

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SUBCOMMITTEE 1C  
MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: November 28, 2023

Time: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Location: Amesbury High School, Superintendent's office

3:40 pm: Meeting called to order

Present: Mayor Gove, Joan Liporto, Superintendent McAndrews, Greg Noyes, Abigail Jurist Levy, Mark Abrahams, David King

1. Discussion with Mark Abrahams and David King, who joined the meeting remotely, regarding potential efficiencies that may be realized in the district. An overview of Amesbury's already-streamlined systems was provided and the discussion then focused on possibilities related to building use, shared services, and regionalization. Abrahams and King shared basic information, raised questions for their own information, and answered questions from the committee. Mark Abrahams will draw up a scope of work for a feasibility study and submit to the Mayor in 7-10 days.
2. The impact of the new contract was presented along with the status of budget assumptions and work of the leadership team on FY 25 budget. Principals have been asked to build 0-based budgets with level services with adjustments to level funding, 5% and 10% reductions. The impact of the new contract was estimated to be \$1.1+ M, loss of ESSER funds is approximately \$533K. The impact of changes in the costs of insurance or gas contract is not known at this time. Increase to Salter for transportation will be \$25K, and transfer of salaries from Southampton revenue to the district budget will be \$327K. The feasibility of an early retirement incentive is being considered. Staffing reports have been sent to principals to inform their understanding of potential layoffs. Joan Liporto reported that with a 3% increase, the district would still be \$1.6M in the red with a lot of unknown costs.
3. Next steps:
  - a. Greg Noyes and Mayor Gove will investigate how districts are handling having middle school grades in high school buildings
  - b. Abigail Levy will investigate shared services and how districts implement and manage those relationships, as well as benefits and risks
  - c. Joan Liporto and Superintendent McAndrews will continue to work on the FY 25 budget including looping staff at the middle school
4. Motion from Greg Noyes to approve the minutes of November 8 meeting

Second by Abigail Jurist Levy  
Vote: Unanimous

5. Motion from Greg Noyes to adjourn  
Second by Abigail Jurist Levy  
Vote: Unanimous

4:36 pm: Meeting adjourned

Next meeting: December 12, 2023, Superintendent's office