

AUBURN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES from Wednesday, December 6, 2017
School Committee Room, 7:00 p.m.

In attendance:

George Scobie
Wayne Page
Gail Holloway
Jessie Harrington
Dottie Kauffman

Maryellen Brunelle
Kathy Lauzé
Cecelia Wirzbicki

Call to Order and Pledge: Mr. Scobie called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. He asked if anyone else was taping the meeting; there being none, he asked that everyone join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Special Recognitions:

In Memoriam: Mona Kahale

Mona Kahale, ELL Tutor at AMS, succumbed to cancer on November 25th. Dr. Brunelle asked for a moment of silence in memory of Mona.

AHS Music Department Students

Dr. Brunelle announced that 7 students from AHS were accepted into the Central District Festival this year and she announced their names, congratulating them all for this prestigious attainment.

High School Wellness Summit

Dr. Brunelle shared the good news that two AHS students were each awarded a \$1,000 grant at a High School Wellness Summit held at Northeastern University in Boston on Tuesday, November 28th. Five Auburn students participated, each having to create a wellness project to pitch to a panel of judges. Kudos to all of the students involved and to Sean Campbell and Mackenzie Aucoin for being awarded the grants. Kudos also to their PE/Health teachers, Greg Pratt and Ali Rusack, who accompanied the group to the Summit.

Citizens' Comments: None

Student Representatives' Report:

Ryan Garabedian reported that Tri 1 had just ended and along with that also fall sports; winter sports were just starting up. The math team had placed 2nd at a meet on November 29th and the WGBH Quiz Show Team had a 2nd meeting on December 5th. Tri 1 concerts had taken place recently and the NHS was putting together military care packages and has adopted a family for the holiday season.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes:

November 14th and 15th

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to approve the minutes of both the November 14th and November 15th budget presentation meetings; Mrs. Harrington seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Superintendent's Report:

AHS Ski Field Trip to Okemo, VT

Mrs. Harrington made a motion to approve the AHS Ski Club trip to Okemo Mountain, VT in March 2018; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

AHS Girls' Basketball Trip to Hoosac Valley, Dalton, MA

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to approve the AHS Girls' Basketball trip to compete in the Hoosac Valley tournament in Dalton, MA from December 15th to December 16th; Mrs. Harrington seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved

Fire Safety Poster Winners

Dr. Brunelle recognized and announced the names of the 2017 Fire Safety Poster Winners, congratulating all the winners. She noted that both she and Dr. Lauzé were able to be in attendance at the Breakfast held in their honor where the winners were presented with their prizes.

AYFS Dancing with the Stars 2018

Dr. Brunelle announced that three faculty members were participating in the 2018 AYFS Dancing with the Stars event: Mr. Nick LaPete and Mr. Jim Adams, both AHS teachers, would be competing as dancers and Dr. Susan Lopez, Principal of SWIS, would be serving as a judge. Good luck was offered to all!

Donation of Dictionaries to 3rd Graders

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve with gratitude the donation of dictionaries for each member of the 3rd grade from the Auburn-Webster Lodge of Elks; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. A thank you letter has already been sent.

Donation from Chamber of Commerce for AEDs

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to thank the Auburn Chamber of Commerce for the wonderful donation of \$1,000 to purchase a portable AED to have available for the youth athletic teams of Auburn in case it was ever needed at practices or games. Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Donation to SWIS Gift Account

Mrs. Harrington made a motion to approve the donation of \$1,395 from the Auburn MA PTO to the SWIS Gift Account, this from proceeds from the recent book fair held at the school. Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Unfinished Business:

School Improvement Plans

Mrs. Harrington made a motion to approve the School Improvement Plans for all schools which were presented during the budget meeting of November 15th; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

SPED Stabilization Fund Policies Working Group

Dr. Brunelle noted that the first meeting of the SPED Stabilization Fund Policies Working Group had been held earlier in the evening, with Julie Jacobson, Ed Kazanovicz, Kathy Lauzé, Cecelia Wirzbicki and herself in attendance, along with 2 representatives from each of the three boards: Ken Holstrom and Dan Carpenter from Selectmen; Kevin Kennedy and Kim Holstrom from the Finance Committee and George Scobie and Jessie Harrington from School Committee. She noted that by law up to 2% of net school spending is allowed to be held in the SPED Stabilization Fund. The Working Group will reconvene in January, prior to the School Committee meeting on January 3rd and in the meantime

more trend data is needed and information from other communities who may have a SPED Stabilization Fund is being sought.

Mr. Scobie added that he believes this is the right way to go but it's very new to us so that is the difficult piece. It will take up to three or four meetings to absorb all the information needed prior to making recommendations on policies.

Strategic Plan Next Steps

Dr. Brunelle once again thanked the community for their part in the huge success of the Strategic Planning event that took place on November 18th with approximately 140 people in attendance.

All the information collected on iPads that day has been shared with the Leadership Team and the next step is to form a smaller working group.

