

AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
1C – Long-range Planning Subcommittee Meeting of the Whole

MEETING AGENDA

Meeting Date: July 25, 2024

Time: 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Location: Amesbury High School, 5 Highland Street, Superintendent’s office

Calling to order 2:36

Kate, Kurt, EM, BO, MW, JL, AJL

A. Strategic Planning

Meeting objective: develop a timeline, outline a process, and assign tasks so that we are able to make a sound decision by mid-October 2024 regarding any changes to our future building use

a. Decision-making timeline

Mid-October deadline so that we have enough time for the mid-November is rising classes at AHS

b. Community engagement/communication plan

Starting with teachers, focus groups targeting groups, e.g., teachers (2), families, union leadership, students, and community

2 Google forms, 1 for immediate use with link to Abrahams report and “share your thoughts” and another that has the same questions as the focus group questions for those who couldn’t attend.

Focus groups for input, then public hearing to say where we’re at as of this moment. Focus groups need to be completed by mid-Sept

Teachers – Wed, 8/21, 7 - 8 pm, fully remote

Wed, Sept 4, 3:30-4:30 pm, in-person, AHS, library

Families/Community -Tues, Sept 11, 7-8, Shay Library

Union leadership – Tues, Sept 11, 3:30 – 4:30 pm, in-person, AHS library

Students – EM will talk to principals, ask for an hour on Sept 16 and/or 17

Community/Families – Mon, Sept 9, 5:30-6:30, AHS Library

Middle school kids have to be scheduled

Public information session with Q and A, early October (about October 1, not the first scheduled SC mtg) to present what we've done, what we've learned, and invite public response

Kurt asks if the union would perceive this as a bargaining session or a listening session?

Open houses: Shay, 9/26; CES, 9/19, 5:30-7; AHS ?; AMS, 9/12; AIHS, usually 1st week of October

- c. School visits – AJL will draft an email from EM to send to Superintendent of desired districts, cc to Danielle, AJL, and respective principals, send to EM on Monday
- d. Issue resolution
 - i. Scheduling – EM needs this school year's schedule to be done so she can look at specialized programming. What programs are best for what type of kid – she needs to do the trickle up effect, so she can see what the class sizes are going to be. Mostly done by next week of Aug 5. What does the NS Supt Collaborative survey results re districts' areas of SPED programs/expertise offer?
 - ii. Financial implications for no change – JL has that already
 - iii. Financial implications for building closure and moves – JL will look to the AES costs and message as needed in relation to the proposed changes
 - iv. Space availability – building & classroom – tied up with projections enrollment. Can the mayor commit to other city buildings that could be available? Who covers the cost of remediation?
 - v. Enrollment projections – EM will look at the fluctuations in SPED enrollment.
 - vi. Use of AMS, CES facilities and implications for revenue, public need if those facilities are not available – JL has that

B. Next steps

AJL will draft questions for next mtg

By the end of September, KG should have a better idea about Ordway, Bailey House as options

We didn't talk about Sparhawk on Elm St, as an option. The mayor and Greg will initiate conversation.

C. Approve minutes, June 11, 2024 workshop

Greg – motion to approve minutes

Maryann – seconded with amendment to her time of arrival

Unanimous

D. Adjournment

Maryann moved to adjourn

Second – Abigail

Unanimous

4:42