

MINUTES

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Location: 5 West Street, School Committee Room

February 1, 2023 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Jessie Harrington

Gail Holloway

Meghan McCrillis

Brooke Wrenn

Samantha Raphael

Beth Chamberland, Superintendent

Alan Keller, Assistant Superintendent

Cecelia Wirzbicki, Business Manager

Isabella Faber - Student Representative

Susan Lopez - Bryn Mawr Principal

Krissi Forgues - SWIS teacher

Nicholas & Grace George - (Student Spotlight)

Allie Stohlman - (Student Spotlight)

Izzy Desouza - (Student Spotlight)

David Doherty - (Student Spotlight)

Absent

Zoom

Ally McGill

CALL TO ORDER:

Jessie Harrington called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

Meghan McCrillis read out loud the Auburn Public School Vision & Commitment.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: None

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:

Dr. Chamberland introduced Hanorah Murphy, a senior at Auburn High School, who scored her 1000th point on Thursday, January 26th against Grafton High School. She accomplished this in 3 seasons, as one season was canceled due to COVID. Hanorah will attend Williams College and play basketball as a guard.

Dr. Chamberland asked for a moment of silence to remember Jack Hayes who passed away on January 26, 2023, in Hyannis at the age of 92. Jack was a teacher at Auburn Middle School and the High School for 35 years. He also coached football and basketball at the high school.

Minutes: 1/18/23

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to accept the minutes from 1/18/23.

Brooke Wrenn made a motion to accept the minutes from 1/18/23. Samantha Raphael seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Isabella Faber:

- The Quebec Trip was extremely successful. My friends who attended said it was beautiful and a great opportunity to practice French skills.
- February Vacation is right around the corner which means the Winter Carnival is coming up. We will participate in dress up days and competition events like VOLleyball, CHess, Trivia, hallway decorating and an art contest. The class winner will be declared on the last day. Last year's winner was the class of 2023. We will have to see if they can keep up their streak.
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Ally McGill:

- On Saturday, January 28, 2023, Mr. Kennard's 2 AP Government classes competed in the We the People State Finals at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the US Senate. The Auburn Gray team place 2n in the competition.
- The annual Quebec City trip took place this past weekend as well.
- The Junior CLass is hosting a formal Winter Ball this upcoming Saturday 2/4
- Winter Carnival is 2/13 - 2/17. There will be the annual competition between classes hosted by the Student Council. There will be spirit days, games, challenges, and a hallway decorating competition.

Spotlight on Students:

Dr. Chamberland introduced Susan Lopez, Krissie Forgues, and 5 students from Swanson Road to present their Social Studies PBL. Their project was based on the growth of the Colonies. As part of the lesson, the students applied for colonial jobs, researched and made a bottle buddy that represented their job. There was a blacksmith, 2 farmers, a printer and a silversmith.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2023-2024 School Year Calendar

Dr. Chamberland: Included in your packet is the proposed 2023-2024 school year calendar. The calendar, as you know, increases the number of half days from 3 days in the 2022-2023 school year to 5 half days in the 2023-2024 school year calendar. Per the AEA contract, we will continue with 4 full professional development days. The version before you has been reviewed, revised and supported by the members of the Leadership Team as well as Leadership from the AEA. At the previous School Committee meeting, there was interest in knowing how many half days other districts have over the course of a school year. Additional data related to that is included in your packet. Like many other districts, we do not offer child care on half days because staff is involved in Professional Development. Space is another issue. We will work to see if we can entice additional support staff to work 3 of the 1/2 days and offer child care.

Megan McCrillis stated she would like there to be only 4 half days.

Samantha Raphael stated her one concern is the one and a half PD days in March, that may be difficult for parents.

Dr. Chamberland: The work in March is for anti-defamation and must be done together.

Brooke Wrenn stated she can see both sides and asked if we could do 4 days next year and maybe 5 the following if trainings were combined.

Gail Holloway: I think the 1/2 days on Friday was a good move for families.

Dr. Chamberlain: DESE wants Principals to be Instructional Leaders. This is needed to give them the time.

Brooke Wrenn: What happens to the 1/2 professional development day if there is a snow day?

Dr. Chamberland: We lose that time, it goes away.

