer on hand.
- Current budget is in good shape. Reimbursement of COVID Relief Funds from the state are taking time to process and receive.

-Member Sittig asked about transportation and what additional expenditure has been necessary to safely transport our students this year?

-Supt. Daly reported that the additional cost of \$220,000 to the District would be paid from COVID Relief Funds and is somewhat balanced out by other things that are not taking place such as activities and athletic buses. He added that the bus drivers are doing a great job keeping kids safe.

Director of Instruction/Spec. Svcs. - S. Schatzabel

In her report, Dir. Schatzabel shared:

- The classroom teachers are very happy to be back in person and she is very impressed with our staff.
- With the Hybrid B model, 75% of the Special Ed students will be in school for all four days of that schedule. The 29 remote Special Ed students each have an individual remote plan designed just for them.

Director of Technology - M. Richards

Dir. Richards reported:

- With the help of Dir. Cole, thermal temperature cameras have been successfully installed in each building.
- His team has been working with staff to supply them with the technology tools they need
- Received 1st shipment of Chromebooks which were distributed to grades K-9
- If we go “red” remote, we have enough devices for the high school too

Director of Athletics 6-12 - P. Cole

Dir. Cole reported:

- The fall season is at the mercy of the state color designation. Right now we are at yellow which means we are not allowed to participate.
- We are hopeful that York County will change to green before November 14th which is when the fall season ends.
- The MPA and MDOE are currently evaluating winter sports

-Vice-Chair Vennard noted that it is clear that everyone is working well together and encouraged everyone to keep up the good work.

**7. New Business**

A. Consideration and approval of new hire

i. WOCSD Part-time Physical Therapist

-Supt. Daly recommended Colleen Schank be hired for this position.

**Move to approve the hire of Colleen Schank as the WOCSD Part-time Physical Therapist as recommended by Supt. Daly.**

**Moved:** *Vennard*

**Seconded:** *Georgieva-Petrov*

**Vote:** 4-0  
(Dolliver was absent)

B. Consideration and approval of stipend position

i. WJHS Grade 8 Team Leader

-Supt. Daly recommended Emilio Casanueva be hired for this position.

**Move to approve the hire of Emilio Casanueva as the Wells Junior High School Grade 8 Team Leader.**

**Moved:** *Sittig*

**Seconded:** *Georgieva-Petrov*

**Vote:** 4-0  
(Dolliver was absent)

C. First Reading of *Policy IKF - Graduation Requirements*

D. Second Reading of *Policy GBIA - Staff Participation in Political Activities*

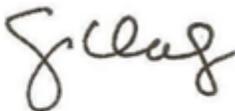
E. Second Reading of *Policy IHBGB - Supplemental Statement of Rights For Private School Students With Disabilities*

F. Second Reading of *Policy IMB - Teaching About Controversial/Sensitive Issues*

**8. Adjournment**

- Chair Ackerson asked for a motion to adjourn
- Vice-Chair Vennard motioned to adjourn
- Member Sittig seconded the motion
- The motion passed 4-0.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



James P. Daly, Secretary  
Wells-Ogunquit CSD School Committee