

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

**September 8, 2025**

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Present were Mayor Gove, Maryann Welch, Greg Noyes, Kurt Mansperger, Brock Omohundro, Kate Slater, and Superintendent McAndrews.

A recording of this meeting can be viewed here: <https://imd0mxanj2.execute-api.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/ssr/watch/68c30a9c68e176000277faae>

- I. Call to Order/Mission Statement/Pledge of Allegiance – Dr. Slater read the mission statement and Mayor Gove led the committee in the pledge.
- II. Comments by Visitors & Delegations (3:00)
  - a. Stan Schwartz – Mr. Schwartz spoke about the challenges facing schools today and the upcoming override vote.
- III. Field Trip Approval – AMS Trip to Camp Bournedale (6:05) – AMS Teacher Mark Rinaldi provided a summary to the committee of the proposed 6<sup>th</sup> grade field trip. The committee discussed the proposed fundraising campaign as well as scholarships available for families.  
*Dr. Slater moved to approve the field trip, second by Ms. Welch. Approved unanimously.*
- IV. Communications & Reports (10:05)
  - a. Educational Leadership/Superintendent’s Report – Superintendent McAndrews provided a staffing update to the committee as well as a return to school update including a smooth start to bussing, upcoming open houses, and new before/after school programming.
  - b. Student Advisory Council – Ms. Snow shared that SAC has had their first meeting and would be having an open meeting in hopes of increasing participation. The committee asked about the progress made on increasing choices in the cafeteria.
  - c. Whittier Tech Update - Superintendent Lynch shared an update with the committee including Amesbury enrollment at Whittier, re-opening of the school restaurant, and fall sports kickoffs. The committee discussed the upcoming changes to Whittier’s admissions process.
  - d. SEPAC Report – Ms. Fraise shared an update with the committee on upcoming SEPAC events including family meetups, fundraisers, and joint meetings with the APS administration.
  - e. Shay Memorial Building Project Update – Mayor Gove stated the committee is wrapping up with the MSBA Audit process beginning shortly after which time final reimbursement is issued. Mr. Noyes asked about the progress to obtain the LEED certification.
  - f. Subcommittees
    1. Finance & Facilities – Ms. Welch shared updates from the 2 prior meetings of the subcommittee including a positive recommendation on transfers, additional costs associated with the diamond field project, and out of district placements.
    2. Curriculum & Inclusion – Dr. Slater noted the next meeting will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
    3. Policy & Personnel – Mr. Omohundro noted the committee had not met since June. The committee would start the year looking at policies dealing with relations with other

schools, APS's Chemical Health Policy, and a gifts policy. Mr. Noyes asked about the planned AI policy and planned timelines for discussing it.

4. Long Range Planning - Mr. Omohundro shared an update on behalf of Dr. Jurist Levy. The subcommittee is taking a 3-pronged approach looking at fund development, consolidation, and effective use of resources.

5. Joint Ed – Ms. Welch shared that she would be reaching out to the chair to schedule a next meeting.

g. Requests of Committee

- Mr. Omohundro requested a review of bullying policies and procedures as well as an enrollment update.
- Mr. Noyes requested the school nurse attend to speak on the BMI policy
- Ms. Welch requested an update on the Superintendent Search and a presentation on entitlement grants

V. New Business (58:40)

1. Disclosure of Financial Interest and Determination of Appointing Authority – Superintendent McAndrews is notifying the committee of the district's plans to employ her husband as a paraprofessional. The committee clarified that the appointment did not cover summer school.

*Ms. Welch moved as appointing official, as required by G.L. c. 268A, § 19, we have reviewed the particular matter and the financial interest identified above by a municipal employee. We have determined that the financial interest is not so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services which the municipality may expect from the employee. Seconded by Dr. Slater. Vote: 4 Yes, 2 abstentions (Omohundro, Noyes). Passes.*

2. Approval of Transfers – Ms. Liporto shared these are typical early year transfers mostly dealing with salaries.

Dr. Slater moved to approve transfers in the amount of \$808,013.00, second by Mr. Omohundro. Passes unanimously.

VI. Consent Agenda (1:04:08)

- a. *Dr. Salter moved to approve the minutes from June 2, seconded by Ms. Welch. Approved unanimously.*
- b. *Ms. Welch moved to approve the following warrants: July 11: \$571,904.77, July 25: \$615,819.89, Aug 7: \$801,217.62, Aug 8: \$613,098.22, Sept 4: \$340,812.31. Seconded by Dr. Slater. Approved unanimously.*
- c. *Mr. Omohundro moved to accept a gift of approximately \$1500 in art supplies donated to AMS by Dena Talbot. Seconded by Dr. Slater. Approved unanimously.*

*Dr. Slater moved to adjourn, second by Ms. Welch. Approved unanimously.*