

AUBURN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES from Wednesday, April 4, 2018
School Committee Room, 7:00 p.m.

In attendance:

George Scobie
Wayne Page
Gail Holloway
Dorothy Kauffman

Absent:

Jessie Harrington

Maryellen Brunelle
Kathy Lauzé
Cecelia Wirzbicki
Joe Fahey

Michael Young
Erik Berg

Call to Order and Pledge:

At 7:00 p.m., Mr. Scobie called the meeting to order and asked if anyone else was recording the meeting; there being none, he asked that everyone join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Special Recognitions:

Community Service Learning in Action

Dr. Brunelle shared with the Committee that the National Junior Honor Society, led by Delia Shea, Katerina Bonos, Lydia Kirkorian, Morganne Lucier, Ally McGill and Isabella Coyle delivered over 700 new toys donated to Boston Children's Hospital Cardiac Unit. NJHS Advisors, Mrs. Melissa Dupuis and Mrs. Sherri Watson, along with Principal Gagnon, accompanied the students to Boston, driven by Ms. Michele Prunier, Art Teacher in the school-owned vehicle.

To help with the toy drive, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care donated \$500 to purchase toys. Mr. Page made a motion to officially accept this donation with gratitude; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The Committee commented that this was an awesome Community Service Learning Project and congratulated the NJHS on their success.

John F. Kennedy Make a Difference Awards

Mr. Gagnon recently informed Dr. Brunelle that he had nominated Delia Shea and Lana Rodriguez to receive John F. Kennedy *Make a Difference* awards; Delia for the aforementioned toy drive that she spearheaded and Lana for her work initiating a fundraiser for Second Chance Animal Shelter. Lana asked Mr. Gagnon's permission to hold a home-made dog treat fundraiser booth outside the cafeteria during lunches. She sold the treats she made herself at home and donated all the proceeds to the shelter.

The Committee offered their congratulations to both girls.

Citizens' Comments: None

Student Representatives' Report: Isabella Lourie and Ryan Garabedian

Ryan Garabedian reported that it was extremely busy at AHS with both extracurricular and school day activities. The entire student body had recently watched, "Screenagers," and took the message very positively. He noted that the sophomores' MCAS ELA took place from March 27th through March 29th; the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony had taken place on March 29th; spring sports have come into full swing with the Boys' Varsity Baseball team winning their first game 20-3. A Model UN competition had been held on March 31st; and the Humanities Scholars met on April 4th. Ryan also noted that the AHS Musical would be held during the upcoming weekend, namely *Mary Poppins*.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes:

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the minutes of March 21, 2018; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Superintendent's Report:

AHS Ski Club Trip to Park City, Utah

Mr. Michael Young and Mr. Erik Berg were in attendance to seek permission to take the AHS Ski Club to Park City, Utah next year over a long-weekend in March 2019. There was discussion about fundraising to defray costs for the students but noted that skiing is typically an expensive sport. Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the field trip; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

With the Committee's agreement, because Mr. Fahey was in attendance for one agenda item only, the Solar Contract item was moved up on the agenda.

Business/Financial:

Solar Contract

Mr. Fahey was in attendance to provide an update on bringing solar to the District. He noted that a kiosk and screen were in place at both AHS and AMS showing the system working which was a good educational piece for the students. He also noted that it will save the District between \$40,000 and \$50,000 over the next 40 years. The Town will also benefit from the taxes. He noted for the Committee that while this was a Green Community initiative, we were undertaking the project with no Green Community funds. We had no outlay to save money.

Mrs. Kauffman then made a motion to approve the awarding of the contract to ACE Solar who brought forward the most advantageous proposal in response to our parameters, this pending successful contract negotiations; Mr. Page seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The Committee gave their deep appreciation to Mr. Fahey and Mrs. Wirzbicki for their hard work on this.

Superintendent's Memo

AHS Music Department Trip to Walt Disney World

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to approve the AHS Music Department trip to Walt Disney World, Florida in March 2019; Mr. Page seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

“We the People” Update

Dr. Brunelle reported that she and Dr. Lauzé were in attendance at AHS on March 26th when the “We the People” team provided a mini version of their presentation to Dr. Martha Pappas and others from the Pappas foundation. Other students acted as judges. As a surprise to the students, Dr. Pappas then donated \$5,000 from the foundation to help fund their upcoming trip. They have, thus far, reached \$33,000 towards their goal of \$50,000.

