

AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
October 18, 2021

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

A video recording of this meeting can be viewed here: <https://amesbury-school.vod.castus.tv/vod/?video=3b176c02-60c1-41ff-a1bc-5e27c8eb732b>

1. Call to Order (:20) – Ms. Welch read the mission statement and led the committee in the pledge of allegiance.
2. Comments by Visitors & Delegations (1:10) – No comments.
3. Acceptance of Gifts & Donations – Noah Holt Book Donation (2:15) – The committee welcomed Noah Holt, who described the disability book drive he organized on behalf of the Amesbury Public Library and Amesbury Elementary School. The committee thanked Noah for his efforts in acquiring over 90 books.
Mr. Hoyt moved to accept the donation, second by Ms. Jurist Levy. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
4. Joint Meeting with South Hampton (6:20) in attendance from S. Hampton were: Jim Kime, South Hampton School Board Chair, Rebecca Burdick, South Hampton School Board member, Michelle Witt, Barnard School Principal, and Meredith Nadeau, Superintendent of Schools, SAU21. The two committees discussed the ongoing relationship between the two districts including enrollment projections and future tuition costs.
5. Superintendent’s Report (29:45) – Superintendent McAndrews provided an update on masks and COVID-19, including progress on the ongoing vaccination survey. Additionally, she updated the committee on the Mascot Committee, providing a timeline on submitting a recommendation to the committee. The Superintendent recommended the committee approve an increase in substitute pay once the teacher agreement is finalized.
6. Special Education/Out of District Report (38:00) – Dr. Lynn Catarius provided a [presentation to the committee on Special Education](#). Questions and comments by the committee followed.
7. Executive Session (1:19:30) - Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21 (a) (3) for the purpose of discussing strategy as it relates to collective bargaining with the Amesbury Federation of Teachers as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee, as declared by the Chair.
Mr. Hoyt moved to enter executive session, second by Ms. Bucher. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
8. New Business (1:20:36)
 - a. Ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the AFT Amesbury, Paraprofessionals Unit for the period of 2021-2023. *Mr. Hoyt moved to approve, second by Ms. Welch. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*
 - b. Ratification of 2021-2022 COVID-19 Memorandum of Agreement with the AFT Amesbury. *Ms. Bucher moved to approve, second by Ms. Currie. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*

Ms. Currie moved to adjourn, second by Ms. Bucher. Vote: Yes, unanimous.