

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL  
January 7, 2019**

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Present at 7:00 p.m. were Mayor Gray, Chair; Deb LaValley, Peter Hoyt, Rob Chamberlain, Gretchen Marinopoulos, Tim Kisieleski, Ellie Costello, Joan Liporto, and Jared Fulgoni, Interim Superintendent of Schools.

**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.*

*This meeting will be broadcast live on ACTV and will also be recorded.*

**I. Call to Order**

Mayor Gray called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. Mr. Chamberlain led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Mission Statement aloud.

*Motion to take the Student Activity Council Report out of order by Ms. LaValley and seconded by Mr. Chamberlain. Vote: Unanimous*

**Student Activity Report:**

Ms. Costello shared information about a new program – SACTivity Raffle - to encourage student attendance and school spirit. Each time students attend an event, their names will be put in the raffle. Each month, two winners will be chosen and each will receive a \$30 gift card. This program is currently being tested with High School events and students only. If it is successful, they hope to expand it. The High School is having an Ice Cream Social this evening at 9 PM.

**II. Organizational Meeting**

**A. Election of Vice Chair and Secretary**

*Motion made for Ms. LaValley to continue in role of Vice Chair by Mr. Hoyt; seconded by Mrs. Marinopoulos. Vote: Unanimous*

*Motion made for Mrs. Marinopoulos to continue in role of Secretary by Mr. Hoyt; seconded by Mr. Kisieleski. Vote: Unanimous*

**B. Meeting Days and Times**

*Motion made to continue holding regular School Committee Meeting the first Monday of each month and keep subcommittee schedule as is (Finance – first Monday of the month before School Committee; Other Subcommittees – quarterly) by Ms. LaValley; seconded by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: Unanimous*

**C. Subcommittee Appointments**

**Mayor Gray appointed Ms. LaValley to continue in role on Personnel Subcommittee.**

*Motion made for all other subcommittee appointments be held until February once new School Committee member is voted in at Joint City Council/School Committee meeting on January 22 by Ms. LaValley; seconded by Mrs. Marinopoulos. Vote: Unanimous*

**D. Other Appointments**

None

**III. Comments by Visitors, Delegations**

There were no comments.

**IV. Presentations**

**A. Superintendent's Report:**

- He attended a number of the holiday concerts – thank you and congratulations to the Music Department at each of the schools
- Senior Flannery O'Connor scored her 1,000 career point in a home game against Lawrence
- Amesbury High School Principal and Site Council co-president are in attendance tonight for the presentation of their school improvement plan.

**B. AHS School Improvement Plan:**

Elizabeth McAndrews, Principal presented the School Improvement Plan for Amesbury High School which is based on three rocks – a culture of engagement, student/teacher empowerment and XXX. Time is being spent on:

- Curriculum writing-more professional development is needed to continue to maximize the student experience
- Teacher leaders-help with coaching and feedback
- Learning walks-teachers observe other classes (peer observation and feedback)
- Teacher observation/feedback has been a priority this year
- Working with teachers on helping support the students to meet graduation requirements and to be better prepared for MCAs.
- A transition/step down program and a new social studies teacher are main priorities for next year.

The Superintendent shared that each principal will come to make a presentation to the School Committee. Committee members were very appreciative of the clarity and simplicity of the presentation.

**V. Communications**

**A. Other**

Mr. Hoyt thanked everyone for their support of the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary events and programs. Ms. LaValley mentioned that there is a Joint City Council/School Committee meeting on January 22<sup>nd</sup> to vote on the new School Committee member.

**VI. Items for Approval or Early Consideration**

**A. Approval of Minutes: 12/03/2018**

*Motion by Mr. Kisielecki, seconded by Ms. LaValley to approve the minutes*



**B. School Building Committee Report**

The committee met on December 20<sup>th</sup> at Cashman Elementary School. The Preferred Schematic Report (PSR) is the next item to be submitted to MSBA. The PSR was voted on and approved for submission to MSBA. In March the committee will vote to determine which type of construction design management will be used. Between January and June, DiNisco will work on the design plans. There is a meeting at MSBA related to the PSR on January 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 am. Next meeting is scheduled for January 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm at Amesbury High School.

**VIII. Executive Session**

*Mayor Gray motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss strategies to negotiate non-union personnel: Building Principals and Directors pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, section 21. Roll call vote was taken:*

Tim Kisielski – yes  
Gretchen Marinopoulos – yes  
Rob Chamberlain – yes  
Peter Hoyt – yes  
Deb LaValley – yes  
Mayor Gray - yes

**Entered Executive Session at 7:57 pm.**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

*Meeting will adjourn from Executive Session.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Gretchen Marinopoulos, Secretary