

AUBURN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES from Wednesday, June 6, 2018
School Committee Room, 6:30 p.m.

In attendance:

George Scobie
Jessie Harrington
Gail Holloway
Dottie Kauffman
Meghan McCrills

Maryellen Brunelle	Casey Handfield	Beth Chamberland	Susan Lopez
Kathy Lauzé	Joe Gagnon	Jennifer Stanick	Eileen Donahue

Visitors: Jill McGrath-Maher and colleague (arrived at 7:20 p.m.)

Call to Order and Pledge:

At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Scobie called the meeting to order and asked if anyone else was videotaping the meeting; there being none, he asked that everyone join him in the Pledge to the Flag.

Community Service Learning Presentations

From AMS:

Delia Shea, Ali McGill and Izzy Doyle were in attendance with Mr. Gagnon to report on their community service learning project. Delia, having suffered heart issues as a young child and having benefited from the wonderful care at Boston Children's Hospital, proposed having a toy drive at AMS. In her previous district of Leicester, she had held a similar drive and had been able to collect 412 toys. Her goal in Auburn was to collect at least 413. With the help of the National Junior Honor Society and their advisors, Mrs. Watson and Mrs. Dupuis, she was able to far surpass that goal and over 700 toys were collected. Delia and several members of the NJHS delivered the toys to Boston Children's earlier this spring. Kudos to Delia and her team!

From SWIS:

Teacher, Mrs. Ann Shane, of Swanson Road Intermediate School, was in attendance with Olivia Borda to share with the Committee information about the Turkey Trot at SWIS which has raised over \$11,000 over the last three years for Pride and Purpose, providing furniture and supplies for a school in Africa.

Ms. Sarah Connell, also of SWIS, was in attendance with Annika Berg and Otis Chilton to inform the Committee about the continued work in the SWIS Arboretum and the success of this year's Mother Earth Day celebration, including the mural of Mother Earth painted by New York City artist, Alice Mizrachi.

Other projects undertaken by SWIS students included a Senior Spring Social and a Girls on the Run 5K.

From BM:

Dr. Chamberland introduced Mrs. Eileen Tarini who with students, Graydin Balunas; Elijah Vincent; Iyssa Bonneau; Braiden Kelly and Adilyn Reynolds, informed the Committee of the Bryn Mawr community service learning projects which included collecting candy for veterans, Pennies for Pasta to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (over \$3,000 raised), and a non-perishable food drive for AYFS in which the class that collected the highest number of goods got to have their teacher wear an

inflatable snowman costume for the day - Mrs. Tarini was the winner of that contest! Over 1,370 food items were donated.

From PAK:

Mrs. Stanick introduced 2nd grade teacher, Doreen Guittarr, who in turn introduced students Grace Foster, Jane Hollis, Cameron Egan and Richard Cavalieri who informed the Committee about the “More than a Bucket” collection for the victims of Hurricanes Maria and Harvey.

Mrs. Stanick then introduced 1st grade teacher, Ms. Lisa Williams, who introduced some 1st graders who shared with the Committee their community service learning project, “Real Heroes Don’t Wear Capes.” The students were Emma Bohdiewicz, Kole Savage, Brandon Stone and Robyn Zicuis, each of whom was dressed as a “Hero.” Each student contributed \$1 to be able to dress as a real-life hero in school and over \$100 was raised. They also got to write the name of a real-life special hero on a star and the stars were displayed all over the school building.

Mrs. Stanick introduced Mrs. Laura Walsh, Kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Walsh introduced Alexander Frazier, Sophie Pelczarski, Bridgette Tobin and Ryder Trajanowski who told the Committee about their community service learning project through “Project Bread,” where they raised over \$300 and won a Spirit Award for their efforts.

The School Committee members and Dr. Brunelle noted that this was by far their favorite School Committee meeting of the year. They also noted that it doesn’t matter what size you are, or how old you are, even the littlest people can make a difference in the lives of others. The members told the students that they made them all very proud and that they were making a big difference in a small town.

The Committee then took a recess.

Special Recognitions:

Katie Johnson: MASC/MASS Joint Conference Program Logo Winner

Dr. Brunelle congratulated Katie Johnson, AHS student, whose logo was chosen by MASS as the winning one for the upcoming MASS/MASC Joint Conference program. She earned a \$1,000 scholarship and our School Committee members will have bragging rights at the conference! Kudos to Katie.

Congressional Recognition of We the People Team

Noting that it was a well deserved honor, Dr. Brunelle shared with the Committee that Congressman McGovern had recognize the “We the People” team in a recent congressional record. The Committee congratulated the team noting that they always do very well.

Citizens’ Comments: None

Student Representatives’ Report:

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes:

Minutes of May 16, 2018 SC Meeting

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16th meeting; Mrs. Kauffman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Superintendent’s Report:

Since visitor, Jill McGrath-Maher had not yet arrived, Dr. Brunelle asked the Chair to move to the next agenda item.

