

Chair, R. Cohen, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Roberta G. Doering School auditorium.

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

Absent: D. Juzba

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

Under Highlights on Education, there were none scheduled.

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

- Congratulations to those students who participated in the "Be Kind" assemblies at the elementary schools on Friday, January 27, 2017.
- Attendance at the February 8, 2017, MASBO Conference with Mr. Clickstein. The focus of the meeting was Chapter 70 funding.
- Announcement that the high school counseling department will sponsor a special presentation for incoming 9th grade students and their families on February 16, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. At this presentation, students will learn how to select high school courses.
- Reminder that the Budget/Finance Subcommittee will meet on Thursday, February 16, 2017, at 5 p.m. in the central office conference room
- Reminder that schools will be closed for Winter Recess from Monday, February 20th through Friday, February 24th. Schools will reopen on Monday, February 27th.

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

- Happy Valentine's Day to everyone
- Various high school clubs were hosting fundraisers in honor of Valentine's Day
- Winter sports are wrapping up
- The Girls Basketball Team has their "Senior Night" tonight
- Team meeting will be happening soon in preparation for Spring sports
- Up-coming school trips include students traveling to Killington, Vermont and Great Barrington, Mass.
- The recent assemblies with guest speaker Chris Herron were life changing with many students in tears after hearing his life story fighting substance abuse.

Under Unfinished Business, on a motion made by S. Reed, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to approve SCR-17-01, *Approval of the 2017-2018 AHS Program of Studies*.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Under Business Meeting, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by C. Mineo, the Committee voted to approve the January 10, 2017, regular and executive session minutes. Also approved were the January 19, 2017, and February 7, 2017, Special Meeting minutes.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Under Correspondence, Mrs. Juzba was absent, so no report was given.

Next, on a motion made by S. Reed, 2nd by B. Burbank, the Committee voted to approve the following warrants as read: SW-17-40 in the amount of \$11,197.07; SW-17-41 in the amount of \$40,139.23; SW-17-42 in the amount of \$62,766.18; SW-17-43 in the amount of \$242,362.92; SW-17-44 in the amount of \$50,420.76; SW-17-45 in the amount of \$6,093.06; SW-17-46 in the amount of \$707,502.52; and SW-17-47 in the amount of \$93,705.57. Also approved was payroll warrant PW-17-02 in the amount of \$2,786,418.11.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Under Reports, R. Cohen said Committee members should have received three paper reports in their packet of materials regarding Personnel, School Choice, and a Financial Update.

Under Subcommittee Updates, none were given

Under New Business, SCR-17-02, *Adoption of the 2017-2018 School Calendar*, was moved to the next meeting.

Next, due to timeliness, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by S. Reed, the Committee voted to suspend the rules in order to take action on SCR-17-03, *Request to Support the Appropriation of Funds for the Boiler Replacement Project at the Roberta G. Doering School*.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Then on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by C. Mineo, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve SCR-17-03.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Under Personnel, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee, via roll call, voted to reconfirm all of the votes that were taken at the Special Meetings that took place on January 19, 2017, and February 7, 2017, regarding the Superintendent Search. Those votes included accepting the Superintendent’s resignation; external search; composition of search committee; 10 days posting, timeline, and salary. Also approved were the votes taken regarding conducting a survey for community feedback utilizing Survey Monkey; conducting a “Meet & Greet” for residents to meet finalists; a writing prompt for applicants; and a stipend for the search coordinator.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Next, Committee members selected interview questions by number from samples provided by MASC. Those questions selected in each category are as follows:

- Budget - #2 & #3
- Curriculum - #1 & #4
- Leadership - #1 & #2
- Vision - #2 & #4
- Community - #2 & #4
- Law - #1 & #4
- Management - #1 & #2

Items: W. Rua said she had attended the February 3rd DWST meeting and praised the presentation of our truancy officer John Nettis. She also hopes that he can repeat his very impressive presentation at one of the school committee meetings under Highlights on Education. Mr. Sapelli said he will definitely make that happen. S. Reed said she attended the Chris Herron presentation at the high school and noted what a motivational and well-spoken speaker Mr. Herron is. She also wished everyone and her husband a Happy Valentine’s Day. B. Burbank asked when the next Chris Herron presentation will take place at the junior high school. Mr. Sapelli said it is tentatively scheduled for March 21st. A. Bonavita stated he was happy that it did not snow so the meeting could take place, as the past two school committee meeting had to be cancelled due to inclement weather. C. Mineo stated that he was pleased by the evening’s productive meeting and how the Superintendent Search is moving forward. He also wished the students and staff a happy and safe February vacation week. R. Cohen thanked Tracy Wilkie of the Shane Foundation and Mr. Sapelli for organizing Mr. Herron’s presentation, noting that Mr. Herron has already received 40 – 50 emails from students. He also reported that the Shane Foundation provided several free T-shirts to students who attended the assemblies.

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

Vote: 6 – 0 – 1 absent

Time: 7:38 p.m.

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

D. Juzba, Committee Secretary