

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**April 24, 2023**

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Present were Mayor Gove, Chair, Mel Webster, Abigail Jurist Levy, Greg Noyes, Gaye Smith, Maryann Welch, and Superintendent McAndrews.

A recording of this meeting can be viewed here:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AS5u9BWbWDXR4\\_75QyjoqvAVCP2tPsh-/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AS5u9BWbWDXR4_75QyjoqvAVCP2tPsh-/view?usp=sharing)

- I. Call to Order/Mission Statement/Pledge of Allegiance– Mr. Noyes read the mission statement and the committee recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Comments by Visitors & Delegations (0:20)
  - Marcie Stellmach 23 Spindle Tree Ln.– Ms. Stellmach spoke to the committee about the need to ensure students have adequate time for lunch and recess.
  - Patty Bradley Theriault 117 Woodman Rd.– Ms. Theriault spoke to the committee about the need to ensure students have adequate time for lunch and recess.
  - Lauren Duffner 16 Pleasant View Ave – Ms. Duffner spoke to the committee about the need to ensure students have adequate time for lunch and recess.
  - Eric Girouard 5 Spindle Tree Ln – Mr. Girouard spoke to the committee about the need to ensure students have adequate time for lunch and recess.
  - Alicia Ouellet 7 Estes St – Ms. Ouellet spoke to the committee about the need to ensure students have adequate time for lunch
  - Amy Bogert 43 Monroe St – Ms. Bogert spoke about the need for increased communication surrounding the decision to shorted lunch and recess.
- III. School Showcase (11:55) – Cashman Principal Karina Mascia shared a presentation with the committee highlighting the school including recent data trends. Q&A with the committee followed.
- IV. Communications & Reports (41:40)
  - A. Educational Leadership – Director of Finance and Operations: Ms. Liporto shared a Q3 budget update with the committee highlighting upcoming transfers, revolving accounts, and concerns relating to substitute lines, SPED transportation, and electricity. The committee asked questions based on Ms. Liporto’s report.
- V. New Business (50:50)
  - A. School Committee/District Goals Review – The committee reviewed their current goals in anticipation of drafting new goals during an upcoming workshop on May 13th. Mayor Gove read through the current goals as the committee discussed. Superintendent McAndrews also shared an update on progress on district goals.
  - B. Lunch/Recess Discussion – Mayor Gove noted these issues were outside the purview of the committee and asked Superintendent to speak about why changes were made and what is being done moving forward. Superintendent McAndrews summarized the

changes to lunch/recess and answered questions from the committee. Mr. Noyes believes lunch/recess time is under the purview of the School Committee and will look into the appropriate statute.

- C. New Position – Assistant Director of Student Services – Superintendent McAndrews summarized the position and the rationale for adding it for the upcoming school year. The committee asked questions of the Superintendent relating to the new position.
- D. Dr. Jurist Levy provided an overview to the committee on the upcoming Superintendent evaluation schedule.

VI. Executive Session (1:37:50)

- A. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21 (a) (3) for the purpose of discussing strategy as it relates to collective bargaining with the Facilities and Maintenance Unit, AFT-Amesbury relative to a pending grievance, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee, as declared by the Chair; and,
- B. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21 (a) (2) for the purpose of conducting collective bargaining sessions with the Facilities and Maintenance Unit, AFT-Amesbury relative to a pending grievance; and,
- C. Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21 (a) (3) for the purpose of discussing strategy as it relates to collective bargaining with the AFT Amesbury Teachers/Nurses Unit, the AFT Amesbury Multi-Purpose Facilities Technicians/Maintenance Unit, and the AFT Amesbury Paraprofessionals/Tutors Unit as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee, as declared by the Chair.

*Ms. Welch moved to suspend policy BDD, second by Mr. Webster. Approved unanimously.*

*Mr. Webster moved to enter executive session, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. Vote: 6 Yes. Passes.*