



Superintendent's Corner

Gary S. Reese, Ed.D.

Superintendent

March 24, 2017

Happy Spring! We made it through a week without any snow delays or cancellations!!! Hopefully, we will not be seeing any more snow until next Winter.

School Committee Meeting

Monday evening, the school committee met for a regular meeting. This was a brief meeting – Mr. Chamberlain (SC Member) reported out regarding the discussions that the committee had in the finance subcommittee meeting. The strategic plan was on the agenda, but was referred to a subcommittee for further discussion and analysis. The next regular meeting will be held on April 3, 2017. At that meeting, the school committee will vote on the budget that will be sent down to the Mayor for review/approval.

Jeanne Geiger White Ribbon Breakfast

Jeanne Geiger
CRISIS CENTER

A local organization that provides support to our schools is the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center. On March 21st, I attended the White Ribbon Breakfast, along with some other staff members and students. This event is held in recognition of a worldwide campaign for human rights that engages men to help end

violence against women, men, and children. This particular event was probably one of the most powerful meetings that I have attended. During our breakfast, we had the opportunity to hear from a variety of people, including Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey. The highlight for me was when two Amesbury High School Students, Tristan Sullivan-Parks and Mya Kermelewicz, shared their very personal stories about why they decided to get involved with the MVP (Mentors in Violence Prevention) program. Both Tristan and Mya were open, honest and incredibly brave to stand in front of a room filled with people explaining their past experiences with violence. I give both Mya and Tristan so much credit for being so courageous.

Joint Education Council Meeting

Wednesday evening, Joan Liporto and I met with a group of city councilors and school committee members who represent their respective bodies on the joint education council. This particular evening, we focused on the budget. We shared our story about where the budget process started and how we arrived at the proposed superintendent's budget. We were able to answer some of the questions and clarify particular line items for the council members.

Massachusetts Early College Initiative Launch Event

On Thursday morning, I attended a program at University of Massachusetts to learn more about the Early College Initiative about the new policy initiative intended to expand high quality early college in the Commonwealth. The keynote speaker was Governor Charlie Baker.

Rotary

Thursday afternoon, I attended the Rotary Club meeting. This week's meeting was a celebration of organ donation. We listened to a speaker from the organ bank and also had the opportunity to meet a number of people who have either donated or received an organ. It was very powerful to hear their stories.

Upcoming Events

AEFI Hall of Honor Celebration

On behalf of the Amesbury Education Foundation Inc (AEFI), I would like to invite parents and community members to AEFI's Hall of Honor celebration on April 28th. At this event, AEFI recognizes three individuals for their contributions to the schools and community. This is a special year for AEFI, as it is celebrating 15 years of supporting the schools. I am pleased to announce that the AEFI board has selected three outstanding recipients for this banner year's celebration. Peter Hoyt (former educator, principal and current school committee member), Graham McKay (AHS Alumni and Executive Director of Lowell's Boat Shop) and Joan Miller (founding AEFI board member). I am pleased with these selections as each person embodies a true spirit of caring and each has made substantial contributions to the students of Amesbury. Watch for more information to come regarding this exciting event.



Please see the attached flyers for some other upcoming events that support our schools and community.

Be well and have a great weekend! I am flying out this weekend to attend the Association for Curriculum Development (ASCD) National Conference. Eryn Maguire, Elizabeth McAndrews and I will be joining a consultant from McTighe Associates to present on the work we are doing in the district around curriculum development with Social Emotional Learning competencies directly embedded. I am looking forward to the opportunity to share our experiences, but also learn from others during this conference. There is a lot of interest regarding our work here in Amesbury. We have also received some attention from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, who asked us to jointly submit a proposal to speak at the annual Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Annual Conference in July.

Gary

Stunning Waterford Crystal Footed Bowl

Generously donated by: Rosey & Jack Werner
in honor of Patty & Peter Hoyt to benefit AEFI

\$500 Value



Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00

Tickets are available at Flatbread Fundraiser on March 7th. and from Central Office, Stone Ridge Property, or any AEFI Board Member.

Winner will be picked at AEFI's Hall of Honor Celebration on Friday, April 28, 2017.



Amesbury Public Schools

Wellness Committee Presents:

Commit To Be Fit...

...in Mind and Body with Physical Activity, Nutrition, and Mindfulness

- CrossFit Amesbury-- learn all about this fitness craze
- Nutrition Education presented by our own AHS students
- Yoga with Marie Zappala Stewart
- Zumba with Jessica Regis
- Mindfulness with Joanne Baker, RN BSN NCSN, and Ami Henderson, School Psychologist
- ProCare Physical Therapy: Foam Roller Demo
- Newman Chiropractic: Proper Posture Tips
- Latitude's Crush Swim Team
- Amesbury Youth Recreation Summer Activities

Free Raffles & Prizes from:

MILA BC City Wellness

Planet Fitness

Latitudes

Seacoast United Admirals

Thursday, March 30, 2017

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Amesbury Middle School Gym