

# MINUTES – WAYLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## Special Session – October 27, 2014

A Special Session of the Wayland School Committee was held on Monday, October 27, 2014, at 7:00 P.M. in Boston Police Headquarters, 1 Schroeder Plaza, Boston.

Present were:

Barb Fletcher, Vice Chair  
Malcolm Astley  
Donna Bouchard  
Jeanne Downs

Absent:

Ellen Grieco

Also:

Paul Stein  
Superintendent of Schools

Brad Crozier

Assistant Superintendent

Marlene Dodyk

Director of Student Services

Susan Bottan

Business Administrator

Also:

Leadership for Equity Team: Heather Pineault, Betsy Gavron, Brian Jones, Debbie Bearse, Jim Lee, Allyson Mizoguchi, Karyn Saxon, Tricia O'Reilly

Also: Mark Riddell, Latisha Dukes-Pearson, Maribel Valdes, Jen Murray, Adrian Bryant, and Liz Wales

After refreshments and social conversation, Vice Chair Barb Fletcher convened the Special Session at 7:20 P.M.

In Ellen's absence, Barb spoke on behalf of the School Committee. She thanked the parents for attending the meeting and introductions were made.

Paul informed the parents that they are going to participate in an exercise as part of the district's long-range planning effort. To put the exercise in context, he referenced the five HEART goals individually, how they are being used, and what the focus is in the elementary and secondary schools. Paul noted that although the HEART goals are multi-year goals, the focus is taken year to year. Paul briefly described the A.L.I.C.E. program and how the school system is approaching this program. He commented that staff are being trained and briefly elaborated on what the program teaches in terms of how to deal with active intruders.

1. Discussion re: the September 21, 2014 School Committee Summit:

Paul instructed the parents and administrators to break out into five groups to discuss one of the following topics in terms of which areas they feel need enhancement, raise questions, talk about barriers, and suggest solutions. He added that ideas from tonight's meeting and the summit will be placed into a category of being the most impactful and can be accomplished, given the resources.

- Technology
- Enhancing the Curriculum
- Raising the Bar
- Health and Wellness
- Early Childhood Education

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Paul asked each group to highlight a couple of ideas that emerged from their discussions and were different from those generated at the summit. For instance, with regard to the early childhood topic, it was suggested that the traditional

Kindergarten students should be transitioned slowly in preparation for first grade. Also, parents felt that a spring assessment should be offered to parents to allow them to be better informed about the traditional vs. the full day kindergarten program. Another idea in terms of enhancing the curriculum was to enhance the music program by partnering with other music and arts organizations.

Paul noted that the task forces will take their ideas and incorporate them into the long-range planning for the Wayland Public Schools.

2. Discussion with Boston Families:

Barb opened up the meeting for questions, comments, and concerns from the parents. Some of the topics covered in this discussion included violence in the schools and the overwhelming fact that males are the shooters, teachers' health and wellness in terms of promoting positive attitudes and an eagerness to learn amongst the students, raising awareness in different areas through acting and the theater, homework assignments and Professional Learning Communities (PLC's).

3. Consent Agenda:

- Approval for Middle School Annual Fundraiser Supporting Educational Trips

Upon a motion duly made by Jeanne Downs, seconded by Malcolm Astley, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented.

4. Adjournment:

Upon a motion duly made by Malcolm Astley, seconded by Donna Bouchard, the School Committee voted unanimously (4-0) to adjourn the Regular Session at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Stein, Clerk  
Wayland School Committee

Observers:

See attached list

Corresponding Documentation:

1. Policy KCD - Fundraising
2. Memo re: the Middle School Annual Fundraiser