

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

Present: A. Bonavita, C. Mineo, K. O'Connor, S. Reed, & T. Wilkie
S. Lemanski, S. Hoffman,

Absent: W. Rua, R. Clickstein, & student representative Honesty Osbourne

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

Under Highlights on Education, Mr. Lemanski, Mrs. Hoffman, & Mr. Clickstein joined the Committee in honoring G & L Tool Company founder, David Smith, who has been instrumental in assisting the AHS Rosie Robotics Team throughout the years.

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

- Congratulations to 7th grade student, Hunter Stark, who won this year's *National Geography Bee* contest at the junior high school.
- Congratulations to AHS band members, Dan Kang and Joey Jagodowski, who successfully auditioned for the *All State Music Festival* and will perform at the prestigious state festival in Boston later in March.
- Reminder that the 5th *Annual Poetry Out Loud Contest* will take place January 31st from 9:15 to 11 a.m. in the high school auditorium
- Attendance at the 2-day *Across Boundaries Conference* in Boston on January 31st and February 1st
- Reminder that the 1st semester *DARE Graduation* will take place on February 1st at 1:15 p.m., in the Doering School auditorium
- Announcement that the *School Building Committee* will meet on February 6th at 4 p.m. in the junior high school library
- Announcement that the *Budget/Finance Subcommittee* will meet at 6 p.m. on February 12th in the central office conference room.
- Announcement that the *Office of Language Acquisition* will conduct a review of our district's English Learner Education program during the 2019-2020 school year. Mrs. Hoffman will be overseeing this review.

Under Student Advisory Committee Representative Update, Honesty was absent so no report was given.

Under Unfinished Business, on a motion made by K. O'Connor, 2nd by S. Reed, the Committee voted to approve SCR-19-01, *Approval of Wilson Thompson American Legion Auxiliary Unit 185 Scholarship*.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Under Business Meeting, on a motion made by T. Wilkie, 2nd by C. Mineo, the Committee voted to approve the January 8, 2019, ECC workshop and regular meeting minutes, as well as the January 9th and January 14, 2019, Emergency Meeting minutes.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

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

Next, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by S. Reed, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve the following warrants as read: SW-19-64 in the amount of \$20,538.60; SW-19-65 in the amount of \$196,373.47; SW-19-66 in the amount of \$29,068.83; SW-19-67 in the amount of \$14,807.13; SW-19-68 in the amount of \$914,479.01; SW-19-69 in the amount of \$9,357.79; SW-19-70 in the amount of 11,859.20; and SW-19-71 in the amount of \$32,841.48. Also approved was payroll warrant PW-19-02 in the amount of \$2,975,777.26.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Under Reports, W. Sapelli said that the Committee should have received a Financial Update and Personnel Update in their packet of materials.

Next, Superintendent of Schools, Steven Lemanski, who was joined by Assistant Superintendent, Sheila Hoffman, reported about a recent site visit to Commerce High School in Springfield. Joining him on the visit were Committee members Anthony Bonavita, Tracy Wilkie, and Mayor Sapelli, as well as the district's Safety Supervisor, John Nettis. He explained that as part of their visit, the group witnessed the use of metal detectors at doors of entry into the school during arrival time.

In his presentation, the following information was shared:

- A chart indicating the start times for area high schools as well as the arrival time of the School Resource Officer and the number of Supervisors.
- A breakdown of the cost for metal detectors at three of the AHS entry points, wands, and the hiring of personnel to staff the doors.
- Metal detectors would cost an average of \$4,500 each and wands approximately \$150 each for a total equipment cost of \$4,650.00
- Recommended staffing per detector at the rate of \$14/Hour for 7 hours a day would equal \$52,920.00
- Total cost would equal \$66,870.00
- The total cost does not include training costs, installation costs, equipment maintenance, coverage after school, coverage at sporting events, possible storage, and electrical costs.
- A chart indicating the safety and security measures that have been instituted in 1999-2000, 2013–2014, and 2015-2016.
- A chart showing the percentage of public schools with one or more security staff present at least once a week by school level for 2005-2006 and 2015-2016.

Next, Assistant Superintendent Sheila Hoffman announced that Safety Teams have been established for the district, high school, and junior high school. Utilizing funds from the *Safe and Supportive Schools Grant*, a facilitator has been secured and first meetings should begin at the end of February.

Mr. Lemanski then pointed out that the use of wands has been very successful for detecting vapes. He further explained that students who are suspected of having a vape are escorted to a private area in the administrative area where the wand is used. He said that further review into using vape detectors in bathrooms is being investigated.

At the conclusion of his report, the Committee thanked Mr. Lemanski for his report and also thanked Mrs. Hoffman for all of her efforts establishing the three Safety Teams.

Under Subcommittee Updates, none were given.

Under New Business, SCR-19-02, *Request to Allow Former School Committee Members to Present Diplomas at Graduation*; SCR-19-03, *Approval of Agawam Retired Employee Association Scholarship*; SCR-19-04, *Approval of the 2019-2020 AHS Program of Studies*, and SCR-19-06, *Approval of AHS Athletic Hall of Fame Committee Scholarship* were moved to the next meeting.

Policy Review: On a motion made by C. Mineo, 2nd by K. O'Connor, the Committee voted to approve the 1st reading of Policy JE-1, *Attendance Policy Grades K-8*.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Next, on a motion made by T. Wilkie, 2nd by S. Reed & K. O'Connor, the Committee voted to approve the 1st reading of Policy JE-2, *Attendance Policy Grades 9-12*.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Items: On behalf of her colleagues, Mr. Sapelli wished Mrs. Rua well. K. O'Connor thanked Mr. Lemanski for arranging the site visit to Commerce High School and said she is pleased that the three Safety Teams have been established. S. Reed praised the *Principal's Report* of Granger School Principal, Cheryl Salomao, saying how well written and informative it is. A. Bonavita said he is very proud that school committee member will be serving on the three Safety Teams and Safety Committee. He noted that transparency is important to help the public understand what steps are being taken to keep students and staff safe. C. Mineo said he enjoyed the Safety/Site Visit Update. He also wished the New England Patriots success in their bid for another Super Bowl title on February 3rd.

There being no further business, on a motion made by K. O'Connor, 2nd by S. Reed & T. Wilkie, the Committee voted to adjourn.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Time: 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis Ferioli

Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/School Committee

C. Mineo, Committee Secretary