

Attleboro Public Schools  
Attleboro, Massachusetts  
School Committee Meeting  
Monday, June 4, 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: Pia Durkin, Ph.D., Superintendent, Nancy Sprague, Director for Teaching and Learning Excellence, David King, interim Business Manager, Attorney Edward Lenox, and Judy Nelson, Recording Secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 p.m.

Salute to the Flag: Chairman 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: In the absence of Student Representative, Taylor Beland, Mr. Murphy updated the committee on the upcoming events.

Old Business:

AHS Schedule Update: Mr. Tyler stated that in light of the impasse in negotiations between the Attleboro School Committee and the Attleboro Education Association regarding the scheduling format at Attleboro High School the committee voted to instruct the administration to implement the scheduling system known as trimester system at Attleboro High School effective September 2012.

Ms. Furtado stated in her opinion there was not enough information to move forward with the trimester scheduling at this time. She felt it was important to have the AEA on board with such a big change for Attleboro High School.

Ms. Crow stated concerns with regard to the upcoming PARCC testing. These tests would replace MCAS and would have an impact on high school scheduling. Ms. Crow was not in favor of moving forward with trimester scheduling at this time for those reasons.

Student Recognition:

Celebrating Excellence: The Superintendent introduced the Valedictorian, Emily Mayer and Salutatorian, Brian Cox were recognized. Each honoree thanked their parents, teachers, and the Superintendent for this honor. Ms. Mayer and Mr. Cox explained their future plans and encouraged incoming students to take advantage of all that Attleboro High School has to offer. The Committee presented the valedictorian and salutatorian with an award certificate.

Skills USA: The Superintendent explained the SkillsUSA program. The following students were recognized for the achievements at the Skills USA competition: Allie Jenson, Nicole Marston, Lindsay Lima, Samantha Tavares, Chris Phinney, and Danell Simpson. Advisors: Lindsey Cuniff and Karen Pereira brought the students to the district competition in March. Three students moved forward to compete at the state level in their trade in April. Ali Jenson received a gold medal in culinary arts. Christopher Phinney received a silver medal in graphic communications. In addition, Lindsey Lima competed in the job interview category; Samantha Tavares competed in the job skill demonstration, and Danell Simpson served as a voting delegate alongside Brittany Corsi. The students spoke about their experiences and encouraged incoming freshman to get involved and take part in this event. The committee presented the participants with certificates of recognition for their accomplishments.

Introduction of the Student Advisory Council Representative for the 2012-13 School Year: Student Representative, Keith Drucker and Alternate: Analia Cuevas-Ferreras. The representatives spoke briefly to the committee explaining why they got involved with student government. The committee welcomed the new representatives and thanked Taylor Beland for her participation this year.

Minutes: The Minutes will be moved to the next meeting for approval.

Open Forum: Mr. Tyler explained the guidelines for open forum.

Danielle Shirman: Hebron Avenue – Ms. Shirman voiced concerns with events that have occurred regarding her child. The Superintendent offered an appointment to Ms. Shirman.

Kim Penque: a representative from the Friends of the Attleboro Animal Shelter – Ms. Penque gave a brief background of the animal shelter and the volunteer opportunities. She encouraged students to get involved. Another gentleman named Jeremy also works at the shelter and noted the opportunities and sense of accomplishment this position offers.

Andrew Heller – Claire Drive – parent of a student and owner of Heller Photography spoke about the current photography vendor the high school is under contract with. He voiced his concerns and noted the school should be considering the needs of the students first before the needs of the district. The administration will review this process.

New Business:

Hyman Fine Principal: Introduction of Patricia Martin as the new principal for Hyman Fine. The Superintendent introduced Ms. Martin and gave a brief history of her background. Ms. Martin then addressed the committee and thanked the Superintendent and the Committee for this opportunity.

Director for Special Education and Student Support Services: The Superintendent will continue to keep the committee apprised of this process. The superintendent updated the committee on the progress of the ESY program noting that Ms. Martiesian is overseeing this process.

Thacher Elementary Principal: The Superintendent announced the resignation of the current principal who will vacate this position on June 30, 2012 for another career opportunity. The Superintendent will keep the committee apprised of the replacement process.

