

Attleboro Public Schools
Attleboro, Massachusetts
Special School Committee Meeting
April 13, 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); James Stors (At-Large); Michael Tyler, (Ward VI).

Absent: Frances Zito (Ward V); Julienne Singer (At-Large);

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

The Meeting was called to order at 7:36 p.m. The Chairman led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and noted the meeting was being electronically recorded.

Minutes: Motion was made to approve the School Committee Minutes dated March 23, 2015 as presented: Discussion: None; Vote: 7-0

Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve a donation of student supplies from Roche Brothers to Hill-Roberts with an estimated value of \$300: Vote: 7-0

Motion to approve a donation in the amount of \$10.00 from Just Give on behalf of Capella University for deposit in the gifts/donation line at Studley: Vote: 7-0

Motion to approve an anonymous donation in the amount of \$3900.00 to be applied to technology wherein the Finance Director will provide to the Superintendent three (3) proposals for its use: Vote: 7-0

Open Forum: The Chairman explained the rules for Open Forum. There were no participants. Open Forum was closed.

Around Attleboro - Upcoming Events: Tyler Stowe, the SAC Student Representative to the School Committee briefed the Committee on the upcoming events.

Studley Elementary School Principal: Superintendent's Appointment: The Committee welcomed Joanne DiPalma, the current interim principal at Studley. Superintendent Sheehan gave an overview of Ms. DiPalma's history. Ms. DiPalma has been with the district for 17 years in various positions. The Superintendent has appointed Ms. DiPalma as the permanent Principal for Studley Elementary School. The Committee welcomed Ms. DiPalma. Ms. DiPalma thanked the Committee.

Mission/Vision Essential Beliefs from the Strategic Planning Initiative: Final Recommendation: Lori Scales, Vice Chairperson; David Sawyer, Assistant Superintendent: The Chairman gave the historical background of this process and commended all involved. Members of the subcommittee were present and thanked for all their time and continued efforts. The Committee stressed the importance of this process.

Mr. Sawyer summarized the Strategic Planning graphic of the four pillars to transform convictions into results (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof,

Motion to formerly adopt the proposed Essential Beliefs (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): The Essential Beliefs are as follows: 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 will 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 prepares students for their responsible participation in a shared world: Discussion: The process and learning experiences were discussed. Vote: 7-0

Motion to formerly adopt the proposed Mission Statement (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): The Mission of 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: Discussion: The subcommittee members were again thanked for their hard work. The process involved was reiterated. Vote: 7-0

Motion to formerly adopt the proposed Vision (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): 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: Discussion: It was noted this is very different from anything in the past: Vote: 7-0

The sub-committees will continue to work on the Strategic Plan which will be inter-twined with the Essential Beliefs, Mission, and Vision already in place. The broad-based game plan will be created and occur over the next several years.

MSBA/AHS Project Update: The Director of Finance/Controller briefed the Committee on the ongoing process. The scope of the job remains undefined and undetermined because the variables have changed over the last 13 months. The future of the High School Building needs to be addressed. The importance of this process was noted. The feasibility stage was explained. The MSBA timeline for the decision has a 270-day window. The process officially began in October 2014. The City has lobbied the State for assistance on a Study that would better define the needs of the District. The City is the municipal contact for this process. The Administration will continue to update the Committee as the timeline moves forward.

Preliminary FY16 Recommended Budget Priorities: (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): The Chairman gave an overview of the budget process. This is the second public presentation of the FY16 Preliminary Budget. The first was done at the Finance & Budget Committee Meeting. The Preliminary Budget focuses on forward movement of the district. The majority of the budget increases reflect contractual obligations.

The Director of Finance/Controller summarized the circuit breaker funding; Medicaid amounts; and anticipated retirement costs. The initial proposal is a level-serviced budget that includes the contractual obligations of the district. The percentage budgetary increase from FY15 to FY16 includes a 3.76% increase. This Budget includes the encumbered health insurance increases approved by the Health Insurance Trust.

The Administration's educational and programmatic funding priorities were defined and would total approximately 1.7 Million Dollars. A summary of the proposed personnel changes were broken down by level. The state's alterations to the evaluation process has changed the administrator's responsibilities and the structuring needs to reflect these variations.

The Superintendent briefed the Committee on the historical structure changes which effect the educational process for example: the need for guidance counselors at the middle school level; a possible elimination of world languages; and the need for assistant principals at the different levels.

The Committee questioned the Chapter 70 funding. Mr. Furtado noted there has been an increase in the Chapter 70 funding under Governor Baker.

Update on Technology: Bandwidth Expansion: The Director of Finance/Controller explained the bandwidth history to-date. The grant process was reiterated. Attleboro was not one of the cities/towns that received grant money for infrastructure updates. Attleboro will continue to seek all grant options. The bandwidth has been increased at the high school through a Comcast promotion at a favorable discount to the district. Mr. Furtado will keep the Committee updated.

Sub-Committee Updates: Mr. Larson reported on the Finance & Budget Meeting of 04-07-15: The following motions were brought forward:

Motion to approve the user fees as presented for the 2015 -2016 School Year: Vote: 6-0-1 (Withers)

Motion to approve the second year of the fire alarm contract with the existing vendor, Home Electronic Life Protection, Inc: Vote: 7-0

Motion to exercise the third year of the contract with Krystal Glass and Door Company for glass repair services: Vote: 7-0

Motion to exercise the 1st year renewable option for facilities management services with Sodexo Management, Inc.: Vote: 7-0

Motion to approve the RFP for the maintenance of grounds and athletic fields: Discussion: Mr. Furtado explained the process:
Vote: 7-0

Motion to approve the request from Camp Ramsbottom to use the Attleboro High School parking lot as their designated drop off and pick up site for their summer program: Vote: 6-0-1 (Withers)

ASEPAC: Survey information was summarized. This information is on the ASEPAC website, but will be made accessible through the District and individual school websites as well. The administration was encouraged to circulate this information as well.

The Meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Larson, Secretary

Attachments:

- Agenda
- Draft Minutes: 03-23-15
- Preliminary FY16 Budget Information
- Attleboro Public Schools Draft: Vision, Mission, Essential Beliefs
- Strategic Planning Graphic
- Memorandum: AHS/MSBA Project: 04-12-15
- ABACUS Program Fee Memorandum
- City of Attleboro – HELP Contract
- City of Attleboro – Krystal Glass Contract
- City of Attleboro – Sodexo Contract
- Request for Bid - Maintenance of Grounds and Athletic Fields
- Transportation Services Memorandum
- AACS Disc: 04-13-15