

Chair, R. Cohen, called the meeting to order at 6:22 p.m. in the Roberta G. Doering School auditorium.

Present: B. Burbank (arrived at 6:30 p.m.), C. Mineo, S. Reed, & W. Rua,  
W. Sapelli, A. LeClair, & student representative Joseph Joyal

Absent: R. Clickstein, A. Bonavita, & D. Juzba

On a motion made by C. Mineo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Reed, the Committee, via roll call, voted to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations and personnel.

Vote: 4 – 0 – 3 absent

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

During Citizen's Speak Time, AHS Cheerleading Coach, Kelly Cichetti of 25 Tower Terrace, was joined by the cheerleading squad who thanked the Committee and Mr. Sapelli for their new uniforms and equipment. The squad also performed a cheer to demonstrate their appreciation.

Under Highlights on Education, Mr. Sapelli was joined by Dr. LeClair and the Committee in the annual presentation of the *M.A.S.S. Certificates of Academic Excellence* to this year's recipients: AHS seniors Bianca Toto and Roman Yusenko.

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

- Congratulations to the students and staff at Doering School who participated in "*National Take a Vet to School Day*", which took place on November 9<sup>th</sup> and was organized by teacher, Kathleen Jediny.
- Attendance at the *Annual Thanksgiving Football Team Luncheon* on November 22<sup>nd</sup> together with Mayor Cohen, Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Rua, Mr. Lemanski, and Mr. Stratton.
- Reminder that the annual *Orange & Brown Pep Rally* will take place at 10:00 a.m. on November 23<sup>rd</sup> in the high school gym.
- Reminder that the annual *Agawam/West Springfield Football Game* will take place at 10:00 a.m. on November 24<sup>th</sup> at Clark Field in West Springfield.
- Reminder that November 23<sup>rd</sup> is a ½ day of school for students and staff. Schools will reopen on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Announcement that school attorney Russell Dupere will be presenting a *Legal Update* for the Committee on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 5 p.m. in the central office conference room.
- Announcement that the Agawam Chamber of Commerce will present its annual *8<sup>th</sup> grade Career Day Program* beginning at 8:15 a.m. in the junior high school auditorium.
- Reminder that December 1<sup>st</sup> will be a ½ day of school for students. Staff in grades K-6 will conduct parent conferences in the afternoon, whereas staff in grades 7-12 will participate in professional development activities in the afternoon.
- Reminder that the *Annual Friends Holiday Breakfast* for elected officials will take place on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.
- Announcement that the *Annual Holiday Pops Band Concert* will take place on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.
- Reminder that the next *DWST meeting* will take place on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 a.m. in the high school cafeteria.
- Last, wishes for a *Happy Thanksgiving Holiday* to the Committee, staff, students, and viewing public.

Next, under Student Advisory Committee Representative Update, Joseph Joyal, reported on the following events and activities taking place at AHS:

- The October and November SAT's have ended
- Report cards have been issued
- Seniors are anxiously finishing college applications
- *Spirit Week* will culminate with the Orange & Brown Pep Rally
- AHS won the *MIAA Battle of the Fans*
- The Drama Club production of *The Crucible* was great
- The *Fall Band Concert* was outstanding and showcased why our music program is the best in the region

Under Unfinished Business, on a motion made by S. Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B. Burbank, the Committee voted to approve SCR-16-28, *Approval of AHS Graduation Ceremony on Saturday, June 10, 2017, at 1 p.m. at Symphony Hall.*

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Under Business meeting, on a motion made by W. Rua, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Reed, the Committee voted to approve the October 25, 2016, regular meeting and Executive Session minutes.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Under Correspondence, because Mrs. Juzba was absent, Mr. Sapelli read a letter from Deb Loomer from HCC thanking the three AHS seniors who assisted as ball retrievers at the Western Mass Volleyball Tournament, which was hosted by HCC.

Next, on a motion made by W. Rua, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B. Burbank & C. Mineo, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve the following warrants as read: SW-17-25 in the amount of \$26,037.40; SW-17-26 in the amount of \$758,151.67; SW-17-27 in the amount of \$73,693.90; SW-16-28 in the amount of \$156,360.73; SW-16-29 in the amount of \$36,377.69; SW-17-30 in the amount of \$83,615.85; and SW-17-31 in the amount of \$584,976.14.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Under Reports, R. Cohen announced that the Committee should have received a *Personnel Update*, *Home School Update*, *Financial Update*, and *AP/SAT Scores* paper reports in their packet of materials.

The only report of the evening was the *MCAS Scores* as presented by Assistant Superintendent, Allison LeClair. Dr. LeClair provided the Committee with a PowerPoint presentation which included the following information:

- Agawam continues to be a Level 2 District
- Percent of students who score Proficient or Advanced
- Reducing the Proficiency Gap in Math & ELA
- Composite Performance Index (CPI)
- English Language Arts CPI
- Math CPI
- Science CPI
- What is Growth
- Growth in MATH & ELA
- Addressing student gaps and weaknesses

At the conclusion of her presentation, a brief question and answer session took place during which Committee members thanked Dr. LeClair for preparing a report that was easy to understand and for helping our district to maintain its rating of Level 2.

Under Subcommittee Updates, W. Rua said she hopes to schedule a Policy Subcommittee meeting in the near future.

Under New Business, there was none on the agenda.

Items: All Committee members wished each other, students, staff, and the viewing public a Happy Thanksgiving. They also wished the varsity football team good luck in their annual game against arch rival, West Springfield High School. B. Burbank said he attended the Western Mass Gymnastics Team Meet, which Agawam won. S. Reed thanked Mr. Sapelli for sharing the district's K-6 Homework Guidelines and for supporting the AHS cheerleaders. W. Rua said she attended the Annual Joint MASC/MASS Conference with Mr. Burbank, Mr. Sapelli, and Dr. LeClair noting this year's theme was social and emotional development. She found the various sessions to be very interesting and informative. Mrs. Rua also said that she enjoyed serving pies to junior high school students during their annual Thanksgiving Lunch on November 17<sup>th</sup>, adding that the meal was excellent. R. Cohen asked for a volunteer to replace Mrs. Rua and Mr. Mineo, who serve on the LPVEC Board of Governors, as they unavailable on Wednesday evenings when that group meets. B. Burbank said he would be willing to serve as an alternate on the Board of Governors.

There being no further business, on a motion made by S. Reed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Rua, the Committee voted to adjourn.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Time: 7:53 p.m.

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

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Diane Juzba, Committee Secretary