Mr. Scobie stated that it was a great community effort. The day was very well done and organized with people feeling their voices were heard. Our transparency in this process is another way of thanking the community for their support of the Auburn Public Schools.

AEA Negotiations

Dr. Brunelle noted that the first meeting for negotiations with the AEA to discuss ground rules will be held on January 3, 2018. She asked if any member of the Committee wanted to attend the negotiation sessions that she, Dr. Lauzé and Mrs. Wirzbicki will be conducting with the AEA negotiating group; however, the Committee all noted that they were comfortable having it go forward without a representative with periodic feedback and guidance being provided by them.

FY 2019 Draft Budget

Dr. Brunelle's recommendation to the School Committee was to leave the FY 2019 draft budget as is.

School Committee Tour of Schools

The School Committee members' preferred day for a tour of the schools was Wednesday, December 13th. Dr. Brunelle will send an email with a time and place to meet.

New Business:

Holiday Concert Schedule

Dr. Brunelle provided a rundown of the Holiday Concert schedule noting that she had been in attendance at the Grade 3 concert on December 4th and that it was spectacular - a great way to get into the holiday spirit. She commended Mr. Lesley and Mrs. Caruso on the wonderful job that they did. The house was packed.

Town Hall Holiday Open House

Dr. Brunelle noted that the Town Hall Holiday Open House was scheduled for Wednesday, December 20th at noontime and that all the members are invited to attend.

Ongoing Commitment to the Community

Dr. Brunelle provided a listing of all the various ways the students and staff show their commitment to the community, this strong evidence of our ongoing collaboration with the entire Auburn community.

December 20, 2017 School Committee Meeting

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to cancel the December 20th School Committee meeting; Mrs. Kauffman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 3, 2018.

Teaching/Learning Report:

SBIRT Update

Dr. Lauzé noted that SBIRT (Survey, Brief Interview, Referral to Treatment) screening will take place in January for students in grades 8 and 9. Nurses and guidance counselors, with back up from the school psychologist, will oversee this confidential one-to-one screening.

Best Practices Preschool Grant Update

Dr. Lauzé shared some of the cultural events being hosted in the Cafetorium at Auburn Middle School through funding from the Best Practices Preschool Grant. Kosmic Kelly kept the audience spell-bound with science experiments on November 12th and the Pumpernickel Puppets are scheduled for January 21st. With advance advertising of this latter event, she noted that they were hopeful there will be a bigger crowd in attendance.

Upcoming Coordinated Program Reviews

Dr. Lauzé informed the Committee that the Auburn Public Schools will undergo a Coordinated Program Review by DESE in Special Education, Civil Rights and Title Grants. This review takes place every six year and entails site visits as well as document reviews. Mrs. Rosemary Reidy and she will attend training on preparing for these reviews on January 19th at Assabet Valley Collaborative.

ACCESS Training

Dr. Lauzé informed the Committee that ACCESS testing, the State Proficiency assessment required for all English Language Learners, will be taking place from January 4th through February 7th.

Business/Financial:

Year to Date Budget Report

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a year-to-date budget report as of November 27th. 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.

Revolving Account Update

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a listing of all revolving accounts. There were no questions.

FY 2019 French River Oil Bid Results

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a #2 Fuel Oil Bid Analysis noting that Santa Energy was awarded the bid with the price of \$2.0611 per gallon for the time period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the award of the bid to Santa Energy; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

FY 2019 Town Budget Kickoff Meeting

Mrs. Wirzbicki noted that she had been in attendance at the Town's Budget Kick-Off during the Finance Committee meeting on November 15th. Mr. Kazanovicz put forth a 2% wage increase for FY 2019 and, basically, a level-funded budget. She provided a copy of the presentation of the Town's Budget Kick-Off Presentation.

Schedule of Warrant Payables

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a schedule of warrant payables signed by Mrs. Holloway on October 24 and November 29, 2017.

Policies:

IB, Academic Freedom

IHAI, Occupational Education

IHAM, Health Educations

IHB, Special Instructional Programs and Accommodations

IHBA, Programs for Students with Disabilities

IHBEA, English Language Learners

IHBH, Alternative School Programs

IJ, Instructional Materials

IJL, Library Materials Selection and Adoption

IJLA, Library Resources

IJNDD, Policy on Social Media

IJOB, Community Resource Persons/Speakers

IK, Student Progress Reports to Parents/Guardians

IKF, Graduation Requirements

IMG, Animals in Schools

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

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Page made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Ailaine Zautner

Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

Minutes of November 14th and 15th

AHS Ski Trip to Okemo, VT

Thank you letter for 3rd Grade Dictionaries

Ongoing Commitment to the Community Listing

Puppet Show Flyer

Notice from DESE re Coordinated Program Reviews

Year to Date Budget Report

Transfers

Revolving Account Update

FY 2019 French River Oil Bid Results

FY 2019 Town Budget Kickoff PPT

Warrant Payables Schedule

Policies above-mentioned