

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

Present: A. Bonavita, C. Mineo, K. O'Connor, S. Reed; W. Rua, & T. Wilkie
S. Lemanski, S. Hoffman, R. Clickstein, & student representative Honesty Osbourne

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

Under Highlights on Education, Mayor Sapelli announced that the scheduled Safety Update had to be postponed and will be rescheduled to another meeting.

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

- Congratulations to AHS seniors Angela Garvin and Alia Godek, who finished in 1st and 2nd place, respectively, in the *Girls PVIAC Western Mass Golf Championship*.
- Announcement that the *AHS Unified Basketball Team* will play their first game on October 11th at 4 p.m. in the junior high school gymnasium.
- Reminder that the *Third Annual Agawam High School Athletic Hall of Fame* ceremony will take place on Sunday, October 14th at 12 noon in the high school gymnasium.
- Attendance at the *Annual Mass CUE Conference* in Foxboro on October 19th.
- Attendance at the *Associated Industries of Massachusetts* regional meeting on October 18th at the Wistariahurst Museum in Holyoke.
- Announcement that the 8th grade band will travel to the University of Mass in Amherst on October 18th where they will hear talented musicians play in concert band, jazz band, and wind ensembles.
- Announcement that the *School Building Committee* will meet on Wednesday, October 24th at 4:30 p.m. in the junior high school library.
- Reminder that *Rosie Robotics Annual World Famous Ziti Dinner* will take place on November 2nd from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church on Main Street. Tickets can be purchased from any Robotics Team member.
- Announcement that the junior high school will host its *Annual Social Night* for 7th and 8th grade students on Friday, October 26th from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Under Student Advisory Committee Representative Update, Honesty reported on the following activities and events taking place at AHS:

- The Student Advisory Council met on October 5th and decided that their focus this year will be on wellness in schools (vaping & opioids) and school climate (diversity & different cultures)

Under Unfinished Business, on a motion made by K. O'Connor, 2nd by S. Reed & T. Wilkie, the Committee voted to approve SCR-18-18, *Re-establishment of "Sign Language Club" at AHS*.

Vote: 7 - 0

The next item on the agenda was SCR-18-19, *Election of MASC Voting & Alternate Delegates to Annual Business Meeting*. W. Rua nominated K. O'Connor to serve as Voting Delegate, 2nd by S. Reed. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

Vote: 7 - 0

Then, S. Reed nominated W. Rua to serve as Alternate Delegate, 2nd by C. Mineo. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

Vote: 7 - 0

The third item was SCR-18-20, Adoption of the 2018 MASC Resolutions. Mrs. Ferioli read the following resolutions and the Committee voted on each one as indicated:

- Resolution #1 – *Rejecting the Arming of Educators*
On a motion made by C. Mineo, 2nd by T. Wilkie, the Committee voted to support Resolution #1. Vote: 7 – 0
- Resolution #2, *Small and Rural Districts*
On a motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by S. Reed, the Committee voted to support Resolution #2. Vote 7 – 0

