

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL  
April 6, 2020**

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Present at 7:06 p.m. were Mayor Gove, Chair; Peter Hoyt, Kate Currie, Jana deBeer, Mel Webster, Maryann Welch, Elaine Bucher, Joan Liporto, and Jared Fulgoni, Superintendent of Schools.

***This meeting was conducted under the 'Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c.30A, §20', signed on March 12, 2020.***

**I. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Mission Statement**

***Amesbury Public Schools Mission Statement***

*The Amesbury School District is unconditionally committed to every child, ensuring that all students experience success through the development of attitudes and skills necessary for lifelong learning by providing the highest quality staff, meaningful learning experiences, and a vitally involved community.*

*This meeting was broadcast live on ACTV and recorded. View meeting at <https://amesbury-school.vod.castus.tv/vod/?video=617c8873-9707-4b1f-963a-f0eb70194a32>*

**II. Comments by Visitors and Delegations**

- Brett Manoloff, 5 Lonvale Ln – Brett asked about the tennis budget not being broken down the same way as other sports were. Mr. Webster and Ms. Bucher responded.
- Bill Faulkner – Asked if any buy/lease analysis had been done on the servers.

**III. FY '21 Budget Vote (Video timestamp: 0:07:40)**

The committee took up consideration of the FY '21 School Budget. The budget represented an 8.1% increase over the previous year. The committee voted on twelve individual cost centers as well as the final total. Prior to voting, Mayor Gove read a statement informing the committee she would be abstaining from all budget approval votes.

- District Administration - Proposed: \$938,927  
Mr. Hoyt moved approval, seconded by Ms. Bucher.

*Ms. Welch moved to amend by proposing to add \$4,900 to fund a Superintendent mentorship program, seconded by Mr. Webster. Vote: 1 Yes (Welch), 5 No, 1 Abstention (Gove). Motion Fails.*

On motion to approve, Vote 6 Yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.

- Transportation – Proposed: \$544,630

***Ms. Bucher moved approval, second by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

- Amesbury Elementary - Proposed: \$4,080,613

***Mr. Webster moved approval, second by Ms. Currie. Vote: 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

- Cashman Elementary – Proposed: \$4,060,669

***Mr. Hoyt moved approval, second by Ms. Welch. Vote: 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

- Middle School – Proposed: \$6,483,966

***Ms. deBeer moved to approve, second by Ms. Bucher. Vote: 5 yes, 2 abstention (Gove, Hoyt). Motion passes.***

- High School – Proposed: \$5,023,421

***Motion to approve by Ms. Bucher, second by Ms. deBeer. Vote: 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

- District Technology – Proposed: \$288,432

***Motion to approve by Mr. Webster, second by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

- Maintenance – Proposed: \$1,887,831

***Motion to approve by Ms. Welch, second by Ms. Currie. Vote: 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

- Curriculum & Professional Development – Proposed - \$356,425

***Motion to approve by Mr. Hoyt, second by Mr. Webster. Vote: 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

- Special Education – Proposed: \$4,906,865

***Motion to approve by Mr. Webster, second by Ms. Bucher. Vote: 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

- Employee Benefits – Proposed: 6,043,446

***Motion to approve by Mr. Hoyt, second by Ms. Welch. Vote 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

- Innovation High School – Proposed: \$805,352

***Motion to approve by Ms. deBeer, second by Ms. Bucher. Vote: 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

- Grand total, FY 21 Budget – Proposed: \$35,420,577

***Motion to approve by Mr. Hoyt, second by Ms. Welch. Motion 6 yes, 1 abstention (Gove). Motion passes.***

#### **IV. Presentations and Administrative Reports (Video timestamp 0:49:45)**

##### **A. Superintendent's Report**

1. Superintendent Fulgoni updated the committee on the Student Opportunity Act (SOA), including reports from the SOA working group, as well as the submission timeline changing. Dr. Lynn Catarius also provided a report to the committee based on discussions from the SOA working group.
2. Superintendent Fulgoni and Director of Teaching & Learning Lyn Jacques provided an update to the committee on remote learning plans for the district as the physical school buildings remain closed.

