

AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
November 15, 2021

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

A video recording of this meeting can be viewed here: https://fb.watch/aTD_XAIOMN/

- I. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Mission Statement/Pledge of Allegiance (1:25)
- II. Comments by Visitors & Delegations (2:10)
 - Miesha Acevedo, 164 Whitehall Rd – Ms. Acevedo spoke in favor of changing the identifier.
 - Maria Wilkins, Salisbury – Ms. Wilkins spoke in favor of changing the identifier.
 - Dave Randall, 10 Lake Ave – Mr. Randall spoke in favor of keeping the current identifier, while retiring the logo.
 - A Letter from Frank Vinciguerra was read in support of keeping the identifier.
 - Steve Stanganelli, 12 Amidon Ave – Mr. Stanganelli spoke in favor of changing the identifier.
 - Libby Arsenault, Longvail Ln – Ms. Arsenault spoke in favor of changing the identifier.
- III. School Committee Spotlight (18:30)
 - a. Ms. Jacques introduced the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee and gave an overview of their work. Ms. Jacques presented each member with a certificate of recognition
 - b. Ms. Jacques recognized Amy Mitchell and Carol Bartlett for their work with the New Teacher Induction Program. Ms. Jacques presented them with certificates of recognition.
- IV. Communications & Reports (24:00)
 - a. AES Implementation Committee Presentation – Members of the committee shared a presentation with the school committee on their work, findings to date, and upcoming work. Questions and feedback from committee members was shared.
 - b. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Presentation – The DEI committee, led by Ms. Jacques, offered a presentation to the school committee on their work, findings, and recommendations. Questions and comments by the committee followed.
 - c. Education Leadership, Superintendent McAndrews – The Superintendent provided an update to the committee on ongoing COVID-19 and masking protocols in the schools. Questions and comments by the committee followed.
- V. New Business (1:19:00)

- a. School Committee Action on Superintendent’s Recommendation Regarding Amesbury High School Identifier – Superintendent McAndrews recapped her recommendation to the committee including changing the identifier and changing/utilizing policy CN. The committee first discussed the recommendation to retire the mascot/identifier. Each committee member had a chance to ask questions regarding the recommendation as well as share statements regarding their position. Discussions on the timeline of potential changes was also discussed.

Mr. Webster moved to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to retire the current Amesbury High School identifier (the Indian) and authorize her to appoint a committee pursuant to policy CN to determine a new identifier, second by Ms. Currie. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

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

DRAFT