

Attleboro Public Schools  
Attleboro, Massachusetts  
School Committee Meeting  
June 12, 2014

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; Tom Rose, Business; Joan DeAngelis, Director of Student Service; and Judy Nelson, Recording Secretary.

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. The Chairman led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and noted the meeting was being electronically recorded.

Consent Agenda:

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$225.28 from MacDonald's to Answer for Cancer at Attleboro High School: Vote: 9-0

Motion to accept an anonymous donation in the amount of \$150 from the Class of 2014 for Prom Tickets at Attleboro High School: Vote: 9-0

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$175 from Mansfield High School for the College Fair at Attleboro High School: Vote: 9-0

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$175 from Norton High School for the College Fair at Attleboro High School: Vote: 9-0

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$168 from My Locker to Athletics at Attleboro High School: Vote: 9-0

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$100 from Briggs Pizza Night to the Student Council at Attleboro High School: Vote: 9-0

Motion to accept a donation of five (5) yards of mulch for Studley Elementary School from John Horton at G. Lopes Construction Company located at 490 Winthrop Street in Taunton, Massachusetts: Vote: 9-0

Motion to declare the follow textbooks with the publishing dates of 1980 as surplus:

- a. 25 Scott Foresman – Discover Science
- b. 25 Houghton Mifflin – This is My Country
- c. 25 Houghton Mifflin – From Sea to Shining Sea
- d. 25 Man and Communities (Regions of the U.S.)
- e. 25 Follett – World Regions
- f. 25 Holt – Our Regions

Vote: 9-0

New Business:

Naming of School Facilities – AHS Weight Room, AHS Culinary Room, and Studley Playground: Chairman Murphy explained the historical process that follows policy guidelines. Mr. Murphy noted going forward this process would be adhered to.

Motion was made to rename the Culinary Café at Attleboro High School to the Blue Bisto Café: Vote: 9-0

Motion was made to name the playground at Studley School; The Jennella Porter Playground: Discussion: The Committee noted the dedication and time previous Principal Porter gave to the children of the district: Vote: 9-0

The Committee will discuss the naming of the High School Gymnasium at the next meeting.

Budget Process Update: An overview of the process to-date was presented. This year has been difficult. Layoff notices will be processed to meet the budgetary cuts. The Superintendent stated a balanced budget will be provided. The administration appreciates the efforts of the Mayor. The district's responsibility is to the students and the budget must be one that least effects the children. This has been a challenging process for staff and administration. The legal and contractual obligations will be met.

The Committee's priority is to minimize the impact on the students. The administration was commended for their efforts. The numbers could have been worse; priorities have been set to minimize the impact. The Committee inquired how many staff members this process effects.

The administration noted a total of 38 people will be effected. A total of 25 teachers and 13 paraprofessionals will be effected by the process. It was stated that retirements saved several positions. The administration explained the cuts from the original budget. The need for a Personnel Director and Director of Technology have been placed on hold. All contracts were reviewed with a fine-toothed comb; class sizes have been increased; and the economic hardships were noted.

The Committee reiterated the original budget amount to the City contained a 3.2 Million Dollar gap. The Chairman asked that at this time the committee strike the \$87,000 placeholder for non-union contracts and asked for a freeze in all compensation.

Motion was made to strike the \$87,000 placeholder for non-union contracts and to impose a freeze on all compensation at that time: Discussion:

The Committee stated this was a tough position, but that it was a financial obligation. The Committee noted how fortunate they were to have dedicated staff members.

Mr. Tyler asked that we revisit this motion at another time.

Vote: 9-0

Transportation Options for FY15: Kenneth Sheehan, Superintendent, Tom Rose, Business Manager: The Superintendent reviewed the Power Point previously presented (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof).

The Chairman noted a decision needs to be made as to how we will provide transportation to the district. The dollar amount asked for was 3.87 Million Dollars. The Mayor's Budget request was for 3.4 Million Dollars. The district has been in constant communication with the City regarding transportation.

Superintendent Sheehan broke down all the transportation options. He noted the importance of having service in place for the Extended School Year obligations. Mr. Sheehan recommended Option Four: the leasing of seven (7) vehicles: one big yellow bus (\$20,400); two (2) mini-buses: (\$28,032); and four wheelchair vans (\$38,832).

