

Attleboro, Massachusetts  
School Committee Meeting  
Monday, May 6, 2013  
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), and David Murphy, (At Large)

Absent: Teri Enegren, (Ward I)

Also Present: Pia Durkin, Ph.D., Superintendent, Dave Sawyer, Assistant Superintendent, Tom Rose, Business Manager, Marisa McCarthy, Director of Special Education and Student Support Services, Keith Drucker, Student Representative, 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.

Community Update:

Attleboro High School named to Washington Post's List of "Most Challenging High Schools in America": Bill Runey, Principal; Principal Runey commended the previous administration led by Jeff Newman and Dave Sawyer. Mr. Runey noted anytime you can show that your rigor and high expectations put your school into an elite category, validates the efforts of the students, teachers, and families. This also gives credibility to our philosophy that taking challenging courses is beneficial even if the qualifying score is not attained. The list of America's Most Challenging High Schools also gives a sense of how well each school's students are doing on the tests by posting an "Equity and Excellence" rate. This calculation is the percentage of all graduating seniors, including those who never took an AP course, who had at least one score of 3 or above on at least one AP test sometime in high school, a metric invented by the nonprofit College Board, which oversees the AP program. It found that the average Equity and Excellence rate in 2012 was 18.1 percent. Attleboro High School's Equity and Excellence rate for 2011-12 was 22.60%. Mr. Runey stated this is a great accomplishment for Attleboro High School and Attleboro Public Schools. Mr. Runey noted this was announced at school, through an e-mail correspondence; on AACCS, in the Sun Chronicle and in Patch.

Attleboro High School: Stories of Success: Dr. Durkin explained the different groups before the Committee.

Class of 2013: Tania Barzola Amante; Analia Cuevas-Ferreras; Keith Drucker; Ali Jenson; Bobby McCluskey; Each student spoke:

Ali Jenson was selected as vocational student of the year by AHS. She also competed at the state level in culinary in SkillsUSA. Ali is very well-rounded.

Bobby McCluskey is bound for Mass Maritime to pursue international business and perhaps Maritime law. He has played soccer for four years, has been treasurer for four years, belongs to the National and Spanish Honor Societies; and took many advanced placement courses on the advice of his older sister.

Tania Barzola-Amante was born in Peru and came to Willett in Grade 4. She plans to attend UMASS Lowell to study nuclear and/or chemical engineering. She has taken six AP courses and has been selected as the Challenge Scholarship winner.

Analia Cuevas-Ferreras is the Questbridge Scholar. She will attend Yale on a full scholarship. She founded the Debate Club; is a member of the Student Advisory Council and is the alternate delegate representative.

Keith Drucker is the AHS president, baseball captain, and was selected as the DAR award winner by his classmates. Keith was on the superintendent search committee and is the Student Advisory delegate. Keith plans to attend Boston University in the Fall.

Recognition of SkillsUSA Competition Participation: Kyle Blanchette; Courtney Crawford; Rachel Guindon; Alexandra Jenson; Christina Lam; Eva Shuman-Distasio; Danell Simpson: Ms. Cuniff explained the competition and commended the students.

Ali Jenson was an officer of the Attleboro Chapter for SkillsUSA. She competed last year and this for culinary. Ali is a member of the National Honor Society and National Technical Honor Society.

Danell Simpson is a junior in the culinary program. Danell takes advanced placement courses and make honor role. She participates in the dual enrollment program at BCC, pays soccer and runs track, and is also a member of the National Honor Society.

Courtney Crawford is also a junior in the culinary program. She takes honor courses, competed in the job interview portion of the SkillsUSA competition, and represented the Attleboro CTE program as a voting delegate.

Christina Lam is a senior in the engineering program. Christina competed on the promotional bulletin board team at SkillsUSA. She is a member of the National Honor Society and a member of the Drama Club.

Kyle Blanchette is a junior in the culinary program. Kyle competed in the job skill demonstration and hopes to participate again next year. He is an Advanced Placement Student and a member of both football and ultimate Frisbee.

The students encouraged upcoming high school freshman to get involved in the SkillsUSA program as it is a growth experience and a lot of fun to be a part of.

Special Olympics Ceremony: Student Coordinators: Charlotte Kerwin, Attleboro High School; Hailee Hogan, Bishop Feehan High School; Two representatives from Bishop Feehan briefed the committee on the event and invited members to participate in the ceremony that will be held at North Attleboro High School on May 21<sup>st</sup> @ 8:45 a.m. The rain date is scheduled for May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

School Sponsored Events: Mr. Drucker updated the committee on the school sponsored events (attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof).

Open Forum: Mr. Tyler explained the guidelines of Open Forum. There were no participants.

Minutes: A motion was made to approve the Minutes from 03-21-13 as presented: Discussion: None: Vote: 8-0. Motion passes.

A motion was made to accept the donation in the amount of \$3,900 from an anonymous donor to the Attleboro High School gifts/donation line: Discussion: The committee inquired as to how this type of donation is handled. Mr. Rose explained the process. Vote: 8-0

A motion was made to accept the donation in the amount of \$60.61 from Coca Cola to the Attleboro High School gifts/donation line: Discussion: None: Vote: 8-0

A motion was made to accept the donation in the amount of \$300 from David and Audrey Hoyos to the Coelho Middle School to be deposited in the gifts/donations line to be used for music supplies: Discussion: None: Vote: 8-0

New Business:

FY14 Preliminary Budget Update: Mr. Rose updated the committee on the FY14 Budget process based on the last School Committee Meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. There is a 1.2 Million Dollar difference between the school's numbers and the Mayor's numbers. The final numbers have not been announced by the Governor. (see attached back up documents)

The Committee noted a 1.2 Million Dollar gap is large. There is no fat to cut as the budget was based on what was best for the children. For clarification purposes the budget presented does not contain any extras. This is the minimum of what is needed to educate the students. The committee cannot ask for less than what is needed to educate the students. The committee encouraged the public to reach out to their representatives and city counsel so there is a better understanding of the needs. This has been a transparent process.

Personnel Report: Mr. Sawyer reported one retirement; one resignation; and two appointments (see Personnel report attached hereto and therefore made a part hereof).

Finance, Facilities and Procurement Sub-Committee

Notification of bills and warrants:

5CS042 04-24-13 \$182,536.53

5CS043 05-01-13 \$506,645.15

The next meeting will be held on 05-15-13 @ 7:00 p.m.

Curriculum and Instruction Sub-Committee: The next meeting will be held on 05-07-13 @ 6:30 p.m.

Policy Sub-Committee: The next meeting will be held on 06-10-13 @ 7:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crow, Secretary

Attachments:

1. Agenda dated 05-06-13
2. Special Olympic Flyer
3. School Sponsored Events
4. Draft Minutes 03-21-13
5. Personnel Report dated 05-06-13
6. Warrant 5CS042
7. Warrant 5CS043
8. FY14 Preliminary Budget Update: Information