

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL
OCTOBER 19, 2010**

Present at 7:00 p.m. were Debra LaValley Bibeau, Stanley Schwartz, Bonnie Schultz, Gale Hanshaw, Tom McGee, Ann Connolly King, David Jack, Superintendent of Schools and Courtney Ouellet, SAC Representative. (*Absent: Thatcher Kezer*)

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Stanley Schwartz.

II. PRESENTATIONS

1. School Improvement Plan – Amesbury Elementary School

Mr. Helliesen, AES Principal, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding his school's improvement plan followed by a question and answer period.

2. School Improvement Plan – Amesbury Middle School

Mr. Curry, AMS Principal, also gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding his school's improvement plan. This presentation was followed by a question and answer period with the school committee.

III. COMMENTS BY VISITORS, DELEGATIONS

None.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Curriculum Director's Report

Ms. Imel spoke about the Title I program and how it works in the Amesbury Public Schools. She was asked to explain what Title I provides. She explained that Title I is for those students targeted as being "at risk" in English and/or Math. The students that qualify are not necessarily those in a low income status. Title I funding is based on academic needs. It provides students in grades K-4 extra time to learn. The Title I Extended Day Program will run from October to May.

Ms. Imel handed out the list of workshops that teachers attended during the October 8th Professional Development Day. There was some X2 grade book training, bullying work as well as consumerism. The school committee asked if every teacher has their own web page that can be accessed from the outside. Telena explained that some teachers have web pages and some are just getting the training. Some teachers have areas of their web pages that are password protected when necessary.

Telena also reminded the committee that AEFI's next fundraiser is Monday, October 25th. For tickets call Carol Bartlett.

B. Business Administrator's Report

Mr. Bergeron gave an update on the quarterly report as a follow-up to his report at the last school committee meeting. He said that there is now a budget freeze in place. The school department will hold off on any large purchases. The revenue received in the transportation area has increased and is expected to reach the target. Circuit Breaker monies are projected to be a higher amount than expected. It is too early in the year to report on Choice monies. It appears that the food services area will see an increase in revenues compared to last year. The high school's free and reduced numbers have increased.

Mr. Bergeron and Ms. Glennon are working on a spreadsheet that will show where the funds come from for each of our special needs students. The South Hampton numbers are lower due to a small freshman class.

C. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Jack explained how students qualify for the John and Abigail Adams state scholarships and then read the names of the Amesbury students who qualified for the scholarship. He also read the names of the five students who were inducted into the National Honor Society.

Superintendent's Goals 2010-2011

Mr. Jack made the school committee goals his goals as well. He also added four additional goals that the school committee will vote on at the November 1st school committee meeting.

Mr. Jack will have a regular spot on local radio station WNBK where he will speak about topics concerning the Amesbury Public Schools that the general public will be interested in hearing about. He will be talking about the Race To The Top tomorrow morning at 7:30 a.m.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OR EARLY CONSIDERATION**A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Tom McGee, seconded by Bonnie Schultz to approve the school committee minutes dated October 5, 2010. Vote: 5 Yes, 1 Abstain (Schwartz), Student Rep., Yes.

B. BUSINESS**1. 1st Reading Policy AD Philosophy**

Ms. Hanshaw stated that the policy subcommittee recommended eliminating this policy.

1st Reading Policy ADA School Committee Mission Statement & Goals

Ms. Hanshaw stated that the subcommittee recommends that the goals be taken out of this policy.

1st Reading Policy BCB School Committee Officers

Ms. Hanshaw stated that there is one sentence regarding the town treasurer that the subcommittee is recommending be eliminated.

1st Reading Policy BDDG Minutes

Ms. Hanshaw stated that all of the language changes in this policy come verbatim from the new Open Meeting Law.

1st Reading Policy BDDI School Committee Meetings: Vote By Stud. Rep.

Mr. Hanshaw stated that the subcommittee is recommending the elimination of this policy because its contents are already included in a previous policy.

1st Reading Policy BDE Special procedures for Conducting Meetings

Ms. Hanshaw explained that the title of this policy needs to be changed.

1st Reading Policy BEC Executive Session

Ms. Hanshaw stated that the changes reflect exactly what is stated in the Open Meeting Law.

1st Reading Policy BEDB Agenda Preparation and Dissemination

Ms. Hanshaw identified a very small change per the Open Meeting Law.

1st Reading Policy BHE Use of Electronic Messaging by S.C. Members

Ms. Hanshaw explained that Anne Verret Speck recommended a few changes to this policy.