Mass Insight Sustaining Partnership Program

AHS has been participating in this program for a number of years now and Dr. Brunelle requested that the School Committee approve their continued involvement at a cost of up to \$15,000 which has already been budgeted for. Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the continued involvement; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Educational Stability Program Review

Dr. Brunelle notified the Committee that in addition to the Coordinated Program Review (CPR) that we are undertaking during the 2018-2019 school year, the District has also been selected for an Educational Stability Program Review, which will cover programs that support students who are homeless, in foster care or being to military families. She will keep the Committee apprised.

SWCEC Quarterly Report

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to accept receipt of the SWCEC Quarterly Report for the period October through December 2017; Mrs. Kauffman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

ABAs’ New Contract

Dr. Brunelle, thanking Dr. Lauzé and Mrs. Wirzbicki for their work with her on negotiating the contract, announced that an agreement on a new contract has been reached. She thanked the School Committee for their guidance. She noted that they have agreed to 1 ½%, 1 ½%, and 2% COLA in each of the three years, with a step added annually; summer work days may be **up to** 4 hours per day; ABA hours may be **reduced or** extended; ABAs may be required to attend beyond the school day meetings and would be paid their hourly rate by time sheet; ABAs need to give 30 days notice for resignations; and two months notice for maternity leave.

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the new contract for the ABAs for the years 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021; Mr. Page seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The Committee thanked Dr. Brunelle, Dr. Lauzé and Mrs. Wirzbicki for their good work and thanked the ABAs for their hard work and for negotiating in good faith.

R.H. White Donation to BM

Dr. Brunelle notified the Committee that Bryn Mawr had received a donation in the amount of \$300 from R.H. White to enhance the classrooms. Mr. Page made a motion to accept the donation with gratitude; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Unfinished Business:

Bus Applications 2018-2019

Dr. Brunelle reminded the audience that bus applications were available and should be completed and turned in to 5 West Street by June 1st to avoid a late fee.

Civil Rights Complaint No 01-18-1955

Dr. Brunelle updated the Committee with the news that the OCR is dismissing the complaint regarding our website not being fully ADA compliant, this because they are able to dismiss a complaint that is a continuation of a pattern of complaints previously filed with OCR by an individual or group against multiple recipients or a complaint filed for the first time against multiple recipients that, viewed as a whole, places an unreasonable burden on OCR's resources.

They did inform us that we have an obligation to comply with the requirement ensuring that individuals with disabilities have an equal opportunity to participate in the District's programs and activities offered through the District's website. We are addressing this issue by moving forward with Campus Suite, a new website, this Summer.

FY 2019 Budget

Now that that Public Hearing has been held, it was Dr. Brunelle's recommendation that the Committee vote to approve sending forward the APS FY 2019 budget in the amount of \$25,849,562 to the Annual Town Meeting on May 1st. Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to so do; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Scobie thanked the Town for the continuing support of the Auburn Public Schools.

April 25th School Committee Meeting

Dr. Brunelle recommended that the April 25th School Committee be cancelled as the budget is in line with the Town's recommendation and in May there will be three School Committee meetings, one before Town Meeting on May 1st, and regular sessions on May 2nd and 16th. Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to cancel the April 25th meeting; Mrs. Holloway seconded the meeting and it was unanimously approved.

Tuesday, May 1st School Committee Meeting

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to hold a School Committee meeting at 6:30 p.m. on May 1st in the Guidance Department Conference room prior to Town Meeting; Mr. Page seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

School Committee Meetings: 2018-2019

Dr. Brunelle provided a draft listing of proposed School Committee meetings for the 2018-2019 school year. Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the listing; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

New Business:

Superintendent's Evaluation

Dr. Brunelle provided a copy of her self-evaluation and blank copies of the evaluation instrument to the members who were asked to provide their evaluation results to Mrs. Zautner by Friday, April 20th so that the results can be tabulated and available for the Chairperson to read at the May 2nd meeting.

Upcoming Events

Dr. Brunelle brought the Committee's attention to upcoming Community Reading Days; the AHS Musical, "Mary Poppins;" Kindergarten Screening days and the Chris Herren presentations on Monday, April 30th.

Teaching/Learning:

Coordinated Program Review

Dr. Lauzé indicated she had several informational items to share with the Committee.

