

**AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Date: March 26, 2026**

Present were:

- Joe DiMartino
- Woon Chul Fisher
- James Hindman
- Logan Genualdo
- Craig McPherson
- Tim Osgood
- Dr. Danielle Ricci
- Mary Testa

Minutes taken by Michelle Godbout, Principal's Secretary.

- I. Approval of Previous Minutes - Approved
- II. Staffing Check-In
 - A. Ricci: Committee selected candidates to interview for Assistant Principal/Athletic Director position - Glen Gearin retiring
 1. Ideal timeline would be to announce the hire prior to April break
 - B. Ricci: next posting likely to go out is the front office secretary position
- III. Vision of the Graduate
 - A. Ricci: Presented ideas discussed by Vision of the Graduate committee. Workshop days allowed the committee to define the four words from the VoG and what these look like at each school/level. They achieved their goal to outline the skills for each word and how there is vertical alignment to develop this vision. Next steps include embedding this in our schools. Marketing is one piece along with adding these words in other ways (ex. Named awards, etc).
 - B. DiMartino: How will this trickle down to students?

Ricci: At the end of each grade year, some sort of “capstone” or “task to complete” to incorporate this into each grade level.

Osgood: Goal to have these things not only be actionable but also measurable
- IV. Cell Phone Policy
 - A. Ricci: Last CAL Principals meeting, discussed the Bell-to-Bell Policy for no cell phone use during school hours. The Mass House has not voted on this yet, but we are still thinking about how this will look at AHS in case of this passing and being implemented soon. AHS students will be taking a field trip to different schools in the area who have this implemented and see what that looks like.
 - B. Hindman: All for it on the teachers' side, they think it would be very helpful to remove this from the teachers' responsibility in order to focus and spend more time on classwork.

- C. Ricci: Logistics include timing, location for phones, etc
- D. Genuardo: What conversations are happening around the daily schedule in regards to the impact of budget cuts on what classes are offered?
Ricci: Scheduling conversations are very broad and a lot of ideas have been discussed, still understanding how changes would effect budget/negotiations/etc
- E. Ricci: How would we collect data for how the changes in cell phone use and scheduling, etc? Will ask other schools when we visit
- F. Fisher: Middle School currently has a cell phone ban - should they be included in these conversations?
Ricci: Yes, they will be involved as we gather information and discuss implementation.

V. Budget Check-In

- A. Ricci: Review of where we've been. Mayor asked Superintendent to present level-funded budget which included cuts. Mayor expressed that she felt comfortable that they would be able to fund the "priority add-backs". Our "add-backs" for the high school included 2 full time core teachers and 1 part time elective teacher. Head of Finance said that we could potentially use money from our revolving funds/accounts to save these "priority add-backs" and now there is a conversation about what additional priorities we have.
- B. Testa: How do staff renegotiations fit in?
Ricci: Business manager plugged in hypothetical number and we will have to cut more staff if they settle higher than that number
- C. Testa: How does a new superintendent impact these conversations?
Ricci: New superintendent can make changes but it is unlikely the changes would be major

VI. Future Agenda Items