

AVON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Patrick Clark Drive · Avon, MA 02322 · (508) 588-0230 · fax (508) 559-1081

MISSION STATEMENT

To educate all students to be lifelong learners and responsible citizens in a global society.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 16, 2022 – 6:00PM - Zoom

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86885860483?pwd=MIFTaHN1cEZMMnNFMUUyd1lxKzIWQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 8586 0483

Passcode: 998518

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This meeting is being recorded by local cable. It will be shown multiple times on channel 9. Links to view this meeting can also be found on Avon Cable Access's website, avontv.org, as well as, the Avon Public School's website, www.avon.k12.ma.us. Anyone wishing to record this open session must inform the committee so that such recordings can be properly announced.

Any citizen wishing to speak before the Committee shall identify themselves by name and address and shall speak for no longer than 3 minutes. No citizen may speak more than once without permission of the Chair. All citizens shall speak to the full committee through the Chair and shall not address individual members or administrators. Individuals may address topics on the agenda, items specified for public comment, or items within the scope of responsibility of the School Committee.

AVON SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Tracy Sheehan, Chair
Anne Hagberg, Vice-Chair
Sharon Marble, Secretary
Paul Chapman, Member
Maria Piccirilli, Member

STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Jaime Durodola, Jessica Salawu

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS:

Christine Godino

The following School Committee Members participated in the meeting remotely:
Tracy Sheehan, Paul Chapman, Sharon Marble, Anne Hagberg, Maria Piccirilli

CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

I. THE SIGNING OF WARRANT/PAYROLL:

II. STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Jaime Durodola, Jessica Salawu

Jessica Salawu presented on school updates for Butler Elementary School and Avon Middle High School. Butler Update - The Butler school held a very successful Scholastic Book Fair during parent teacher conferences selling close to \$4,000 in books. The Butler School is celebrating Love of Reading Month for the month of March with several fun activities. Last Friday the entire school spent 20 minutes reading in the hallway together. This Friday is guest reader day and each classroom will host a guest reader. Next Friday is Character Day where students will dress up as their favorite book character. Butler Staff is participating in a Rock, Paper, Scissors March Madness tournament. Staff will go up against one another in a single elimination tournament until it is declared a rock, paper, scissors champion. AMHS Update - The Mayflower League All Star Winter Classic at Holbrook High School is on Wednesday, March 16th. Girls will be at 5PM and boys at 6:30PM. Boys participating include Andre Cordero and Nathan Maguire and the girls include Hanelie Cadet and Maryssa Curto. The Winter Awards Night will take place on Thursday, March 17th at 6:00PM. Spring Season will begin on March 2st. This year, Student Council is sponsoring a team in the Special Olympics Unified Bocce tournament. Elijah Belotte, Samuel Brutus, Maeve Hagberg, and Jonas Millien will be competing against teams from area high schools at Pembroke High School on Saturday. Opening ceremonies are at 9:30am, and closing ceremonies and awards will wrap up at 1:30pm. The cafeteria tables have also been put back and students are very happy about this.

- III. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chair Tracy Sheehan opened up public comment. Kristin Cole spoke regarding her reservations about 6th grade being moved to AMHS and had many questions regarding this which she expressed during her public comment. Claudia Lucia spoke regarding her concerns about moving 6th grade to AMHS and discussed how she did not feel there was enough discussion or information given about the move and would like more of an opportunity to do so. Sheila Crane discussed her experience in Avon, MA and believes the 3-5 year old children should be back at Butler as the preschool class is currently at the high school. Marci Kovick expressed her concerns about the move and how many students leave the school district. Yessenia Gomez discussed her concerns about the move or the follow up with the survey sent out and would like to see more specific plans before a move takes place. Shannon Sabre addressed her concerns about school problems and believes the new administration should be at AMHS for at least a year prior to a move. Resident Tina M (under the name Cassie) questioned about money raised from fun run and asked about using it towards building outdoor classroom for students and her concerns about AMHS. Darcy Caffelle discussed her concerns over the transition plan for the move to AMHS and questioning about the change in administration for next year and felt there should have been more opportunity to discuss the change. Kathy Buccella addressed her concerns about the AMHS move and discussed her experience in her youth attending AMHS.

