

AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 4, 2022

Present were Mayor Gove, Chair; Peter Hoyt, Mel Webster, Kate Currie, Abigail Jurist Levy, Maryann Welch, Gaye Smith, and Superintendent Elizabeth McAndrews.

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

- I. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Mission Statement/Pledge of Allegiance (0:00)
- II. Comment by Visitors and Delegations (0:40)
 - A message from Greg Noyes (8 Clark's Rd) was read. Mr. Noyes wrote in favor of banning cellphones in school.
- III. Communications and Reports (3:30)
 - A. School Highlight - Amesbury Middle School – Middle School Principal Jarred Haas shared a presentation with the committee highlighting numerous programs and events that had taken place at the middle school over the course of the school year including the return of the Eagle mascot, in-person performances, peer mediation classes, celebrations and more. Questions and comments by the committee followed.
 - B. Liaisons
 1. No Amesbury SEPAC report was provided
 2. Mr. Hoyt shared an update on the AES building project on behalf of the building committee. Topics included progress on the sewer rebuild and construction progress.
 - C. Educational Leadership
 1. Superintendent McAndrews – The Superintendent shared a summary of the FY 23 budget with the committee. The committee received several budget options based on what fees (transportation/athletics) may be reduced.
 2. Director of Finance – Joan Liporto provided an update on the budget through Quarter 3 of the fiscal year. She addressed the effects of the budget freeze that had been implemented, costs associated with hiring of substitutes, and changes to utility rates, among other topics.
 - D. Student Advisory Council – Anna Bailey updated the committee on behalf of SAC. Upcoming events include Prom, a performing arts event, and a princess tea party event. An upcoming project will address courtyard beautification.
 - E. Subcommittees
 1. Budget & Finance – Mr. Webster updated the committee on items including transfers and the proposed budget.
 2. Personnel - The committee has met once and discussed norms/expectations, FMLA policy, and upcoming negotiations.
 3. Buildings & Grounds – Ms. Currie updated the committee on items including gym floor resurfacing, the AMS roof repairs, AMS & AHS building envelope surveys, and solar options.

4. Policy – Next meeting is the 12th of April
 5. Teaching & Learning – Next meeting date is TBD
 6. AES Implementation – Next meeting is TBD
- F. Other business – AEFI Hall of Honor will be held on May 6th at AHS.
- IV. New Business (45:45)
1. FY '23 Budget – Mr. Webster informed the committee that the Budget & Finance committee unanimously recommends the budget with a 3.06% increase, a \$35,509,717.00 budget (the city's assessment). The following votes were then taken:

Item	Motion	Second	Result
District Administration: \$1,282,394	Ms. Welch	Ms. Smith	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
Transportation: \$622,550	Mr. Webster	Ms. Currie	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
Amesbury Elementary: \$4,057,403	Mr. Hoyt	Ms. Smith	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
Cashman Elementary: \$4,038,488	Ms. Smith	Dr. Jurist Levy	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
Amesbury Middle: \$6,728,204	Ms. Welch	Ms. Smith	Passes: 5 Yes, 1 Recusal (Hoyt), 1 Abstention (Gove)
Amesbury High: \$5,433,028	Mr. Webster	Mr. Hoyt	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
District Technology: \$183,645	Dr. Jurist Levy	Ms. Smith	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
Maintenance: \$2,088,392	Mr. Hoyt	Ms. Welch	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
Curriculum and Professional Dev.: \$369,097	Ms. Smith	Dr. Jurist Levy	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
Special Education: \$3,463,049	Mr. Webster	Mr. Hoyt	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
Employee Benefits: \$6,371,322	Dr. Jurist Levy	Ms. Smith	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
Innovation High: \$872,146	Ms. Welch	Mr. Webster	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)
Grand total: \$35,509,717	Ms. Welch	Dr. Jurist Levy	Passes: 6 Yes, 1 Abstention (Gove)

2. Implementation of Policy CN – The policy having been previously approved, the committee needed to vote to implement the policy.
Ms. Currie moved that the Superintendent be directed to implement the policy, second by Ms. Smith. Mr. Wester inquired when the committee would be appointed. Superintendent McAndrews indicated it would be prior to the end of the school year.
Vote: Yes, unanimous.
 3. Appointment of Liaison of Policy CN Committee – Mayor Gove asked for a volunteer to serve on the committee. Ms. Smith indicated she would like to serve as the liaison.
Mr. Webster moved to appoint Ms. Smith, second by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
 4. Approval of Transfers – Ms. Liporto provided an overview of the proposed transfers. Mr. Webster and Ms. Currie noted that their respective subcommittees both supported the transfers.
Mr. Webster moved to approve transfers in the amount of \$315,411, second by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- V. Consent Agenda (1:04:05)
- a. Minutes – *Mr. Webster moved to approve the following minutes: Jan 10, Jan 24, Feb 7, Feb 15, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. Passes unanimously.*
 - b. Warrants – *Mr. Hoyt moved to approve the following warrants: Feb 25 \$600,034.74|March 10 \$263,683.18| March 11 \$616,236.45| March 24 \$565,153.54, second by Ms. Welch. Passes unanimously.*

Ms. Currie moved to adjourn, second by Ms. Welch. Passes unanimously.

Facebook Public Comments

[Cindy Collins](#)

.

2:30

Public comment how much of the school budget is spent on litigation