

AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2024

Present were Mayor Gove, Chair, Maryann Welch, Abigail Jurist Levy, Kurt Mansperger, Greg Noyes, Brock Omohundro, Kate Slater, and Elizabeth McAndrews.

A recording of this meeting can be viewed here: <https://fb.watch/qZhfg4xJRn/>

- I. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Mission Statement/Pledge of Allegiance (6:35)
- II. Comment by Visitors and Delegations (7:10)
 - Lauren Snay, 17 Woodwell Cir – Ms. Snay spoke as a parent and Para at CES. Ms. Snay spoke about the proposed budget and asked the committee to consider a budget higher than the proposed 3% increase.
 - Karen Brannelly, Old Tavern Ln – Ms. Brannelly spoke as a resident and teacher at CES – Ms. Brannelly spoke about the changes that have taken place since moving from AMS to CES, increases to class sizes, and the lack of walls at CES.
 - Cindy Yetman, Newton Rd – Ms. Yetman spoke as a resident and the AFT Amesbury President. Ms. Yetman spoke about the proposed budget and in opposition to the proposed cuts based on a 3% increase.
- III. New business (17:00)
 1. FY25 Budget Presentation – Before Superintendent McAndrews began her presentation Ms. Welch read a summary of recent budget meetings and presentations relating to right-sizing, cuts, class sizes, and trends on behalf of the Finance & Facilities subcommittee.

Superintendent McAndrews then began her presentation of the proposed 3% increase budget. The Superintendent's budget covered the process used to develop the budget, a list of reductions to get to a 3% increase and their impact, and the budget in light of the additional FY24 appropriate from city council. At the conclusion of the presentation the committee asked questions of the Superintendent and Ms. Liporto relating to the reductions/impacts, and discussed the proposed budget as a whole as well as next steps.
- IV. Executive Session (1:43:20) - Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(2) for the purpose of discussing strategy as it relates to negotiations with non-union personnel, being the Superintendent of Schools.

Dr. Slater moved to enter executive session, seconded by Mr. Omohundro. Vote: Yes, unanimous.