

Attleboro Public Schools
Attleboro, Massachusetts
School Committee Meeting
September 22, 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; Joan DeAngelis, Director of Student Services; Marc Furtado, Director of Finance and Controller; Tom Rose, Business; and Judy Nelson, Recording Secretary.

The Meeting was called to order at 6:47 p.m. The Chairman led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance and noted the meeting was being electronically recorded.

Moment of Silence: Moment of Silence was held for Robert Haggerty, former Director of CTE for the Attleboro District. Chairman Murphy read into record previous Attleboro Administrator, Ronald Struminski's tribute to Mr. Haggerty.

Open Forum: The Open Forum guidelines were read into record. There were no participants.

Consent Agenda:

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$357.50 from Target to the Brennan Middle School gifts/donation line: Vote: 8-0

Motion to accept a donation in the amount of \$980.96 from Target to the Attleboro High School gifts/donation line: Vote: 8-0

Motion to approve a field trip for approximately 16 Attleboro High School Student Council members to attend the MASC Leadership Conference from March 11-13, 2014 at the Conference Center at Hyannis (student funded): Vote: 8-0

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Director of Finance/Controller on the disposition of several broken, obsolete, or otherwise unusable musical instruments from the music program at Attleboro High School through The One Man Band, Inc. musical instrument trading company: Vote: 8-0

Of note, Mr. Tyler entered the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Around Attleboro - Spotlight Events: were presented by Tyler Stowe, Student Representative to the School Committee (see attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof).

Special Education Director Search: Julienne Singer, At-Large Member/Search Committee Co-Chair and Kenneth M. Sheehan, Superintendent/Search Committee-Co-Chair: Ms. Singer gave an overview of the process announcing the unanimous decision to bring forward Linda McSweeney. The Superintendent explained the thorough process stating with the appointment of Dr. McSweeney he was confident the district was moving in the correct direction.

Motion was made to appoint Linda McSweeney to the position of Director of Special Education and Student Support Services for the Attleboro Public School District: Vote: 9-0

The Committee commended the Search Committee and welcomed Dr. McSweeney. Dr. McSweeney thanked the Committee for this opportunity.

Studley Elementary School Interim Principal: Superintendent Sheehan announced the appointment of Joanne DiPalma as the Interim Principal at Studley Elementary School. Mr. Sheehan briefed the Committee on Ms. DiPalma's credentials. He explained the process that would take place for the permanent principal position.

The Committee welcomed and congratulated Ms. DiPalma. Ms. DiPalma commented on the legacy of the Studley Elementary School and thanked the Committee for this opportunity.

Karol Coffin: Superintendent Sheehan announced the appointment of Karol Coffin as Superintendent of Schools in Belchertown, Massachusetts. Ms. Coffin will remain in Attleboro until the beginning of January, 2015. The Superintendent will keep the Committee updated on the process for replacing the Principal of Wamsutta Middle School.

Michelle Roy: Superintendent Sheehan announced the appointment of Michelle Roy as the Assistant Superintendent for the Dartmouth Public School System.

Policy Sub-Committee: Stephen Withers, Policy Chairman brought forth the following information and motions from the September 15th Meeting noting these were policies that needed to be aligned with the new administration line of authority:

Motion to approve the amendments to Policy BDC: Appointed Committee Officials as presented (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): Discussion: the committee questioned the term "nomination" with regard to the M.G.L. language "upon the recommendation of the Superintendent": Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve the amendments to Policy DBJ: Budget Transfer Authority as presented (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): Discussion: None: Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve the amendments to Policy DGA-E: Authorization Signatures as presented (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): Discussion None: Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve the amendments to Policy DJ-E1: Purchasing Procedures as presented (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): Discussion: None: Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve the amendments to Policy JJF: Student Activity Agency Accounts as presented (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): Discussion: These changes will align the policy with the current bid requirements of the Mass General Laws: Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve the amendments to Attleboro School Line of Authority as presented (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof): Discussion: The administration was asked to review the duties and titles as it pertains to this policy and will report back to the Committee: This will define the Central Office Line of Authority that reflects the future positions i.e.: Personnel Director and Director of Technology. It was noted that Job Descriptions will need to be put in place for these positions before these positions could be filled: The division of responsibilities will be clearly defined: Vote: 9-0

Finance and Budget: Sub-Committee Chairman, Bill Larson reported and brought forth the following from the Finance and Budget Meeting held on September 9th:

Motion to authorize the Director of Finance/Comptroller to transfer \$762,000.00 from the HMO Budget Line and \$190,708.00 from the Bilingual Budget Line for a total of \$952,708.00 into the accounts listed on the budget transfer sheet dated September 8, 2014 and accompanying memorandum dated September 9, 2014; Discussion: This allows the budget lines to reflect the proper designations and amounts: Vote: 9-0

Motion to endorse the efforts by the Director of Finance/Controller to solicit quotes for repairs to the telephone system at Attleboro High School: Discussion: Mr. Furtado explained the process noting that within four (4) weeks this system will be in place. This is a priority to improve communication and for safety issues: Vote: 9-0

Transportation Briefing: Marc Furtado, Director of Finance/Controller: Two issues: Transportation Budget and logistical difficulties (see attached Power Point): The funding background was discussed.

The Committee reiterated the level-funded budget authorized by City Council which provided less money than necessary to run the District last year. The Committee will not attend any more City Council Meetings to discuss the lack of funding. Mr. Furtado discussed the contractual obligations and funding sources.

Opening Difficulties: An overview was provided and a plan going forward should eliminate the problems faced for the next school year.

Envisioning 2020: Attleboro School Committee Strategic Planning Initiative: Lori Scales, Vice Chairperson; David Sawyer, Assistant Superintendent (see the attached Power Point document); Ms. Scales and Mr. Sawyer briefed the Committee on the planned process. The importance of the Vision Statement was discussed. The Strategic Planning Committee will keep the committee apprised of the process as it moves forward. The Committee thanked the volunteers.

Upcoming Sub-Committee Schedule: Chairman Murphy announced the following upcoming meetings: Curriculum & Instruction: 09-23-14; Finance and Budget: 10-07-14; Infrastructure & Facilities: 10-15-14; Policy: 10-15-14

Executive Session: A motion was made to convene in executive session pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A §21(a) (2) to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel. The Committee will not be returning to Open Session:

Julienne Singer:	Yes
Frances 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 8:34 p.m. The Committee will take a five minute recess before convening in Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

William Larson, Secretary

Attachments:

- Agenda
- Statement: Ronald Struminski
- Field Trip Proposal: 09-05-14
- AHS Surplus List of Instruments:
- Budget Transfer Form: 09-08-14
- Phone System Quotation: D.E.G. Associates
- Policy BDC: Appointment Committee Officials
- Policy DBJ: Budget Transfer Authority
- Policy DGA-E: Authorization of Signatures
- Policy DJ-E: Purchasing Procedures
- Policy: JJF: Student Activity Agency Accounts
- Attleboro District Line of Authority
- Recommendation: Director of Special Education: Linda McSweeney
- Resume; Joanne DiPalma
- Power Point 09-22-14
- AACIS Disc – 09-22-14