

MINUTES

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Location: Auburn High School Auditorium

September 8, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

In Attendance:

George Scobie

Jessie Harrington

Gail Holloway

Dottie Kauffman

Meghan McCrillis

Casey Handfield

Beth Chamberland

Cecelia Wirzbicki

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CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Scobie called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: None

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS: Moment of Silence in recognition of the 20th anniversary 9/11

Motion made to approve 8/25/21 minutes, seconded by GH, unanimously approved.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT: Jasmyn Gates, and newly appointed Junior class representative, Alli McGill will join the school committee on September 22, 2021.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Handfield has postponed the introduction to new teachers to the next SC meeting on 9/22, will have a Zoom link for the teachers to remote into the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

CIC Symptomatic Testing and Test and Stay Update: From Dr. Chamberland: A link was sent to staff & families on 9/7/21 asking if they are interested in participating. 152 adults and 628 students responded to participate.

Gail Holloway asked about the email sent by Dr. Handfield regarding Covid positive cases reported yesterday in buildings. The students have been identified, close contacts notified and students that need to be home, are home. Schools are working to provide foundational appropriate school work, such as: reading materials and handouts as needed.

School Department Warrant Articles for Fall Special Town Meeting presented by Cecelia Wirzbicki.

Recommended Motion:

Dr. Handfield recommended to approve the Warrant Articles as Presented.

Gail Holloway made a motion to approve; Dottie Kauffman seconded the motion, unanimously approved.

New Business:

Return to School Update - busy but fantastic opening.

Elementary & Secondary School Relief Fund III (ESSR III) - The purpose of the ESSER III fund is to support the safe reopening and sustaining safe operations of school while meeting students' academic, social, emotional and mental health needs resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Auburn Public Schools are expecting to receive an allocation of \$1,410,786 to be spent through June 2024.

Center for Leadership & Educational Equity (CLEE) - Information provided regarding the work the district has done with CLEE this past summer and an outline of the goals the district would like to accomplish.

Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents Position (MASS) - Dr. Handfield provided a letter from the Association of Superintendents in Massachusetts to reemphasize the district's position on Critical Race Theory in classrooms. It is the belief of the superintendent and the school committee that it has no place in the classroom at this level.

Open Meeting Law Materials - Open Meeting Law education & enforcement was consolidated into the state Office of the Attorney General in January of 2018. Copies were provided and the committee was asked to sign the document.

Business/Financial Report:

Bussing update related to the opening of the school year by Cecelia Wirzbicki: Monitoring arrival & dismissal bus times, and head count numbers on busses. Currently have a ridership of 1,554. We have a waitlist for busing, once counts are established by the bus company; we may be able to accommodate the waitlist.

Revolving account update presented by Cecelia Wirzbicki. A listing of all Revolving accounts and their current balances have been provided for review and acceptance as is required each Fiscal Year.

Recommended Motion:

To accept the list of School Department Revolving Accounts as presented for Fiscal Year 2022 Jessie Harrington made a motion to approve, Meghan McCrillis seconded, unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:16 p.m. meeting adjourned Mr. Scobie made a motion to adjourn for the evening; Mrs. Harrington seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mandy Williams

Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

School Department Warrant Articles for Fall Special Town Meeting

Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund III (ESSR III)

Center for Leadership and Education Equity (CLEE)

Statement from Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents

Open Meeting Law Materials

Revolving Accounts & Balances