

AUBURN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES from Wednesday, September 20, 2017
School Committee Room, 7:00 p.m.

In attendance:

Wayne Page
Gail Holloway
Jessie Harrington
Dottie Kauffman

Absent:

George Scobie

Maryellen Brunelle
Cecelia Wirzbicki

Call to Order and Pledge: Mr. Page called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked that everyone join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. He then turned the meeting over to Dr. Brunelle who asked if anyone else was recording the meeting. There were none.

Special Recognitions:

MIAA Sportsmanship Honor Roll 2016-2017

Dr. Brunelle announced that Mr. Handfield had recently informed her that Auburn High Athletics had achieved the MIAA Sportsmanship Honor Roll for 2016-2017 with no disqualifications in any sport. She gave kudos to all athletes and coaches for displaying such sportsmanship.

Introduction of New Student Representative

Dr. Brunelle introduced the new student representative, Ryan Garabedian, who then told the Committee a little about himself. He stated that he had lived in Auburn his entire life, attended Mary D. Stone and Pakachoag schools prior to AMS and now AHS where he is a junior. He listed the classes he takes including AP US History and Physics; he is a member of the Model UN; the Science Olympiad, the National Junior Honor Society and the Band.

The Committee welcomed him aboard.

Citizens' Comments: Mr. Tom Kies was in attendance to voice his concern regarding the iPad program and the compulsory fee each student incurs for insurance. Dr. Brunelle addressed his concern noting that while the students received the iPads at no cost, the mandatory fee was levied to protect families against breakages. She told Mr. Kies that she would contact him to discuss the matter more fully.

Student Representatives' Report:

Ryan reported that this upcoming weekend is Alumni Weekend kicking off on Friday afternoon with the golf team playing a match at home, followed by the football team taking on North Middlesex at 7:00 p.m. After the game there is an ice cream social and a music party. Athletic competitions will take place all day Saturday with train rides, entertainment and pumpkin decorating available to all. Sunday wraps it up with a pancake breakfast and tours of AHS. Leading up to Alumni weekend, the AHS students and faculty took part in Spirit Week with a different theme each day.

Ryan also reported that the Marching Band took first place in their division in their first competition of the season.

Dr. Brunelle referred to the Marching Band Competition Schedule later on the agenda and noted how extremely well the Band has performed since their establishment, just improving leaps and bounds each year.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes:

September 6, 2017

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 6th meeting; Mrs. Harrington seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Superintendent's Report:

AHS Marching Band Competition Schedule

*added to student representative's report

SWIS Band Enrollment

Dr. Brunelle stated that she was very pleased to report that the SWIS band enrollment for this school year is at an all time high of 157 students. She gave credit to the teachers involved, to the administrators for their support, to the Director of Fine Arts, as well as to the parents of students for this program being such a huge success.

Upcoming Negotiations

Dr. Brunelle noted that there were three bargaining units whose contracts expire this year: School Nurses; Teachers; and ABAs. She asked if any of the Committee would like to negotiate with Dr. Lauzé, Mrs. Wirzbicki and herself. Mr. Page asked that it be tabled to an upcoming agenda when a full board is in attendance before a decision was made.

John E. and Ethel E. Riley Award Committee

Dr. Brunelle noted that Town Clerk, Deb Gremo, had once again asked the School Committee to appoint an educator to serve on the John E. and Ethel E. Riley Award Committee. She asked for volunteers to serve in this capacity and as they always do, Denise Collins and Doreen Guittarr volunteered. Dr. Brunelle reminded the Committee that Mrs. Collins had served last year.

Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to nominate Mrs. Doreen Guittarr as the APS educator representative to serve on the Riley Award Committee; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Auburn Youth and Family Services Annual Meeting

Noting that she, Dr. Lauzé and Mrs. Reidy will be in attendance at it, Dr. Brunelle informed the Committee that the Annual Meeting of Auburn Youth and Family Services is scheduled for Wednesday, October 4th at 7:30 a.m. The APS will once again be providing use of APS tables and chairs for this event.

Assabet Valley Collaborative Representative

As per the by-laws of the Assabet Valley Collaborative, Dr. Brunelle noted for the Committee that it was required that each member town's School Committee had to nominate a representative to serve on its board. As with SWCEC, the representative is usually the Superintendent, so it was Dr. Brunelle's recommendation that she be nominated to serve in this role. Mrs. Kauffman made that motion; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Unfinished Business:

Updated Fall Special Town Meeting Warrant Article

Dr. Brunelle provided an update to one of the Warrant Articles for the Fall Special Town Meeting pertaining to the establishment of a SPED Stabilization Account. Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to approve the update; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Dr. Brunelle's request to have the School Committee nominate two of their members to a working group that will develop financial policies and parameters for putting money into and removing money from the Stabilization Account once established was tabled until the next meeting when there is a full board in attendance.

FY 2019 Budgeting Priorities

Superintendent's Goals for 2017-2018

Dr. Brunelle noted that these agenda items had been included in case the Committee had any budgeting priorities or questions regarding her goals for 2017-2018. There were none put forth.

New Business:

Upcoming Events

Dr. Brunelle reminded the Committee and audience that there was an exciting, action packed weekend planned at AHS, as previously mentioned in the student representative's report. She mentioned the pancake breakfast scheduled for Sunday morning, noting that it was open to the entire community.

She then thanked the team responsible for the planning of the Alumni Weekend: AHS Student Council; the Senior Class, the AHS Booster Club; Marjory Gribbons; Alison Rusack; Brian Davis; Kristen Pappas; Jason Bergman; Emily Para; Heidi Tatum; Melissa LaBeaume; Ashley Isgro; Kathryn Perrault; Nick LaPete; and the Athletic Leadership Team.

Business & Financial:

FY 2018 Year to Date Budget

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

Budget Transfers

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a list of transfer both within the Series and between the Series and she sought the School Committee's approval of the latter.

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to approve the transfer between the 9000 to 2000 Series; Mrs. Harrington seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Revolving Account Update

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a Revolving Account Update and Mrs. Harrington noted that great donations were being received for the "Helping our Own" Fund.

Policies:

ACE, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability

ADC, Tobacco Products on School Premises Prohibited

BBA, School Committee Powers and Duties

BBBA-BBBB, School Committee Qualifications/Oath of Office

BDD, School Committee – Superintendent Relationship

BDE, Subcommittees of the School Committee

BD, Advisory Committees to the School Committee

BEDA, Notification of School Committee Meetings

BEDB, Agenda Format

BEDH, Public Comment at School Committee Meetings

The Committee requested to table the policies to the next meeting when there is a full board in attendance.

As there was no more business to discuss, Mrs. Kauffman made a motion to adjourn at 7:17 p.m.; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Ailaine Zautner
Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

Minutes of 9/6/17 SC Meeting

Updated Warrant Article

Superintendent's Goals

Year to Date Budget Report

Transfers

Revolving Account Update

Various Policies, tabled