

Attleboro Public Schools
Attleboro, Massachusetts
School Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 14, 2013
School Committee Conference Room - Attleboro High School
Minutes

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

Absent: Barbara Crow, (At-Large) and Teri Enegren, (Ward I)

Also Present: Applicant: Mr. Kenneth Sheehan; and Judy Nelson, Recording Secretary.

Meeting called to Order at 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Chairman Tyler explained the process that would be followed. Mr. Tyler stepped out of the room to greet the Applicant.

Mr. Tyler re-entered the room with the Applicant.

Ms. Crow asked Mr. Tyler to read the following statement: Ms. Crow was unable to attend this evening due to the Elementary School Concert for her son. Ms. Crow will review the DVD and forward any questions to the Chairman. Ms. Crow thanked Mr. Sheehan for his understanding.

The following questioned were posed:

1. In your first year as Superintendent, how might you go about determining the strengths and weaknesses of our school district? What specific steps would you take?
2. If a parent has tried to resolve an issue at the school level through the proper chain of command and is not satisfied with the action taken or responses received and comes to the Superintendent's Office (unannounced and without an appointment), how would you respond to this situation and this parent's concerns?
3. In Attleboro, the City Government has historically provided only the minimum amount of funds as required by the State to our school system. With this in mind, every year is a budgetary challenge. What experiences have you had making the tough decisions and working within a budget? What skills have you employed to weather difficult times and still meet the needs of the students? Knowing the City Government has the authority to give beyond the minimum amount required by the State, when would you feel it would be prudent to ask for additional funds?
4. Please describe a situation in your career that required you to perform under highly pressurizes circumstances. What leadership attributes did you utilize in order to successfully overcome that situation?
5. What are some of the goals you would set for your first six months as the Superintendent of Schools in Attleboro? What are some of the long-term objectives you would prioritize as Superintendent?
6. What is an example of a time in which you or the organization you were leading failed to fulfill the objectives you had set for yourself or the organization? How did you respond and recover?
7. Please describe a situation from your career in which you have contributed to the resolution of a conflict between individuals, groups, or other entities whose disagreement were impending, or had the potential to impede, organizational progress.

8. The Attleboro Public School district has historically had three different levels of curriculum; college preparatory, Honors and advanced placement (AP). Over the last three years, Attleboro, as a recipient of a competitive grant from MMSI, has increased the number of students taking the advanced placement courses. Please explain how important the three different levels of curriculum are OR are not? And whether there should be pre-requisites in order to take advanced placement courses?
9. Could you please explain the process that you would take to define and set the vision, mission, goals and objectives for the school district under your administration and explain what the focus of these would be?
10. If you were to become the Superintendent, and on your first day you were to encounter a parent trying to decide whether to enroll her child in the Attleboro school system, how would you respond?

The above-referenced questions were answered.

Chairman Tyler thanked Mr. Sheehan.

Mr. Sheehan thanked the committee and gave a closing summary.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Tyler, Chairman

Attachments:

1. Agenda dated: 03-14-13