Principals' Year in Review Presentations

The elementary principals led off the Year in Review presentations with Dr. Chamberland addressing progress made in Teaching and Learning with Go Math and Wonders curriculum. She noted that Elevate Science had been chosen as the new Science curriculum; ECRI (Enhanced Core Reading Instruction) - a supplemental phonics program - training had been added this year and there was an enhanced Data Meeting process for grades K-5. She also noted the successful expansion of the preschool programming and that technology continues to grow.

Dr. Lopez spoke to Community Partnerships noting our collaborative relationship with AYFS, particularly with counseling services, family supports, after school scholarships and neighborhood outreach; a new partnership with R.H. White (who make safety equipment) who gave safety presentations at BM and PAK, gave a generous donation to each of those two schools and held a poster contest; our partnerships with Auburn Seniors including the Woods at Eddy Pond, Pakachoag Senior Center and bringing senior volunteers into our buildings; the AMS NJHS who helped during literacy and math nights supporting their younger peers and to the AHS Science Department who sent students up to SWIS to go through classrooms enriching science curriculum, a great experience for the SWIS students. Lastly, with community service learning, the elementary schools use every opportunity they can to support needs that students recognize.

Dr. Lopez also spoke to Health Wellness and Safety initiatives which include ALICE and Jason Foundation Suicide Training for staff; putting an emphasis on the social and emotional learning of students; and by offering before and after school enrichment opportunities.

Mrs. Stanick spoke to Transition programs available at the PreK-5 level including opportunities for 2nd grade students to visit SWIS (small group visits, SWIS Video Introduction; peer to peer Grade 2 orientation and Step Up Day) and 5th grade students to visit AMS Girls' Spring Fling; Boys' Night and Family Math Night are all held there); and for incoming Kindergarten families, there was a streamlined process for enrolled preschool families, the program DW Counts Down to Kindergarten, an expanded Title 1 Summer Readiness Program and Kindergarten Orientation in August. Mrs. Stanick also stated that tradition academic transition meetings and SEL meetings take place too.

Jill McGrale-Maher Request

Ms. Jill McGrale-Maher was in attendance, with a colleague, to provide the Committee with information on a private day program for children with autism she is hoping to open in Auburn. Children from anywhere in Massachusetts will be accepted to the program, children who cannot be educated in the public classroom. She noted that they will accept children ages 3-22; but their real focus is on children from 11-22 with a capacity of 30 students to begin with.

Principals' Year in Review Presentations continued...

AHS Year in Review

Mr. Handfield provided an update on Auburn High School and the 2017-2018 school year which included preparation for the NEASC visit in October, Learning Walks at all schools, adding French and Spanish to the AP Program next year and the Early College opportunities that were afforded our students this year. He mentioned technology accomplishments including new STEM opportunities through Blackstone Valley Educational Foundation and Consigli Construction; the Rockets' Twitter account now has over 1,000 followers; and the transition to PowerSchool over the summer this year. Health, Wellness and Safety accomplishments including the screening of "Screenagers" for all students, a grant in the amount of \$2,500 from SHINE Initiative, a presentation by Drew Gibson, a "normal looking boy who suffered

with anxiety and depression” called “Minding Your Mind;” Opioid Awareness with the Vigil in October; vaping dangers, social host law, ALICE Training and S4 (See Something Say Something), recognition of Sgt. Jay Johnson who was at the forefront of school safety, and restorative justice.

Mr. Handfield spoke to all the community partnerships AHS has and also the transitions that take place from 8th grade transitions in January, June and August; Freshman Academy; Guidance groups; and Senior Seminar for post-secondary planning.

AMS Year in Review

Mr. Gagnon provided a year in review for Auburn Middle School, noting that there was a focus on reduced class sizes. Accomplishments included the Clean Energy Grant for a second year; Curriculum in Action with the Washington, D.C. (8th grade) and New York City (7th grade) trips; and STARLab (6th grade). He noted that a Grade 6 Health teacher had been hired for 2018-2019.

Health, Wellness and Safety accomplishments included SBIRT, the Chris Herren assembly for all AMS students; Camfel Production of Point of View; and Amazing Hero Art. He spoke of the community partnerships with the Toy Drive for Boston Children’s Hospital, the Hurricane Relief “More than a Bucket” collection and the JF Kennedy “Make a Difference” awards to Delia Shea and Lana Rodriguez.

The principals were all thanked profusely by the Committee members for all that they are accomplishing and doing in their schools. Mr. Scobie noted that other towns are so envious of what we are doing in Auburn.

