

MINUTES

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Location: 5 West Street, School Committee Room

December 15, 2021, 6:00 p.m

In Attendance:

George Scobie

Jessie Harrington

Gail Holloway

Meghan McCrillis

Dottie Kauffman

Casey Handfield

Beth Chamberland

Cecelia Wirzbicki

Karen Ballway - AEA Vice President

David Cutler - AEA President

Katie Peschiera (Parent) - 16 Barnes Road

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Scobie called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Katie Peschiera spoke in support of expanding the String program and hiring an additional teacher for the program.

Special Recognitions:

Dr. Handfield spoke of Mark Blazis, beloved teacher, scientist, writer, sportsman and bird enthusiast, who passed away on November 17, 2021. Mark dedicated over 40 years to the students of Auburn as an educator, and later as a tour facilitator. Leading many of our students

Zoom

Rosemary Reidy

Joseph Fahey

Eric Bouvier

Ginny Baily

Maria Garrow

Daniel Delongchamp

Marie Mahan

Jennifer Stanick

Susan Lopez

Greg Desto

and family members to his beloved Ecuador. He oversaw numerous expeditions to Ecuador. Over the years he brought 24 medical teams to help the Kichwa in the rainforest along the Napo River. For this, he and his wife Helen were awarded the American Red Cross Hometown Hero Award. We held a moment of silence for Mr. Blazis.

Minutes: Approved 12/1/21 minutes.

George Scobie entertained a motion to approve the minutes from the 12/1/21 meeting.

[Meghan McCrillis](#) made the motion to accept the minutes from 12/1//21, Jessie Harrington seconded the motion, unanimously approved.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

COVID Update

Information

Dr. Handfield provided an update on COVID cases and other pertinent details since our last meeting. Dr. Handfield also stated that COVID has not gone away, and in some ways this year has been more difficult.

NEW BUSINESS:

Part 1 of FY'23 Budget Kick Off

The administration and Program Directors reviewed their anticipated accomplishments for this year and next and discussed their draft budget requests for FY '23. Many had no budget changes or slight increases.

Dr. Chamberland - Pre-k - No budget changes, an additional Pre-K ABA needed

Rosemary Reidy - No budget changes.

Eric Bouvier - Slight budget increase for new iPad Management system.

Ginny Bailey/Maria Garrow - Slight increase for office supply budget.

Dan Delongchamp was the spokesperson for Brian Davis and athletics - Slight increase.

Maria Mahan/Jennifer Stanick - Slight increase for custodial staff and Lead the way program.

Susan Lopez - Slight increase for classroom supplies

Gregg Desto - Slight increase for a new LPN 1:1 and .6 Strings Teacher.

Dan Delongchamp - Slight increase for internship program and potential 1:1 LPN.

The committee thanked the presenters for their time and for submitting such a lean budget.

TEACHING AND LEARNING REPORT: None

BUSINESS/FINANCIAL REPORT:

Grant Receipts for Committee Approval

Action

- Auburn Public Schools has been approved for the Federal ESSER III Grant in the amount of \$1,411,780.00 as part of the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA). This grant amount is to be used to continue with the Salaries of Counselors and Social Workers in addressing the Social Emotional needs of our students, as well as Teacher and support staff salaries to continue to address learning loss related to the Pandemic. Funds will also be used for Summer School funding to continue to address learning loss, and a small amount for Staff Professional Development. The remainder of the grant will be used to update the core Elementary Math and Literacy curriculums for the District.

Recommended Motion.....to accept the Federal ESSER III Grant as presented by the Business Manager.

George Scobie entertained a motion to accept the Federal ESSER III Grant as presented by the Business Manager.

Gail Holloway made a motion to accept the Federal ESSER III Grant in the amount of \$1,411,780.00 as presented by the Business Manager. Jessie Harrington seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

- Auburn Public Schools has also been approved for the FY2022 COVID-19 Summer Programming Reimbursement grant in the amount of \$50,000 which Dr. Chamberland applied for submitting actual expenses utilized this past summer for programming.

