

MINUTES

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Location: 5 West Street, School Committee Room

March 1, 2023 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Jessie Harrington

Gail Holloway

Brooke Wrenn

Samantha Raphael

Beth Chamberland, Superintendent

Alan Keller, Assistant Superintendent

Cecelia Wirzbicki, Business Manager

Isabella Faber - Student Representative

Tony Pierantozzi - Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth

Marge Daniels - Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth

Amy Berg - Middle School Teacher

Aryanna Perelez 112 Hampton Street (Student)

Betsy Ramos - 112 Hampton Street

Jennifer Stanick - Pakachoag Principal

Nicole Allain - Pakachoag Teacher

Tessa Fritze - Pakachoag Teacher

Alexa Kennedy - Pakachoag Teacher

Alexandria Laflamme - Pakachoag Teacher

Absent

Meghan McCrillis

Zoom

Ally McGill

Maverick & Brittney Abderrazzaq - 26 Hilltop Farm Road

Aviana, Taylor & Jennifer Germano - 23 Ridgewood Drive

Jack & Mary Soderberg - 10 Springbrook Road

Savannah, Danielle & Dan Tobin - 17 Meadowbrook Road

CALL TO ORDER:

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

Brooke Wrenn read out loud the Auburn Public School Vision & Commitment.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS: None

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:

Dr. Chamberland: Aryanna Perelez, a 7th grade student at Auburn Middle School, has received an Honorable mention in this year's Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth Poster Project. The theme this year is "The Earth Loves You, Love it Back". There were close to 350 entries, Aryanna's poster stood out from a large group.

Dr. Chamberland introduced Margie Daniels, executive director at the Massachusetts Partnerships for Youth, and Tony Pierantozzi, President of the Board of Directors, to tell us more.

Ms. Daniels and Mr. Pierantozzi shared the poster with the committee and presented Aryanna with a gift.

Dr. Chamberland: In December 2021, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved a pilot Student Achievement Award designed to recognize high achieving, high-needs students (students with disabilities, English learners, and low-income students) who scored Exceeding Expectations in English language arts and/or math in any grade level on the 2022 MCAS. The program also recognizes high-needs students who were high achievers on the [MCAS-Alt](#) (a portfolio option for students with the most significant disabilities).

The award packets each contained a certificate of achievement, a letter of recognition, a \$20 Target gift card, and ideas to help families support their student's continued high achievement.

Swanson Road Intermediate: 7 students

Auburn Middle School: 12 students

Auburn High School: 8 students

Minutes: 2/15/23

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to accept the minutes from 2/15/23.

Samantha Rapahel made a motion to accept the minutes from 2/15/23. Brooke Wrenn seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:

Isabella Faber:

- We are almost 2/3rds done with the school year, and everyone is really excited about the ending of the tri in only a couple of weeks.
- Faculty and staff are really pushing info and reminders about course registrations for the upcoming school year. Powerschool portals were opened this morning for students to select their classes and see what teachers have recommended them for. Final registrations and completed AP forms will be due on the 16th.
- Unfortunately, with the ending of the tri, also comes finals in most of our core classes, which will be given on the 16th and 17th.
- In more exciting news, this month is the Park City Utah ski trip for all those who signed up. I have a few friends going and they are very excited.
- At 6pm tomorrow night, the induction ceremony for new members of National Honors Society will take place to celebrate both our incoming students and our seniors who will be leaving soon.
- Finally, Mr. Auburn is next Thursday. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$10

Ally McGill:

- Two weeks left of the trimester!
- Earlier in the week freshmen, sophomores, and juniors began selecting their courses for the upcoming school year.
- National Honors Society Induction Ceremony tomorrow!
- The annual Mr. Auburn competition will take place on 3/9. Seniors are working hard to prepare their acts, learn dances, and film video segments for the show.

- The ski trip to Park City, Utah will take place 3/14 to 3/19.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Spotlight on Students:

Dr. Chamberland introduced Pakachoag School Principal Jennifer Stanick. Mrs. Stanick introduced the following kindergarten teachers and kindergarten students to share their 100th day of school projects.

Nicole Allain - Teacher

Teresa Fritze - Teacher

Alexa Kennedy - Teacher

Alexandria Laflamme - Teacher

Maverick Abderrazzaq - Student

Aviana Germano - Student

Jack Soderberg - Student

Savannah Tobin - Student

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

SWCEC Second Quarter Report

Dr. Chamberland: In your packet you will find the Second Quarter Report from the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative. This was approved by the SWCEC Board of Directors at the February 16, 2023 meeting and is here for your review.

Strategic Plan Summary Page

Dr. Chamberland: Since the final draft of the Strategic Plan has been approved, you will find in your packet a summary page. In the coming weeks we will be having these made, in a larger size for all schools. We are beginning our rollout plan for staff as well to ensure that everyone understands the priorities in the district so that we are all moving in the same direction.

The committee agreed the summary page looked great.

FY 24 Auburn Public Schools Budget

Dr. Chamberland: Mrs. Wirzbicki and I had an initial budget meeting with Town Manager Kazanovicz. At this time, due to the change in state level administration, towns are in a holding pattern as funding numbers from the state are still not available. We will continue to work closely with the Town Administration to arrive at a final draft of the FY24 budget.

