

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
AMESBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL
JUNE 2, 2009**

Present at 7:00 p.m. were Thatcher Kezer, Chair, Debra Bibeau, Paula Blair, Bonnie Schultz, Gale Hanshaw, Tom McGee, Charles Chaurette, Superintendent of Schools and Chanelle Havey, SAC Representative.

The Chair called the meeting to order. Paula Blair led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Chair welcomed the new Student Advisory Council Representative to the Amesbury School Committee, Chanelle Havey.

2. PRESENTATIONS

A. Gifts to Retirees

Gifts and Citations were given out by the Chair to all of the school department retirees. Those present were:

Dr. Chaurette (5 years), Peggi Brown (30 years), Janet Claffey (34 years), Patricia Gallagher (34 years), Peter Hoyt (30 years), Donald Miller (33 years), Ralph Noon (33 years), Donna Piver (16 years) and Marjorie Taft (20 years). Retirees not present: Robin Evans (20 years), Elizabeth Mansfield (32 years) and Christopher Perry (35 years).

3. COMMENTS BY VISITORS, DELEGATIONS

- Amesbury citizen, Jim Babbin, 142 Whitehall Road, expressed his concern about the change in the high school schedule for 09-10.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Curriculum Director's Report

1. Summer Reading Lists

Telena Imel gave the committee background on how the summer reading lists are developed. Patty Hoyt spoke regarding the high school reading list. Their list consists of "faculty favorites". Faculty make suggestions for books that the students may like to read. They give a synopsis and encourage students to read about topics that interest them. The summer reading lists are on the school website.

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

1. Crisis Team Plan Update

Mr. Jack reported that he has been meeting monthly with a crisis team consisting of 4 principals, the police, fire and emergency management departments, Brad Ford, Director of Operations, Joan Connor, Nurse Leader, and Kathy Glennon, Special Ed. Director.

This team has updated the Crisis Plan booklet that will be distributed throughout the school system in case of emergency. Door locks and a buzzer system have been installed at AES and they are working on a system for CES.

The school buildings have held emergency drills observed by the police department including lock-downs. The police department has a room numbering scheme for every school in order to make each school as safe as possible. Mr. Jack said the crisis team would like to have a video system at all schools eventually like the one in place at the newly renovated high school.

C. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Chaurette reported that the DESE has accepted the Amesbury Public Schools' Technology Plan as it was presented to the school committee.

The Municipal Council will be voting on the town budget on Tuesday, June 16th, which is the date of the next school committee meeting. The committee will have to decide on a new date for their second meeting of June. The personnel subcommittee will also need a date change.

Dr. Chaurette asked the committee for direction on what they would like for information on Essex Agricultural. Some of the questions the committee would like answers to are: 1) When Essex Aggie and North Shore Technical merge, will our students become choice or tuition? 2) If a student is attending via school choice because they were not accepted by Whittier Voc. Tech., who pays for that student, Amesbury or Whittier? 3) When are these two schools merging? 4) What is the tuition rate? 5) What is the cost of transporting the 12 students we have attending now? 6) Does Amesbury provide the transportation or is that part of the tuition rate? 7) Does Essex Aggie recruit our middle school students? 8) What kind of programs do they offer?

Dr. Chaurette listed all of the upcoming events for the high school seniors. He congratulated the yearbook staff for the quality of the yearbook they created.

ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OR EARLY CONSIDERATION

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Gale Hanshaw to approve the regular minutes dated May 19, 2009. Unanimous, Yes.

B. BUSINESS

1. 2nd Reading Policy EBA Workplace Exposure Control Plan

Motion by Gale Hanshaw, seconded by Bonnie Schultz to approve Policy EBA Workplace Exposure Control Plan. Unanimous, Yes.

2nd Reading Policy KCD Gifts and Donations

Motion by Gale Hanshaw, seconded by Tom McGee to approve Policy KCD Gifts and Donations. Unanimous, Yes.

