

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING
December 7, 2020**

Present were Mayor Gove, Chair; Peter Hoyt, Mel Webster, Kate Currie, Abigail Jurist Levy, Maryann Welch, Elaine Bucher and Elizabeth McAndrews.

This meeting was conducted under the ‘Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c.30A, §20’, signed on March 12, 2020.

A video recording of this meeting can be viewed here:

I. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Mission Statement (0:44)

II. Comments by Visitors and Delegations (3:00)

1. Dr. Ricci and Superintendent McAndrews recognized the principal and Superintendent’s award winners.
2. Jen Donais and students who participated in STEM week presented to the committee.
3. A comment by Tanya Bigos, 34 Lake St, was read (attached)

III. Executive Session (24:00)

Ms. Welch moved to enter executive session, seconded by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

IV. Presentations and Administrative Reports (25:15)

- A. Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent McAndrews and Dr. Ricci the rationale for modifying the community service requirements.

Mr. Hoyt moved to accept the proposed changes, seconded by Ms. Welch. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

The Superintendent also updated the committee on the plan for snow days during the 2020-2021 school year.

Mr. Webster moved to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation for snow days/remote days, seconded by Ms. Bucher.

Mr. Webster rescinded his motion.

Mr. Webster moved to waive policy EBCD for the remained of the current school year and accept the Superintendent’s plan as submitted, seconded by Ms. Currie. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

- B. Director of Finance Reports – Joan Liporto updated the committee on the updated S. Hampton Tuition, transfers, and an AIHS van lease.

The following votes were taken: *Mr. Webster moved to approve a 2.14% increase in the tuition rate for S. Hampton bringing the new rate to \$13,334.96 and also that the committee would meet further to discuss future increases, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. Vote: Yes, unanimous; Mr. Hoyt moved to approve the transfers in the amount of \$99,147, seconded by Ms. Welch. Vote: Yes, unanimous; Mr. Webster moved to approve a 3 year lease for a van for the AIHS, seconded by Ms. Welch. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*

- C. Chair's Report – Mayor Gove updated the committee on the Superintendent search process. A discussion by the committee on appointing a search committee followed.

Mr. Hoyt moved to appoint Dr. Jurist Levy and Ms. Welch to the Superintendent Search Committee, seconded by Mr. Webster. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

Mayor Gove also shared an update on the goals developed by the committee during the MASC workshops. The committee discussed the goals and holding future workshops.

- D. Policy Subcommittee Report – FF-E recommendation: Naming of new early educational facility.

Ms. Currie read the recommendations of the policy committee for the naming of the new elementary school. The committee discussed the report and options for naming the new school.

Mr. Hoyt moved to nominate the Sargent Jordan Shay Memorial elementary school for the new school building, second by Ms. Welch.

Ms. Welch moved to nominate the George E. McNeill elementary school for the name of the new school, seconded by Mr. Webster.

Discussion by the committee followed.

Mr. Hoyt rescinded his previous motion and offered a new motion to name the new school the Sargent Jordan Shay Memorial Lower Elementary School, seconded by Mr. Webster.

Ms. Welch rescinded her previous motion and offered a new motions to name the new school the George E. McNeill Lower Elementary School, seconded by Ms. Bucher.

After input from Ms. Currie, Mr. Hoyt and Ms. Welch rescinded their motions.

Ms. Currie then moved to nominate the Sargent Jordan Shay Memorial Lower Elementary School and George E. McNeill Lower Elementary School as names for consideration, second by Ms. Bucher. Vote: 5 Shay (Webster, Jurist Levy, Hoyt, Gove, Welch), 2 McNeill (Currie, Bucher). Shay is selected.

V. Communications (1:32:15)

- A. Tim Gilleo provided an update to the committee on behalf of the Student Advisory Council.
- B. There was no verbal SEPAC report. A report was included in the committee packet.
- C. Mr. Hoyt updated the committee on the progress of the school building committee.
- D. Other – Mr. Webster asked the Superintendent for an update on the hybrid learning at the middle school. A discussion took place.

Ms. Currie moved to suspense policy BDD, second by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

VI. Items for Approval (1:51:05)

- A. Approval of Minutes - *Mr. Webster moved to accept the minutes from 11/2 and 11/23, second by Ms. Currie. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*

- B. Approval of Warrants - *Mr. Hoyt moved approval of the following warrants 11/5/20 - \$89,241.21, 11/6/20 - \$550,399.31, 11/19/20 - \$454,674.15, 11/20/20 - \$573,461.51, 12/3/20 - \$123,542.70, second by Ms. Welch. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*
- C. Acceptance of Gifts – *Mr. Webster moved to accept a donation of \$5,000 for IXL Program from Amesbury Youth Funding and a donation of \$3,000 for Amesbury High School Technology from the Class of 2020, second by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*
- D. Ratification of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Amesbury School Committee and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 93, AFL-CIO, Local 939 Representing Cafeteria Employees – *Ms. Currie moved to approve the MOU, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*

VII. Information Items (1:56:50)

- 1. Mr. Webster and Joan Liporto gave a report to the committee from the Finance subcommittee.
- 2. Ms. Currie gave a report to the committee on the Personnel subcommittee.
- 3. Ms. Bucher gave a report to the committee on the Buildings and Grounds subcommittee.
- 4. Ms. Currie updated the committee on the Policy subcommittee.
- 5. Ms. Welch updated the committee on the Teaching and Learning subcommittee.

VIII. Future Meetings (2:11:40)

The next regularly scheduled School Committee meeting will be held on January 4, 2021 at 7:00pm. Subcommittees and other meetings will be held on the following dates:

- A. AES School Building Committee – December 17, 2020 at 6:00pm
- B. Finance Subcommittee – TBD
- C. Personnel Subcommittee – January
- D. Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee – TBD
- E. Policy Subcommittee – December 15th at 4:00pm.
- F. Teaching and Learning Subcommittee – January 11, 2021 at 5pm

Mr. Hoyt moved to adjourn, second by Ms. Welch. Vote: Yes, unanimous.