Recommended Motion.....to accept the FY2022 COVID 19 Summer Programming Reimbursement grant as presented by the Business Manager.

George Scobie entertained a motion to accept the FY2022 COVID-19 Summer Programming Reimbursement Grant as presented by the Business Manager.

Meghan McCrillis made a motion to accept the FY2022 COVID-19 Summer Programming Reimbursement Grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 as presented by the Business Manager. Gail Holloway seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

- All districts in Massachusetts received Federal Monies related to Administrative costs for EBT work in their Districts. Auburn Public Schools received an amount of \$3,070.

Recommended Motion.....to accept the Federal grant for EBT Administrative costs as presented by the Business Manager.

George Scobie entertained a motion to accept the Federal Grant for EBT Administrative costs as presented by the Business Manager.

Meghan McCrillis made a motion to accept the Federal Grant for EBT Administrative costs in the amount of \$3,070.00 as presented by the Business Manager. Dottie Kauffman seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

- Major David Brodeur Memorial Foundation Grant has been awarded to Amanda Green for her “Wellness Wednesdays” initiative, which is geared to the Primary Schools and will enhance the school day by enabling students to take part in structured yoga and mindfulness lessons during PE classes and adaptive PE classes. The amount of the grant award was \$400.

Recommended Motion.....to accept with gratitude the grant awarded to Amanda Green from the Major David Brodeur Memorial Foundation in the amount of \$400.

George Scobie entertained a motion to accept with gratitude, the grant awarded to Amanda Green from the Major David Brodeur Memorial Foundation as presented by the Business Manager.

Gail Holloway made a motion to accept the grant awarded to Amanda Green from the Major David Brodeur Memorial Foundation in the amount of \$400.00 as presented by the Business Manager. Jessie Harrington seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

- The Auburn Chamber of Commerce has once again awarded their Chamber Mini Grants for a grant total of \$1,232.50 to the following Auburn staff members for projects they submitted for consideration:

Dawn Fenuccio - Bryn Mawr School - Books and Beyond for \$241.86
 Amanda Green - Bryn Mawr School - Wellness Wednesdays for \$241.00
 Kerry LeBreton - Bryn Mawr School - iPads Aren't Everything for \$130.93
 April Bouzan - Bryn Mawr School - What Zone Are You In for \$182.00
 Julie Benoit - Pakachoag School - Books and Beyond for \$241.86
 Alisa Lemire - Pakachoag School - Poppin Numbers for \$194.85

Recommended Motion.....to accept with gratitude the Chamber Mini Grants totaling \$ 1,232.50 as presented by the Business Manager.

George Scobie entertained a motion to accept with gratitude, the Chamber Mini Grants as presented by the Business Manager.

Gail Holloway made a motion to accept with gratitude, the Chamber Mini Grants in the amount of \$1,232.50 as presented by the Business Manager. Dottie Kauffman seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

Year to Date Budget Report

Information

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a year to date budget report dated December 8, 2021.

Budget Transfers - December 8, 2021

Action

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a listing of Budget Transfers between the same series, along with a listing of Transfers between different series for which she is seeking approval.

Recommended Motion.....to approve the list of Transfers dated December 8, 2021 as presented by the Business Manager.

George Scobie entertained a motion to approve the list of Transfers dated December 8, 2021 as presented by the Business Manager.

Gail Holloway made a motion to approve the list of Transfers dated December 8, 2021 as presented by the Business Manager. Dottie Kauffman seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Scobie entertained the motion to adjourn for the evening at 7:59 p.m.; Gail Holloway made a motion to adjourn, Meghan McCrillis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mandy Williams

Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

FY'23 Budget Presentation

Grant Receipts

Budget Report Dated 12/8/21

Budget Transfers Dated 12/8/21