

Attleboro Public Schools
Attleboro, Massachusetts
School Committee Meeting
Monday, February 27, 2012 @ 7:00 p.m.
School Committee Conference Room - Attleboro High School
Minutes

Present: Michael Tyler, (At Large), Chairman, Brenda Furtado, (Ward IV), Vice Chairperson, Barbara Crow (At Large), Secretary, William Larson, (Ward II), Christopher O'Neil (Ward III), Frances Zito, (Ward V), Kenneth Parent, (Ward VI), David Murphy, (At Large)

Absent: Teri Enegren, (Ward I)

Also Present: Nancy Sprague, Director for Teaching and Learning Excellence, David King, Interim-Business Manager, Taylor Beland, Student Representative and Judy Nelson, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Salute to the Flag: Mr. Tyler led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Notice of Electronic Recording: Chairman Tyler noted the meeting was being electronically recorded.

Community Update: School Sponsored Events: Student Representative, Taylor Beland updated the committee on the upcoming events.

Executive Session Minutes: Motion to release the following Executive Session Minutes in "Draft Form": 03-22-10; 04-15-10; 05-24-10; 11-01-10; 11-22-10; 02-15-11; 03-07-11; 03-21-11; 04-11-11;04-23-11; 04-27-11;05-18-11; 6-08-11; 8-15-11; 9-06-11; 10-03-11; 11-07-11: Vote: 7-0-1(O'Neil)

Regular Minutes: Motion to release the Minutes from 02-06-12: Vote: 8-0

Open Forum: Mr. Tyler explained the guidelines of Open Forum.

Attleboro Lincoln Re-Enactors: Ms. Blais gave a history of this program and the upcoming events. She encouraged the community to attend this event.

Consent Agenda:

A donation from Bristol County Savings Bank in the amount of \$20,000 for graduation and dropout prevention programs at Attleboro High School:

A motion was made to accept the donation in the amount of \$20,000 for graduation and dropout prevention programs at Attleboro High School: Discussion: None Vote: 8-0

A donation from the Rome Boulevard Race (One-Fan: \$250; Attleboro Lacrosse Association: \$1,000; Attleboro Athletics: \$1,400; and AHS Pool Repair: \$2,650): Present were Todd Houghton, Tracy Lombardi, Nancy Viera and Traverse Hein. The history of the race was discussed and Jim Hawkins was commended for his dedication. The committee accepted the check and thanked all parties involved.

A motion was made to accept the donation of \$2,650 (One-Fan \$250; Attleboro Lacrosse \$1,000; Attleboro Athletics \$1400; and AHS pool repairs \$2650) in the amount of \$5,237. Discussion: None Vote: 8-0

A donation from Follett Educational Services in the amount of \$334.36 for Hill-Roberts Elementary School to be deposited in the gifts/donation fund:

A motion was made to accept the donation from Follett Educational in the amount of \$334.36 for Hill-Roberts to be deposited in the gifts/donation fund: Discussion: None Vote: 8-0

Request for Field Trip Proposal: from Attleboro High School for School Committee Approval, four weeks prior, overnight date(s) March 23-26, 2012 for twenty (20) Grade 9-12 students to attend the National High School Cheerleading Championship in Orlando, Florida: (parent funded): Discussion: None Vote: 8-0

Request for Field Trip Proposal: from Attleboro High School for School Committee Approval, four to six months in advance for August 22-26, 2012 for 70 to 80, Grade 10-12 students to attend the Dan Duquette's Sports Academy in Hinsdale, Massachusetts (Blue Pride Gridiron Club funded): Discussion: None Vote: 8-0

Request for Field Trip Proposal: from Coelho Middle School for School Committee Approval, three weeks prior, more than 75 miles to High Meadow in Granby, Connecticut on June 18, 2012 for 178 Grade 8 Students: (funding source: non-applicable): Discussion: None Vote: 8-0

New Business:

AHS School-within-a-School (SWS) Presentation: Jeff Newman, Principal, David Sawyer, Assistant Principal, Martin Tighe, Dean; and Kelly Reed, Teacher: (See Power Point attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof) This program is designed to help at-risk students and is funded by a three-year grant. The majority of students are on track to move on to sophomore year. Disciplinary referrals are down. Students face the same rigor; participate in the same career exploration, and extra-curricular choices. Students receive increased support. Data shows that students who finish freshman year passing and on track with their studies are more likely to move forward and graduate.

