

Attleboro Public Schools
Attleboro, Massachusetts
School Committee Meeting
May 4, 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); Julianne Singer (At Large); James Stors (At-Large); Michael Tyler, (Ward VI).

Absent: Frances Zito (Ward V)

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 7:07 p.m. The Chairman led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and noted the meeting was being electronically recorded.

Pursuant to G.L. c. 76 §12B (d) the Attleboro School Committee opened the Public Hearing on the issue of School Choice for the 2015-16 School Year. It was noted that the Superintendent did not recommend that Attleboro participate in the School Choice process for the 2015-16 School Year.

The Chairman opened the floor to any public input. There were no participants.

At 7:09 p.m. a motion was made to close the Public Hearing: Vote: 8-0

At 7:16 the Open Meeting was reconvened.

Minutes: Motion was made to approve the Minutes from April 13, 2015: Vote: 7-0 (Chairman Murphy stepped out of the Meeting).

Consent Agenda Items:

Motion to declare the following six (6) Cannon Copiers as surplus: IR 6000 ID# 11489211; IR 2200 ID# L5376; IR 400S ID# 11622155; IR 6000 ID# 11489226; IR 5000 ID# 11678772; IR 5000 ID# 11489214: Vote: 7-0

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$460 from the Class of 2014 to the Class of 2015: Vote: 7-0

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$621 from Chestnut Hill to the Class of 2015: Vote: 7-0

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$500 from Balfour Class Ring to the Class of 2017: Vote: 7-0

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$140 from STAR students/families to defray the cost of the bus for the April 17th field trip to the Youth Leadership Congress in Boston to be deposited into the gifts/donation line at Wamsutta: Vote: 7-0

Motion to accept an anonymous donation of two (2) boxes of copy paper for Hyman Fine; Thacher; Studley; and Willett Elementary Schools: Vote: 7-0

Motion to approve a Field Trip Proposal for 140 Grade 8 Coelho students to attend High Meadows on June 19th: Vote: 7-0

Chairman Murphy re-entered the Meeting.

Around Attleboro - Upcoming Events: Jack Flynn, SAC Student Representative gave an overview of the upcoming Events to the School Committee.

Open Forum: Chairman Murphy read the guidelines into record. There were no participants.

Business Agenda:

Willett Garden Briefing: Marc Furtado, Director of Finance/Controller; Jeffrey Cateon and Ms. Kelly; Chairman Murphy gave an overview of the process. Principal Cateon gave the history of the garden describing the sustainable options; instructional opportunities; and growth of plant knowledge. Ms. Kelly explained the plan behind the brick walkway and the fundraising efforts. Mr. Furtado noted that any alterations to the grounds done by outside personnel needed the approval of the School Committee to move forward.

Motion was made to approve the concept of the sustainable garden and the planned procedural physical alterations: Discussion: The Committee thanked all involved and Ms. Kelly for her efforts and vision: Vote: 8-0.

The Committee will be kept apprised of the timeline and any new plans.

MSBA/AHS Update: Kenneth Sheehan, Superintendent; Marc Furtado, Director of Finance/Controller; Chairman Murphy explained the unclear parameters of this project. The Superintendent gave an overview of the enrollment trends. The City data was also be utilized. Mr. Furtado explained the refining of the numbers and process that would be occurring.

The Committee noted that all entities need to be fully on board. It was noted that the MSBA Meeting was positive. The next Meeting date is scheduled for July 31, 2015.

ASEPAC: Survey Deadline: The Committee reiterated the May 8th deadline for the ASEPAC Survey which was available online. The Committee encouraged the community to participate.

FY16 Budget Update: Marc Furtado, Director of Finance/Controller; Chairman Murphy gave an overview of the process to-date. This was the fourth public presentation. A Public Hearing will be held on May 11, 2015 at 6:15 p.m. The School Committee is scheduled to meet on May 18th and vote to forward the request to Municipal Council. The need to identify the areas where the gaps can be bridged was stressed.

Mr. Furtado explained some of the increased costs such as insurance numbers dictated by the open enrollment process. The increased insurance costs were discussed.

The Committee stated the need for continued open discussion/dialogue. The administration will continue to keep the Committee updated as the process moves forward.

Special Education Update: The Committee discussed the ongoing challenges and needs related to the Special Education Department. The Superintendent briefed the Committee on the process to-date (see Power Point attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof). The organizational structure and staffing needs were discussed.

The Committee voiced concerns with the organizational structures. The Committee wanted to ensure the district was doing everything in its power fiscally. The administration will continue to keep the Committee apprised of this process.

School Year Calendar 2015-16: the Assistant Superintendent explained the process behind the calendar being presented by the LAB. Mr. Sawyer explained the historical background and the process that was utilized.

A motion was made to approve the School Year Calendar for 2015-16 as presented (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): Vote: 8-0.

Budget Transfer Authorization: Policy DBJ: The Chairman explained the historical background behind this process. The Committee will be kept apprised and no funds will be returned without School Committee approval. The Committee inquired about the status of the vehicle leasing process. The Finance Director explained the process and explained without City Council authorization, the Committee cannot enter into a lease agreement.

Motion to authorize the Director of Finance/Controller to process all end-of-the-year budget transfers in order to meet the financial obligations of the District: Marc Furtado, Director of Finance/Controller: Vote: 8-0

Subcommittee Report: Report of the Infrastructure and Facilities Sub-Committee Chairman, Michael Tyler briefed the Committee on the meeting held on 04-15-15. Mr. Tyler noted the capital projects were reviewed, and currently the subcommittee was assessing the individual school buildings. The vision being to provide the best educational value for our students.

School Choice: Motion was made to support the Superintendent's recommendation not to adopt School Choice for the 2015-15 School Year: Vote: 8-0

Motion pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A §21(a)(3) the School Committee will convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to 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:

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

Vote: 8-0

The Meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Larson, Secretary

Attachments:

- Agenda
- MSBA Enrollment Projections Document
- MSBA Attleboro Document
- APS Maintenance Overview
- MSBA Maintenance and Capital Planning Information
- AACS Disc: 05-04-15