

AUBURN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

School Committee Meeting of Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/98014050419?pwd=WS9tbThtQkFQUVQ4dHp1ZDhVOXFNZz09>

In attendance:

George Scobie
Jessie Harrington
Gail Holloway
Dottie Kauffman
Meghan McCrillis

Maryellen Brunelle
Beth Chamberland
Cecelia Wirzbicki
Casey Handfield

Call to order: Checking that everyone was in attendance (via Zoom); Mr. Scobie called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MEMO:

MSBA's Post-Occupancy Pilot Program

Dr. Brunelle noted that as previously reported and as the Committee perhaps recalls, in January 2019, MSBA's commissioning consultant Cadmus, performed a post-occupancy evaluation at the Auburn Middle School as part of MSBA's Post-Occupancy Pilot Program. As per Mr. Chris Alles' email to the District a week or so ago, *"This evaluation was focused on understanding the performance of certain building systems and components, utilities, building operation, and maintenance practices of the facility. The MSBA would like to thank you again for your participation in this Pilot Program and for your patience as Cadmus has worked through the data that was collected and has finalized their individual school reports for participating districts. The report generated by Cadmus for the Auburn Middle School is attached to this email."*

Dr. Brunelle shared a copy of the report for the Committee's review and extended her SINCERE thanks to Mr. Joe Fahey, Director of Facilities and Maintenance, for his incredible and ongoing efforts, many of which are referenced in this report.

Handbook Updates

Dr. Brunelle noted that each of the schools provided a copy of the updates being made to their handbook for the 2020-2021 school year. She also noted that the Committee should please know that depending on what decision/guidance the Commissioner/Governor make about returning to school in the fall, perhaps some additional items may need to be added and/or revised and if that is the case, Dr. Handfield will provide those to the Committee.

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to approve the updates to each school's handbook for the 2020-2021 school year; Dr. McCrillis seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken:

Roll call vote: Dr. McCrillis - Yes; Mrs. Kauffman - Yes; Mrs. Holloway - Yes; Mrs. Harrington - Yes; Mr. Scobie - Yes;

MIE Sustaining Partnership Program

This item was tabled to an upcoming School Committee meeting.

Auburn Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Recipients

Dr. Brunelle read the names of the Class of 2020 members who received Auburn Chamber Scholarship Awards and offered her Congratulations to all of well-deserving students and their families and gave sincere thanks to the Chamber of Commerce. In total, over the years they have given \$327,000 in scholarships.

The students receiving awards this year were Anna Pyche (Notre Dame Academy; Maura Anish; Grace Beauregard; Julia Benvenuti; Carly Hayes; Haley Norris; Alli Schoenfeldt and Nigel Belgrave.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

FY 2021 Budget Update

Dr. Brunelle reported that earlier that day all bargaining groups and those on individual contracts had agreed to the two contingency plans – up to 3 furlough days and up to a one year (FY20) salary freeze. She expressed her most sincere appreciation to the entire APS Team as these approvals would mean that widespread non-renewal notices would not need to be distributed. She promised to return with more information at the next meeting. The Committee expressed their sincere thanks to the APS Team, too.

Fields Closure: Phase II per Governor Baker

Dr. Brunelle provided information from the Mass.Gov site regarding Phase II: Outdoor Adult Sports, Supervised Youth Sports Leagues, Summer Sports Camps for your consideration and discussion, with Governor Baker expected to announce on Saturday, June 6th when Phase II will actually begin.

After discussion, Dr. McCrillis made a motion to open all school fields as per Phase II guidance by Governor Baker; Mrs. Holloway seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken:

Roll call vote: Dr. McCrillis - Yes; Mrs. Kauffman - Yes; Mrs. Holloway - Yes; Mrs. Harrington - Yes; Mr. Scobie - Yes;

APS Return to School Team

As Dr. Brunelle previously mentioned, there were a total of 87 people - 46 staff members and 41 parents – who expressed interest in being a part of the APS Return to Work Team, those in addition to Dr. McCrillis and Mrs. Harrington who will serve as School Committee representatives. The first meeting of the team – which will include representatives from across the District – is scheduled for Monday, June 15th at 3:00 p.m. Dr. Brunelle stated that she intends to join in this first meeting ,to thank the volunteers for their commitment and then she will turn the work over to Dr. Handfield and Dr. Chamberland to lead moving forward.

She reminded the Committee that as mentioned at the meeting when she first shared her intention of creating this local team, the number of individuals who volunteered speaks to the dedication and commitment of all to work together in support of our students, a cornerstone of “the Auburn way!”

NEW BUSINESS:

Custodians' New Contract

Dr. Brunelle shared the highlights from the Custodians' new contract, namely a 2% COLA raise in each of the three years, adding OPEB 2% contributions for 10 years for any custodians hired after July 1, 2020; an increase to an annual clothing allowance; discontinuation of building checks by head custodians, instead having weekend custodians perform the checks; the addition of a longevity article and a few other minor items.

Mrs. Holloway made a motion to approve the new contract for the custodians for the years 2020-2021; 2021-2022 and 2022-2023; Dr. McCrillis seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken:

Roll call vote: Dr. McCrillis - Yes; Mrs. Kauffman - Yes; Mrs. Holloway - Yes; Mrs. Harrington - Yes; Mr. Scobie - Yes;

TEACHING/LEARNING REPORT:

CPI Restraint Training

Dr. Chamberland shared that as the District heads towards the 2020-2021 school year, the Auburn Public Schools will move to utilize Crisis Prevention Interventions. CPI's trauma-sensitive, person-centered Nonviolent Crisis Intervention® training focuses on prevention and de-escalation techniques and other alternatives to the use of restraint. It also includes safer, less-restrictive physical interventions to be used only as a last resort when a student presents an immediate risk of harm to self or others. This will replace ANV-Applied Non-Violence as CPI offers greater training flexibility by offering initial online training to limit the amount of in-person training that is required. CPI is also heavily grounded in trauma sensitive approaches while also offering de-escalation techniques that can be used with all staff members. Dr. Chamberland shared that each school will have a team trained in the use of CPI along with the training of all ABA, BCBA and BCABA staff. Renee Gaulin and Jessica Pitsillides are both trainers and they will facilitate the training here in Auburn.

BUSINESS/FINANCIAL REPORT:

Year to Date Budget Report

Information

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a year to date budget report as of June 8, 2020.

Omnibus Transfers

Information

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided Omnibus Transfers for your information.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 2:45 p.m., Mrs. Holloway made a motion to enter Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30, Section 21(a) (2) to conduct strategies for negotiations with non-union personnel, namely the Director of Food Service and Assistant Vocational Coaches; Mrs. Kauffman seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken:

Roll call vote: Dr. McCrillis - Yes; Mrs. Kauffman - Yes; Mrs. Holloway - Yes; Mrs. Harrington - Yes; Mr. Scobie - Yes;

Respectfully submitted,



Ailaine Zautner
Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

CADMUS Report from MSBA
Handbook Updates
MIE Sustaining Partnership Program
Governor Baker's Phase II Reopening Guidelines for Outdoor Spaces
Year to Date Budget Report
Omnibus Transfers