

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL  
March 18, 2019**

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Present at 7:00 p.m. were Mayor Gray, Chair; Deb LaValley, Peter Hoyt, Rob Chamberlain, Gretchen Marinopoulos, Tim Kisielewski, Robert Lavoie, 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. Ms. LaValley led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Mission Statement aloud.

**II. Comments by Visitors, Delegations**

**There were no comments.**

**III. Presentations**

**A. Superintendent's Report:**

- As this is the first meeting since his passing, let's observe a moment of silence in memory of senior Troy Marden. It was wonderful to see the way the community came together to support the family and each through this difficult time.
- The search for a new AES Principal has concluded. Thank you to the committee for their time and efforts in this process. A tentative offer was made to a candidate that has verbally accepted. They will meet this week to negotiate the contract and introduce her once that is completed.
- Principal Ms. Mascia-Fayles is here to present the School Improvement Plan for the Cashman Elementary School.

**B. CES School Improvement Plan:**

Karina Mascia-Fayles, Principal, presented the School Improvement Plan for Cashman Elementary School. Mrs. Mascia read through the core values that were determined over the summer and shared that time is being spent on:

- Regular meetings with the teachers to work on the continued refinement of the intervention period for each grade
- Applying for an AEFI grant that will provide funding for cultural enrichment activities for CES students
- Core of PBIS – the whole school is embracing this system - improving

communication with parents, updating the staff handbook, creating certificates for students, increased PTO involvement

Mrs. Mascia will send a copy of her School Improvement Plan.

#### **IV. Communications**

##### **A. Student Advisory Council**

Ellie Costello shared the SACTivity raffle winners this month – Emma DiPietro and John Nelson both won Dunkin gift cards. The raffle continues to be successful in The results from the flex schedule survey completed by students and teachers will be ready in about a week. There will be a benefit for the Marden family at Flatbread on Tuesday, March 19. The High School Quiz Show episode aired recently – Amesbury did not win but did Amesbury proud.

##### **B. Other**

Mayor Gray read into the record a letter from the Anti-Defamation League of New England recognizing Superintendent Fulgoni with ADL's Essex County Law and Education Day Service Award for his "exemplary commitment to providing the highest quality education possible so each of your students can reach their potential." The Superintendent will be honored at the ADL's Essex County Law and Education Day Breakfast in May.

Mr. Hoyt informed the committee that Janet Brunault, teacher assistant/substitute of the Amesbury Public Schools had passed away. A moment of silence was observed in her memory.

***Motion to take the Item D under Items for Approval or Early Consideration out of order by Ms. LaValley and seconded by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: Unanimous***

Ms. Cindy Yetman, President AFT Amesbury, Vice-President AFT Mass recognized members of the union that we present and welcomed guests supporting the Resolution in Support of Full Funding for Our Public Schools. She read the full resolution into the record. (copy attached) State funding for education has not changed with the times and has caused a funding crisis. Ms. Yetman requested that the School Committee vote to adopt the resolution in Amesbury. Special guests spoke in support of accepting the resolution including Representative James Kelcourse, who spoke on behalf of himself and Senator DiZoglio, and Brian LaPierre, AFT MA Director of Organization.

***Motion to adopt the Resolution in Support of Full Funding for Our Public Schools made by Mrs. Marinopoulos and seconded by Ms. LaValley. Vote: Unanimous***

#### **V. Items for Approval or Early Consideration**

- |           |   |            |              |
|-----------|---|------------|--------------|
| <b>A.</b> | <b>Approval of Minutes:</b>   | 02/04/2019 |              |
|           | <b><i>Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mr. Kisielecki to approve the minutes dated February 4, 2019. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.</i></b> |            |              |
| <b>B.</b> | <b>Approval of Warrants:</b>  | 02/14/2019 | \$412,109.04 |
|           |   | 02/28/2019 | \$382,213.99 |
|           |   | 03/14/2019 | \$227,570.09 |

*Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Mr. Chamberlain to approve the warrant in the amount of \$412,109.04 dated February 14, 2019. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.*

*Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mr. Kisieleski to approve the warrant in the amount of \$382,213.99 dated February 28, 2019. Vote: Unanimous*

*Motion by Mr. Kisieleski, seconded by Mr. Hoyt to approve the warrant in the amount of \$227,570.09 dated March 14, 2019. Vote: Unanimous*

**C. Approval of Appointment of Superintendent**

Mayor Gray made a recommendation that the Committee vote to approve the appointment of Jared Fulgoni as Superintendent of Schools effective immediately with a contract to be negotiated.

