

MINUTES
WOONSOCKET SCHOOL COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2006
7:00 PM-OPEN SESSION
WOONSOCKET HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
777 Cass Avenue

Called to Order by Chairman Marc Dubois
Moment of Silence
Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:	Marc Dubois, Chairman	Present
	Michelle Williams	Present
	Allen Auclair	Present
	Eleanor Nadeau	Present
	Anita McGuire-Forcier	Present

PUBLIC GOOD & WELFARE:

Carmen Boucher, PAC Co-Chair: Wanted to know when the budget will be coming up again. She also thanked Dr. Macera for allowing the PAC members to be involved with the interviewing process of the new WMS principal.

Denise Boulay, SELAC Co-Chair: Wanted to let everyone know about a free event coming up. It will be a back to school celebration.

RECOGNITIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – Dr. Maureen Macera, Superintendent

Congratulated Meghan Minot, who is a student from WACTC. She received the top national award in Health Occupations. This is a phenomenal accomplishment.

Motion to receive and place on file: M. Williams 2nd: A. Auclair & E. Nadeau
(Unanimously Approved)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 6/21/06 SPECIAL OPEN SESSION
6/28/06 OPEN/CLOSED SESSION

Motion to Approve: E. Nadeau 2nd: M. Williams (Unanimously Approved)

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to approve by A. Auclair with the following items removed:

Purchases/Transfers Over \$2,000

Dan Moran & Assoc./Nursing Services/Sp. Ed./Local: Removed by Dr. Macera

Diane Vachon/Nursing Services/Sp. Ed./Local: Removed by Dr. Macera

Susan Prentiss/PT Services/Sp. Ed. /Local: Removed by Dr. Macera

2nd: A. Forcier (Unanimously Approved)

1. Personnel Actions

Certified Appointments/Non-Certified Appointments

2. Purchases/Transfers Over \$2,000

AD & D Welding Boiler Works/Boiler Repairs/WMS/Local
Alternative Ed Program/Student Contract/WHS/Grant
Atlantic Elevator/Maintenance/WHS, WMS, Pothier, Harris/Local
Beacon Charter School/Tuitions/District/Local
Bellingham Lumber/Supplies/WHS/Local
The Call/Advertising/District/Local
Century Consultants Software/Technology/Local
Follett Library/Books/WHS/Local
Follett Software Co./Software/District/Local
Konica/Maintenance/District/Local
Parmalee, Poirier & Assoc./Audit 07 McFee/Local
Paula Windor/Med. Reimb/McFee/Local
The Prov. Journal/Advertising/District/Local
RI Network for Ed. Technology, Inc./RINET/Technology/Local
Richard Ferguson/Consulting Serv/Sp. Ed./Local
Rick's Musical Instruments/Purchases, Repairs/WHS/Local
School Dude.com/Technology, Facilities/Local
School-Link Technologies/District/Lunch Revenue
Shilepsky O'Connell/Promac/McFee/Local
Sonitrol/Security/Facilities/Local
Valley Transportation/Transp. Music/WHS/Local
Vinny Loughlin, LLC/Ed. Supplies/WHS/Local
Votex, Inc/Asebestos Abatement/Fifth, Second/Local

3. Field Trip/Conference Requests

London, England/WHS World History I/Fundraiser
ASBO International, Pittsburg, PA/McFee

4. Disposal of Equipment and Obsolete Equipment

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

COMMUNICATIONS: None
COMMITTEE REPORTS: None
CONFERENCES: None

MOTION TO TAKE NEW BUSINESS ITEM #2 OUT OF ORDER: M. Dubois
2nd: A. Auclair (Unanimously Approved)

NEW BUSINESS:

2. Appointment of WMS Principal

Dr. Macera recommended Dr. Patrick J. Magee to be the principal of WMS commencing fiscal year 2007. Dr. Magee has been an assistant principal at Coventry High School since September 2004. Prior to that he served as principal of WMS from August 2003 to September 2004 and he was interim principal of WMS from March 2003 to April 2003. Previous to that from August 2000 to June 2003 he was assistant principal of WHS. Dr. Magee has outstanding credentials and references. He is known to be an administrator who is honest, forthright, and hardworking.

