

**AMESBURY SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
AMESBURY HIGH SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 4, 2009**

Present at 7:00 p.m. were Debra Bibeau, Paula Blair, Bonnie Schultz, Gale Hanshaw, Tom McGee, David Jack, Superintendent of Schools and Chanelle Havey, SAC Representative.

The Mr. McGee, School Committee Secretary, called the meeting to order. Ms. Bibeau led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Mayor arrived at the meeting at this time.

2. PRESENTATIONS

A. Greater Lawrence Educational Collaborative

John Mara, Executive Director of GLEC, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the programs many programs GLEC offers to all member districts and the students that they serve.

B. CES School Improvement Plan

Principal, Lou Charette, made a PowerPoint presentation regarding the work that is being done at the Cashman School to increase student achievement. She also spoke about the book that teachers are using in "data teams" to increase the answers to open response questions, Better Answers.

AES School Improvement Plan

Principal, Walter Helliesen, made a PowerPoint presentation outlining how AES will strive to achieve an increase in student achievement when it comes to MCAS scores. He also spoke about the types of questions that AES students are struggling with that the teachers will need to address in order to improve MCAS scores.

3. COMMENTS BY VISITORS, DELEGATIONS

None.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Business Administrator's Report

1. Governor's 9C Cuts

Mr. Bergeron stated that the Governor announced that at this time, there will be no reduction to Chapter 70 monies. There is a \$7 million cut in Circuit Breaker. Mayor Kezer stated the timeline for the decisions regarding that will be coming to the cities and town by the governor. Salary lines will be in trouble the later we know what the cuts will be. Mr. Bergeron further stated that the FY11 budget planning begins in November.

B. Superintendent's Report

1. John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients

The superintendent explained the status that a student

must have in order to be eligible for an Adams Scholarship. He then read the names of the recipients aloud. 51 of our students qualified.

2. H1N1 Update

The superintendent stated that the school department is staying as updated as possible on the information available on the status of the H1N1 virus and its vaccination supply. The vaccinations will be given out to students as soon as supplies become available as well as the seasonal flu vaccinations. If parents have questions, they should contact Joan Connor, Nurse Leader, at 978-388-0507, extension 17.

3. National Honor Society

Mr. Jack read the names of the six new inductees aloud.

4. Emergency Sirens Test

The superintendent stated that emergency sirens for all local towns will be test on November 18th at 12:30 p.m.

5. Superintendent's Goals 09-10

The superintendent made a PowerPoint presentation and explained to the committee how his goals were formulated around the school committee's goals. All goals speak to the Strategic Plan and the Mission Statement. He said that the administrator's will be formulating their goals to speak to his goals as well as the school committee goals.

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Gale Hanshaw to suspend the rules so that the school committee may take a vote after 9:00 p.m. Unanimous, Yes, I, Student Rep., Yes.

5. ITEMS FOR APPROVAL OR EARLY CONSIDERATION

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Ms. Bibeau asked that the minutes be amended to read that students would be using a 5-digit number for access to their lunchroom accounts and not a 4-digit number as stated in the minutes.

Motion by Debra Bibeau, seconded by Tom McGee to approve the regular minutes dated October 20, 2009, as amended. Unanimous, Yes, Student Rep., Yes.

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B. BUSINESS

1. Superintendent's Goals 09-10

Motion by Debra Bibeau, seconded by Paula Blair to approve the superintendent's 09-10 goals as presented. Unanimous, Yes, Student Rep., Yes.

- Discussion regarding when the school committee will review the status of their goals, possibly in June. It was decided that during their reorganization meeting in January, they could set a date for the evaluation of their goals.

2. Notice of the Annual Meeting MASC

Motion by Debra Bibeau, seconded by Bonnie Schultz to accept the following:

1. *Recommendation for life membership in the Association*
2. *Elect Dorothy Presser of Lynnfield for President-Elect, Penny Blackwell of Upper Cape Cod Vo-Tech for Vice President and Mary Jo Rossetti of Somerville for Secretary-Treasurer and*
3. *To consider and act upon the reports of the Officers and Committees of the Association and the Resolutions as set forth in the 2009 Delegate Manual.*

Unanimous, Yes, Student Rep., Yes.

C. WARRANT

Motion by Bonnie Schultz, seconded by Tom McGee to approve the warrant dated November 5, 2009 in the amount of \$98,217.16. Vote 5, Yes, 1 Abstain (Hanshaw).

6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Subcommittee Reports

1. Budget/Finance Subcommittee

Ms. Bibeau reported that they received a report from Elizabeth McAndrews, AD, on athletic and co-curricular participation as well as fees collected. The subcommittee also discussed the FY11 Budget Timeline as presented by Mr. Bergeron.

2. Policy Subcommittee

This subcommittee will meet on November 9th at 8:00 a.m. in the superintendent's office.

3. Personnel Subcommittee

This subcommittee will meet at 6:00 p.m. on November 17th.

4. Student Advisory Council

Chanelle Havey reported that SAC met with Mr. Kish regarding the new Point of Sale program that is being put in place in all of the cafeterias.

5. High School Building Committee

Mr. McGee stated that the track is finished and the committee had discussed how to publicize it to the community. He said that the committee had closed the wish list. Mike Basque, Town CFO, had told the committee that soon the school committee would

need to vote to accept the building renovation as complete. The next meeting is November 20th at 7:30 a.m.

B. COMMUNICATIONS

- There will be an Open House at Whittier on November 8th from 1-4 p.m.
- On Saturday at 1:00 p.m. the DESE will hold a hearing on the Gloucester Charter School in Gloucester.
- At the football game on November 13th, the Amesbury Athletic Boosters will be sponsoring donations to Our Neighbor's Table.
- Congratulations to Thatcher Kezer for his re-election to Mayor of Amesbury. Also, welcome to Ann Connolly-King who will replace Paula Blair as a school committee member. Congratulations to Gale Hanshaw and Tom McGee on their re-elections to the committee as well.
- Ms. Bibeau stated that she will not be at the next school committee meeting on November 17th.
- The Municipal Council has moved their first meeting in December to December 1st which is a school committee meeting night as well as Roger Benson's last meeting and a Municipal Councilor. As the Municipal Council will vote to set the tax rate, the school committee will need to find an alternate date for the first December meeting.

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7. FUTURE MEETINGS AND AGENDA ITEMS

1. Middle and High School Improvement Plans (11/17/09)
2. School Committee Open House at AHS
3. Student Advisory Council to SC Meeting (12/1/09)
4. Nurse Leader Yearly Update (11/17/09)

8. PRESS CONFERENCE

- Liz King, The Daily News, asked when the new website format will be launched. The Chair responded that the target for the launch is January, 2010. At that same time, APSTV.org will begin the streaming video on the website of live and taped events.

Motion by Gale Hanshaw, seconded by Bonnie Schultz to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m., Unanimous, Yes, Student Rep., Yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom McGee, Secretary

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.