The committee asked if these students are put into regular classes as they move forward.

Ms. Reed noted most students are on track to enter into regular classes.

The committee asked how the process worked.

It was noted students are observed in middle school and a determination is made at this point. This decision is made by the adjustment counselor, principal, and assistant principal. The state has been using Attleboro as a model. Districts have observed Attleboro's program for input. When these students leave 9th Grade there will be an outreach program monitoring their progress.

Massachusetts Teaching, Empowering, Leading, and Learning (TELL) Survey Information: Nancy Sprague, Director for Teaching & Learning Excellence: (See Memorandum attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof) Ms. Sprague explained the upcoming survey. The survey will be administered in conformance with the RTTT requirement. The TELL survey is anonymous and confidential. The results will be available to those schools with a 50% participation rate.

School Year Calendar Discussion: Chairman Tyler informed the public that this item would be reviewed and voted upon at a later date in March. Mr. Tyler encouraged constituents to contact their school committee representatives and voice their opinions/concerns.

School Bus Parking: Discussion and Recommendation: Dave King, Business Manager (Interim): Mr. King gave the background. He stated this information should be clarified before the bid process moves forward.

The committee noted the current RFP calls for off-site parking.

It was noted there is nothing in the current contract to allow for on site parking. The current parking of the buses on site limits parking spaces. Some residents have complained of the exhaust. A decision needs to be made on how the committee would like to move forward.

A motion was made to not allow the buses to be parked in the high school parking lot: Vote: 8-0

Discussion of the following Job Descriptions:

- Director for Teaching and Learning Excellence

- Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum
- Director of Personnel Services

The committee discussed the reasoning behind the job descriptions (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof). The weighed the pros and cons of each position. The history of the central office was reviewed.

Ms. Sprague stressed the importance of updating the job description to accurately reflect the position.

The committee decided to advertise the position being vacated by Ms. Sprague's retirement as an Assistant Superintendent. Motion was made to advertise the position as an Assistant Superintendent position: Vote: 8-0.

The committee asked that the Finance Committee review and determine the possibility of reinstating the position of the Personnel Director as it would pertain to the upcoming budgetary process.

Personnel Report: Ms. Sprague reported one retirement and two appointments (see the Personnel Report attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof).

Committee Reports

Finance, Facilities and Procurement Sub-Committee: Mr. Parent reported on the meeting held on 02-08-12 (see minutes attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof). The following motions were brought forward:

The committee was informed of the costs and benefits to this purchase. The district would recoup their costs within three years.

Motion to purchase of a van for the Special Education Transition Program: Vote: 8-0.

Motion to amend the RFP for Facilities Management Services to go out to bid for five and ten years: This motion was broken down:

RFP Facilities Management Services: The reasoning for the extended contracts was discussed. The logic of having the contract for ten years versus a five year contract was explained by Mr. King. He broke down the different options and benefits to the committee. He stated the committee would have one RFP with these two options noted. Mr. King stated he would inquire with the Attorney General's Office on how to move forward when a decision was made.

The committee discussed the benefits of locking the contract in for longer. It was noted the contract could include an "opt out" option for the district. This would enable the district to lock in at a lower rate. It was noted with a ten-year contract the overhead a company experiences is lower and therefore the bids come in lower.

Motion to amend the RFP for Facilities Management Services to go out to bid for five years: Vote: 8-0

Motion to amend the RFP for Facilities Management Services to go out to bid for ten years: Vote: 6-2: (Furtado, Crow)

Motion to recommend to approve the use of the high school parking lot to Camp Ramsbottom for drop offs/pickups in the summer contingent upon Camp Ramsbottom providing liability insurance prior to the commencement: Vote: 8-0

Notification of bills and warrants:

5BS031: Warrant Date: 02-08-12: \$168,616.94

5BS032: Warrant Date: 02-15-12: \$374,383.51

The next meeting will be held on 3-14-12 @ 6:30 p.m.