2. Summer Meeting Dates

The committee discussed meeting dates in July and August. Dr. Charette suggested that the committee may want to schedule two meetings in July because there may be a need to discuss budget implications for the school department when the state votes the state budget for 09-10. Another consideration is that the governor will be in Newburyport on Tuesday, July 21st and members may want to attend that session.

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Gale Hanshaw to schedule a school committee meeting for Tuesday, July 21, 2009 beginning at 8:00 p.m. Unanimous, Yes.

Motion by Paula Blair, seconded by Gale Hanshaw to schedule a school committee meeting for Tuesday, August 18, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Unanimous, Yes.

3. School Committee Goals 09-10 Process

The committee discussed what process they would use to compile their goals for the 09-10 fiscal year. Ms. Schultz suggested they plan a retreat and ask MASC to come and help them with the process. Another suggestion was to have the committee chair, the vice chair and the new superintendent meet regarding the goals and made a recommendation to the full committee. Ms. Bibeau reports that there was a session at the MASC conference regarding the transition process for a new superintendent. Mayor Kezer requested that committee members get any ideas and/or suggestions to him on this process prior to the next meeting along with suggested dates for a possible school committee retreat. How to proceed will be decided at the next school committee meeting.

C. **WARRANT**

Motion by Paula Blair, seconded by Gale Hanshaw, to approve the warrant dated 6/4/09 in the amount of \$61,473.52. Unanimous, Yes.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. **Subcommittee Reports**

1. **Budget/Finance Subcommittee**

Ms. Bibeau reported that the budget/finance subcommittee voted to award the food service contract to Chartwells for the next three years. Mr. Jack explained the bid process results to the full committee.

Motion by Debra Bibeau, seconded by Bonnie Schultz to award the 3-year food service contract to Chartwells. Unanimous, Yes.

The subcommittee also voted to keep the breakfast, lunch and milk prices at their current rates.

Motion by Debra Bibeau, seconded by Paula Blair to keep the breakfast, lunch and milk prices at all schools at their current rates. Unanimous, Yes.

Elizabeth McAndrews reported to the subcommittee on athletics and student activities. Her report provided fees and gate receipts for the 08-09 school year as well as the number of participants in sports and co-curricular activities.

Mr. Jack reported the economy's effect on attendance on field trips and monies received for fund raising activities at the school level. The Amesbury Elementary School was the only school to report a decrease in funds collected for their fund raising activities.

2. **Policy Subcommittee**

Will meet on Tuesday, June 9 at 8:00 a.m.

3. **Personnel Subcommittee**

The next meeting will be held on June 18th at 6:00 p.m. All members should send the superintendent evaluations to Stan Schwartz by June 4th.

4. **Student Advisory Council**

Chanelle Havey, SAC Rep., reported that their next meeting will take place on June 8th. SAC is looking for more members to get involved. On June 15th SAC will be going to the middle school to make a presentation to 8th graders about getting involved in activities when they become freshmen.

5. High School Building Committee

Mr. McGee reported that the next meeting will take place on June 23rd at 6:00 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Ms. Bibeau thanked all involved in making the football team ring ceremony a great success; Chartwells, Jeanne Sheehan, Carol Bartlett, Hodgie's, Stop and Shop and Shaw's. She stated that Ms. McAndrews did a great job in organizing the event.
- There will be a reception for Peter Hoyt, retiring CES Principal at the Cashman School on Sunday, June 7th from 2-4 p.m.
- Kudos given to the class of 2009 for dedicating the yearbook to Mike McCann and Walter Brooks, Multi-Purpose Facility Technicians at the high school.
- The ceremony at the state house for the football team was successful. The team had lunch with Senator Baddour and Representative Costello.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Status Update on GLEC
2. Superintendent's Evaluation
3. Superintendent's 09-10 Goals
4. School Committee 09-10 Goals

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Tom McGee to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m., Unanimous, Yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom McGee, Secretary