

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL  
August 8, 2016**

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Present at 6:00 p.m. were Mayor Gray, Chair; Deb LaValley, Tom McGee, Peter Hoyt, Rob Chamberlain, Nick Wheeler, Sydney Knowlton, SAC Representative and Dr. Gary Reese, Superintendent of Schools.

Absent was Gretchen Marinopoulos.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Gray called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and Rob Chamberlain 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, DELGATIONS**

None

**III. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS BY THE SUPERINTENDENT AND STAFF**

**A. Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. Reese spoke regarding:

**1. Strategic Plan Update**

Leadership Team will be meeting on drafting a Strategic Plan in the next two days. Already had 2 community forums that were well received. Will be compiling all of the information, beginning a draft in September for continued input.

**2. Curriculum Planning**

Focusing on update/revise curriculum over the next 3 years. Understanding by Design Template. Looking at all grades (PreK thru 12), where to go and how to get there. Social emotional learning embedded into the curriculum across all subject areas. Teacher leaders will be working on this for 2 days this summer.

**3. MSBA**

Provided committee with eligibility period with the schedule of deliverables. Have 270 days to come up with the Feasibility Study Agreement. First step is due September 2, 2016 with the initial compliance certification (document signed by Mayor and Superintendent). Then by October 3, 2016, School Building Committee (list of members); November 1, 2016, Educational Profile Questionnaire (programs and services) and Online Enrollment Projection; January 30, 2017, Enrollment/Certification Executed and Maintenance and Capital Planning Information; June 1, 2017, Local Vote Authorization and the Feasibility Study Agreement.

The committee members thought that was a reasonable timeline which will not be a problem to meet. Question about curriculum planning and sharing with the community.

**4. MASS Executive Institute**

Dr. Reese stated that he was in attendance this July and the entire conference was regarding Social/Emotional

**IV. COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Student Advisory Council – Sydney Knowlton**

Sydney stated that there has not been a meeting yet. Will be meeting after Freshman elections

**B. Other - None**

**V. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OR EARLY CONSIDERATION**

**A High School Student Handbook Approval**

Mr. Hoyt noted the additions in this years' high school handbook and asked for a vote.

***Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Mr. McGee to accept the High School Student Handbook as presented.*** Discussion: Mr. Hoyt thanked Principal McAndrews and the Vice Principals for their input and noted that the students also had a say in the handbook. ***Vote: Yes, Unanimous.***

**B. Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2016**

***Motion by Mr. McGee, seconded by Mr. Wheeler to accept the Minutes dated July 11, 2016.***

Discussion: Mr. McGee pointed out a correction under *Comments by Visitors* there was a comment by Mr. Hoyt the word “none” should be taken out. Also, when Roll Call is taken, it should reflect all members' names and their specific answer.

***Motion by Mr. Hoyt, seconded by Mr. Wheeler to accept the minutes dated July 11, 2016 with the changes discussed. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.***

**C. Warrant - \$288,034.18 (July 21, 2016)**

***Motion by Ms. LaValley, seconded by Mr. McGee to accept the Warrant dated July 21, 2016 in the amount of \$288,034.18. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.***

**\$75,297.27 (August 4, 2016)**

***Motion by Mr. Wheeler, seconded by Mr. Chamberlain to accept the Warrant dated August 4, 2016 in the amount of \$75,297.27. Vote: Yes, Unanimous.***

**VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**A. Subcommittee Reports**

**1. Finance/Budget Subcommittee**

Mr. Chamberlain stated they met prior to this meeting and spoke about the following:

- Closing 2016 budget – will have a draft from Joan by the end of August with a final in September
- Impact of loss of the Kindergarten Grant (\$70K) – No risk on the kindergarten program

- Update on tennis courts – City Council agreed on the repairs will have inventory and capital plan by the end of the month
- Special Education – new director, going into the line items with a fine tooth comb
- School Building project (AES)
- Finance meeting will be the second School Committee meeting of the month
- Future meeting – Innovation School and Special Education spending

**2. Policy Subcommittee**

Mr. Hoyt stated they met July 25<sup>th</sup> discussion the following:

- Policy JJF
- Field Trip Policy/Social Media working with Ipswich Schools

Next meeting will be August 29<sup>th</sup>.

**3. Personnel Subcommittee**

Mr. McGee stated next meeting will be first Monday in September. Will be working on job descriptions for central office and continue to work with the union.

**4. Joint Education Subcommittee**

Ms. LaValley stated next meeting will be August 24, 2016 at 6:30

**VII. FUTURE MEETINGS AND AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. School Committee Mid-Cycle Goals Review (8/15 & 8/22 @ 5:30 PM – Newburyport 5 Community Room)
- B. Strategic Plan Update (8/8)
- C. 16-17 Mid Cycle Review (2/13/17)

**VIII. PRESS CONFERENCE**

None

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

*Pursuant to MGL c 30A, S21 (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, MPFT.*

**X. <sup>nm</sup> ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Mayor Gray to adjourn into Executive session. Roll Call was taken: Mayor Gray, Yes; Ms. LaValley, Yes; Mr. McGee, Yes; Mr. Hoyt, abstain; Mr. Chamberlain, abstain; Mr. Wheeler, Yes. Adjourned regular meeting at 6:28 PM*

Respectfully Submitted,



Tom McGee, Secretary