NEW BUSINESS: None

TEACHING AND LEARNING REPORT:

Alan Keller: Greg Walton and I have been working together throughout the year enhancing the skills and knowledge of our staff in behavior management and de-escalation. One of the ways we are doing this is by increasing the number of certified Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) trainers from one to three. This offers us increased flexibility in delivering formal training to staff members whose positions require certification in verbal and physical intervention techniques. In addition, our trainers have presented to the faculty at each school offering foundational knowledge in escalation and tools, the goal of which is to equip all educators with strategies that they can apply regularly to support all students.

Dr. Chamberland shared a story regarding a strategy that was shared at a training that she found interesting and helpful.

Jessie Harrington asked, who are our trainers?

Alan Keller responded, Samantha Spezio, Cassie Moriarty and Jessica Pitsillides.

BUSINESS/FINANCIAL REPORT:

Year to Date Budget Report

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a year to date budget report dated February 21, 2023 for review.

Budget Transfers

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a listing of Budget Transfers dated February 21, 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 February 21, 2023, as presented by the Business Manager.*

Brooke Wrenn made a motion to *approve the list of Transfers dated February 21, 2023, as presented by the Business Manager.* Samantha Raphael seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

FY24 French River Oil Bid Results

Mrs. Wirzbicki: Auburn once again participated in the French River Collaborative Bid for Oil for the upcoming 2023-2024 School Year, with the assistance of Competitive Energy. There were two companies, namely, Peterson Oil and Dennis K. Burke, responding to the Bid, which was opened on February 15, 2023. After discussion amongst group members present, it was unanimously decided to move forward as a group with the ULSHO as opposed to the ULSHO 10 oil and award it to Dennis K. Burke, who was the lowest and most responsive bidder for a

price of \$3.0442 per gallon. Each District will need to accept the bid and sign a contract with Dennis K. Burke to provide oil for the one year period, July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Gail Holloway asked if West Street and Bryn Mawr were the only buildings to use oil.

Cecelia Wirzbicki said yes. The others have gas or propane.

Jessie Harrington asked if we split the cost with the fire department.

Cecelia Wirzbicki said the school department pays for oil, the fire department pays for water & sewer.

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to *accept the FY24 French River Collaborative Oil Bid and award the contract to Dennis K. Burke for Heating Oil for Bryn Mawr School and the Central Administration Building at a rate of 3.0442 cents per gallon for the 2023-2024 school year.*

Samantha Raphael made a motion to *accept the FY24 French River Collaborative Oil Bid and award the contract to Dennis K. Burke for Heating Oil for Bryn Mawr School and the Central Administration Building at a rate of 3.0442 cents per gallon for the 2023-2024 school year.* Brooke Wrenn seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

School Department Warrant Articles for May 2, 2023 Annual Town Meeting

Mrs. Wirzbicki: The Board of Selectmen has voted to open the warrant for the May 2, 2023 Annual Town Meeting and to close the warrant on Monday, March 6, 2023. I have provided the proposed School Department Articles for the Annual Town Meeting for your review and approval, as they will need to be sent over to the Town on or before March 6, 2023.

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to *approve the School Department Warrant Articles for the May 2, 2023 Annual Town Meeting , as presented by the Business Manager.*

Brooke Wrenn made a motion to *approve the School Department Warrant Articles for the May 2, 2023 Annual Town Meeting , as presented by the Business Manager.* Samantha Raphael seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

FY24 and FY25 Transportation Contract Extension

Mrs. Wirzbicki: The Transportation Contract, with our current vendor, AA Transportation, is currently in its third and final year, however, at the time of the Original Bid, an option to extend the contract for a one or two year renewal was included and would be allowed at the discretion of the School Committee. The original bid had pricing in place for years four and five but I worked with the vendor to negotiate better pricing for years four and five, which I have enclosed in your packet and will be happy to discuss the matter further.

Dr. Chamberland and Cecelia Wirzbicki praised AA transportation for being a joy to work with and for providing such wonderful service to the school community.

Dr. Chamberland: The price of gas has increased, we may need to look at a bus fee increase down the line.

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to *approve the option to extend the contract for Transportation Services with AA Transportation for FY24 and FY25, with reduced pricing as negotiated and presented by the Business Manager.*

Samantha Raphael made a motion to *approve the option to extend the contract for Transportation Services with AA Transportation for FY24 and FY25, with reduced pricing as negotiated and presented by the Business Manager.* Brooke Wrenn seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

Executive Session:

At 6:35pm Jessie Harrington entertained the motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss the bargaining position with non-union personnel that could be compromised if discussed in open session. We will not return to open session.

Samantha Raphael made the motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss the bargaining position with non-union personnel that could be compromised if discussed in open session. We will not return to open session. Brooke Wrenn seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned into executive session at 6:35pm.

Roll Call Vote Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Mandy Williams

Recording Secretary

Referenced Documents:

Meeting Minutes for 2/15/23

SWCEC Second Quarter Report

APS Strategic Plan 2023-2026

Year to Date Budget Report Dated 2/21/23

Budget Transfers Dated 2/21/23

FY24 French River Oil Bid Results

School Department Warrant Articles for May 2, 2023 Annual Town Meeting

FY24 and FY25 Transportation Contract Extension

Approved 3-15-23