

AUBURN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES from Wednesday, November 15, 2017
6:30 p.m. Budget Presentations

In attendance:

Wayne Page
Gail Holloway
Jessie Harrington
Dottie Kauffman

Maryellen Brunelle
Kathy Lauze
Rosemary Reidy
Joe Fahey

Eric Bouvier
Beth Chamberland
Susan Lopez
Jenn Stanick
Eileen Donahue

Joe Gagnon
Casey Handfield
Mike Lavelle
Matt Carlson
Brian Davis

Visitors: Chloe Norwood with parents

Call to Order and Pledge:

Mr. Page called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked that everyone join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Special Recognitions:

Project 351 8th Grade Representative to Visit the State House

Chloe Norwood was in attendance to be recognized as the 2018 Project 351 8th Grade Representative. Mr. Gagnon listed Chloe's attributes and presented her with a plaque in recognition of the nomination. Chloe was invited to return to a School Committee to tell of her experiences after the event on January 13, 2018.

Worcester County Superintendents' Scholar

Matthew Tran was in attendance to be recognized as Auburn's 2018 Superintendent's Scholar for the Worcester County Superintendent's Association. Matthew is currently 1st in the Class of 2018 with a 4.3 GPA on a 4.5 scale. He is very involved in both school activities and outside of school activities. He hopes to attend medical school in the future and is currently looking at Boston schools with Northeastern being his top choice. The Committee agreed that he is very deserving of the award and wished him well, noting that they are very proud of him.

MCAS Next Generation Perfect Scores

Dr. Brunelle read the names of the students who gained a perfect score in the 2017 Next Generation MCAS test and offered, along with the Committee, their congratulations.

Citizens' Concerns/Comments: None

Superintendent's Report:

Budget Presentations:

Elementary Schools

Noting that their budgets are basically level-funded in terms of supplies, the elementary principals provided budget presentations. Their new staff requests included a Kindergarten IA at Pakachoag: based on

unknown numbers of incoming kindergarteners next fall, they may have to return to four classrooms; an additional grade four teacher at Swanson Road Intermediate School to meet the increased numbers in the current third grade; and two additional ABAs at Bryn Mawr School to meet the needs of incoming Kindergarten students on IEPs.

Auburn Middle School

Noting that they take the District's mission statement to heart, Mr. Gagnon and Mr. Carlson presented their FY 2019 budget, which again is basically level-funded with regard to supplies. They had one new staffing request: an additional Grade 6 Health teacher to have one at each grade level to incorporate the "Life Skills" curriculum.

Auburn High School

Mr. Handfield presented the Auburn High School's FY 2019 budget noting that it, too, was level-funded particularly with regard to supplies, with the bottom-line being slightly under that of FY 2018. He had no new staffing requests.

Before he completed his presentation, he noted that the Class of 2017 had 78% of the class attending a four-year college, the largest percentage in his tenure at AHS. There was also a 0.06% dropout rate, the lowest in his tenure.

Superintendent's Budget Summation

Dr. Brunelle ended the budget presentations with her summation. She noted that offsets totaling \$2,705,939.40 were used in minimizing the impact of the FY 2019 APS District's budget which is \$25,977,529, representing an increase of \$995,768 or a 3.99% increase over the approved FY 2018 amount of \$24,981,760.78. She noted that the draft FY 2019 budget needs to be submitted to the Town Manager by the 2nd Monday in January, this year January 8, 2018; therefore the Committee would need to take a vote at the January 3, 2018 meeting.

Mr. Page thanked the team for making Auburn kids great! He noted that the LT always strive to make things better and that they ought to be very proud of themselves. He noted that it was great to be a School Committee member! The rest of the Committee concurred.

Student Government Day

Dr. Brunelle was recently notified by Senator Michael Moore that DESE had announced the date for the 71st Annual Student Government Day at the State House. It will take place on April 6, 2018 and the representatives chosen from Auburn High are Class of 2018 seniors, Emily Frost and William Wright Jr. They will be invited to a School Committee meeting after the event to tell of their experiences on that day.

Town of Auburn Tree Lighting Ceremony

Dr. Brunelle notified the members that Town Manager, Julie Jacobson, had extended an invitation to them to attend the 6th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Drury Square Fire Station. It is being held, rain or shine, on Friday, December 1st at 6:00 p.m.

School Committee Tour of Schools

Mr. Page asked for this decision to be tabled until the next meeting when Mr. Scobie would be in attendance.

Policies:

FF, Naming Facilities (No Changes)
GBK, Staff Complaints and Grievances
GCE, Professional Staff Recruiting/Posting of Vacancies (No Changes)
GCF, Professional Staff Hiring (No Changes)
GCI, Professional Teacher Status
GCQF, Suspension and Dismissal of Professional Staff Members (No Changes)
GDQD, Suspension and Dismissal of Support Staff Members
GDO, Evaluation of Support Staff
IB, Academic Freedom (No Changes)
IC/ICA School Year/School Calendar (No Changes)
ID, School Day
IE, Organization of Instruction
IGB, Support Services Programs

Mrs. Harrington made a motion to approve the above-named policies on review; Mrs. Kauffman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Prior to adjourning for the evening, Mrs. Holloway returned to the Central Office Budget Presentation indicating she was still not clear on the reason for the high increases in the phone line items, particularly for AMS and SWIS. Dr. Brunelle stated that she would get more information and share it with the members as soon as she could.

The Committee wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Ailaine Zautner
Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

Budget PPTs and SIP Documents
Tree Lighting Flyer
Policies as named above