Out of State Field Trips for 2018-2019

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the out of state field trips presented: AHS Model UN Trip to Brown University in November 2018; the annual AHS Foreign Language Department trip to Quebec, France; and the annual AMS 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C. Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Donation of Flag to Pakachoag School

Donation to SWIS for On Giants’ Shoulders

American Heart Association Donation

Mrs. Harrington made a motion to accept with gratitude all the donations to the various schools: the donation of a Flag to Pakachoag School from Senator Michael Moore; a donation of \$200 from Cornerstone Bank towards the SWIS “On Giants Shoulders” transition program for 5th graders; and the American Heart Association donation of playground balls to BM, PAK, SWIS and AMS. Mrs. McCrillis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Announcement of Retirements and Hiring Update

Letters to Retirees

Dr. Brunelle provided a list of retirees as well as resignations, transfers and new employees who had been hired to replace each of the staff members leaving. The Committee members signed a letter prepared for each retiree.

Auburn Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Recipients for 2018

Dr. Brunelle shared the names of the students who had been awarded Auburn Chamber of Commerce Scholarships, noting that a wonderful breakfast had been held in their honor where our students were glowing with pride.

Unfinished Business:

Strategic Plan Draft

Dr. Brunelle recognized the Strategic Plan Design Team Members, noting that following the initial event in November 2017, at which the input of all stakeholders (140+) was gathered, a smaller Design Team was formed. That Design Team broke into smaller groups covering Action Plans for Teaching and Learning; Technology; Health, Wellness and Safety; Community Partnerships and Transitions.

The groups have done considerable work over the last few months and Dr. Brunelle was pleased to be able to present a draft of the new Strategic Plan to the Committee for their approval.

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the plan; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Auburn Middle School Certified as CHPS Verified Leader

Dr. Brunelle shared with the Committee that Auburn Middle School had been certified as a MA CHPS (Massachusetts Collaborative for High Performing Schools) Verified Leader. She noted that this was an important recognition given for the energy efficiency of the new school. She extended her thanks to Mr. Fahey and the entire School Building Committee for their exemplary work in overseeing the construction of the new Auburn Middle School

Bus Applications for 2018-2019

Dr. Brunelle shared that as of May 31st, the day before the due date, 1,405 bus applications had been received.

New Business:

Early Registration: MASS/MASC Joint Conference, November 2017

Not yet received.

Upcoming Events

Noting that over \$35,000 had been raised at the Relay for Life held at AHS on June 1st, Dr. Brunelle noted all the upcoming Spree Days and Senior Class activities.

Teaching and Learning:

Summer Professional Development

Dr. Lauzé informed the Committee that she had received an unprecedented amount of proposals for summer professional development from the staff and not all were able to be funded. Some of the professional development that will be undertaken this summer includes K-5 Science planning, a revisit of online math assessments and the K-5 Wonders program assessments; ESL Curriculum units; Tier III Intervention training; Middle School Health planning, STEM planning, AP standards training and PD for Special Educators.

Dr. Lauzé applauded all the teachers who came forward with ideas.

Business & Financial:

Year to Date Budget Report

On Mrs. Wirzbicki's behalf, Dr. Brunelle provided a year to date budget report noting that the District is in great shape.

Omnibus Transfers

Dr. Brunelle provided a list of Omnibus transfers, again on Mrs. Wirzbicki's behalf and noted that because of the great work accomplished this year, we were able to make a transfer to SPED Stabilization Account.

French River Bids for Technology and Classroom Supplies

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a list of French River Bids asking for the Committee's approval on the following bids:

- Copy paper to W.B. Mason
- Computer/technology supplies to Cascade, Cam Office, Staples, Tree House and W.B. Mason
- School supplies to W.B. Mason, School Specialty, Cascade, Scott Electric and National Art
- Custodial supplies to Butler Deardon, C&C Janitorial, W.B. Mason, Supreme Industrial, All American Poly, Central Poly, Interboro, M.D. Stetson and Simplex Janitorial

Mrs. Harrington made a motion to approve the French Rivr Collaborative bids as awarded and presented by the Business Manager; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Policies:

IJNDCA, APS School Website Accessibility Policy on 1st Reading

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve IJNDCA, APS School Website Accessibility Policy on 1st Reading; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

JFABD, Homeless Students for Update

Mrs. Harrington made a motion to approve JFABD, Homeless Students on update; Mrs. Kauffman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

At 8:44 p.m., 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:

Roll Call: Mrs. McCrillis - Yes; Mrs. Kauffman - Yes; Mrs. Holloway - Yes; Mrs. Harrington - Yes; Mr. Scobie - Yes.

Respectfully submitted,



Ailaine Zautner
Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

- MASC/MASS Logo
- Congressional Recognition of We the People Team
- Minutes of May 16th SC Meeting
- Principals' Year in Review PPT Presentations
- Out of State Field Trip Requests
- Thank you letters
- Letter to retirees
- Year to Date Budget Report

- French River Collaborate Bid Memo from Business Manager
- Draft Strategic Plan as of 5/16/18
- Omnibus Transfers
- Policy JFABD
- Policy IJNDCA