

Vice Chair, S. Reed, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Roberta G. Doering School auditorium.

Present: A. Bonavita, B. Burbank, D. Juzba, C. Mineo, & W. Rua,  
W. Sapelli, A. LeClair, R. Clickstein, & student representative Joseph Joyal

Absent: R. Cohen

On a motion made by W. Rua, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B. Burbank, the Committee, via roll call, voted to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

S. Reed reconvened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

Under Highlights on Education, AHS Advanced Placement advisor, Scott Trahan, presented an update regarding the college-level program. In his PowerPoint presentation, the following information was shared:

- What is the Advanced Placement Program
- Program expectations
- Saturday study sessions
- AP test practice during March MCAS
- Sustained Partnership Agreement with Mass. Insight Education
- 240 students will take over 458 exams in 11 different subjects
- High enrollment of 19.53% for 2017
- AP French and Spanish not offered this year
- 66.5% of students received qualifying scores of 3 or higher in 2016
- AP scores of 4 & 5 have increased
- Raw data of exams taken and scores

A brief question and answer session then took place during which the Committee thanked Mr. Trahan for his dedication to the AP Program and for all his efforts on behalf of our high school students.

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

- Announcement that Lockdown Drills have been successfully completed at all schools during October. The emergency drills will be repeated in the spring as part of the district's preparedness training.
- Announcement that the AHS Drama Club will perform the play, *The Crucible*, on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7 to 9 pm. in the high school auditorium. General admission tickets are \$5 and \$3 for seniors and students. Children under 5 are free.
- Attendance at the *Annual Joint MASC/MASS Conference* in Hyannis from November 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>. Also attending will be Dr. LeClair, Mrs. Rua, & Mr. Burbank.
- Reminder that Rosie Robotics will be hosting its *Annual World Famous Ziti Dinner* on November 4<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church on Main Street. Tickets are \$8 and can be purchased from any Agawam Robotics Team member.
- Reminder that schools will be closed for students on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> in observance of *Election Day*. Staff will participate in professional development activities.
- Reminder that schools will be closed for students and staff on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> in observance of *Veteran's Day*. Schools will reopen on Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Announcement that the annual *Fall Band Concert* will take place on November 16<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. The concert is free and open to the public.
- Reminder that the next DWST meeting will take place on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m. in the high school cafeteria

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

- The Athletic Facility is almost complete. Bleachers still need to be installed.
- Students love the new locker rooms and bathrooms. They have increased student pride in their school.

- Students will be dressing in costumes on Halloween
- The first meeting of the Student Advisory Committee will take place on October 26<sup>th</sup> with Food Service Director, Joel Illouz
- Hope that a fundraiser will be held in the near future for Mr. DeStefano, who recently suffered a heart attack while coaching a game

Under Unfinished Business, on a motion made by D. Juzba, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Bonavita, the Committee voted to approve SCR-16-27, *Approval of AJHS Trip to Washington, DC from April 17<sup>th</sup> to April 21, 2017.*

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Under Business meeting, on a motion made by C. Mineo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Juzba, the Committee voted to approve the October 11, 2016, regular meeting minutes.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

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

Next, on a motion made by D. Juzba, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Bonavita, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve the following warrants as read: SW-17-19 in the amount of \$33,565.33; SW-17-20 in the amount of \$13,837.75; SW-17-21 in the amount of \$134,018.80; SW-16-22 in the amount of \$97,604.98; and SW-16-23 in the amount of \$76,644.85. Also approved was payroll warrant PW-16-14 in the amount of \$2,781,349.78.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Under Reports, S. Reed announced that the Committee should have received a *Personnel Update* paper report in their packet of materials.

Next, School Business Administrator, Robert Clickstein, presented a *Financial Update*. In his report, Mr. Clickstein pointed out that elementary schools have expended approximately 80% of their individual budgets and 13.1% of the overall FY'16 Budget has been expended, as of September 2016.

The final report of the evening was the *School Year 2016-2017 District Priorities* as presented by Superintendent of Schools, William Sapelli. Mr. Sapelli provided the Committee with a PowerPoint presentation which included the following information:

- The Four Standards of Instructional Leadership, Management & Operations, Family & Community Engagement, and Professional Culture
- Performance indicators for each standard
- Goals for 2016 – 2017
- Proposed goals for 2017-2018

At the conclusion of his presentation, a brief question and answer session took place during which Committee members thanked Mr. Sapelli for his very informative, well organized, and detailed report.

Under Subcommittee Updates, none were given.

Under New Business, SCR-16-28, *Approval of AHS Graduation Ceremony on Saturday, June 10, 2017, at 1 p.m. at Symphony Hall*, was moved to the next meeting.

Items: C. Mineo reminded everyone to vote on November 8<sup>th</sup> and to vote NO on Question 2 regarding Charter Schools. A. Bonavita pointed out that the compensation for those who serve on the City Council and School Committee is not equitable, as Council members receive twice as much money as School Committee members. He also believes that the Mayor's salary should be comparable to other Mayors who lead towns/cities with the same population. He proposed a salary increase of \$12K for City Councilors and \$7K for Committee members as fair compensation, as well as a salary of \$95K-\$100K for the Mayor who also serves as school committee chair. D. Juzba also urged residents to vote and to vote NO on Question 2. W. Rua congratulated the AHS Band who won a Bronze Medal in the recent MICA competition. She also announced that our Rosie Robotics Team will be attending the *Western Mass Business West Demo* at the Mass Mutual Center in Springfield on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is the second year the team has been invited to attend the all-day Expo, where high tech, manufacturing, & bio-medical company representatives will be scouting team members for future employment with their firms. She concluded her remarks by proclaiming the first *Hall of Fame Induction* a wonderful, well-organized event. S. Reed echoed her colleague's sentiments noting how wonderful the *Hall of Fame Induction* was and credited Rosemary Stratton and her committee for organizing the excellent event. She also said she

was pleased to hear how the Student Advisory Committee will be meeting with Mr. Illouz to discuss school lunches. She concluded her remarks by asking everyone to keep Mr. DeStefano in their thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery.

There being no further business, on a motion made by C. Mineo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by B. Burbank, the Committee voted to adjourn.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Time: 8:10 p.m.

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

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Diane Juzba, Committee Secretary