

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL  
May 1, 2017**

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Present at 7:00 p.m. were Mayor Gray, Chair; Deb LaValley, Peter Hoyt, Rob Chamberlain, Gretchen Marinopoulos, Sydney Knowlton, SAC Representative and Dr. Gary Reese, Superintendent of Schools.

Absent were: Amy Sherwood and Nick Wheeler

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Gray called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 PM and Sydney led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Mission Statement.

**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.*

**II. COMMENTS BY VISITORS and DELEGATIONS**

None

**III. PRESENTATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**A. Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Reese spoke about the following:

- Cashman School Update – Tuesday before April vacation, school was evacuated because of a leak of refrigerant fluid. Fire department arrived, after indentifying the problem, staff and children were allowed to reenter the building. The school was then evacuated a second time when deemed not safe. The leak impacted 8 rooms in the building – Service Master were called to clean the entire school and school was called off for the next two days. The building is in good shape now.
- AEFI – Friday – great evening honoring Peter Hoyt, former educator; Graham McKay, former student and Joan Miller, friend of education. Seven grants were awarded totally over \$20,000.
- MSBA – completing eligibility and moving into the feasibility study (when the building committee will be stepping in). Board meeting is scheduled for next week – will be looking to hire project manager then an architect.
- Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> (5-8) fundraiser at Crave supporting the Destination Imagination group “*Beauties and the Beast*”. If unable to attend there is a *Go-Fund Me* page and an ice cream at Hodgies Too named after the team.
- Event – look at updated master calendar – lots of end of year events, excellence awards; concerts; prom and much more.

**B. Presentation by Mr. Helliessen, Amesbury Elementary Principal**

Mr. Helliessen spoke about the Bridges Program, a grant that involved a partnership with the senior citizens and the students of AES. The program was originally started by AnnMary Connor (then the director of Amesbury Senior Community Center) in the spring of 2016 and followed through by Katrina Rioux, the COA Program Coordinator/Community Relations for the Amesbury Senior Community Center. This program (Growing Together) provides the opportunity for older adults and children to get together to know one another as they reflect on and explore their own lives, have the opportunity to lead and teach, discuss changes in our world over time and recognize the way people are the same and different regardless of ages. This 6 week program had 14 seniors and involved one third grade classroom (Mrs. Harney) and one fourth grade classroom (Mrs. Ripley).

The presentation was hosted by four students (Kalan, Haley, Noah & Brandon), 3 seniors (Sally, Jody & Joyce), Mrs. Ripley and Mrs. Harney.

The committee members were very proud of the students that presented and asked if they had learned about their future endeavors, while being with the seniors.

Sally, one of the seniors, stated that it was very enjoyable opportunity and hopes that this partnership will continue in the future.

**IV. COMMUNICATIONS****A. SAC Report – Sydney Knowlton**

Sydney stated that they are wrapping up the year, will be meeting next Wednesday and hoping to introduce the new SAC representative at the next meeting.

**B. Other**

- Mrs. Marinopoulos spoke about the email that Ms. LaValley had sent regarding the Early College Program (4/3/17) from the *Globe*.  
Question that she had:
  - Would like a copy of the MOU
  - Is it rewritten yearly?
  - Will program be changing?
- Mr. Hoyt spoke about the AHS weekly (4/15/17) regarding the real life Financial Program headed by MaryBeth Exner.
- Ms. LaValley stated the Prom will be held May 12<sup>th</sup> with a promenade at the library beginning at 5:30PM

**V. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OR EARLY CONSIDERATION****A. Approval of Minutes: 04/03/2017**

***Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mr. Hoyt to accept the minutes of the School Committee meeting dated April 3, 2017. Vote: Yes, unanimous.***

**B. Approval of Warrants: \$415,426.27 (04/27/17)**

*Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mr. Chamberlain to accept the warrant dated April 27, 2017 in the amount of \$415,426.27. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.*

\$359,754.39 (4/13/17)

*Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Mrs. Marinopoulos to accept the warrant dated April 13, 2017 in the amount of \$359,754.39. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.*

**C. First Reading of Policies:**

**a. GCAA – Athletics and Coaching**

Mr. Hoyt read the policy aloud. Discussion: Mrs. Marinopoulos stated that given the length of time that this policy has been reviewed, and the coaching positions that are being posted now, she would like to entertain the motion to waive the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and vote on this policy this evening.

*Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Ms. LaValley to move forward and waive the second reading of Policy GCAA – Athletics and Coaching. Discussion: Mr. Chamberlain asked if this policy is rewritten or a new policy. Mr. Hoyt stated that it is a combination of both with current practices. Mayor Gray questioned #5 c & d – wordage (take out the word, selecting, in 5c and the word, evaluating, in 5d).*

*Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Mrs. Marinopoulos to waive the second reading and vote on accepting Policy GCAA - Athletics and Coaching, with corrections on #5c & d, as presented. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.*

**b. JJ – Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities**

Mr. Hoyt read policy JJ – Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities aloud. Mr. Hoyt stated that they will be voting on this policy at the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Discussion: Mr. Chamberlain asked how they decide co-curricular and how do you add to the list. Ms. LaValley stated that it is in the bargaining unit. Dr. Reese added that they have updated and established a committee to review it all.

**D. Acceptance of Scoreboard by Amesbury Little League @ CES upper field**

Dr. Reese stated that the scoreboard is in place and they had a dedication last weekend in honor of Tim Randall. Ms. LaValley stated that they met at the site, prior to the board being installed, with building and grounds, Joan Liporto, and Denis Nadeau. Ms. LaValley recommends to accept the Little League (they will maintain the board) scoreboard at the upper field at the Cashman School.

*Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mrs. Marinopoulos to accept the donation of the Little League scoreboard installed at the upper field at the Cashman School. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.*

**VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS****A. Subcommittee Reports**

1. **Finance/Budget Subcommittee**  
Mr. Chamberlain stated they have not met – will need to set a date with Joan.
2. **Policy Subcommittee**  
Mr. Hoyt stated they met on the 24<sup>th</sup> discussing the policies reviewed this evening.
3. **Personnel Subcommittee**  
No report
4. **Joint Education Subcommittee**  
Ms. LaValley stated they will be meeting in June after the budget vote.

**VII. FUTURE MEETINGS AND AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Ratification of Teachers/Nurses Collective Bargaining Agreement – TBD – Dr. Reese stated that there are still a few issues.**

**Additions:**

- Mrs. Marinopoulos added Early College
- Mrs. Marinopoulos suggested inviting Amesbury Lacrosse members (George White and Chris Heline) currently the high school is playing for Triton
- Mr. Hoyt spoke about one retiree this year – invite for the June meeting.

**VIII. Adjournment**

**Motion by Mr. Chamberlain, seconded by Mr. Hoyt to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Gretchen Marinopoulos, Secretary