

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 7, 2022**

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

A video recording of this meeting can be viewed here: <https://amesbury-school.vod.castus.tv/vod/?video=42ed04a3-7aa2-46a4-b641-9b5117da5384>

- I. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Mission Statement/Pledge of Allegiance (0:43)
- II. Comments by Visitors and Delegations (1:35) – None
- III. Communications & Reports (3:55)
  - A. Liaisons – Mr. Hoyt updated the committee on the AES Building committee including updates on change orders, credits, and ongoing installation of steel framing progress. Mayor Gove added that the first site visit with MSBA had taken place.
  - B. Educational Leadership – Superintendent McAndrews updates the committee on Covid-19/masking including the ongoing “Testing Tuesday program”, the new employee handbook, and MTSS visualization for district families.

Mr. Bennett provided a Buildings & Grounds update to the committee covering topics including the AMS roof, Cashman HVAC roof analysis, and asbestos and air quality findings from the recent studies. Questions and comments by the committee followed, including Mr. Webster commenting about the Cashman cafeteria floor and AHS track.

- C. Student Advisory Council – Ms. Bailey provided an update to the committee on behalf of SAC including updates on student stress levels related to homework and other factors, utilization of WIN Block, and updates on meetings with Dept. heads, and the upcoming Winter Carnival. Ms. Bailey then fielded questions from the committee related to homework and other topics.
- D. Subcommittees
  - 1. Mr. Webster updated the committee on the Budget and Finance upcoming meetings including planned budget workshops.
  - 2. Dr. Jurist Levy announced that Personnel was planning to have their first meeting later in the month.

3. Ms. Currie updated the committee on recent topics discussed by Buildings and Grounds including Cashman HVAC, AMS roof repairs, air quality reports, asbestos reports, and building security.
  4. Ms. Currie updated the committee on recent actions by the Policy Subcommittee including handbook policies that had been reviewed and upcoming policies the committee would be taking up.
  5. There was no report from Teaching & Learning.
  6. Mr. Hoyt updated the committee on behalf of the AES Implementation Committee including updates on looking at various other district's building use policies, and program changes based on the school reconfigurations.
- E. Other – Mr. Webster updated the committee on plans to hold a Joint Education meeting with the City Council. It is yet determined if Ms. Welch will be on the Joint Education committee, in addition to members Mr. Webster and Ms. Currie.

IV. New Business (1:03:44)

1. Pre-K Tuition – Superintendent McAndrews highlighted the proposed tuition rates for the Kindergarten program, which have not increased since 2015. Discussion and comments by the committee followed.
2. 2022-2023 School Year calendar – Superintendent McAndrews provided an overview of the proposed calendar to the committee including the implementation of a 180 day school year, starting after Labor Day due to ongoing construction at CES, and not observing Good Friday as a holiday on the calendar. Questions and comment by the committee followed.

*Mr. Hoyt moved to approve the school calendar, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*

3. 2022-2023 School Choice – Superintendent McAndrews provided an overview of the choice program to the committee. The committee was informed that the number of spaces in Kindergarten would be unknown until local registrations happen, and grades 1 & 3 would not be open. Questions and discussion by the committee followed.

*Mr. Webster moved to open school choice for the 2022-2023 school year, second by Ms. Smith. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*

V. Consent Agenda (1:35:25)

1. *Mr. Webster moved to approve the following minutes: Nov 15 | Dec 6 | Dec 13. Mr. Hoyt seconded the motion. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*
2. *Ms. Currie moved to approve the following warrants: Jan 13 \$916,306.79 | Jan 14 \$584,334.98 | Jan 27 \$873,934.28 | Jan 28 \$602,392.79. Mr. Hoyt seconded the motion. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*

*Ms. Currie moved to adjourn, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. Vote: Yes, unanimous.*