

Attleboro Public Schools
Attleboro, Massachusetts
School Committee Meeting
March 9, 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); Julienne Singer (At-Large); James Stors (At-Large).

Absent: Michael Tyler (Ward VI)

Administration Present: Kenneth M. Sheehan, Superintendent, David Sawyer, Assistant Superintendent; Marc Furtado, Director of Finance/Controller; Jack Flynn, Student Representative; and Judy Nelson, Recording Secretary.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. The Chairman led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and noted the meeting was being electronically recorded.

Recognitions: The Committee recognized high school students: Sarah Nordberg and Kimberly Runey as recipients of the Prudential Community Service Program Award (NASP/Prudential Financial). The Committee presented each student with a Commendation.

Open Forum: The Chairperson explained the guidelines. Open Forum was closed as there were no participants.

Around Attleboro: The student representative to the School Committee briefed the Committee on the upcoming events.

Business Agenda:

District Vision Statement by the Envisioning 2020: The Committee was briefed on the following information: (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof).

Strategic Planning Update: The Mission/Vision Ad Hoc Committee presented a DRAFT copy of the District's proposed Vision Statement:

Vision: The Vision of the Attleboro Public Schools is to be the center of a community united around education, where all stakeholders value and participate in our collective success.

The Mission/Vision Ad Hoc Committee presented a revised DRAFT copy of the District's proposed Mission Statement which is as follows:

Mission: The mission of the Attleboro Public Schools is to develop and deliver relevant learning experiences that engage, challenge, and inspire all students to maximize their unique potential and improve our world. The mission/vision ad hoc committee presented a revised DRAFT copy of the district's proposed essential beliefs which are as follows:

Essential Beliefs

- Learning is a shared responsibility among students, schools, families, and the community.
- A safe, respectful, and supportive environment is necessary for both teaching and learning.
- All students deserve challenging and engaging learning experiences that have real-life value.
- All learners need varied and personalized learning experiences that will provide opportunities to develop and apply knowledge and skills.
- Success for all students requires stretching beyond perceived limits through effort and perseverance.
- Progress and success are reliant upon continuous learning, reflection, and growth.
- Learning empowers all of us to discover, think critically, and pursue our aspirations.
- Education

The Subgroup will continue to keep the Committee updated. The Committee thanked all involved for their extensive work and dedication.

Item 3: The Kindergarten Update will be presented at the March 23rd Meeting.

Curriculum and Instruction: Ms. Singer reported on the meeting held on March 4th: The two subjects discussed were the Academic Calendar and the Teaching/Learning Budgetary priorities moving forward.

Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$1,952.49 from LaPrade Studio to the Brennan gifts/donation line: Vote: 8-0

Motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$746 from Chestnut Hill Studio to the Hyman Fine gifts/donation line. Vote: 8-0

Motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$182 from the parents of Coelho Middle School Band/Chorus to the gifts/donation line: Vote: 8-0

Motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$200 from Joan Apgar to Hill-Roberts Apgar Line for the Library: Vote: 8-0

Motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$331.70 from the Student Activities Account for the Wamsutta gifts/donation line: Vote: 8-0

Motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$160 from the Benevity Fund to the Thacher gifts/donation line: Vote: 8-0

Motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$50 from the alumni to the Attleboro High School Field Hockey: Vote: 8-0

Motion to approve a Field Trip Proposal for five (5) AHS culinary students to attend the National Restaurant Association's Pro Start Culinary Competition on April 16 – 20 in Anaheim, CA contingent upon the students advancing: Vote: 8-0

Motion to approve a donation of a 2002 Volkswagen Jetta from Nancy Wall to the Automotive Department at the High School with an estimated value of \$845:

Policy Sub-Committee: Mr. Withers updated the Committee on the Meeting held on March 2nd the following motions were brought forward:

Motion to approve the 2015-16 Handbooks as presented: Vote: 8-0

Policy EEA: Student Transportation: Chairman Murphy explained the timeline to-date (see attached memorandum). An overview of the proposed changes was provided. It was noted that a Public Hearing was held which provided the community members the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to School Committee Policy EEA governing the fee-for-service transportation program in the Attleboro schools. The proposed policy changes would be effective for the 2015-2016 academic year. It was noted that the draft language of the policy amendments have been available for viewing @ www.attleboroschools.com.

The goals were noted: maintain same scope of service and to provide ample notification to families by providing routes/bus stops by early July; eliminate any uncertainties; and to avoid exasperating existing budgetary challenges. The specifics were discussed (see Power Point attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof). The primary changes were identified. The Chairman summarized the overview: walker zones will be enforced; fee-for-service students will be assigned a bus along with other students in late spring/early summer. It was noted the safety exemption process will remain in place. Free and reduced students will not be affected.

Motion was made to approve Policy EEA as presented: Discussion:

The Committee and administration discussed the proposed changes and timeline. Safety concerns were discussed.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Singer: Yes
Mrs. Zito: Yes
Mr. Larson: Yes
Mr. Murphy: Yes
Ms. Scales: Yes
Ms. Sawyer: No
Mr. Withers: Yes
Mr. Stors: Yes

Motion passes: Vote: 7-1-0 (Sawyer)

It was noted that this Policy would not take effect until the 2015-16 School Year.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made to approve the Minutes from 12/08/14; 12/15/14 Consent Agenda; Spotlight Event on 12/15/14; 1/12/15; 02/03/15; 02/18/15; 2/23/15: Vote: 8-0

At 9:02 p.m. the Motion was made: to enter into Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A §21(a) (3) to discuss strategy with respect to strategy for collective bargaining, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the school committee. The School Committee will not reconvene in Open Session.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Singer: Yes
Mrs. Zito: Yes
Mr. Larson: Yes
Mr. Murphy: Yes
Ms. Scales: Yes
Ms. Sawyer: Yes
Mr. Withers: Yes
Mr. Stors: Yes

Motion passes: Vote: 8-0

The Meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Larson, Secretary

Attachments:

- Agenda
- Draft Minutes
- Draft Policy EEA
- AACS Disc: 03-09-15