

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

2012-2013 FY13

**Diane Campbell, Chairman
KC Kato, Vice Chairman
Tere Ramos, Secretary
Suzy Littlefield
Wendy Paul**

This year was marked by the arrival on July 1, 2012 of our new School Superintendent, Dr. David F. Lussier. The School Committee is very appreciative of the continued support of the town and the collaborative support of other town boards and departments.

Personnel

1. Thirty-eight new educators began the school year in August 2012. There were a number of new and interim appointments in administrative positions. Upham School welcomed new principal Jeffrey Dees, Fiske School welcomed new principal Anthony Colannino and Mark Ito was named principal of Wellesley Middle School. Two late vacancies were filled by interim principals. Hunnewell School welcomed Barbara Manfredi, and Hardy School welcomed Bernadine Small. Becky McFall resigned as Director of C & I and an interim, Judy Malone-Neville, was hired to fill that vacancy. In other administrative positions, Jamie Chisum returned to the assistant principal position at the High School. There were new Department Heads in the Middle School English Department as well as the Elementary Special Education Department.
2. On March 5, 2013 Wellesley voters elected School Committee member Patti Quigley to a three-year term.

School Operations and Budgeting

1. School Committee ended FY11 with an operational budget surplus of \$355,895. These funds were turned back to the town and reverted to the Town's free cash.
2. School Committee and Town Meeting approved an FY14 budget of \$60,133,157 or a 3.5 percent increase over FY13. The budget was comprised of \$41,959,008 for Instruction, Administration and Operations, and \$18,174,149 for Special Education. The Special Education model in this budget includes all special education costs, not just the high cost categories.

3. A number of significant activities focused on teaching and learning. The K-12 Social Studies Curriculum Review was completed this year. Staff at all levels worked to address performance gaps in math and science.
4. The Superintendent assembled a representative Advisory Task Force to work with him to develop a multi-year strategic plan for the Wellesley Public Schools. This process engaged staff and community. This initiative was funded through the generosity of WEF.
5. A number of School Committee Policies were revised and voted. Among these were the Wellness, Field Trip, and Student Admission to WPS Policies.
6. With regard to Food Service, Whitsons has been collaborative and responsive this year, and as a result, the School Committee voted to renew its contract for School Year 2013-14.
7. Much progress was made this year in restoring confidence in the School Business Office and to implement policies and procedures recommended by the MASBO review and Audit Committee findings. A goal was to improve communications, transparency, and efficiency. The School Committee voted a reorganization of the School Business Office in order to improve productivity, quality control, and morale. As part of this reorganization the School Committee appointed Judy Belliveau as Director of Finance and Business Operations.

School Facilities

The SMMA WPS Conditions Assessment and Feasibility Study became available in October 2012 and included representatives from the School Committee, Board of Selectmen, Facilities Maintenance Department, WPS Administration, and the Town Executive Director. This information was presented as a database, a tool to track building conditions and to organize and prioritize maintenance and improvements. In October the School Facilities Master Plan (SFMP) Task Force was formed by the School Committee. The charge of the Task Force was to focus on short-term building projects to be completed prior to the strategic plan and a longer-term facilities master plan.

In March 2013 Suzy Littlefield stepped down from School Committee following the completion of four, 3-year terms. The School Committee thanks her for her service to Wellesley and her dedication to public education of our children. Of special note was her dedication to the High School project.

The School Committee extends thanks, congratulations and best wishes to the following members of the faculty who retired during the past year. We appreciate their dedication and service to the Town of Wellesley.

Bob Callahan
Bob Dankner
Lynne Johnson
Nancy Kuziemski
Carole Lobach
Miriam Maguire

Poppy Milner
Barbara Noun
Margaret Pickett
Ritajayne Rivera
Anne White

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Campbell

WELLESLEY RESIDENTS ENROLLED IN SCHOOLS

**As of
October 1, 2012 in Grades K-12**

Wellesley Public Schools

	Non-resident*		Wellesley resident	
Elementary Schools	Grades K-5	76	Grades K-5	2,233
Middle School	Grades 6-8	48	Grades 6-8	1,117
High School	Grades 9-12	<u>53</u>	Grades 9-12	<u>1,328</u>
Totals		177		4,678

Total Wellesley Public Schools enrollment (both resident and non-resident) 4,855

STUDENTS ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS OUTSIDE OF WELLESLEY
(including programs under the direction of The Education Cooperative) 13

STUDENTS ATTENDING PRIVATE SCHOOLS OUTSIDE OF WELLESLEY
(State-approved special education programs for which Wellesley pays tuition) 44

VOCATIONAL/REGIONAL SCHOOLS 2

PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN WELLESLEY

Dana Hall	Grades 6-12	81	
St. John's School	Grades K-6	94	
St. Paul's School	Grades K-8	40	
Tenacre Country Day	Grades K-6	<u>87</u>	
Totals			302

PRIVATE SCHOOLS OUTSIDE OF WELLESLEY**
Grades K-12 841

GRAND TOTAL 6,057

*Includes students in approved foreign exchange programs, participating in ABC or METCO programs and others

**Excluding State-approved, private special education schools for which Wellesley pays tuition.