Jessie Harrington: I don't want to put this off again, families need to plan. If the staff say they need this time, how do we not give it to them? Everyone has a personal opinion. Next year we should have a few calendar options to look at before we decide.

Samantha Raphael: Some days the Professional Development doesn't apply to everyone.

Dr. Chamberland: We worked hard to make the days pertinent to all. It has been favored by the AEA.

Jessie Harrington asked for a motion.

Gail Holloway made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 school year calendar as presented by the Superintendent. Brooke Wrenn seconded the motion. Jessie Harrington voted yes, Megan McCrillis voted no, Samantha Raphael abstained from voting. The 2023-2024 school year calendar was approved by majority vote.

Beth Chamberland: I am happy to revisit this again next year.

Samantha Raphael: We should survey the parents and see what they have to say.

NEW BUSINESS:

Superintendent Entry Plan Findings

Dr. Chamberland: In your packet you will find a report, Strengths and Opportunities-Entry Plan Findings. This report includes my findings based on the goals of the Superintendent's Entry Plan approved by the School Committee earlier this year.

Updated Draft APS Strategic Plan

Dr. Chamberland: In your packet you will find an updated draft of the Strategic Plan. This plan has been updated in collaboration with stakeholders who participated in the summer revision committee and has been further informed by student, family and staff surveys and focus groups and the Equity Audit completed last school year.

TEACHING AND LEARNING REPORT:

Alan Keller: We know that the optimal learning environment occurs when students (everyone for that matter) are in a safe and supportive environment. Although working on our bullying protocols does not fall directly under "teaching and learning," for the past several weeks, our administrative team has reviewed and enhanced our practices and procedures for instances of bullying. We have developed a consistent checklist that will ensure timely and appropriate communication to families from receipt of an initial complaint, launching the investigation, developing safety and support plans for students and meeting with families to report findings.

Jessie Harrington: It is a lengthy process, but it is needed.

BUSINESS/FINANCIAL REPORT:

Bid Award and Contract for Phase 3 of the Bryn Mawr Sprinkler System

Cecelia Wirzbicki: The bid proposal for Phase 3 of the Bryn Mawr Sprinkler was posted on December 21, 2022 by Nault Architects and closed on January 11, 2023 at 2 p.m. Carlysle Engineering, was the sole bidder and came in with a price of \$114,220 for the project. The District has worked with Carlysle on the previous phases of the Sprinkler and would like to award the bid and enter into a contract agreement with the vendor to complete Phase 3 of the Project. The project funds have been previously allocated for the project through the Capital Improvement Budget and voted on by Town Meeting. The District is seeking the Committee's approval to award the Bid and then proceed to enter into a contract with Carlysle Engineering for the project.

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to award the bid and approve the Superintendent to enter into a contract with Carlysle Engineering for the completion of Phase 3 of the Bryn Mawr Sprinkler System, in accordance with the Bid Proposal and documents prepared by Nault Architects, INC.

Samantha Raphael made a motion to award the bid and approve the Superintendent to enter into a contract with Carlysle Engineering for the completion of Phase 3 of the Bryn Mawr Sprinkler System, in accordance with the Bid Proposal and documents prepared by Nault Architects, INC. Brooke Wrenn seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

Year to Date Budget Report

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a year to date budget report dated January 26, 2023 for review.

Budget Transfers

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a listing of Budget Transfers dated January 26 2023, between the same series for information and between different series for approval.

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to *approve the list of Transfers dated January 26 2023, as presented by the Business Manager.*

Brooke Wrenn made a motion to *approve the list of Transfers dated January 26 2023, as presented by the Business Manager.* Samantha Raphael seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

Executive Session: None

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Samantha Raphael made the motion to adjourn for the evening. Brooke Wrenn seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.

Roll Call Vote
Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Mandy Williams

Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

Meeting Minutes for 1/18/23

Auburn Public Schools 2023-2024 School Calendar

Superintendent's Entry Plan Findings

APS Strategic Plan (Draft)

BID Award and Contract for Bryn Mawr Sprinkler System

Year to Date Budget Report Dated 1/26/23

Budget Transfers Dated 1/26/23

APPROVED 2/15/23