

Chair, R. Cohen, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Roberta G. Doering School auditorium.

Present: A. Bonavita, B. Burbank, D. Juzba, C. Mineo, W. Rua, S. Reed (arrived at 6:10 p.m.), & W. Sapelli

Arrived at 6:55 p.m.: A. LeClair, R. Clickstein, & student representative Joseph Joyal

On a motion made by D. Juzba, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee, via roll call, voted to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

R. Cohen reconvened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

During Citizen’s Speak Time, Event Leader, Andrea Polley of 230 Pine Street, Feeding Hills, spoke about the upcoming *Relay for Life Kick-Off* event, which will take place on January 26, 2017 from 6 – 8:00 p.m. at “Club One” at Fitness First in Feeding Hills. She also reported that the *Relay for Life* event will take place on May 19th and 20th at the School Street Park.

Under Highlights on Education, Mr. Sapelli was joined by the Committee, Dr. LeClair, and Mr. Clickstein in the presentation of “Certificates of Excellence” to the 28 students who earned perfect MCAS scores on the Spring 2016 MCAS test.

Under Superintendent’s Notes, Mr. Sapelli reported on the following items:

- Congratulations to junior high school 8th grade student, Julia Hall, who won the annual *National Geographic Geography Bee competition*.
- Congratulations to AHS Model Congress club member, Alyssa Gravel who won the award for “Best Delegate” at the *Annual Model Congress Convention* held at AIC. As an award, Alyssa won a full, 4-year scholarship to AIC.
- Reminder that schools will be closed on Monday, January 16th, in observance of Martin Luther King Day. Schools will reopen on Tuesday, January 17th.
- Announcement that he and Dr. LeClair will be attending the *Annual M.A.S.S. Mid-Winter Conference* in Marlborough on January 19th
- Announcement that the *Second Annual Poetry-Out-Loud Competition* will take place on January 26th from 9 – 11 a.m. in the high school auditorium
- Announcement that the first semester *D.A.R.E. Graduation* ceremony will take place on January 27th at 1:00 p.m. in the Doering School auditorium
- Thank you and best wishes to APD Officer Karen Langevin who is retiring as one of the district’s D.A.R.E. officers.

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

- Students are preparing for mid-term exams
- The second blood drive of the year, which is sponsored by the Future Teachers of America Club, will take place on January 13th.
- The Model Congress Club completed a 3-day convention at AIC. The 12-member group had 3 pieces of legislation passed during the event, which included approximately 100 students from across New England. Classmate, Alyssa Gravel placed first in the Best Delegate category and won a full, 4-year scholarship to AIC. Thanks to club advisor, Keith Ireland, for overseeing such a great program.

Under Unfinished Business, there was none on the agenda.

Under Business Meeting, on a motion made by C. Mineo, 2nd by A. Bonavita, the Committee voted to approve the December 13, 2016, regular meeting minutes.

Vote: 7 - 0

Under Correspondence, Mrs. Juzba said she had nothing to report.

Next, on a motion made by D. Juzba, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to approve the following warrants as read: SW-17-35 in the amount of \$30,428.42; SW-17-36 in the amount of \$68,130.51; SW-17-37 in the amount of \$162,151.62; SW-17-38 in the amount of \$23,915.01; and SW-17-39 in the amount of \$141,423.53. Also approved was payroll warrant PW-17-01 in the amount of \$4,229,936.54.

Vote: 7 - 0

Under Reports, the only scheduled report of the evening was the presentation of the *2017-2018 AHS Program of Studies* as presented by Principal Steven Lemanski. In his report, Mr. Lemanski reviewed the following changes and additions by department:

- Counseling department – update in language; elimination of progress reports due to use of Edline; Department of Education language updates; day students supplementing with evening school
- ELA – elimination of four (4) courses due to low student enrollment
- Mathematics – no changes
- Science – addition of College Prep Organic Chemistry with Lab course
- Social Studies – addition of Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics
- Foreign Language – language changes
- Business, Instructional Technology, Career – additional of Digital Photography II course
- Health Education – no changes
- Physical Education – no changes
- Technology Education – no changes; however addition of “maker space” where students use old shop area to build projects relative to various courses they are taking
- Visual Arts – also addition of Digital Photography II
- Performing Arts – addition of Honors Percussion Ensemble
- Special Services – no changes
- Electives – addition of SAT Prep class and Leadership course
- LPVEC – addition of Machine Technology course

At the conclusion of Mr. Lemanski’s report, a question and answer session took place. Mrs. Juzba asked what determines if a course is to be eliminated. Mr. Lemanski replied less than 10 students. Mrs. Reed asked about the elimination of progress reports. Mr. Lemanski said the transition from progress reports to the on-line Edline software system went surprisingly well noting that only a handful of parents contacted him about the switch. At the end of questions, the Committee thanked Mr. Lemanski for all of his efforts and for bringing forth these changes to the Program of Studies.

Under Subcommittee Updates, W. Rua said that she would like to have a Policy Subcommittee meeting at 6:00 p.m. prior to the January 24, 2017, regular meeting which begins at 7:00 p.m.

Under New Business, SCR-17-01, *Approval of the 2017-2018 AHS Program of Studies*, was moved to the next meeting.

Items: W. Rua congratulated the junior high school robotics team who placed first in a recent robotics competition. S. Reed congratulated Officer Langevin on her retirement and wished her the best. She then asked when the new track will be ready and when will a dedication ceremony be scheduled. R. Cohen explained that they are waiting for the spring weather and hopefully the dedication can take place at the first track meet of the season. A. Bonavita asked about the status of the bleachers. R. Cohen explained that the company, which is installing the bleachers, is waiting for the spring weather to complete the project. Mr. Bonavita also asked if consequences are being considered as the completion of bleachers has been delayed for an extended period of time. R. Cohen said that all options are being considered. R. Cohen concluded his remarks by reporting his attendance at the junior high school Geography Bee on December 22nd, noting how informed those students participating in the annual competition are about world countries.

There being no further business, on a motion made by S. Reed 2nd by D. Juzba, the Committee voted to adjourn.

Vote: 7 – 0 Time: 8:02 p.m.

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

D. Juzba, Committee Secretary