

AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 2025

Present were Mayor Gove, Chair, Maryann Welch, Greg Noyes, Brock Omohundro, Kurt Mansperger, Abigail Jurist Levy, and Elizabeth McAndrews.

A recording of this meeting can be viewed here: <https://imd0mxanj2.execute-api.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/ssr/watch/68433bcc52ff5c0002a512b9>

- I. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Mission Statement/Pledge of Allegiance (0:20)
- II. Comments by Visitors & Delegations (1:30)
 - Hillary Fraise – Ms. Fraise spoke in favor of the AIHS renewal.
- III. Recognitions & Accomplishments
 - A. Boys & Girls Outdoor Track – CAL Baker Champs – Members of each team were recognized for their accomplishments over the spring season.
- IV. Communications & Reports (11:30)
 - A. Educational Leadership
 1. Superintendent McAndrews updated the committee on both the AIHS Principal search as well as general staffing of the district. Thirteen applications were received for the principal position and 9 were moved forward with 6 being invited for interviews. Ultimately two candidates have been moved to the final interview stage. Concerning staff, the Superintendent shared that hiring was ongoing for the upcoming school year, and numerous positions remain open with interviews ongoing.
 - B. Student Advisory Council – No Report
 - C. Whittier Tech Report – No Report
 - D. Amesbury SEPAC Report – Ms. Fraise and Mr. Lipsom shared a report with the committee highlighting SEPAC initiatives implemented the past year including a new website and social media page, and new events and community outreach. Following the highlight Mr. Lipsom then sought to clarify the SEPAC role within the district as an advisory board not a community partner. The committee and Superintendent discussed the SEPAC report and ways to work collaboratively in the upcoming school year.
 - E. Liaisons
 - Shay Memorial Building Project – No Report
 - F. Subcommittees
 1. On behalf of Finance & Facilities Ms. Welch thanked the committee for their assistance in drafting a letter to the city council that was read at the beginning of their budget discussion.
 2. On behalf of the Policy & Personnel subcommittee Mr. Omohundro and the Superintendent shared updates concerning the approval of policies relating to the establishment of non-public schools with the hopes of granting approval in August.

Mr. Omohundro also shared updates on policy LB and LA, feedback on these policies had been received by MASC and language will be workshopped at an upcoming meeting.

3. On behalf of Curriculum & Inclusion Mr. Omohundro shared an update on book donations for Juneteenth as well as planned presentations upcoming before the committee. The subcommittee will also look into highlighting more of what's happening in the school buildings during the year.
4. On behalf of Long-Range Planning Dr. Jurist Levy shared updates from recent meetings/actions of the subcommittee including development of strategic areas of focus that will bring stability to the district. Ms. Welch asked for clarity on next steps and Dr. Jurist Levy shared these focus areas will be brought to the committee's next meeting for review. Following that, the Long-Range Planning working groups will develop detailed implementation plans.
5. Joint Ed Committee – Ms. Welch stated the committee reviewed staffing updates and capital plans including looking ahead at the FY27 budget. The committee also discussed regionalization and the sharing of services between city and school departments.
- G. Request of Committee – Ms. Welch shared that fee increases need to be voted on soon as registrations for next year were now open. Mr. Omohundro requested a presentation on grant funding/expenditures.

V. New Business (56:54)

1. AIHS Renewal – AIHS Principal Maguire shared a presentation with the committee highlighting the proposed AIHS Renewal. The presentation covered the schools mission and vision and highlighted recommendations for renewal in the following categories: Budget, Staffing, School Policy, and curriculum and instruction. The committee discussed the presentation with Ms. Maguire and asked questions relating to the proposed changes to the renewal. At the conclusion of the presentation the committee discussed the new AIHS lease as well as the prospect of tuition in students.
Mr. Omohundro moved to suspend policy BDD, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
The Mayor asked for clarity on what next steps were for the renewal and what the committee would be voting on.
2. CREST Amendment to the Articles of Agreement – Superintendent McAndrews summarized the proposed changes to the CREST articles of agreement. The changes further prioritize member districts when it comes to enrollment. The committee discussed the proposed changes and the role of the board of directors.
Ms. Welch moved to approve the CREST articles of amendment as approved by the Board of Directors of March 12 and 26 of 2025, second by Mr. Noyes.
Superintendent McAndrews noted it would be a positive change for the district. *Vote: 5 Yes, 1 abstention (Jurist Levy)*
3. Superintendent's Summative Evaluation – Mr. Omohundro summarized the evaluation process as well as the highlights contained in the evaluation itself.

The four individual goals being evaluated are the Professional Practice goal, Student Learning Goal, and two District Improvement goals. The Superintendent met each of these goals with a rating of proficient. Mr. Omohundro continued the summary by sharing highlights from the summative feedback. Superintendent McAndrews thanked the committee for their work and collaboration during the evaluation process.

Mr. Omohundro moved to approve the evaluation, second by Ms. Welch. Mr. Noyes thanked Mr. Omohundro for his work. Approved unanimously.

VI. Consent Agenda (2:19:00)

1. *Mr. Omohundro moved to approve the following warrants: April 14 \$652,766.24, May 2 \$630,715.94, May 15 \$643,166.47, May 16 \$635,316.50, May 29 \$494,422.20. Ms. Welch seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.*
2. *Mr. Omohundro moved to accept \$500 from The Hyslop Family to the AHS Music Dept. in memory of Ronald Roy, second by Dr. Jurist Levy. Approved unanimously.*

Ms. Welch moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Omohundro. Approved unanimously.

DRAFT