*Motion by Mr. Kisieleski, seconded by Mr. Lavoie to hold the vote this evening. Vote: Yes – 4; No – 3*

Discussion was held about the process used to evaluate the Superintendent's performance to date and his responses to questions in the self-evaluation. Some members of the committee felt they had sufficient information to make a decision and other felt they needed additional information.

*Motion by Mr. Kisiesleski, seconded by Mr. Lavoie to approve the appointment Jared Fulgoni as Superintendent of Schools effective immediately with a contract to be negotiated. Vote: Yes – 6; No - 1*

**D. Approval of Proposed Resolution in Support of Full Funding for Our Public Schools (taken out of order)**

**E. User Fees**

*The Committee is asked to restore the user fees for athletics and transportation to the FY16 level effective for the 2019-2020 School Year as recommended by the Director of Finance and the Finance Subcommittee.*

*Motion by Mr. Chamberlain, seconded by Mr. Lavoie to remove User Fees from the agenda. Vote: Unanimous*

**F. School Year 2019-2020 Calendar – Second Reading/Review**

*The Committee is asked to approve the School Year 2019-2020 calendar.*

*Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mr. Chamberlain to approve the School Year 2019-2020 calendar. Vote: Unanimous*

**G. First Reading of Policy: JJIB – Athletic Participation**

*Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Ms. LaValley to table the reading of Policy JJIB to the April 1 meeting to give an opportunity for further discussion with Elizabeth McAndrews and Glen Gearin. Vote: Yes – 6; Abstain - 1*

## VI. Informational Items

### A. Subcommittee Reports

#### 1. Finance Subcommittee:

The subcommittee met on March 18 and approved transfers in the amount of \$386,440 to help close the budget gap. Additionally, they gave the Director of Finance and Operations approval to move forward with posting the draft budget as proposed.

*Motion by Mr. Chamberlain, seconded by Mr. Lavoie to approve transfers in the amount of \$386,440. Vote: Yes, unanimous*

#### 2. Personnel Subcommittee:

Contract negotiations are in process. The subcommittee has met on several occasions in executive session to review proposals received and to prepare responses. The next meeting with the AFT Teachers/Nurses will be held on March 28. A regular meeting will be scheduled to discuss several position descriptions.

#### 3. Joint Ed:

The subcommittee (Ms. LaValley, Mr. Kisielecki and Mr. Chamberlain) plan to schedule a meeting very soon as it has been some time since this subcommittee met.

#### 4. Buildings/Grounds Subcommittee:

The subcommittee has not met.

#### 5. Policy Subcommittee:

The subcommittee met on February 25 and the next meeting is on May 29. The subcommittee will revisit policy JJIB after further discussions with Elizabeth McAndrews and Glen Gearin. Additionally, they will be reviewing a social media policy and bussing policy. Potentially schedule another meeting before April 1.

#### 6. Curriculum Subcommittee:

The subcommittee met on February 25 and discussed the top priorities of the curriculum position. There were two requests for funding: MAPP and a \$20,000 funding increase for textbooks.

### B. School Building Committee Report

The committee met on February 28, 2019 at Amesbury High School. The Preferred Schematic Report was accepted by MSBA at their meeting on February 13. The architects are actively moving forward with the design phase. The next major move is the vote on the Construction Delivery Method at the meeting on March 28 at 4:30 pm. There will be a Community Forum on March 25 at 7 pm in the AHS auditorium.

## VII. Future Meetings/Agenda Items

Personnel Subcommittee Executive Session/contract negotiations - March 28, 2019 at 5:30 pm followed by negotiations

AES School Building Committee Community Forum – March 25, 2019 at 7 pm

AES School Building Committee Meeting – March 28, 2019 at 4:30 pm

Finance/Budget Subcommittee Public Hearing – April 1, 2019 at 7 pm

School Committee Meeting for Budget Vote – April 8, 2019 at 7 pm

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Ms. LaValley seconded by Mrs. Marinopoulos, to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 PM. Vote: Yes, unanimous*

Respectfully Submitted,

Gretchen Marinopoulos, Secretary