

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL
November 21, 2016**

Present at 7:00 p.m. were Mayor Gray, Chair; Deb LaValley, Tom McGee, Peter Hoyt, Rob Chamberlain, Maggie Bornstein, SAC Representative and Dr. Gary Reese, Superintendent of Schools.

Absent were: Nicholas Wheeler, Gretchen Marinopoulos & Sydney Knowlton

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to MGL c 30A, S 21 (a) (2)

- *To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. AFT Teachers, Paraprofessionals, and MPFTs, AFSCME Cafeteria Workers (Local 93)*

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gray called the regular meeting to order at 7:08 PM and Ms. LaValley led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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.

Mayor Gray acknowledged the fall sports teams and their success. Greg Lingley, Assistant Athletic Director, spoke about the Golf, Football, Girls Soccer, Boys and Girls Cross-Country teams. In attendance was Coach Adam Thibodeau and 7 senior girls, this was their first time winning in the finals. Also in attendance was Coach of the year , Ernie Bissailon with 7 of his cross-country team. Coach Bissailon is looking forward to a bright future with his young team.

III. COMMENTS BY VISITORS and DELEGATIONS

None

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF

A. Presentation by Cashman Elementary School Principal – Dr. M. Louise Charette and Student Council

Dr. Charette, CES Principal thanked the committee for the opportunity to highlight the good stuff that CES' Student Council focuses on during the school year. She explained that these students work hard to be leaders in their school, make good choices and be kind to themselves and others. Dr. Charette introduced the Student Council teachers, Ms. Woodbury and Ms. Lovett. The student council team then, individually, highlighted the events that they coordinate during the school year (Halloween parade, spirit wear, shining stars, Mardi Gras relay race, mock Presidential election) to name a few.

Mr. Hoyt thanked the group for their presentation and stated that CES is a happy place. Dr. Reese also thanked the group and stated that it is not easy to get up in front of adults and speak.

B. Report of the Superintendent

Dr. Reese spoke about the following:

- MSBA Visit – two weeks ago, representatives came and toured the buildings (CES, AMS, AHS) looking at the conditions of these facilities.
- DESE Workshop – attended with Mary Houde, impressive, 45 segments on bullying, homelessness, and new regulations.
- Strategic Plan – Draft completed, timeline to introduce the community. December 7th and 15th will have community members workshop – moving district forward with long and short term goals.
- Mascot – committee is working hard – have had over 2000 responses from the survey, at this point 77% are in favor of keeping as is. There are over 450 comments also.
- Half day of school on Wednesday and no school on Thursday and Friday

C. Presentation by the Director of Teaching and Learning: MCAS and Curriculum Work – Lyn Jacques

Mrs. Jacques presented the committee with a power point on the Amesbury Public School curriculum, highlighting re-envision of the curriculum data. She introduced Eryn Maguire, AHIS Principal, and Ronit Carter, Understanding By Design, who were in attendance. She stated that there are a team of leaders (read names) 16 facilitators that meet every other month working on building a curriculum. This curriculum is built on Social, Emotional Learning which ties into our Strategic Plan. The power point addressed:

- National Trends
- State wide trend
- Districtwide Strategic Plan
- MCAS – data drives – overview of patterns and trends
- Progress and Performance Index
- Accountability – majority of districts are Level 2 schools as is APS
- Changes in populations – High needs
- Observations – data stays flat in growth but is higher at the high school than state – needs to strengthen early grades – look at foundation (curriculum)
- Curriculum goals – using Understanding By Designs as framework to guide our process
- Ms. Carter went over what curriculum is (Intervention; Instruction; Assessment; Curriculum)
- Ms. Maguire went over Social Emotional Learning into the Curriculum
- Went over the SEL Core Competencies
- Understanding by Design – 3 stages (Desired results, Assessment Evidence and Learning Plan)

Mrs. Jacques ended her presentations by stating the process is great for the district and is getting everyone involved. Hard work by all.

D. Presentation by the Director of Finance and Operations – Joan Liporto

Ms. Liporto spoke about the following:

- Filed the end of year report (morning of Nov. 1st)
- 2 weeks ago spent 5 days at the MCPPO Training for the building project
- Softright – reached out to the business manager in Willington regarding encumbering payroll – looking into that
- Food Service – bid out by December with a recommendation by mid-January – met with Kevin Kish to share – maybe invite him to a meeting to talk about his work
- School Dude – training last week – still in the system – not as much work to getting it up and running
- Provided the committee with copies of all the revolving accounts highlighting areas of concerns. After working with Joy and Jim Lynch – reports are current and up to date.
- Asked to create a separate account for the Innovation School tuition

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

Maggie Bornstein stated that the Student Council will be picking their annual goals at their next meeting.

B. Other

Ms. LaValley stated that the Thanksgiving game is at home this year. Amesbury and Newburyport Boosters are collecting canned goods for Our Neighbors Table.

VI. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OR EARLY CONSIDERATION**A. Contract Ratifications:**

Mr. McGee stated that the committee met and have come up with a Memorandum of Understanding for AFT Paraprofessionals, Multi-Purpose Facility Technicians, and Cafeteria Workers. The following is an overview:

Paraprofessionals: (mirror the teacher contract) Salary = 1%; 1% on 91st day 1%; 1% on 91st day 1% plus add Step 10 for 10 continuous years of employment, language change, sick leave and professional development changes.

Multi-Purpose: same salary and some housekeeping items.

