

Chair, W. Sapelli, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Doering School auditorium.

Present: A. Bonavita, C. Mineo, K. O'Connor, S. Reed, W. Rua, & T. Wilkie
S. Lemanski, A. LeClair, R. Clickstein, & student representative Honesty Osbourne

During Citizen's Speak Time, no one from the public came forward.

Under Highlights on Education, AHS Career Center Supervisor, Lisa Sheehan, was joined by three of her students who spoke about their experiences job shadowing with a junior high school physical education teacher, interning with a Doering School music teacher, and working part-time at a local manufacturing company. These are just a few of the opportunities offered to students enrolled in the Career Center Program.

Under Superintendent's Notes, Mr. Lemanski reported on the following items:

- Congratulations to the AHS Band, which was named *Best High School Marching Band* by the 2018 Holyoke St. Patrick's Parade Committee.
- Congratulations to the AHS Rosie Robotics Team, which recently won its 12th *Entrepreneur Award* at the FIRST Robotics Challenge Tournament on March 10th and 11th in Bridgewater.
- Congratulations to AJHS 7th grade student, Arthur Oganyan, who won the *2018 Mass. Fire Safety Poster Contest*. Arthur will be presented his award at a special luncheon on Wednesday, June 6th, at the Sheraton Framingham Hotel.
- Kudos to the AHS *School Match Wits* team, which recently won their match against Tantasqua High School, thereby qualifying for the annual tournament in April.
- Attendance at the *Safe and Supportive Schools Conference* sponsored by DESE at the DCU Center in Worcester on March 23rd.
- Announcement that the newly formed *AHS Chess League* will compete against students from Minnechaug Regional High School on March 28th at the Agawam Public Library starting at 2:45 p.m.
- Reminder that a *Joint Meeting of the Budget/Finance Subcommittee and City Council's School Budget Subcommittee* will take place on March 28th at 6:30 p.m. in the junior high school library.
- Announcement that Doering School will host its annual *Family Science Night* from 6 to 8 p.m. on March 28th.
- Announcement that *Kindergarten Screening* will take place at Phelps School on March 28th. It also will take place at Clark School on April 3rd and 4th; at Robinson Park School on April 10th and 11th; and at Granger School on April 24th and 25th.
- Attendance at the *Western Mass. Forum with Commissioner-Designate*, Jeff Riley on March 29th, at the Delaney House in Holyoke.
- Announcement that Clark School will host its *Annual Science Fair* from 6 to 7 p.m. on April 5th.
- Announcement that, due to the generosity of the *Shane Foundation*, 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students will attend a presentation by renowned speaker, Chris Herron, on June 4th at the Big E grounds. Students will also be treated to lunch as part of the special program.

Under Student Advisory Committee Representative Update, Honesty reported on the following activities and events taking place at Agawam High School:

- Congratulations to the AHS Wind Ensemble, which won a gold medal at the recent *MICA Festival* and to the Symphony Band for winning a silver medal at the annual music event.
- Thank you to AHS Prom Advisor, Scott Trahan, for arranging for College Formals to come to AHS to measure students for tuxedos to wear to the prom, which will take place on April 27th. College Formals will also deliver the tuxedos to students the day of the prom.
- Announcement that a caricature artist visited the high school art classes where students were shown how to use their talent in a practical way and offered job opportunities through Six Flags.
- Announcement that the March 14th "Walk Out for Parkland" event was very respectful and emotional with students giving moving speeches.

Under Unfinished Business, there was none on the agenda.

Under Business Meeting, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to approve the February 27, 2018, regular meeting minutes.

Vote: 7 - 0

Under Correspondence, C. Mineo said he had nothing to report.

Next, on motion made by C. Mineo, 2nd by S. Reed, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve the following warrants as read: SW-18-90 in the amount of \$20,539.53; SW-18-91 in the amount of \$88,196.20; SW-18-92 in the amount of \$11,597.52; SW-18-93 in the amount of \$16,359.01; SW-18-94 in the amount of \$62,002.55; SW-18-95 in the amount of \$8,672.86; and SW-18-96 in the amount of \$37,278.29; SW-18-97 in the amount of \$7,726.47; SW-18-98 in the amount of \$28,701.30; SW-18-99 in the amount of \$113,173.24 and SW-18-100 in the amount of \$264,917.25.. Also approved was payroll warrant PW-18-04 in the amount of \$2,899,933.73.

Vote: 7 – 0

Under Reports, W. Sapelli announced that the Committee should have received a *Financial Update* paper report and a *Personnel Update* paper report in their packet of materials. Any questions about those reports should be directed to the appropriate administrator.

