

Attleboro Public Schools
Attleboro, Massachusetts
School Committee Meeting
January 12, 2015
School Committee Conference Room - Attleboro High School

Present: David Murphy, Chairman (At-Large); Lori Scales, Vice Chairperson (Ward IV); William Larson, Secretary (Ward II), Dianne Sawyer, (Ward I); Stephen Withers, Jr. (Ward III); Frances Zito (Ward V); Michael Tyler (Ward VI). Julienne Singer (At-Large); James Stors (At-Large).

Administration Present: Kenneth Sheehan, Superintendent; David Sawyer, Assistant Superintendent; Joan DeAngelis, Director of Student Services; Marc Furtado, Director of Finance and Controller; Linda McSweeney, Director of Special Education; Tyler Stowe, Student Representative; and Judy Nelson, Recording Secretary.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. The Chairman led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and noted the meeting was being electronically recorded.

Open Forum: The Open Forum guidelines were read into record. There were no participants.

Consent Agenda:

Motion to accept a donation of \$1,387.00 from Chestnut Hill Studios to the gifts/donation budget lines of Attleboro High School and Hyman Elementary School, with the allocations divided pursuant to the school committee memo of January 9, 2015:

Discussion: None: Vote: 9-0

Motion to accept a donation of \$10,365.32 from LaPrade Studio to the gifts/donation budget lines of Coelho Middle School, Wamsutta Middle School, Hill-Roberts Elementary School, Thacher Elementary School, Willett Elementary School, and the Early Learning Center, with the allocations divided pursuant to the school committee memo of January 9, 2015: Discussion: None: Vote: 9-0

Motion to accept a donation of the book Snowflakes Fall by Patricia MacLachan to the Studley Elementary School Library from the Massachusetts Teachers Association: Discussion: None: Vote: 9-0

Motion to accept a donation of four (4) Thru a Dogs Eyes books by John Gafford to the Attleboro school system:

Discussion: None: Vote: 9-0

Around Attleboro - Upcoming Events: Tyler Stowe, SAC Student Representative to the School Committee updated the Committee.

New/Old Business:

Grant Funding Request for Approval: MA Life Science Grant in the amount of \$68,880: the Assistant Superintendent briefed the Committee and the following motion was made (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof).

Motion to approve the procurement of \$68,880.00 for the MA Life Sciences competitive grant for use in the Career and Technical Education Program at Attleboro High School: Vote: 9-0

Internet Infrastructure State Funding Update: State Representative, Paul Heroux briefed the Committee on the prospects for state funding for the internet infrastructure project needed to expand reliable and accessible wireless ability throughout the District. The Committee made the following motion:

Motion was made to communicate with: Governor Baker, Secretary Peyser, and Commissioner Chester the importance of appropriating the additional funds from the \$38 Million bond authorized by the state legislature in 2014: Vote: 9-0.

The Committee thanked Representative Heroux for his continued support and efforts.

Special Education and Student Support Service Programming: Superintendent Sheehan and Linda McSweeney, Director of Special Education briefed the Committee on the continued implementation of Special Education Programs at the Thacher Elementary School and also at the Middle School levels. This was in follow up to the implementation of program changes by the previous Special Education Director for the 2014-15 School Year. The Committee voiced frustration over the means of communication to both parents and committee members regarding these changes. The Chairman will place the effectiveness of these programs on a School Committee Agenda in February.

Envisioning 2020: Strategic Planning Initiative – Public Comment Opportunities: David Murphy, Chairman; Lori Scales Vice Chairperson; David Sawyer, Assistant Superintendent. An overview of the continued process and upcoming public comment opportunities was discussed. The following opportunities will be available for public participation (information attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof)

- January 21st – 7:00 p.m. at Hyman Fine Elementary School in the Library.
- January 24th – 10:00 a.m. at Attleboro Public Library
- January 27 – 7:00 p.m. at Hill-Roberts in the Cafeteria.
- January 29th – 7:00 p.m. in the School Committee Conference Room 178E Attleboro High School.

It was noted that the information is also accessible at www.aps2020weebly.com and also via mission@attleboroschools.com

The Draft Mission Statement is as follows: *Attleboro Public Schools will develop and deliver relevant learning experiences that engage, inspire, and challenge all students to reach their unique potential and improve our world.*

APS Social Media Initiative: The Chairman and Assistant Superintendent briefed the Committee on the development of the school system's use of social media and the expanded use of the Aspen program in order to better improve communication capabilities. This will be placed on the January 26th Agenda for further discussion.

Subcommittee Report:

Ms. Singer gave an overview of the Curriculum & Instruction Subcommittee meeting held on 01-05-15 elaborating on the following items: Attleboro High School 2015-2016 Program of Studies; FY16 Calendar Drafting Process; Coordinated Program Review; and Subcommittee Responsibilities. These items will be at an upcoming School Committee Meeting.

Upcoming Subcommittee Meeting Schedule: 01-13-15: Finance and Budget Subcommittee

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Larson, Secretary

Attachments:

- Agenda
- Grant Funding/Summary Form
- APS 2015-16 Draft Calendar
- Summary of the Changes to the 2015-16 Program of Studies
- Envisioning 2020 Pamphlet
- Community Letter – Envisioning 2020
- AACS Disc: 01-12-15