Transportation Contract: It was noted on Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup> bids for transportation services were opened. There were two (2) bidders, H&L Bloom and Michael J. Connolly & Son. The low bidder was Bloom at a bid price of \$7,160,940. Connolly's bid was \$7,875,530 (bids are attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof). Based on the results of the bid process the following motion was made: to award the contract to the low bidder: H&L Bloom, Inc for three years with two (2) one (1) year renewals at the sole discretion of the school committee: Vote: 8-0

Personnel Report: There was one (1) retirement; two (2) resignations (see the attached Personnel Report).

School Committee Meeting July 16<sup>th</sup>: The committee discussed whether or not to cancel this meeting. It was noted there are no sub-committee meetings during the summer. A motion was made to cancel the July 16<sup>th</sup> meeting: Vote: 0-8: Motion fails. This meeting will be held as scheduled.

Mr. Parent acknowledged the volunteer groups at the high school. Mr. Newman explained there is a Leo Club at the High School. Mr. Parent asked administration to consider a future presentation to the committee on these clubs.

Finance, Facilities and Procurement Sub-Committee: Mr. Parent reported on the meeting held on 05-23-12 (see the attached Finance Sub-Committee Minutes):

Food Services Agreement: It was noted that Whitsons was the sole bidder. Mr. King noted this is technically a one year contract with four (4) one (1) year renewals. It was noted that part of the bid included Whitsons to invest \$200,000 in new equipment.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the full School Committee to award the five year contract for food services to Whitsons, Inc. Vote: 8-0

SMARTS Collaborative Contract: The SMARTS contract expires in August. SMARTS has moved into a vacant room in the old high school. This building is already in use and therefore no cost is being incurred.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the full School Committee approval of a new SMARTS Collaborative contract with the same conditions as the prior contract dated September 1, 2011 through August 31, 2012: Discussion:

Mr. O'Neil stated this was a great program. He explained his previous association with the SMARTS Collaborative.

Ms. Craw inquired as to what SMARTS provides back to Attleboro.

Ms. Furtado questioned if there were any fees involved.

The Superintendent will have the coordinator of SMARTS attend the next meeting to present an overview of this program.

Vote: 8-0

ELC Revolving Account: Mr. Parent explained that there are sufficient funds in this account to use for this. Administration would like to use these funds to fund a teacher and an ILA for Fiscal Year 2013. The balance is in the account due to the accrual of these funds over the past few years. The positions are required due to the increase in this program.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the full School Committee to use funds from the ELC Revolving Account to fund the position of a teacher and a paraprofessional in the ELC Program for FY13. Vote: 8-0

End of the Year Transfers: The Superintendent stated this is the process that has taken place in the past. The Business Manager would make the necessary transfers to close out the lines and budget. The committee would be given a summary of all these transactions for review.

Mr. Parent stated concerns wherein the business manager is an interim and unfamiliar with Attleboro's process. Mr. Parent offered to work with the interim business manager during this process. The committee instructed Mr. Parent to contact the Chairman if any questions arose and/or if a meeting was needed.

A motion was made and seconded to bring to the full School Committee for approval to empower the Finance Chair to work with the Business Manager to determine the best use of revolving funds in the need of transfer to avoid a budget deficit based on criteria put forth by the full School Committee. Vote: 8-0

Notification of bills and warrants:

Warrant: 5BS046: 05-23-12: \$288,437.65

Warrant: 5BS047: 05-30-12: \$579,777.22

The next meeting will be held on 6-13-12 @ 7:00 p.m.

Curriculum and Instruction Sub-Committee: The next meeting will be held tomorrow evening at 6:30. Mr. O'Neil noted there will be a presentation on the Anti-Bullying programs utilized throughout the district.

Policy Sub-Committee: The next meeting will be held on June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Craw, Secretary

Attachments:

1. Agenda dated 06-04-12
2. Memorandum dated May 31<sup>st</sup> regarding Transportation Services Contract
3. School Committee – School Sponsored Events 06-04-12
4. APS Bid Proposal – H&L Bloom Inc – 05-31-12
5. APS Bid Proposal – Michael J. Connolly & Sons
6. Personnel Report dated June 4, 2012
7. Draft – Finance Sub-Committee Minutes – 05-23-12
8. SMARTS Contract
9. Revolving Funds – 04-30-12
10. Warrant – 5BS046
11. Warrant – 5BS047
12. Friends of Attleboro Animal Shelter
13. AHS – Photography Agreement – Life Touch National School Studios Inc
14. North Penn School District – RFP
15. Dallas School District No 2 – RFP