IV. **INFORMATION:**

- A. Keriann Whitworth – Discussion regarding the High School Domestic Trip Proposal. Ms. Whitworth discussed the reboot of the travel program for grades 9-12 for next year's April vacation and provided details into this trip. The trip will be 4 days and will be \$1575 for students, all included minus lunches. The adult price is \$1825. Safety is a number one concern and everyone receives background checks. There will be options for travel protection plans. Covid precautions are taken seriously as well. It is the hope in 2024 to get back out there for an international trip.
- B. NESDEC Presentation - Principal Sarah Shaw presented the committee NESDEC slideshow and spoke on behalf of the committee that was formed, including short term options, long term options and survey results conducted. Liz Horrigan (parent on the committee) also presented the options discussed during the committee meetings. The committee discussed their questions after the presentation and they were addressed by Superintendent Godino and Principal Sarah Shaw.
- C. Superintendent Report – The Principal Search Committee has been formed for the principal search and hopefully in the homestretch of the hiring process. Superintendent Godino will keep everyone informed regarding the process and hiring on the new principal. The bus contract is going out to bid for the FY23-FY27 school year. The Avon Public Schools are lifting the majority of the covid restrictions and it is very positive for the district.

- V. **FINANCIALS: FY23 Budget Reductions** – Kathleen McDonald discussed the reductions to the FY23 budget reductions totaling \$150,000.

VI. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Upon the Superintendent's recommendation, a request to approve the High School Domestic Trip Proposal. Moved by Member Chapman, Seconded by Member Piccirilli, All those in Favor - Aye Maria, Aye Paul, Aye Anne, Aye Sharon, Aye Tracy. Vote: Passes.

B. Upon the Superintendent's recommendation, a request to move the 6th grade to Avon Middle High School (2022-2023 School Year). Moved by Member Chapman, Seconded by Member Piccirilli. Discussion – Member Chapman addressed the Superintendent about concerns regarding scheduling and provide more information to parents, would it delay a week or two to address the issues. Superintendent Godino stated after it is voted upon there will be a parent meeting that would inform parents of scheduling and questions. Member Chapman asked if information could be provided before a vote was taken prior to a vote and Superintendent Godino stated she believes it would only delay the process. All those in Favor – Nay Paul, Aye Sharon, Nay Anne, Nay Maria, Aye Tracy. Vote: Not Passed.

C. Upon the Superintendent's recommendation, a request to amend the FY23 Budget. Moved by Member Chapman, Seconded by Member Piccirilli. Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Sharon, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy. Vote: Passes.

D. Upon the Superintendent's recommendation, a request to approve the Student Opportunity Act. Moved by Member Chapman, Seconded by Member Piccirilli. Discussion – Superintendent Godino discussed the revisit to the plan and what will be continue in the current school year. All those in favor – Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Sharon, Aye Tracy. Vote: Passes

E. Upon the Superintendent's recommendation, a request to approve changes to the Clerical Assistant Job Description. Member Chapman moved to table this action item. Seconded by Maria. Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Sharon, Aye Tracy. Vote: Tabled.

F. Member Paul Chapman made a motion to transition grade 6 to AMHS for school year 2023-2024. Open for discussion. Seconded by Member Piccirilli. Member Chapman stated since Option 1 was defeated (move 2022-2023), the committee should move forward with Option 2 to move for the following school year (2023-2024). The committee discussed their thoughts and questions regarding the options. Due to the committee's confusion regarding the motion and amendment questions, the Chair requested that she speak with legal counsel after the conclusion of the meeting to ensure the votes were properly conducted and rules were followed during this public meeting. Chair Tracy again stated Member Chapman made a motion to transition grade 6 to AMHS for school year 2023-2023. Seconded by Member Hagberg. All those in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Nay Sharon, Nay Tracy. Vote Passes.

VII. OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Subcommittees:

1. Budget Subcommittee: FY22 and FY23
2. Personnel Subcommittee:
3. Maintenance Subcommittee:
4. Policy Subcommittee:
5. Insurance Subcommittee:

VIII. VOTE ON THE MINUTES OF:

- A. Upon the Superintendent's request to waive the reading of the Regular School Committee Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2022; moved by Member Chapman, Seconded Member Marble. Abstain Member Piccirilli. All those in favor – Aye Paul, Aye Sharon, Aye Anne. Abstain Maria.
- B. Upon the Superintendent's request to vote on the minutes of February 9, 2022. Moved by Member Chapman, seconded by Member Marble; All those in favor – Aye Paul, Aye Sharon, Aye Anne. Abstain Marie, Aye Tracy. Vote: Passes.
- C. Upon the Superintendent's request to waive the reading of the Budget Subcommittee School Committee Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2022; Member Chapman motion to table the minutes. Seconded by Member Piccirilli. All those in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Sharon, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy. Vote: Tabled.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

Any business not reasonably anticipated by the Chair. Member Sheehan discussed wanting to consider going back to in-person meetings as a committee.

X. UPCOMING MEETING

- A. Regular School Committee Meeting and Public Hearing, Wednesday, April 6, 2022 at 6:00PM
- B. Regular School Committee Meeting, Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 6:00PM

XI. ADJOURN – Motion to adjourn, Member Chapman. Seconded by Member Piccirilli. All those in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy.

The Avon Public Schools is committed to ensuring that all of its programs and facilities are accessible to all members of the public. We do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, gender, gender identity, homeless status, or sexual orientation.