***Mr. Hoyt moved to suspend the rules to allow the committee to meet beyond the stated time of 9:00pm, second by Mr. Webster. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***

#### **V. Communications (Video timestamp 1:43:07)**

##### **A. Student Advisory Council - No report offered.**

##### **B. Other – None**

#### **VI. Items for Approval (Video timestamp 1:43:20)**

##### **A. Approval of Minutes**

- ***Mr. Hoyt moved to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2020 School Committee meeting, second by Ms. deBeer. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***
- ***Mr. Webster moved to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2020 Emergency School Committee meeting, second by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***

##### **B. Temporary Appointment of Designee for Warrant Signing: MGL Part 1 Title VII C 41 S56**

Due to the current hardship of the committee of the whole gathering to sign warrants the committee considered appointment of a single member to sign warrants on behalf of the committee.

***Ms. Welch moved to appoint Mayor Gove as the committee's designee to sign all warrants, second by Ms. Bucher. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***

C. Approval of Warrants

- ***Mr. Webster moved to approve the March 12, 2020 warrant in the amount of \$113,090.14, second by Ms. deBeer. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***
- ***Mr. Hoyt moved to approve the March 13, 2020 warrant in the amount of \$594,368.79, second by Ms. Bucher. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***
- ***Ms. Bucher moved to approve the March 26, 2020 warrant in the amount of \$521,535.78, second by Ms. deBeer. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***
- ***Mr. Hoyt moved to approve the March 27, 2020 warrant in the amount of \$547,568.75, second by Ms. Welch. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***
- ***Ms. Bucher moved to approve the April 9, 2020 warrant in the amount of \$148,735.49, second by Ms. Welch. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***

D. Acceptance of Gifts/Donations

- ***Mr. Webster moved to accept a donation of \$202.92 from Gretchen Marinopoulos for the Amesbury High School Model U.N. Club, second by Ms. Bucher. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***

E. Subcommittee Appointments

Mayor Gove suggested the following changes to subcommittee appointments due to the addition of a new member and balancing of workloads of committee members:

- Remove Mr. Webster from Personnel
- Appoint Ms. Currie as chair of Personnel
- Appoint Ms. Bucher as a member of Personnel and Building & Grounds
- Remove Mr. Hoyt as member of Building & Grounds

***Ms. Bucher moved to accept the recommendation of the Mayor, second by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***

F. School Calendar: April Vacation

The committee discussed whether to amend the current school year calendar in regards to the upcoming April school vacation in light of the COVID-19 school closures and remote learning program. The Superintendent recommended leaving April vacation in place.

**No action was taken by the committee**

**VII. Informational Items (Video timestamp: 2:06:30)**

**A. Subcommittee Reports**

1. Mr. Webster provided a report on behalf of the Finance subcommittee.
2. Mr. Webster provided a report on behalf of the Personnel subcommittee.
3. Ms. deBeer provided a report on behalf of the Building & Grounds subcommittee.
4. Ms. Currie provided a report on behalf of the Policy subcommittee.
5. Ms. Welch provided a report on behalf of the Teaching and Learning Subcommittee.

**B. School Building Committee Report**

Mr. Hoyt provided a report to the committee on behalf of the School Building Committee.

**C. SEPAC Liaison Report**

Lindsay Pouliot provided a report to the committee on behalf of Amesbury SEPAC.

**VIII. Future Meetings (Video timestamp: 2:14:20)**

The next regularly scheduled School Committee meeting will be held on May 4, 2020 at 7:00pm. Subcommittees and other meetings will be held on the following dates:

1. AES School Building Committee – April 23, 2020 at 6:00pm
2. Finance Subcommittee – May 4, 2020 at 6:00pm
3. Personnel Subcommittee – TBD
4. Buildings and Grounds Subcommittee – TBD
5. Policy Subcommittee – April 9, 2020 at 3:00pm
6. Teaching and Learning Subcommittee – TBD

***Mr. Webster moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Hoyt. Vote: Yes, unanimous. Motion passes.***