She notified the Committee that Auburn will be undergoing official reviews by DESE of three of its programs: the English Language Learner Program; Special Education and Civil Rights. This year is the Self-Assessment year for all three programs with next year being on-site reviews. She and Mrs. Reidy are working to complete the required Self-Assessments by May 15th. Dr. Lauzé will continue to keep the Committee apprised.

Science Curriculum

Dr. Lauzé shared that the K-5 Science Curriculum Committee is very close to completing its review of science programs. Pearson's Elevate Science and McGraw Hill's Inspire Science were the two looked at most closely. They are currently exploring options to visit districts that are using these products to observe and discuss with teachers there. The hope is to bring a decision to one of the May School Committee meetings.

Accountability System

Dr. Lauzé reported that beginning in the fall of 2018, the State will begin implementing a revised State Accountability System. This new system will have a very specific focus on raising the performance of each school's lowest performing students. There will be a discontinuation of the assistance levels 1-5. These will be replaced with: Not Meeting Targets; Partially Meeting Targets; Meeting Targets; and Schools of Recognition. In addition to achievement, growth and English Proficiency other indicators will be used that will provide information beyond test scores at the secondary level, such as dual enrollment, AP courses, and bringing students back in to graduate. This proposed plan is currently up for public comment with a vote planned for the Spring of 2018. Once it is formally adopted, Dr. Lauzé will provide more specific details.

Summer School Programming

Dr. Lauzé reported that once again this summer, the APS will be offering several programs including the Extended School Year (ESY) Program for students in the special education department; a Grades 1-8 Title I Summer Remedial Program and the Kindergarten transition program will no expand to three weeks and serve twice as many students. Also offered are Camp Invention for one week, for students in grades 1-6 and the AMS STEM Camp for one week for students entering grades 6-8.

Special Olympics

Dr. Lauzé reported that Leicester Public Schools will once again be hosting the Special Olympics, this year on May 18th, with special education students ages 6-22 invited to attend. Dr. Lauzé noted that our students were bused to the event and we have approximately 40 students who will participate in events

such as running and wheelchair races, relay races, throwing bean bags, softballs and footballs, jump rope, long jump, soccer skills and a mini obstacle course. She encouraged anyone who could to stop by.

Autism Awareness Day

Dr. Lauzé shared that on Monday, April 2nd, all of the Auburn students and staff were asked to participate in Autism Awareness Day by wearing blue. She indicated that the kindergarten class she visited that morning was a sea of blue and she was very proud of all of our students and how they support one another!

Business/Financial:

Year to Date Budget Report

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a year to date budget report. There were no questions.

Transfers

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the transfers between the Series as presented by the Business Manager; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Student Activities Account Update

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a Student Activities Account Update and asked for the Committee's approval as presented. Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to do so; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Policies:

DIBA, Special Education Stabilization Fund on Second Reading

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to policy DIBA, Special Education Stabilization Fund on Second Reading; Mr. Page seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

AC, Non-Discrimination

GBA, Equal Employment Opportunity

GCF, Professional Staff Hiring

JB, Equal Educational Opportunities

JFBB, School Choice

Mr. Page made a motion to approve the afore mentioned updated policies; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

IA, Instructional Goals with tracking

IGA, Curriculum Development with tracking

IGBH, Alternative Programs – no changes

IGD, Curriculum Adoption with tracking

IHAMA, Parental Notification Relative to Sex Education – no changes

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to approve the aforementioned updated policies; Mr. Page seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

At 7:56 p.m., there being no further business to discuss in Open Session, Mrs. Holloway made a motion to enter Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30, Section 21(a) (2) to conduct strategies for negotiations

with union and non-union personnel; Mrs. Kauffman seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken:

Mrs. Kauffman - Yes; Mrs. Holloway - Yes; Mr. Page - Yes; Mr. Scobie - Yes

Respectfully submitted,



Ailaine Zautner
Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

- Thank you to Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
- Make A Difference Award letters
- AHS Ski Club Field Trip Form for Park City, Utah
- AHS Music Department Field Trip Form for WDW, Florida
- We The People Fundraiser Flyers
- MIE Letter of Agreement
- SWCEC Quarterly Report for October to December 2017
- Thank you to RH White from BM
- Notification of Dismissal of Complaint from OCR
- Superintendent's Self Evaluation and Documents
- Year to Date Budget Report
- Transfers
- Student Activity Account Listing
- Policies