

North Attleborough School Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2013

The North Attleborough School Committee met on Wednesday, April 3, 2013 at 7:00pm in the James M. Rice Conference Room at the Woodcock Administration Building.

Committee members present included: Carol Wagner, Joan Meilan, Neal Gouck, Christopher Frost, Chip Poirier, and James McKenna. Kevin O'Donnell was not present.

Superintendent Suzan Cullen, Assistant Superintendent Joel Antolini, Business Administrator David Flynn, and Facilities and Grounds Administrator Kyle Kummer represented Central Administration.

The School Committee returned to regular session at 7:05 pm with Chairman Frost calling the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance followed and Chairman Frost welcomed Ms. Meilan and Mr. Poirier as the newly reelected board members.

Recognition

Superintendent Cullen began by recognizing Steve Dakin who received the outstanding educator award from the North Attleboro/Plainville Rotary Club. Steve is a 7th grade math teacher at the North Attleboro Middle School. Superintendent Cullen then recognized Tanya Urban, Michelle McDermott and Jen Murphy, also teachers from the Middle School, for their participation in the science, technology, engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program. Twenty three STEM professionals presented to over 400 students at the Middle School. The teachers will also share their program at Bridgewater State University STEM Resource Fair on May 23, 2013.

Presentations

Chairman Frost introduced Mr. Ron Sanborn who presented the School Improvement Plan for Community School. Mr. Sanborn thanked his staff for their hard work especially Mrs. Hodge who worked effortlessly with him. He also thanked the PTO and custodial staff. Highlights include:

- *Expand use of data both cause and effect*
- *to continue to function as a PLC main focus is literacy*
- *Focus on gr 3-5 and where they are struggling*
- *Community has 35 students taking part in after school "homework club".*
- *level 2 school*
- *Increased parent participation in the electronic backpack from 60% hard copy to 9%*
- *Implemented above and beyond awards, student job program and continued the cafeteria program and perfect attendance awards.*

Mr. Sanborn stated that the Community School has a grade 5 student council and a new mascot ~ the comets. Mr. Sanborn also indicated that 6 Eno boards, 6 overhead projectors and 6 new teacher computers have been installed, as well as, 26 "newer" computers were installed in the computer lab.

Mr. Poirier made a motion to accept the Community School School Improvement Plan as presented seconded by Mr. McKenna so voted and passed unanimously.

Chairman Frost introduced Mrs. Michelle McKeon, Principal of Amvet Boulevard School. Superintendent Cullen also interjected that Mrs. Corinne Brems, Title I Director would be representing both schools. Mrs. McKeon stated that this is her first time presenting since becoming the principal and thanked the School Committee for inviting them and said they have a lot of exciting things going on. Mrs. McKeon stated that Amvet Boulevard School is a Title One School and Mrs. Brems has been and intrical part of our school. Mrs. McKeon thanked Amvet's Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Nugent, and the Amvet staff who still continue to amaze her. Mrs. McKeon stated that two main themes at Amvet are growth and change. Some areas of growth at Amvet are:

- *Amvet is a Title One school. The staff is testing a web based assessment program called Measured Academic Progress (MAP). The students are tested 3 times a year and the data is used to provide individualized instruction and track the goals. We are able to provide after school support that nearly 70% of the Title 1 students take part in.*
- *Implement teacher evaluation*
- *PLC community is up and growing*
- *Parents and families have been invited to take part in classroom activities*

Some areas of change at Amvet are:

- *Awarded a Lowe's grant which included painting of many areas of the school.*
- *Reconfigured the layout of the classrooms, moved the library to the front of the school in a bright and inviting area.*
- *Raised over \$7000 to upgrade some technology including purchasing 26 refurbished computers for the computer lab, a new printer and 7 overhead projectors for the classrooms. We also provided one new computer in each classroom through the technology CIP.*

In closing, Mrs. McKeon stated that she is most proud of the culture at Amvet School stating that the students are enthusiastic and love taking part in the job assignments, good citizen awards and continue to promote a joyful learning environment.

Mr. Poirier made a motion to approve the Amvet Boulevard School Improvement Plan as presented, seconded by Mr. Gouck so voted and passed unanimously.

Chairman Frost introduced Mr. Aaron Stimson and Mr. Wayne Griffin both teachers at the Middle School who were in attendance to present information regarding the Odyssey of the Mind field trip. Mr. Stimson stated that it has been a very exciting year for the Odyssey students that competed on March 16, 2013 and were the strongest teams to date sweeping the competition. Mr. Stimson then stated that they would like to bring 4 teams (24 students; 3 to 4 adult chaperones) to Michigan on May 22nd for the world competition for the fifth year in a row. Mr. Stimson stated that fundraising has been held to help cover the approximately \$7,500.00 bus fee, as well as, defray other costs, details are still pending, but they are hoping to reduce out of pocket expenses for the parents. Mr. Stimson stated that they are looking for approval and support.

Mr. Poirier made a motion to accept the Odyssey of the Mind trip as presented by Mr. Stimson and Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Gouck so voted and passed unanimously.

Mr. Griffin then stated Friday May 3rd is heritage day and you are all welcome.

Action Items ~ Requiring Votes

Chairman Frost called for a motion to approve bills dated March 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2013 so moved by Mr. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Poirier. So voted and passed unanimously.

Chairman Frost called for a motion to approve School Committee Minutes dated March 4, 2013 so moved by Mr. Poirier, seconded by Mr. Gouck so voted and passed unanimously.

Issues Requiring Votes

Chairman Frost called for a motion to **not** participate in School Choice Program for the 2013-2014 school year as recommended by the Superintendent so moved by Mr. Poirier, seconded by Mr. Gouck so voted and passed unanimously.

Discussion Items

Superintendent Cullen presented her goals for the 2013-2014 year: Professional Practice, District Improvement and Student Learning Goals. Discussion followed. Mr. McKenna suggested that a meeting be held before the next scheduled School Committee meeting to finalize the Superintendent's goals. Chairman Frost suggested that questions and comments be sent to the Superintendent so the goals can be finalized and voted on at the next meeting, a meeting was proposed for April 30, 2013 at 7p.m. which may be cancelled if it is deemed not necessary.

Mr. McKenna excused himself at 8:43 p.m. and did not return to the meeting.

Budget Update

Superintendent Cullen and Business Administrator David Flynn presented the budget update stating that Capital Improvement recommendations of \$933,000 are being sent to the Finance Committee for approval; town collaboration has increased and minimum net school spending, Chapter 70 funds and municipal growth factors determine the budget funding. Both stated that the requested budget for FY2014 is \$37,068,359 and Town Administrator is recommending \$35,079,054 a difference of \$1,989,305.

Cost Avoidance

Mr. Kyle Kummer stated since starting the Energy Ed program in 2007 the District has saved \$1,380,783 in utility costs or 22.4%.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Frost updated the School Committee on the High School activities in Ryan and Kate's absence stating: the Spring Concert was a huge success; Mr. NAHS was also successful with A.J. Sarkis winning the title this year; school athletics are in between seasons, although tryouts have taken place and the upcoming spring season is revving up; third term ends Friday April 5, 2013; April vacation is the week of April 15-19; Sophomores are finished with MCAS; National Honor Society Inductions were March 14th; the band and chorus will be attending MICCA competitions on April 6 and 7 and, finally, the senior class dodgeball tournament was a huge success.

Chairman Frost called for a motion to adjourn the meeting indicating there will be no executive session so moved by Mr. Poirier, seconded by Mr. Gouck so voted and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Submitted by: Linda Henriksen