

Vice Chair, S. Reed, 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, & W. Sapelli, & R. Clickstein

Absent: R. Cohen, D. Juzba, A. LeClair, & student representative Joseph Joyal

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

Under Highlights on Education, Mr. Sapelli was joined by School Safety & Truancy Supervisor, John Nettis, in a presentation regarding the safety initiatives in which the district has been involved, to date. In his PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Nettis shared the following information with the Committee and viewing public:

- Phantom 4 Drone
- Radio communication and protocol
- Narcan implementation
- ALICE training (active shooter)
- Medical Emergency Response Teams (MERT)
- CPR/AED/First Aid
- Search procedures
- Report writing
- Restraint training
- Substances that have been tracked, to date
- Pending K-9 and Text-Tip software implementation

At the conclusion of his presentation, the Committee complimented Mr. Nettis saying he is a great asset to the district and his proactive approach to substance abuse problems ensures that the district is on the right track. Committee members also were impressed by the capabilities of the drone, noting that student handbooks will need to include new policy regarding its usage. In addition, the Committee noted how important it is for the community to learn that safety is a priority for our district.

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

- Announcement that Dr. LeClair is attending a City Council Finance Subcommittee meeting that evening along with Building Maintenance Director, Doug White, to answer any questions or concerns about the proposed new boilers for Doering School.
- Congratulations to Doering School Principal, Susan Federico, who was named "School Administrator of the Year" by the Mass. Association of School Counselors. She will receive her award at a luncheon in Boxborough on April 4th.
- On March 9th, the district sponsored its *Annual Kindergarten Information Night* for parents and guardians of students entering Kindergarten next September.
- Announcement that the Springfield Science Museum presented its *Star Lab Outreach Program* to 5th grade students at Doering School earlier that day.
- Reminder that Chris Herron will be presenting to junior high school students on March 21st from 12:15 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Announcement that *Kindergarten Screening* will take place on March 21st and 22nd at Granger School, on March 28th and 29th at Robinson Park School, on April 4th and 5th at Clark School, and on April 12th and 13th at Phelps School.
- Announcement that the *Annual Spring Bands Concert* will take place on March 22nd at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.
- Announcement that Doering School will host a *Family Science Night* on March 23rd from 6 to 8 p.m.
- Announcement that AHS students will be presenting an *Internet Safety* assembly for 3rd and 4th grade students at Robinson Park School on March 24th at 9:30 a.m.
- Congratulations to the *2017 Excellence in Teaching Award* winners, Susan Aubrey; Stephanie Harris; Rebecca Osborn; Ray Peters; and Mary Purdy. The awards banquet will take place on Wednesday, May 3rd at the Log Cabin at 6:00 p.m. Please notify Alexis if you plan to attend by March 24th, so she may order tickets.

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

Under Unfinished Business, there was none on the agenda.

Under Business Meeting, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by C. Mineo, the Committee voted to approve the February 28, 2017, regular meeting and the March 7, 2017, Special Meeting minutes.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Under Correspondence, Mrs. Juzba was absent, so no correspondence was read.

Next, on a motion made by B. Burbank, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to approve the following warrants as read: SW-17-52 in the amount of \$66,275.37 and SW-17-53 in the amount of \$206,886.13.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Under Reports, the only report on the agenda was the Superintendent’s Mid-Cycle Evaluation as presented by William Sapelli, Superintendent of Schools. In his report, the following information was shared:

- Vision Statement
- Goals, Standards, & Indicators
- Smart Goal Descriptions
- Action Steps
- Student-Centered Learning
- Supportive Working Environment
- Student, Staff, & School Safety
- School Building Needs

In his concluding remarks, Mr. Sapelli explained that a three-ring binder had been placed at their seats. These binders contain evidence relating to these goals and action steps, to which the Committee should refer as they review his progress in meeting these objectives, to date.

Under Subcommittee Updates, Budget/Finance Subcommittee Chair, A. Bonavita, said that the group met on March 2, 2017. He explained that, in future, he will ask that all questions go through the subcommittee chair, so that proper procedure can be followed.

Under New Business, SCR-17-04, *Request to Create a Building Committee for a New Early Childhood Center*, was moved to the next meeting.

Under Personnel, on a motion made by B. Burbank, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve the addendums to the School Business Administrator’s and Executive Assistant’s contracts for the Superintendent’s Search.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Next, discussion took place regarding the interview procedure for the Superintendent’s Search candidates. Because the recent snowstorm resulted in the cancellation of the March 14, 2017, regular school committee meeting, that meeting had to be rescheduled to March 16th. Consequently, Mr. Clickstein had to revise the original interview schedule, which was to be approved on March 14th. After reviewing the interview schedule, Mr. Clickstein then explained the various “Meet & Greet” scenarios.

During discussion, A. Bonavita announced that he would be having eye surgery the morning of March 21st, which would result in his not being able to read his interview questions for the candidates later than evening. Therefore, colleague C. Mineo, will read his questions and record the scoring points Mr. Bonavita designates for each candidate. Mr. Bonavita also asked if the Committee would be bringing two candidates forward, as there are only three candidates. R. Clickstein said it was his understanding that two candidates would be brought forward for a second round of interviews, but that was something which the Committee would need to decide. Mr. Clickstein also pointed out that another meeting would be needed to develop the second round of in-depth interview questions.

At the conclusion of discussion, on motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by B. Burbank, the Committee, via roll call, voted to accept the interview procedure for the Superintendent’s Search as presented.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Then, on a motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by A. Bonavita, the Committee, via roll call, voted to select two candidates to be brought forward at the conclusion of interviews on March 21, 2017.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Next, on a motion made by B. Burbank, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee, via roll call, voted to have both finalists attend a “Meet & Greet” at the same time from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on April 5, 2017. One candidate will be located in the AJHS library and the other candidate will be located in the AJHS teacher’s cafeteria.

Vote: 3 – 2 (nay C. Mineo, A. Bonavita) – 2 absent

Then, on a motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by C. Mineo, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve Feedback option #1, “to make comment sheets available at all meetings.”

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Next, on a motion made by B. Burbank, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve Feedback option #2, to invite stakeholders to attend or watch 1st round interviews on television.”

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Then, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by C. Mineo, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve Feedback option #3, “to have the interviews available on the district website and cable channel.”

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

However, Feedback option #4, “to set up a survey monkey for comments from 3/22 to 4/6,” did not receive a motion or second to approve.

Next, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by B. Burbank, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve the interview questions being released to the three candidates on March 16, 2017.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Then, on a motion made by W. Rua, 2nd by A. Bonavita, the Committee, via roll call, voted to approve conducting a special meeting on March 30, 2017, in order to develop the second round of in-depth questions for the two finalists.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Items: S. Reed pointed out that over 20 surveys included positive and complimentary comments about Mr. Sapelli. She then read a few comments, which described him as an outstanding administrator and leader. Mr. Sapelli thanked Mrs. Reed for sharing those comments with him.

There being no further business, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by W. Rua, the Committee voted to adjourn.

Vote: 5 – 0 – 2 absent

Time: 8:29 p.m.

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

D. Juzba, Committee Secretary