

AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 22, 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://www.facebook.com/AmesburySchools/videos/322020667535171/>

- I. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Mission Statement/Pledge of Allegiance (2:55)
- II. Comment by Visitors and Delegations (4:05) – No comments
- III. Communications & Reports (5:36)
 - a. Director of Facilities – Mr. Jim McCarthy provided a Quarter 2 facilities report to the committee including updates on the following items:
 - AHS – Stage maintenance/repair, plans for upcoming elections, and the status of the solar array on the roof.
 - CES – Replacement of the PA system, function of the new HVAC units, ongoing repair of leaks in the roof, and playground construction updates.
 - AMS – Progress of roof replacement, tree removal around the perimeter of the building, and hiring of a new MPFT.
 - Shay – Purchase of a new snow tractor, addressing HVAC finetuning, and roof repair.
 - AIHS – Recently passed fire inspection, and small paint projects being completed.
 - AES – Building has been winterized, some desks are being moved out, and building is checked daily.

Mr. McCarthy also informed the committee that A1 Exterminators had been hired for rodent control. The committee asked general questions of the administration relating to the report.

- b. Director of Finance & Operations: Q2 Budget Report – Ms. Liporto updated the committee on the status of the FY24 budget including updates on plans to ask city council for an additional appropriation to cover the costs of the new contract and the status of spending under the ongoing budget freeze. Ms. Liporto highlighted several areas of concern including maintenance and custodial lines, and costs relating to substitutes. The status of the district's revolving accounts was also discussed. Committee members asked questions of Ms. Liporto relating to the budget and her report.

- c. Superintendent's Report – Superintendent McAndrews presented reports to the committee concerning enrollment and MCAS data.

In the enrollment report the Superintendent highlighted the district's current enrollment history and trends, revenue relating to enrollment, other related enrollments, demographics, and post-grad info. At the conclusion of the presentation, the Superintendent fielded questions from the committee relating to the report. Next, the Superintendent presented a report on MCAS data with topics including return to a Full Accountability System, categorization of the schools/district, and action steps relating to results. The Superintendent answered questions from the committee relating to the district's MCAS data and planning.

- d. Student Advisory Council – No report

IV. New Business (1:57:41)

1. Subcommittee Appointments – Mayor Gove proposed the following appointments:

- Finance & Facilities – Welch (Chair), Noyes, Mansperger
- Policy & Personnel – Jurist Levy (Chair), Slater, Omohundro
- Curriculum & Inclusion – Welch (Chair), Slater, Omohundro
- 1C – Jurist Levy (Chair), Noyes, Mansperger
- Legislative Liaison – Mayor Gove

Dr. Slater moved to approve the appointments, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. The committee discussed the proposed appointments. After discussion the committee voted 6 Yes, 1 opposed (Noyes). Approved.

V. Executive Session (2:04:23)

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. Committee will adjourn from executive session and not return to open session.

Mr. Mansperger moved to enter executive session, second by Mr. Omohundro. Roll call: 7 Yes. Passes.