



## Superintendent's Corner

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Interim Superintendent

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I don't know if it has started in your homes yet, but the countdown to the end of the school year for kids is in full swing at my house! It is so hard to believe that there are only **TEN** days left of school for this year.

### AHS Sports

Our spring sports teams brought their A-games this year! We had a number of teams that were CAL League (Baker Division) champs, including baseball, softball and boy's tennis. Our baseball team won their first post-season game against Charlestown last Thursday. They then played East Boston for the Division 3 North First Round, but came up a little short. Our girls' softball team had a similar journey, beating Alvernia in the MIAA Division 3 North First Round, but losing on Wednesday evening in the Division 3 North Quarter Final. Our boy's tennis team put up a strong challenge against Weston on Monday in the MIAA Division 3 North Quarter Final, but came up a little short, losing by a score of 3-2.

Boy's track had an outstanding year, winning the Division 4 Championships this year. This was accomplished through the collective effort of many team members who had personal best efforts in the championship match.

The district is proud of the hard work of these students and what they were able to accomplish this year.

### At the School Committee Meeting

If you missed this week's school committee meeting, here are some of the things you missed...

*Retirement Recognition* – 14 educators were recognized for the dedication to the Amesbury Public Schools – with time of service in our school district exceeding 350 years! We are proud of our teachers and will miss out on their institutional knowledge and skillful teaching approaches. The retirees include Ann Marie Ahola, Ann Bartkiewicz, Cheryl Basque, Patricia Bradley, Florence Emerson, Roy Hamond, Maureen Hardin, Anita Marsh, Brenda McAtavey, Mary Ann McGrath, Patricia Mooers, Laurie Pancoast, Nancy Sullivan, and Cindy Yetman.



*Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School Update...* Whittier Superintendent Maureen Lynch was joined by the school's principal and the two school committee representatives from Amesbury to discuss enrollment trends, program changes and updates.

*Director of Finance and Operations Search Update...* Interviews for this position have been happening during the past two weeks. There were approximately 25 individuals that applied, but less than half of them even possessed the minimum job requirement of licensure through the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. While I had hoped to present a candidate for consideration to the school committee on Monday evening, I felt that I needed to spend a little more time learning about the finalists and ensuring that their skillsets were a good match for our current needs. It is my hope to be able recommend a candidate by the next school committee meeting.

*Charter School Cap Resolution...* The school committee did a cursory review of a resolution that would express the committee's position on lifting the cap on Commonwealth charter schools. No action was taken on this resolution this month, as members wanted more time to read through the resolution and better understand the impact that lifting the cap on charter schools would have on the community of Amesbury.

*Superintendent End of Cycle Evaluation...* Superintendents receive annual evaluations. As part of the educator evaluation framework, we are required to submit evidence of how we are working towards meeting our goals as well as meeting the four evaluation standards established by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. During this meeting, I presented a report to the committee, along with some supporting evidence. To read my report, go to: <http://schools.amesburyma.gov/amesburypublic.cfm?subpage=1486132>

### **End of Year Reporting Workshop**

On Wednesday, I had the opportunity to attend a workshop on end of year financial reporting. While this report is completed by the business department, I wanted to be familiar with the types of information and data that is collected to compile the report. I was overwhelmed by the breadth of this report and extensive data that needs to be collected, input and cross-checked in order for the end of the year report to be accurate.

### **AES Immigration Dinner**

Thursday evening, I attended the Amesbury Elementary School Immigration Dinner. Parents were entertained by music and dance from throughout the world. The fourth grade team of teachers, along with the music teacher, did a great job preparing the students. The entertainment was followed by a dinner.





**AHS Honors Awards – Grade 9-11**

Thursday evening, I also attended the honors awards program at Amesbury High School. This event recognized the accomplishments of our students in grades 9-11. I was impressed with the number of students who received awards and very proud to be part of a community that has such a strong commitment to education.

Be well and have a great weekend!

Gary