

AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 5, 2024

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

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

- I. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Mission Statement/Pledge of Allegiance (3:30)
- II. Comments by Visitors & Delegations (4:00)
 - Carryann Davis – S. Hampton – Ms. Davis spoke about the number of incoming AHS students that were interested in playing basketball and encouraged the committee to add a JV 2 basketball team (full comments attached).
 - Patty Lowell – Moncrief St – Ms. Lowell is an Amesbury resident and member of the Whittier Tech School Committee. Ms. Lowell updated the committee on upcoming meetings of the committee as well as updates on the building project and recent failed vote.
- III. Communications & Reports (11:50)
 1. Superintendent's Report – Superintendent McAndrews updated the committee on recent staffing changes within the district including resignations and new hires, noting assistant principal Denio was leaving AMS. She also updated the committee on the ongoing Amesbury Middle School Principal search. The Superintendent answered questions from the committee relating to her report.
 2. Student Advisory Council – No report.
 3. Liaisons – Mayor Gove noted the building committee had not met since her last report.
 4. Subcommittees
 - a. Finance & Facilities – Ms. Welch updated the committee on behalf of the subcommittee including on recent budget transfers, surplus of AES, and an FY 25 budget discussion. There will be a budget workshop in the near future.
 - b. Policy & Personnel – Dr. Jurist Levy updated the committee on planned meeting dates of the subcommittee, which will be the 4th Tuesday of every month.
 - c. Curriculum & Inclusion – Ms. Welch stated the first meeting will be Feb 29th and recurring meetings will be on the 2nd Tuesday of the month going forward.
 - d. 1C – Dr. Jurist Levy stated the committee would be discussing goals at their upcoming meeting of the subcommittee. The subcommittee is awaiting a report on building consolidation from the Abrahams Group.

IV. New Business (32:37)

1. SY 2024-2025 Calendar – Superintendent McAndrews discussed the proposed calendar and highlighted several aspects for the committee. The committee discussed the proposed calendar and asked questions of the administration relating to the start of school, PRT days, PD days, and the new elementary conferences. The committee took no action on the calendar pending revisions by the administration.
2. SY 2024-2025 Calendar – Superintendent McAndrews shared the reasoning behind not opening 4th and 5th grades this year. Besides those 2 grades all other grades would be open with seat restrictions in some instances. No current choice students need to reapply.

Mr. Noyes moved to not open school choice for grades 4 & 5 for SY 24-25, second by Mr. Omohundro. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

V. Consent Agenda (1:05:37)

1. *Ms. Welch moved to approve the following minutes: Nov 20, Dec 4, Dec 11. Dr. Jurist Levy seconded the motion. Mr. Noyes noted that concerning the Dec 4 minutes, item IV, the words “that of” after the words “equivalent to”, Mr. Noyes then moved to amend the minutes as such, seconded by Mr. Omohundro. Approved unanimously. Mr. Noyes moved to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Dr. Jurist Levy. Approved unanimously.*
2. *Mr. Noyes moved to approve the following warrants: Jan 11 \$288,514.73 | Jan 12 \$635,117.31 | Jan 25 \$468,656.25. Ms. Welch seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.*

Mr. Omohundro moved to adjourn, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. Vote: Yes, unanimous.