

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL  
September 10, 2018**

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Present at 7:00 p.m. were Mayor Gray, Chair; Deb LaValley, Rob Chamberlain, Gretchen Marinopoulos, Amy Sherwood, Tim Kisieleski, Joan Liporto, Adrianna Ayers, SAC Representative and Dr. Gary Reese, Superintendent of Schools.

Absent was Peter Hoyt

**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.*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Gray called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM and Mr. Kisieleski led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Mission Statement aloud.

**II. COMMENTS BY VISITORS, DELEGATIONS**

None

**III. PRESENTATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**A. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Fulgoni, Interim School Superintendent, spoke about the following:

- Apologizing for the caution tape behind him – they reflect banned books at AHS library
- Opening Day – increase in School Choice; decrease in out of district placement – first day with teachers was joined by Mayor Gray, AEFI, police and fire, students, teachers – all actively engaged.

**B. Lynn Catarius**

Ms. Catarius thanked the committee for the opportunity to work in Amesbury. This was her first formal meeting with the committee. Ms. Catarius spoke about her first weeks here - meeting faculty, meeting weekly with the Superintendent, sharing with staff what her expectations are to improve the work done with students.

**C. Financial Report, Joan Liporto**

Mrs. Liporto spoke about the following, referencing the Finance Subcommittee prior to School Committee:

- Readjusting salaries – transfers
- Buses – cut 2 for now with hopes to cut one more
- Will begin to check bus passes next week
- Workman Compensation – impact on budget with an increase of \$40,000
- No report yet on Revolving accounts
- 32 choice in and 26 South Hampton students – increase of \$24,000 from what was budgeted.

#### IV. COMMUNICATION

##### A. **Student Advisory Council – Arianna Ayers – Ellie was absent**

Arianna stated that they have not met yet this school year. Will be meeting in the next week or so. Freshman elections are coming up – hoping to get 2-3 new faces.

##### C. **Other**

- Ms. LaValley spoke about the numerous emails that she has received regarding the Childs Ave situation. They were told that the work on the wall would be completed by the first day of school. This has not happened – with no sidewalks this is a safety concern. She asked the Mayor for input on this situation. Mayor Gray will ask Rob Desmarais to come to the next meeting for an update.
- Mrs. Marinopoulos spoke about concerns with fall sports playing during the intense heat, referring to the Cross Country meet on Wednesday. She questioned the MIAA rules and regulations – questioning leaving this decision to play or cancel up to the Athletic Director.  
Mr. Fulgoni stated that they had a discussion about this situation during the Finance meeting and he will get the school physician involved in the discussion - having a medical recommendation/opinion. Ms. LaValley also suggested they bring it to policy and the Department of Health – also check with other districts.

#### V. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OR EARLY CONSIDERATION

##### A. **Approval of Minutes: 08/06/18**

*Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mrs. Marinopoulos to accept the School Committee minutes dated August 6, 2018. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.*

##### B. **Approval of Warrant: 08/06/18 \$150,782.96**

*Motion by Mrs. Sherwood, seconded by Ms. LaValley, to accept the Warrant dated August 6, 2018 in the amount of \$150,782.96. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.*

**08/30/18 \$333,115.01**

*Motion by Mrs. Sherwood, seconded by Ms. LaValley, to accept the Warrant dated August 30, 2018 in the amount of \$333,115.01. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.*

**09/13/18 \$284,919.28**

*Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mrs. Marinopoulos, to accept the Warrant dated September 13, 2018 in the amount of \$284,919.28. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.*

##### C. **Appointment of representative to serve on the CREST Collaborative Board**

Mr. Fulgoni stated that historically the Superintendent has been on the board, but it also can be a School Committee representative.

*Motion by Mrs. Sherwood seconded by Ms. LaValley, to appoint Mr. Fulgoni as the APS representative to serve on the CREST Collaborative Board. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.*

**D. School Committee Calendar**

Mr. Fulgoni presented the committee with a proposed dates and times for School Committee meeting for the 2018-2019 school year (meeting the first Monday of the month). He noted that these dates do not include other meetings including budget hearings and workshops as is allowed under the Open Meeting laws.

Discussion: Questioning the calendar for subcommittee meetings typically the third Monday of the month. Spoke about having enough time during the subcommittee meetings. Check with the chair of each subcommittee and schedule dates and times. Put on the agenda to discuss at the retreat.

Regarding retreat dates – Helen will send out a Doodle doc with suggested dates to the committee and set up the retreat.

***Motion by Mr. Chamberlain seconded by Mrs. Sherwood, to accept the proposed School Committee Calendar as presented. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.***

**VI. INFORMATION ITEMS****A. Subcommittee Reports****1. Finance/Budget Subcommittee – Rob Chamberlain**

Mr. Chamberlain stated that they met this evening discussing:

- Surplus van #3

***Motion by Mr. Chamberlain seconded by Ms. LaValley, to surplus Van #3. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.***

- Asked if a vote was needed on transfers – Mrs. Liporto stated that it can wait till everyone has had the opportunity to look it over.
- Donation of \$2,000.00 from Institute of Savings for the Windrush Program.

***Motion by Mr. Chamberlain seconded by Ms. LaValley, to accept the donation of \$2,000 from the Institute of Savings for the Windrush Program. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.***

- A budget calendar for FY20 was presented to Mr. Fulgoni to review with background information regarding FY19
- Fall financial management policies

**2. Review calendar and set dates for other sub-committee meetings for the 2018-2019 school year.**

*Will discuss at the retreat*

**3. Update on building project.**

Mayor Gray spoke about the following:

- Enrollments – increase – MSBA agreed to look over data of enrollment – will continue to increase with building permits that are out (hatters point; bailey's; normal building; housing increase)
- Week of the 20<sup>th</sup> – going back to discuss data
- Vote on October 16<sup>th</sup> then we can move forward
- Will be having a public forum in October followed by a survey
- Site selection will need a vote by School Committee – questioning scheduling an additional meeting before the vote. Mayor Gray stated that the November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting will be okay to vote on

Discussion: Questioning getting a traffic study and public safety. Enrollment

projections – MSBA would like the data in order to get it right.  
Next Building Committee meeting will be September 27 at 3:30 AHS.

**VII. FUTURE MEETINGS AND AGENDA ITEMS**

Retreat dates – use Doodle doc

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Mr. Kisieleski seconded by Ms. LaValley, to adjourn the meeting at 7:44PM.*

*Vote: Yes, unanimous.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Gretchen Marinopoulos, Secretary