1st Reading Policy BHEW Guidelines Web Page Content

Ms. Verret Speck made recommendations to this policy as well.

These policies will go before the committee for a vote at the next school committee meeting. If any member has questions they may be directed to Gale Hanshaw.

2. Quarterly Report

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Tom McGee to approve the Quarterly Report. Unanimous, Yes.

3. Joint Resolutions

Ms. LaValley Bibeau read summaries of each resolution and the committee voted on each resolution separately. As well as the proposals to Amend the MASC By-Laws.

Motion by Stanley Schwartz, seconded by Gale Hanshaw to support Resolution 1 – Special Education Circuit Breaker Extension. Unanimous, Yes. Student Rep., Yes.

Motion by Ann Connolly King, seconded by Gale Hanshaw to support Resolution 2 – Charter School Authorization. Unanimous, Yes. Student Rep., Yes.

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Ann Connolly King to support Resolution 3 – MCAS Scores and 766 Approved Schools. Unanimous, Yes. Student Rep., Yes.

Motion by Stanley Schwartz, seconded by Bonnie Schultz to suspend the rules so that the committee can conduct business after 9:00 p.m. Unanimous, Yes. Student Rep., Yes.

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Ann Connolly King to support Resolution 4 – Charter School Funding Formula. Unanimous, Yes. Student Rep., Yes.

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Tom McGee to support Resolution 5 – District Consolidation, Restructuring and Expanded Regionalization. Unanimous, Yes, Student Rep., Yes.

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Gale Hanshaw to support Resolution 6 – Mid-Year Retirements. Vote: 5, Yes, 1 Abstain (Schwartz). Student Rep., Yes.

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Stanley Schwartz to support Resolution 7 – Mid-Year Budget Cuts. Unanimous, Yes. Student Rep., Yes.

Motion by Stanley Schwartz, seconded by Gale Hanshaw to accept amendment 1 – Change regarding dates of terms of office proposed by MASC. Unanimous, Yes. Student Rep., Yes.

Motion by Gale Hanshaw, seconded by Bonnie Schultz to accept amendment 2 – Changes regarding Association and Division Officers proposed by MASC. Unanimous, Yes. Student Rep., Yes.

Motion by Tom McGee, seconded by Gale Hanshaw to accept amendment 3 – Change regarding electronic participation at Board meetings. Unanimous, Yes. Student Rep., Yes.

C. WARRANT

Motion by Stanley Schwartz, seconded by Tom McGee to approve the warrant dated October 21, 2010 in the amount of \$461,465.26. Unanimous, Yes.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Subcommittee Reports

1. Budget/Finance Subcommittee

Ms. LaValley Bibeau stated that this subcommittee will meet prior to the November 1st school committee meeting.

2. Policy Subcommittee

This subcommittee meets on October 28, at 4:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's office. The subcommittee will begin looking at the "C" policies.

3. Personnel Subcommittee

Mr. Schwartz stated that the subcommittee met briefly prior to this school committee meeting. Some of the newly filled positions and some needs in the future for staffing are the result of the needs of our students.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Student Advisory Council

Ms. Ouellet reported that the council held their election and have new members. Seniors John Fournier and Paige DeGeorge, Sophomore Greg Folsom, and Freshmen Jake Martin and Liam Gallagher. She asked the school committee if the SAC members would be able to attend the November 16th school committee meeting. This meeting will be put on future agenda items with the appropriate date.

- Ms. LaValley Bibeau announced that AEFI will be having an Autumn Evening of Giving on Monday, October 25th at the Ale House. They will be awarding the \$10,000 Jordan M. Shay Memorial Grant. She also gave the specifics on the MASC Division I upcoming meeting.
- Discussion regarding the date of the first meeting in November.

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Ann Connolly King, to change the November 8th school committee and budget/finance subcommittee meetings to Monday, November 1st. Budget/Finance will begin at 5:00 p.m. and the full committee meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. Unanimous, Yes. Student Rep., Yes.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Report on ESL Students
2. Adult Ed. Enrichment Program Proposal – Maggie Furlong (11/16/10)
3. Date for Goals Review (2/15/11)
4. School Improvement Plans (11/1/10)
5. Follow-up Meeting with Amesbury Academy (12/7/10)
6. Student Advisory Council Attendance at S.C. Meeting (11/16/10)

Motion by Tom McGee, seconded by Stanley Schwartz to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 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.