Cafeteria – Dr. Reese stated that this is a 3 year contract involving 3 employees. Salary 2% each year; \$350.00 for April break and some language changes.

Vote was taken on all three contracts:

a. AFT Paraprofessionals

Motion by Mr. McGee, seconded by Ms. LaValley to accept the Memorandum of Understanding for AFT Amesbury, Local 1033 Paraprofessional/Tutor Unit as presented. Discussion: Mr. McGee thanked the representatives and felt that this was a fair contract. He also thanked Mrs. Marinopoulos and Ms. LaValley for their work on the contract. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

b. AFT Multi-Purpose Facility Technicians

Motion by Mr. McGee, seconded by Ms. LaValley to accept the Memorandum of Understanding for AFT Amesbury, Local 1033 Facilities and Maintenance Unit as presented. Discussion: Mr. McGee stated there was good discussion and a pleasure to work with. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

c. AFSCME Cafeteria Workers (Local 93)

Motion by Mr. McGee, seconded by Ms. LaValley to accept the Memorandum of Understanding Cafeteria Workers, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Council 93 as presented. Discussion: Mr. McGee stated this was handled by the Superintendent of Schools. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

Mayor Gray concluded the votes by stated, nice job with the bargaining units.

B. AEFI Grant Acceptance:

- a. \$4,939.37 – Sending TEXTTile Messages: Kate Bernardoni (AMS)
- b. \$4,994.00 – Putting the Fun in Fundamentals: Lisa Dupere (AES)
- c. \$10,000.00 – Museum without Walls: Bruce McBrien and May Mitchell (AES/CES) (Jordan M. Shay Grant – Managed by AEFI)

All three grants were read aloud followed by a brief discussion. Mr. Chamberlain and Ms. LaValley voiced their concerns about adding new technology to the district and its implications. Dr. Reese stated that the new smart boards fits into the long range goals with the district and will have no financial implications.

Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mr. Hoyt to accept the AEFI Grants as presented. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

C. First Reading of Policy:

- a. BEC – Executive Session

Mr. Hoyt stated that this policy only had one minor change (review quarterly to annually). Mr. McGee asked to waive first reading and go to vote.

Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Mr. McGee to accept Policy BEC – Executive Session as presented with the change. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

D. Second Reading of Policy:

- a. BEDB-E – Agenda Format

Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Ms. LaValley to accept Second Reading of Policy BEDB-E Agenda Format. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

- b. JJE – Student Activity Accounts

Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Ms. LaValley to accept Second Reading of Policy JJE – Student Accounts. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

E. Approval of Warrants:

- a. \$492,596.59 (11/10/16)

Motion by Mr. McGee, seconded by Mr. Hoyt to accept the Warrant dated November 10, 2016 in the amount of \$492,596.59. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

- b. \$67,429.64 (11/17/16)

Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Ms. LaValley to accept the Warrant dated November 17, 2016 in the amount of \$67,429.64. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

F. Approval of Minutes:**a. Executive Session: 10/24/16 & 10/31/16**

Motion by Mr. McGee, seconded by Ms. LaValley to accept the minutes of the Executive session dated October 24, 2016 and October 31, 2016. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

b. Regular Meeting: 10/24/16 & 10/31/16

Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Mr. Chamberlain to accept the minutes of the Regular School Committee meeting dated October 24, 2016 and October 31, 2016. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

G. Review of School Committee Goals – Public Relations Goal #1

Mayor Gray read Public Relations Goal #1. Discussion: Ms. LaValley stated that this goal was achieved and gave more information to the community.

Mr. Chamberlain stated that the new online data information system that Dr. Reese presented this evening at the finance meeting will help the people understand more.

VII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**A. Subcommittee Reports****1. Finance/Budget Subcommittee**

Mr. Chamberlain stated they met this evening and discussed the following:

- Approval of revolving accounts for Innovation School tuition

Motion by Mr. Chamberlain, seconded by Mr. Hoyt to establish a revolving account for the Innovation School tuition. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

- Purchasing a data software that was recommended by Dr. Reese
cleargov.com

Motion by Mr. Chamberlain, seconded by Mr. McGee to purchase data software cleargov.com recommended by Dr. Reese. Discussion: Ms. LaValley stated that this data system will answer a lot of questions and give the community a visual. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

- Dr. Reese is considering our emergency procedures protocol – 10 years old – need to evaluate the district and research funding.
- Ms. Liporto reviewed the status of the revolving accounts – Special Education is a concern.

2. Policy Subcommittee

Mr. Hoyt stated they met on November 14th and discussed the following:

- Policy BEC
- Foreign exchange students – Policy JFAB – looking at J1 Visa but limiting to 6 students. December 4th School Committee meeting will have the First Reading
- Administration – Coach Policy
- Next meeting December 12th at 5:30

3. Personnel Subcommittee

Mr. McGee stated they will be meeting on December 5th looking at job description at central office and looking for feedback on Elements and Indicators.

4. Joint Education Subcommittee

Ms. LaValley stated they will be meeting on November 30th at 6:30 in room off of the high school lobby.

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS AND AGENDA ITEMS

- A. South Hampton Visit (TBD)**
- B. Meeting with SAC (12/19)**
- C. Review of School Committee Goals – Public Relations Goal #2 (12/5)**

Additions:

Mr. McGee stated the need to vote on the Strategic Plan

Ms. LaValley added MASS-MASC recap

IX. PRESS CONFERENCE

None

X. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mr. Hoyt to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 PM. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom McGee', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tom McGee, Secretary