The Committee questioned the lease terms. Mr. Rose noted this was for a five (5) year lease to minimize the payments; and noted a three (3) year lease would increase the cost.

The Committee reference the Bloom Contract and options regarding renewal and possible additional services.

Mr. Sheehan noted the Bloom options. He also noted over the last five (5) months two to three buses are inoperable; the option would be money to fix and/or noting the reliability of the older vehicles after repair.

The Chairman noted the administration will have to explore all options over the summer. Transportation needs to reflect the true educational needs; and take in to account the non-favorable economic times.

The Committee questioned the lifetime of a bus and if it would be approximately 8-10 years. The administration noted approximately seven.

Motion was made to direct the administration to lease seven (7) vehicles with the cost not to exceed \$105,000: Discussion:

Superintendent Sheehan noted this would need to be approved by City Council before the leasing of the vehicles could be finalized. The City holds the responsibility of the transportation costs to for the district.

Mr. Rose noted the City must first approve the FY15 Budget before this could be finalized.

The Committee voiced concerns with the allotted time frame to meet the needs of the Extended School Year (ESY) obligations.

Vote: 9-0

The Committee noted their priority is student safety. The Committee brought forward a budget of 3.78 Million Dollars to ensure steps were taken to ensure efficient management.

School Safety Bid Results: Mr. Sheehan briefed the Committee on the bid process and the major initiative in place to ensure the maximum safety of our students and staff. Be Safe is a major that is all inclusive. The budget costs were broken down and would be done over a three-year period. The administration noted by October 1<sup>st</sup> most of the work will be completed. The completion date is scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Motion was made to approve the bid from Be Safe as presented by the administration: Vote: 9-0

Open Forum: The Chairman read the Open Forum Guidelines into record.

Christy Batchelder from BlueFish Swim Club commented on the progress on the repairs to the aquatic facility noting the hopes for positive results for this summer.

Subcommittee Reports:

Finance, Facilities and Procurement Sub-Committee: Mr. Larson summarized the June 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting; and the following motions were brought forward:

Motion to approve payment of the FY13 health insurance invoice and forward to the City Council for approval: Discussion: Mr. Rose explained the reason for the non-payment of the 2012 Invoice: Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve the pool contract with Bishop Feehan with an increase in the fee to \$135.00 for non-residents and to \$110.00 for Attleboro residents: Discussion: The fees for residents and non-residents were explained: Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve continuation of the fire alarm services contract with Home Electronic Life Protection.: Discussion: None: Vote: 9-0

Motion to award the student accident insurance contract to Lefebvre Insurance: Discussion: None: Vote: 9-0

Motion to award the bid to AESOP for the substitute management system: Discussion: None: Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve the transportation report dated May 28, 2014 to the City Council.: Discussion: None: Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve the Blue Fish Contract with language changes reviewed by legal counsel: Discussion: Mr. Rose explained that legal counsel has reviewed and noted the changes made. Vote: 9-0

Policy Sub-Committee: Mr. Withers summarized the meeting held on 06-02-14. The following motions were brought forward:

Motion to approve Policy JF – Residency Policy as presented: Discussion: Ms. DeAngelis explained the changes being presented: (1) proof of residency requirements were explained and the reason for the 3-level process; which allows the district to verify a student is truly living in Attleboro. The edit noted by Mr. Stors will be made: Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve Policy JF-E1 – Proof of Residency as presented: Discussion: Ms. DeAngelis noted the changes and reasons behind these changes which allows for proper notification processing and accurate student numbers; Vote: 9-0

At 7:59 a motion was made to enter Executive Session to discuss strategy with regard to negotiations with union personnel. The Committee will not reconvene in Open Session.

Julienne Singer:	Yes
Mrs. Zito:	Yes
Michael Tyler	Yes
William Larson	Yes
David Murphy	Yes
Lori Scales	Yes
Dianne Sawyer	Yes
Stephen Withers	Yes
James Stors	Yes

Vote: 9-0: Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Larson, Secretary

Attachments:

- Agenda
- APS Transportation Update Power Point
- Be Safe Bid Documents
- FY 13 Health Expenses Information
- APS Bishop Feehan Contract
- HELP Contract
- LeFebvre Insurance Information
- Blue Fish Contract Information
- Aesop Information
- Transportation Report 05-28-14
- Policy JF – Residency Policy
- Policy JF-E1 – Proof of Residency
- AACS Disc – 06-12-14