Curriculum and Instruction Sub-Committee: Mr. O'Neil summarized the meeting held on 02-07-12 (see minutes attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof). The common core standards were discussed. Full implementation is scheduled for the 2013-14 year. Restructuring is being done at the middle and high school level regarding courses. Work has already begun. The committee requested a presentation on 8th Grade Math and high school readiness. The next meeting will be held on 03-06-12 @ 6:30 p.m.

Policy Sub-Committee: Ms. Furtado reported to the committee on the meeting held on 02-13-12. The following motions were brought forward:

Motion to approve of Policy KLG: Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities: Vote: 8-0: Motion tabled for two weeks.

Motion to approve the re-designated Policy KLG-E1: Drugs and Alcohol in Schools Vote: 8-0: Motion tabled for two weeks.

Motion to approve the re-designated Policy KLG-E2: School Resource Officer: Vote: 8-0: Motion tabled for two weeks.

Motion to recommend approval of Policy JFAAB: Full-Day Kindergarten Program; Motion seconded. Discussion: The lottery procedure was discussed.

Mr. Murphy discussed concerns with the process being moved out of the schools and to a central location. The language regarding the school committee chairperson being involved with the lottery process concerned him. The school committee is an elected board and cannot be thought of as a disinterested party and felt this goes beyond the scope of responsibilities.

Ms. Craw noted the centralizing of this process provided a more transparent process. Parents have stated concerns regarding the transparency.

Mr. Larson started to make a motion to amend the motion on the floor.

A charter objection was made, but not seconded. All talk was suspended.

Mr. Tyler stated the importance of following the correct protocol. This policy go back to Policy Sub-Committee for review.

Homeless Transportation: Mr. Murphy noted a discussed regarding the legislature ding the transportation of our homeless students. He asked that the Chairman and Superintendent send correspondence to our representatives asking them to support the legislature that would provide funds to the district for this purpose.

A motion was made and seconded to have the Superintendent draft a letter that will be signed by the Chairman and Superintendent to each of the districts representatives: Discussion: None: Vote: 8-0

The next meeting will be held on 3-12-12 @ 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Craw,
Secretary

Attachments

1. Agenda – 02-27-12
2. School Sponsored Events – Power Point
3. Executive Session Minutes - "Draft Form": 03-22-10; 04-15-10; 05-24-10; 11-01-10; 11-22-10; 02-15-11; 03-07-11; 03-21-11; 04-11-11;04-23-11; 04-27-11;05-18-11; 6-08-11; 8-15-11; 9-06-11; 10-03-11; 11-07-11
4. Regular Minutes: 02-06-12
 1. Request for Field Trip Proposal: from Attleboro High School for School Committee Approval, four weeks prior, overnight date(s) March 23-26, 2012 for twenty (20) Grade 9-12 students to attend the National High School Cheerleading Championship in Orlando, Florida: (parent funded)
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5. Request for Field Trip Proposal: from Coelho Middle School for School Committee Approval, three weeks prior, more than 75 miles to High Meadow
6. AHS School-within-a-School (SWS) Presentation
7. Massachusetts Teaching, Empowering, Leading, and Learning (TELL) Survey Information
8. Job Description: Director for Teaching & Learning Excellence
9. Job Description: Assistant Superintendent Curriculum
10. Job Description: Director of Personnel
11. Personnel Report: 02-27-12
12. Warrant 5BS031
13. Warrant 5BS032
14. Draft Curriculum and Instruction Minutes dated 02-07-12
15. Policy JFAAB: Full-Day Kindergarten Lottery – Draft
16. Policy KLG: Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities
17. Policy KLG-E1 – Drugs and Alcohol in Schools
18. Policy KLG-E2 – School Resource Officer
- 19.