Wales School Committee Meeting

Meeting of Wednesday, April 2, 2025
Wales Elementary School
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Christine Randall, Carolyn Boehne, Ed Boyce, and John Croke
ABSENT: Ashley Gallant
ALSO PRESENT: Deborah Boyd, Superintendent; Kerri Mahota, Principal; Karen Miarecki, Secretary
AUDIENCE PRESENT: Staff Members and Members of the Community

Regular Session Opened at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes
Motion was made by Mr. Boyce, seconded by Mrs. Boehne, to approve the tabled February 12, 2025, Regular Session.
Discussion: Under Public Access please change "Teachers" to "Staff"
VOTE: Unanimous, as amended with one abstention – John Croke

Motion was made by Mr. Croke, seconded by Mr. Boyce to approve the March 5, 2025, Regular Session.
Discussion:
VOTE: Unanimous

Financial Report: *Highlights*:
- Professional Salaries - $49,000 was voted from Rural Aid
- Fiscal 2026 Budget – Ready for town meeting
- Specialized Transportation Costs – Being monitored and reviewed regularly.

Communications:
- SWCEC Qtr. 2 Report – Distributed electronically
- MASC Budget Statements
- SOA Progress Summary

Principal's Report - *Highlights*:
- Infrastructure: Well pump repairs & new dishwasher install over April break.
- Spirit Week: Themed days, book pairings & food drive success.
- MCAS: Testing started April 1; ELA (April), Math (May), Science (Grade 5, May).
- Student Spotlight: March focuses on empathy; students recognized at assembly.
- Registration: Preschool (3 years old by 8/31/22), Kindergarten (5 years old by by 8/31/20).

Motion was made by Mr. Boyce, seconded by Mr. Croke, to set the school choice size for FY26 for K-6 at a maximum of 20 students.
Discussion:
VOTE: Unanimous

Superintendent's Report – *Highlights*:
- All Region Music is occurring in the next couple of weeks
- All Arts Night – Was held last night
- Spring Joint Meeting – Wednesday the 28th of May at the Jr. High

Tantasqua Representative Report – *Highlights:*
- Public Hearing
- MASC Discussion
- Design Team for the Wales Roof – Selection has been made

Public Access: *None*

Unfinished Business: *None*

New Business:

- ACGA - Civil Rights Grievance Procedure - New First Reading
- ADDA-R - DCJIS Model CORI Policy - New First Reading
- AC - Non-Discrimination Policy Including Harassment and Retaliation - Amend First Reading
- ACA - Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Sex - Amend First Reading
- ACAB - Sexual Harassment - Amend - First Reading
- BHE - Use of Electronic Messaging by School Committee Members - Amend First reading
- IE - Organization of Instruction - Rescind - First reading
- ADDA - Background Checks - Review

Motion was made by Mr. Boyce, seconded by Mrs. Boehne to approve New Policies ACGA, ADDA-R, Approve Amended Policies AC, ACA, ACAB and BHE, Approve Rescinded Policy IE all on First Reading.
Discussion:
VOTE: Unanimous

Open Forum - *None*
This is an opportunity to offer comments or observations about the school committee and its work. Motions may be made during this session to establish New Business for a subsequent meeting or to refer a topic to a subcommittee. Members are limited to two minutes each, and the session shall be limited to 15 minutes.

Executive Session
At 6:45 p.m., Request to enter in Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A 21A(3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the Chair so declares. ***The committee will adjourn the Regular Session from Executive Session.***

Roll Call
Randall – Yes, Croke-Yes, Boehne -Yes, Boyce – Yes

Adjournment will be in **Executive** Session