

Attleboro Public Schools
Attleboro, Massachusetts
School Committee Meeting
August 13, 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).

Absent: Julienne Singer (At-Large); James Stors (At-Large).

Administration Present: Kenneth Sheehan, Superintendent; David Sawyer, Assistant Superintendent; Marc Furtado, Director of Finance and Controller; Tom Rose, Business; and Judy Nelson, Recording Secretary.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The Chairman led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and noted the meeting was being electronically recorded.

Concession Stand Status: Tozier-Cassidy Field: The Chairman had Mr. Tyler brief the Committee on the status. Mr. Tyler again thanked everyone who has volunteered to-date. The Committee thanked the Clam Shack for feeding the crews, New England Plumbing Supply, and BJ's Wholesale for the continuous donations. The Chairman stressed the need for plumbers to come forward and volunteer as there is only one at this time.

Infrastructure Sub-Committee: The first meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 19th.

New Business:

Special Education Director: The Committee announced the resignation of the Special Education Director acknowledging the contributions and commending the work done by Dr. McCarthy. The Committee stated the work done here allowed Ms. McCarthy to acquire this position. Special Education is a highly competitive market area. The Committee acknowledged the need to create a mentoring program that would allow Attleboro to have someone in place, should the need arise for coverage.

The administration noted the tremendous loss this vacancy creates, but noted the Director entered as Ms. McCarthy and leaves Attleboro as Dr. McCarthy. Dr. McCarthy has created a new culture and created a solid foundation to move forward with.

A motion was made to authorize the creation of a Search Committee for the Director of Special Education position: Vote: 7-0

Chairman Murphy asked the administration to provide the names of staff members who would be willing participate in the search process. Mr. Sheehan and Ms. Singer will co-chair the Search Committee.

William F. Dentch Natatorium Repair Project: Update: Business Manager, Tom Rose, updated the Committee on the water culture status. The plan is to continue to gradually add chlorine, test the mineral content, and have the Health Inspector inspect and provide a pool status. The Committee inquired as to the water source for the pool. It was noted that city water was used to fill the pool. The administration noted August 20th is the tentative opening date. The Committee will be kept apprised. The Committee thanked Mr. Parenteau for his continuous hard work.

Transportation: Preparations for the 2014-15 School Year: Chairman Murphy gave an overview of the transportation policy regarding the fee for service process (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof). The two correspondences issued by the administration (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof) were discussed.

The administration has provided the most accurate numbers to-date with the utilization of the Aspen System. The formula for determining how many slots would be available for the fee for service applicants was explained.

The Committee noted the importance of accurate lists. All students have the right to apply for fee for service. It is not the goal of the Committee to reduce the number of fee for service students. The safest way to get a student to school is on a bus. August is too late to notify families transportation is not available. If there is a seat available, a student should be granted the transportation. The Committee questioned the calculation process which determines distance from the school.

Mr. Rose explained the mapping process and how the distance is calculated.

The Committee reiterated the goal was to get as many children to school as possible. At a later date the policy may be reviewed and updated.

The administration stated the goal of the bus routes is to transport in a safe, timely manner. The assigned bus stops will be utilized. This information will be communicated to families.

A Motion was made to extend the submission deadline for fee-for-service applications with a date to be determined at the discretion of the administration and communicated to families: Vote: 6-0-1 (Tyler)

A motion was made to enter Executive Session to discuss strategy with regard to negotiations with union personnel. The Committee will reconvene in Open Session.

Frances Zito:	Yes
Michael Tyler	Yes
William Larson	Yes
David Murphy	Yes
Lori Scales	Yes
Dianne Sawyer	Yes
Stephen Withers	Yes

Vote: 7-0: Motion passes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Larson, Secretary

Attachments:

- Agenda
- Director of Special Education Posting
- Policy: EEA
- Policy: EEA-E -1
- Correspondence: 7-01-14
- Correspondence: 07-31-14
- AACCS Disc – 08-13-14