- Resolution #3, *Elimination of the Federal Department of Education*
On a motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by T. Wilkie, the Committee voted to support Resolution #3. Vote 7 – 0
During discussion, Mrs. Rua explained that MASC believes it is important that the Governor as well as local and state government officials advocate for not combining the Department of Education with any other department.
- Resolution #4, *Regional School Transportation*
On a motion made by S. Reed, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to support Resolution #4. Vote 7 – 0
- Resolution #5, *Reporting and Accountability Standards*
On a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by C. Mineo & K. O'Connor, the Committee voted to support Resolution #5. Vote 7-0
During discussion, Mrs. Rua explained that language about private and home schools may be removed as the intent of the resolution was charter schools.
- Resolution #6, *Reproductive Health Education*
On a motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by S. Reed, the Committee voted to support Resolution #6. Vote 7 – 0
- Resolution #7, *Gender Identity Inclusive Athletic Participation Policy*
On a motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by T. Wilkie, the Committee voted to support Resolution #7. Vote 7 – 0
During discussion, W Rua stated that not all district are as advanced regarding gender identity, bullying, diversity, and inclusion compared to our district which does a very good job.
- Resolution #8, *Sports Wagering*
On a motion made by K. O'Connor, 2nd by C. Mineo, the Committee voted to support Resolution #8. Vote 5 – 2 nay
(Nay - A. Bonavita & W. Rua)
During discussion, Mrs. Rua pointed out that the intent of this resolution is similar to that of the failed “millionaire tax.” She further explained that this resolution has much controversy because some claim it endorses casino wagering.
- Resolution #9, *Access to Information for Parents and Students who are Clients of Special Education*
On a motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by T. Wilkie, the Committee voted to support Resolution #9. Vote 6 – 1 nay (S. Reed nay)
During discussion, W. Rua and K. O'Connor agreed that the 5 day period gives parents more time to meet with advocates and attorneys, as well; as to read through the documents. S. Reed pointed out that compliance with this resolution will result in more work hours for staff away from their other duties resulting in an additional cost to the district. Mrs. Reed said she would support the resolution if the copies were made only on request and not for everyone whose child has an IEP.
- *Proposal to Amend the MSASC By-Laws*
On a motion made by S. Reed, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to support amending the by-law by changing the July 1st date to no later than June 1st. Vote 7 - 0

Then, on a motion made by K. O'Connor, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to approve SCR-18-21, *To Establish “Generation 4 Truth Club” as an Extracurricular Activity at AHS.*

Vote: 7 - 0

Under Business Meeting, on a motion made by S. Reed, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to approve the September 25, 2018, regular meeting minutes.

Vote: 7 - 0

Under Correspondence, C. Mineo had nothing to report.

Next, on motion made by C. Mineo, 2nd by A. Bonavita, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve the following warrants as read: SW-19 - 21 in the amount of \$19,364.15; SW-19-22 in the amount of \$39,794.18; SW-19-23 in the amount of \$4,814.83; SW-19-24 in the amount of \$4,110.00; and SW-19-25 in the amount of \$129,026.03.

Vote: 7 - 0

Under Reports, W. Sapelli said that the Committee should have received paper reports regarding *Student/Teacher Enrollment* and *High School Course Elimination* in their packet of materials. The Chair then announced that the LPVEC Update scheduled that evening has been postponed to the next meeting as Executive Director, Andrew Churchill is ill.

Under Subcommittee Updates, S. Reed reported that the Policy Subcommittee had met earlier that evening to review two new policies from MASC as well as one policy that has been revised. She said that two of the policies will be brought forward on the next school committee agenda for a first reading. In the meantime, Mr. Clickstein will review and make revisions to the third policy prior to the next subcommittee meeting.

Under New Business, there was none on the agenda.

Items: K. O'Connor said that she is looking forward to serving as the Voting Delegate at the Joint MASC/MASS Conference in November. In addition, she said she is looking forward to chaperoning the upcoming AJHS Social Night. S. Reed said she was sad to see Robotics on the list of eliminated courses this year. Mr. Lemanski explained the elimination is due to low enrollment. However, if enrollment increases, the course will be re-instated. Mrs. Reed also thanked Mr. Lemanski for sending the Committee a copy of the ALICE training letter that was sent home to parents. She suggested explaining what the letters in ALICE stand for as many parents are uninformed about the safety program. W. Rua pointed out that high school students still receive a ½ credit for the after school robotics program. Mrs. Rua said she was happy to learn that vaping will be one of the focus topics of the Student Advisory Council and is glad students are tackling other hazards as well. She concluded her remarks by congratulating all those student and staff member who took part in the recent "Say Hello" initiative noting that participation was phenomenal. A. Bonavita believes that MASC should get on board with a national registry for those individuals who have mental health problems saying they shouldn't be allowed to buy weapons. He believes that a national mental health registry could be part of Resolution #1. C. Mineo said he is glad that the Safety Update will take place at another meeting because it is such an important topic.

There being no further business, on a motion made by S. Reed & K. O'Connor, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to adjourn.

Vote: 7 - 0

Time: 7:56 p.m.

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

C. Mineo, Committee Secretary