

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING – TOWN HALL  
Recorded - JANUARY 11, 2010 – as Amended 1/19/10**

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Present at 4:05 p.m. were Thatcher Kezer, Chair, Tom McGee, Gale Hanshaw, Bonnie Schultz, Debra Bibeau, Stanley Schwartz, Ann Connolly King, David Jack, Superintendent of Schools. Absent: Chanelle Havey, SAC Rep.

1. The Chair called the meeting to order.

**2. PRESENTATIONS**

None

**3. COMMENTS BY VISITORS, DELEGATIONS**

None

**4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

**1. Race to the Top Funding Presentation & Discussion**

Dave Jack presented the committee with a handout from the Regional Forum on information regarding RTTT that was given at the Worcester meeting on January 6, 2010. He went on to explain that Massachusetts will have access to approximately 250 million from the federal government if their application is approved. In Amesbury we would be looking at a minimum of \$45,000 per year for four years. Mr. Jack explained that 50% of those monies would be similar to the Title 1 and the other 50% would come through the state. The percentage that would come from the state is not yet clear but part would go to school improvement.

At the meeting on January 6, 2010, the commissioner assured the audience that if one of the three parties (Chair of School Committee, Superintendent and Union President) wishes to withdraw then the grant would be null and void.

Discussion was then made by committee members about their concerns. They would like the scope of the work to come back to the committee for their approval. Mr. Jack stated that he would not have a problem coming to the committee for their approval. Mr. Kezer stated that the scope of the work would be worked out by the educators, Dave and Cindy Yetman and then they would report back to the committee.

There was also concern about the unknown with the state, wanting to know when they would be informed. Mr. Jack stated that there are plenty of opportunities to opt out, but if we do not sign by January 13, 2010, there are no other opportunities to opt in.

Cindy Yetman, Union President, thanked Mrs. Bibeau and Mr. Jack for inviting her to the Worcester meeting on December 10, 2009. She stated that by attending that meeting she was more comfortable and prepared to present the information to her executive board. Mrs. Yetman went on to say that the board agreed, unanimously, that she should sign and she is looking forward to being a part of the scope of the works.

## 5. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OR EARLY CONSIDERATION

### A. Vote to authorize School Committee Chairperson to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Race To The Top Grant

*Motion by Deb Bibeau, seconded by Stan Schwartz, to have the School Committee Chairperson sign the memorandum of Understanding for the Race To The Top Grant. Unanimous, Yes*

- Thatcher Kezer thanked Cindy Yetman for her work thus far. He stated that we will get in the gate and go through the process making decisions on the information that is given to us.
- The document was then signed by Dave Jack, Superintendent; Cindy Yetman, Union President and Mayor Kezer, School Committee Chair.

## 8. PRESS CONFERENCE

None

## 9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

*Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Stan Schwartz, to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 p.m., Unanimous, Yes.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom McGee, Secretary

### Amesbury Public Schools Mission Statement

*The Amesbury School District is unconditionally committed to every child, ensuring that all students experience success through the development of attitudes and skills necessary for lifelong learning by providing the highest quality staff, meaningful learning experiences, and a vitally involved community.*