

NEW SALEM/WENDELL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, April 5, 2018
Swift River School – 7:00 p.m.

Johanna Bartlett, Carl Seppala, Jack Radner, Karyn Briand, Anna Wetherby (minutes),
Jennifer Haggerty, Kelley Sullivan
Public: Karen Nelson, Rachel Vitello, James Culkeen,

AGENDA

Call Meeting to Order – Johanna moves, Anna 2nd 7:01

A. Public Hearings

- FY19 Budget
 - 20k less in school choice, 10k circuit breaker, pre-k funding reduction, funding for quality full day kindergarten cut, custodial supplies increase, reduction of pre-k position, increase of insurance overall and family increase on school insurance
 - Overall budget is 4.3% increase
 - Jack moves to approve budget, Anna seconds, unanimous

B. Warrants – Record in minutes with numbers

- Voucher: 2813, 4038, 4039, 4040, 8109, 8191, 8200
- Warrant: 420, 820

C. Superintendent's Report

- MASC - Day on the Hill; school committee members encouraged to attend or write to political leaders to increase school funding, adjust the foundation funding
- Changing accountability indicators of MCAS, use English Language Proficiency, SIMS late or incomplete data can negatively impact the school's performance

D. Director of Finance and Operations Report

- No report

E. Principal's Report

- Hired interventionist, Shelley Sylvester, k-3, reading and math intervention and eventually reading support
- Interviewing for new Special Education Teacher, May 11
- Kaitlin Scutari (art) gave notice, Emily Neuberger will replace with great reviews
- Asbestos testing – positive in Kindergarten room and psychologist's office. Was all to be eradicated in 1987, estimate to remove 17k
- Sodium levels up again (same as last year), will hear from board of health as for recommendations
- Question as to whether the parking lot water run off needs to be collected (to stop contamination)

F. April Items

1. Proposed School Committee Meeting Schedule – Karyn moves, Carl 2nd, unanimous
 - Would fewer meetings at the school level and better attendance at joint meetings?
 - Monthly meetings only during budget season
 - Keep February in calendar, but with the knowledge it can be cancelled if needed
 - Can call meeting if emergency arises
2. FY19 Budget – Vote –done
3. School Choice – Identification of School Choice Seats
 - No available school choice seats
4. Academic Calendar 2018-2019 Anna moves, Jack 2nd unanimous
 - Although there may be some merit to at-home learning days during snow days, but Jen wants to look into the benefits of this (is this ever the equivalent to 5-6 hours of learning, what about non-salaried staff)
5. Policy Update and Review:
 - First Reading on:
 - o DGA – Regional School District Authorized Signatures
 - o DK – Regional School District Payment Procedures
 - o GBEBD – Online Fundraising and Solicitations – Crowd funding
 - o GBEA – Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest
 - Second Reading, First Vote:
 - o BDA – By-Laws of the New Salem/Wendell Union School Committee
Karyn moves, Jack 2nd unanimous (NEED TO AMEND ARTICLE 3, SECTION 1)
 - o GBED – Tobacco Free School Policy
Anna moves, Karyn 2nd - unanimous
 - o LBC – New Salem/Wendell Relations with Nonpublic Schools
Carl moves, Karyn 2nd – unanimously
Deals with private, not home schooling, schools only
MGL ch 76.1- compulsory attendance laws
Add to LBC “Biennially (every two years) ”
 - Final Vote to Delete:
 - o JLCCG - Head Lice Policy Jack moves, Karyn 2nd unanimous

G. Committee Reports

- Report from Mahar Representatives
 - Highlights from Carla’s notes were read meeting
 - Carl has reached out to Carla to offer help with the Starrett work-placement program
- Collaborative for Educational Services – no report

- Budget and Personnel – Next meeting- Monday, May 21, 2018 Swift River School - 6:00 p.m.
- Joint Supervisory – Next Meeting – Monday, May 21, 2018 Swift River School– 7:00 p.m.

H. Future Business

- Next Meeting Date – May 3, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
- New Salem/Wendell Policy Committee – May 3, 2018 6:30 p.m.
- Town of Wendell Meeting – June 5, 2018 (New Salem not scheduled yet)

Add to May agenda: gun control letter discussion and possible vote

I. Approval of the Minutes of March 1, 2018 - Karyn moves, Jack 2nd – unanimous

Public meeting adjourned 8pm

J. Executive Session – To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or Litigation Anna moves, Carl 2nd, roll call obtained

Discussion of health care increase percentage

Discussion of 2% raise

Updates on changes requested by teachers

Need for more information gathered regarding health care percentages before next contract negotiation

K. Adjournment - Jack moves, Karyn 2nd, roll called 8:23