Motion to Approve: E. Nadeau & M. Williams 2nd: A. Auclair

Mr. Auclair did research on the salary and benefits our principals receive and we are in line with the national averages.

Mr. Dubois told Dr. Magee that the old superintendent was a fool for driving him out of this district. Mr. Dubois is glad Dr. Magee is back and welcomed him home to Woonsocket.

Roll Call Vote: (MD/yes; MW/yes; AA/yes; EN/yes; AF/yes) 5 yes. Motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Approval of WMS Handbook – 1st Passage

Dr. Magee thanked everyone. He is excited to be back in Woonsocket. There is a lot of work to do, but he is going to make WMS a school the community and state will be proud of.

Dr. Magee has reviewed most of the handbook. Dr. Macera suggested giving the WMS handbook 1st passage tonight. This would allow Dr. Magee and his staff more time to go over it and make any modifications before the 2nd passage. Dr. Macera commended the staff at WMS for all their work they have done on this handbook.

Motion to Approve: M. Williams 2nd: E. Nadeau

Mrs. Forcier stated that in this handbook it did not include that the boys are not allowed to wear their pants down to their knees and that they should be up at waist level. Also the bus conduct should be the same as WHS. Weapons and cell phones should not be categorized together. Weapons should stand out.

Mr. Auclair questioned the 30-day absence policy. Dr. Macera said it would be looked at.

Roll Call Vote: (MD/yes; MW/yes; AA/yes; EN/yes; AF/yes) 5 yes. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bid Award:

- 06-16 Medical Supplies
- 06-19 High School Art Supplies

Motion to Approve: A. Forcier 2nd: M. Dubois

Ms. Nadeau asked if we have always provided epi-pens and nebulizers. Dr. Macera said it is state mandated.

Roll Call Vote: (MD/yes; MW/yes; AA/yes; EN/yes; AF/yes) 5 yes. Motion passed.

3. Presentation for Approval of District Allen Shawn Feinstein Initiative

- a. Feinstein Junior Scholars Program
- b. District Community Service Good Deeds Program
- c. Feed the Hungry Program
- d. Feinstein Learning Academy and Middle School Feinstein Sponsorship

We need to help accept some responsibility by helping our children improve their quality of life. Dr. Macera and five members from the McFee staff met with Mr. Allen Shawn Feinstein. Many of the

elementary schools and the middle school already participate in the Good Deeds Program and other initiatives. Dr. Macera wants the opportunity to pursue district wide a development and design of community service as a component part of our curriculum. The children of Woonsocket will not only have the opportunity to learn about the needs of families in their community but to also service those needs. Also, to understand and carefully perceive what needs to be done and what they can do individually to make someone's life better. This will have a very positive effect on developing their character and their sense of values. This will also help improve their self-esteem.

Mr. Feinstein has given Woonsocket a challenge. He would like to see Woonsocket be the first district nationally to adopt the Feinstein programs for community service, in particular, the Feed the Hungry Program. Mr. Feinstein will match any donations collected as a district.

Dr. Macera proposed for the Second Avenue Learning Academy be renamed the Feinstein Learning Academy. Mr. Feinstein will pay for all signs.

Motion to Approve: M. Williams^{2nd}: M. Dubois

Mr. Auclair asked if Carole Lerner and Pauline Papino could speak about the Feinstein initiatives.

Carole Lerner said that meeting with Mr. Feinstein was one of the most interesting meetings she has ever been to. He is such a wonderful man. He is very humble. He hates to spend money but he loves to give it away.