The first report of the evening was a Reading Recovery Update as presented by teachers Susan Aubrey, Pat Belisle, Andrea Colby, Karen Connor, Lyndsey Papillon, Amber Plante, Debbie Rowe, and Suza Thoelen. In their PowerPoint presentation, the following information was shared with the Committee:

- Selection of Students
- Focus – Reading and Writing Strategies
- Intensive Reading Support for grades K-4
- Support Classroom Teachers
- Maintain Book Closets
- Family Outreach Programs
- Title I Literacy & Math Nights

The presentation also featured a video of Reading Recovery students who expressed how excited they are to be able to read. A question and answer then followed during which Committee members commended the Reading Recovery teachers for their dedication which helps students to blossom and gain self-confidence.

The second report of the evening was the Superintendent's Mid-Cycle Evaluation as presented by Steven Lemanski, Superintendent of Schools. In his report, the following information was shared:

- Vision Statement
- Goals, Standards, & Indicators
- Smart Goal Descriptions
- Action Steps
- Student-Centered Learning
- Professional Practice
- Student, Staff, & School Safety
- School Improvement

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Lemanski explained that a three-ring binder had been placed at their seats. These binders contain evidence relating to these goals and action steps, to which the Committee should refer as they review his progress in meeting these objectives, to date.

Under Subcommittee Updates, A. Bonavita announced that the *Joint Budget/Finance Subcommittee meeting with the City Council's School Budget Subcommittee* will take place on March 28th at 6:30 p.m. in the AJHS Library.

Next, S. Reed explained that three policies are on the agenda for a first reading, noting the changes which were approved by the Policy Subcommittee.

Next, T. Wilkie announced that she and Mr. Bonavita had met earlier that evening with members of the high school's Student Advisory Group who were accompanied by Principal Thomas Schnepf. She said that students were receptive and grateful for the recent ALICE Training that they received. She also reported that she and Mr. Bonavita learned that students hope to have 1:1 computers in the near future and appreciate being able to share their concerns with Committee members.

The final subcommittee update was by W. Rua who announced that the next PAC meeting will take place on Monday, April 2nd, at 6:30 p.m. in the junior high school library. Guest speakers will include Mr. Lemanski and AHS special education teacher, Jeanne Moriarty.

Under New Business, SCR-18-07, *Request to Reschedule Half-Day of Professional Development*, will be moved to the next meeting where it will appear under Unfinished Business.

Under Policy Review, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to approve the 1st reading of Policy JICH, *Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug Use by Students Prohibited*.

Vote: 7 – 0

Next, on a motion made by S. Reed, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to approve the 1st reading of Policy ADF, *School District Wellness Program*.

Vote: 7 – 0

Then, on a motion made by S. Reed, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to approve the 1st reading of Policy KHC, *Distribution of Notices and Flyers*.

Vote: 7 - 0

Items: All Committee members stated how impressed they were with how the high school administration and students handled the "Walk Out for Parkland" event on March 14th. A. Bonavita asked the Chair to investigate procuring a new chair for him. T. Wilkie said she is interested in investigating the possible use of *Blizzard Bags* for the next school year. W. Rua announced that she had heard Commissioner –Designate, Jeff Riley, speak at the recent MASC Poverty Summit. She encouraged her colleagues to attend the March 29th event at the Delaney House to hear his perspective on standardized testing and how he will be focusing on teachers. S. Reed said that she had a great time marching in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. She then asked when the next ALICE Training will take place. Mr. Lemanski replied on the April 27th half day of school. She also praised Doering School music teacher, Daniel Rose, and junior high school music teacher, Erin Hanson, for their students' wonderful performance at the recent Western Mass Band and Chorus Festival. She concluded her remarks by saying that she will attend the April 2nd PAC meeting. K. O'Connor said that she also attend the April 2nd PAC meeting, found it very informative, and thanked Mr. Lemanski for attending and speaking to the group, which was a good size. W. Sapelli announced that the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Conference will be honoring Mr. Lemanski with the Distinguished Service Award on Thursday, April 12th, at 9:30 a.m. at Mt. Holyoke College in South Hadley. The award is being given for his years of service as a physical education teacher and athletic director. Last, Mr. Lemanski pointed out that student Jake Wieners filmed the student "Walk Out for Parkland," which Committee members can view on the district's Facebook page.

There being no further business, on a motion made by C. Mineo, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to adjourn.

Vote: 7 – 0

Time: 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alexis Ferioli
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/School Committee

C. Mineo, Committee Secretary