Pauline Papino also said Mr. Feinstein is very humble. He doesn't care about having his name on a building but by doing so it will bring in more money for hunger. Studies have been done and people acknowledge his name. Mr. Feinstein's goal is to make Rhode Island a hunger-free state. He cares about community service and helping others.

Mr. Auclair requested that we have representation from our parent groups and guidance department staff when this committee is formed.

Mrs. Forcier asked if Mr. Feinstein liked the idea of the Universal Breakfast Program. Dr. Macera said that he loved the idea.

Ms. Nadeau asked if we put Mr. Feinstein's name on the building would it be possible to get corporations to do the same. Carole Lerner spoke to Congressman Kennedy about this at a conference and he may be able to get us some help with this.

Mr. Auclair asked if it was okay with the city to change the name of the building. Dr. Macera has had numerous discussions with Mayor Menard and she is fine with this.

Mr. Dubois stated he is thrilled and supports all of this. He thanked Mr. Feinstein and he is also interested in community service.

Roll Call Vote: (MD/yes; MW/yes; AA/yes; EN/yes; AF/yes) 5 yes. Motion passed.

4. Discussion of Superintendent's Seminar – Support of RIDE

Dr. Macera has been selected to attend a five part seminar series on advanced superintendent leadership. This series offers high quality, meaningful ideas and strategies, drawn from research and best practices; opportunities to work with outstanding educators and experienced superintendents; and a cohort of colleagues from other regions for on-going feed back, support and challenge. The cost to the district will be \$1,500.00 for housing and other expenses. Dr. Canole will try to get money to help pay for this. For now, we will need to approve to pay for this.

Motion to Approve: A. Auclair 2nd: M. Dubois

Mr. Auclair asked when is this seminar. Dr. Macera said the dates will be on October 6 & 7, January 26 & 27, March 23 & 24, May 4 & 5, and July 8 – 11, 2007.

Mr. Dubois stated he is very impressed and glad to see most of these dates are scheduled on the weekends and in the summer.

Roll Call Vote: (MD/yes; MW/yes; AA/yes; EN/yes; AF/yes) 5 yes. Motion passed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Dr. Maureen Macera, Superintendent

We are progressing with the summer school programs. We are engaging in a range of IEP meetings with parents about our Alternative Learning Program. Our facilities department is doing an outstanding job on cleaning and maintaining the buildings. We have major work going on in the WACTC. Air conditioning is not working at McFee and WHS.

**Motion to receive and place on file: E. Nadeau 2nd: M. Williams
(Unanimously Approved)**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOOD & WELFARE

Nadeau: Congratulated Dr. Magee and said it is nice to see him back and best wishes.

Williams: Congratulated Dr. Magee. It is a pleasure to have you back in this district and I know you will do a fine job. On June 30th, there was a fire at my house. I do not have a home phone or e-mail if anyone has been trying to contact me. My cell phone number is (401) 359-1580. Right now I am staying at 513 South Main Street on the second floor.

Auclair: Congratulated Dr. Magee for receiving his doctorate degree and taking the chance to return to WMS. There were no internal candidates. You have my full support and welcome back. On a global scale, I hope there will be some peaceful end in the Mid East.

Dubois: Congratulated Dr. Magee and pleased to have him back. Thanked Mr. Berman for all the hard work he has done this past year. We are in much better shape than we were a year ago at this time. Obviously tonight's meeting is held at WHS. In a few days notice, WOON was contacted and did all the work to have tonight broadcasted. Thanked Dave Richards and his staff. A lot of communities pay to have their meetings broadcasted and WOON provides this service free of charge.

Forcier: Congratulated Dr. Magee and would like to continue to work with him on the bullying situation as they did in the past.

Mr. Dubois gave a reminder that there will be two meetings in August. This was changed last year. They will be held on the second and fourth Wednesday.

Motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.: M. Williams 2nd: A. Auclair
(Unanimously Approved)

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Gatta, WSC Recording Secretary Sub

