AVON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Patrick Clark Drive · Avon, MA 02322 · (508) 588-0230 · fax (508) 559-1081**

# THE MISSION STATEMENT:

**To educate all students to be lifelong learners and responsible citizens in a global society.**

#### SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

#### Minutes

#### *February 15, 2023*

**Regular School Committee Meeting 5:30 AMHS Media Center/ Zoom**

**JOIN ZOOM MEETING**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86326894221?pwd=Y1Fkb25MSE85UWQrb1U2U2ZRNHdjdz09>

**Dial +1 929 205 6099**

**Meeting ID:  863 2689 4221**

**Passcode: 604805**

**This meeting is being recorded by local cable. It will be shown multiple times on channel 98. Links to view this meeting can also be found on Avon Cable Access’s website, avontv.org, as well as, the Avon Public School’s website,** [**www.avon.k12.ma.us**](http://www.avon.k12.ma.us)**. Anyone wishing to record this open session must inform the committee so that such recordings can be properly announced.**

**Any citizen wishing to speak before the Committee shall identify themselves by name and address and shall speak for no longer than 3 minutes. No citizen may speak more than once without permission of the Chair. All citizens shall speak to the full committee through the Chair and shall not address individual members or administrators. Individuals may address topics on the agenda, items specified for public comment, or items within the scope of responsibility of the School Committee.** **Improper conduct and remarks will not be allowed. Defamatory or abusive remarks are always out of order. If a speaker persists in improper conduct or remarks, the Chairperson may terminate that individual's privilege of address.**

**AVON SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Tracy Sheehan, Chair**

**Anne Hagberg, Vice-Chair**

**Maria Piccirilli, Secretary**

**Claudia Lucia, Member**

**Paul Chapman, Member**

STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Gianna Rosa and Brynn Gaynor

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS: Christine Godino

1. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:
2. **THE SIGNING OF WARRANT/PAYROLL:**
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
4. **INFORMATION:**
5. Student Advisory Update

**Butler**

Butler ASA is holding a Special Someone Dance March, 10. Butler Students continue with Care Values and Responsibilities Student of the Month. Student of the month receives a prize and an extra recess. Butler Students made Valentines for the Council of Aging as well as for a teacher they think is special at the Butler.

**AMHS**

AMHS had a successful parent info night 1/31 and will hold a parent and student transition night March 16. AMHS students continue to work on skill of the month. This month’s skill is using context clues for unfamiliar vocabulary. AMHS Basketball and Cheer hosted a Butler night. Butler students were assistant coaches and were able to shot free throws at half time. Seniors were also honored for their work throughout the years. The Girls Varsity Basketball Team made it to the tournament for the first time in 10 years. Beginning in March students will begin selecting courses from next year. The Student Advisory Council will do their first episode of Panther Prospective tomorrow featuring Shawn Desmond and Julie Minahan.

1. International Trip 2025-Kerriann Whitworth

Kerriann Whitworth presented the proposal to bring back to International Travel Program. The trip would be to England and Scotland in Spring 2025. The trip would be through EF tours and would be 9 days with potential of a 2-day extension to Paris. There would be sightseeing tours led by a licensed expert and the trip would include visits to Edinburgh Castle, York Minister, Gardens at Anne Hathaway’s cottage, Shakespeare’s birthplace, New College, Windsor Castle and with the extension Louvre, Notre- Dame Cathedral.

1. Superintendent Report

Tracy Sheehan and the superintendent met with Holbrook last week to discuss collaboration between our districts. The meeting was mistakenly posted. There was not a quorum of either committee-the discussion was informal. That is why the posting was rescinded. Regionalization was discussed but it seems the Holbrook community is not interested at this time. The meeting also went on to discuss developing an MOU for special education programs and services and furthering our relationship with cooperative sports. Meetings with the special education directors and athletics directors will be set up.

As you may have heard in the news, several hoax “swatting" telephone threats were made during the past two days of an active shooter at schools in Massachusetts. The male caller states that he is armed with an "AR-15" and "pipe bombs" in a backpack. The call ends with the sound of gunfire. Similar hoax calls have been reported throughout the United States. The calls come in from various area codes and the caller will sometimes state a name if prompted. In the Commonwealth, the calls have been coming directly into the police department. Our staff were made aware of the events and are prepared through ALICE training to deal with such situations.

On February 2nd the Superintendent, Scott Hulien and Brian Cream, attended the South Shore Superintendents Lighthouse meeting which focused on Cybersecurity. There have been several school districts that had ransomware attacks most recently Nantucket. The tech department from Whitman Hanson who were part of a ransomware attack last summer, presented. The session was very informative. Scott and Brian have said we are well positioned.

The Superintendent spoke on the proposal of a submission of a Statement of Interest to the MSBA for renovations to the Butler School. Submitting an SOI is not an invitation into the MSBA's capital pipeline; it is the first step in the MSBA's program. Moving forward in the MSBA's process requires further collaboration between the district and the MSBA. MSBA staff reviews the submitted SOI’s and works to validate the issues identified by districts in their submissions. During this process, the MSBA may seek to obtain additional or clarifying information from districts. If the MSBA invites a district into the Eligibility Period, which requires a vote of the MSBA Board of Directors, the district and the MSBA will work collaboratively to determine potential solutions to the issues identified in the SOI - new construction or addition/renovation projects. Upon the approval of the SOI by school committee vote, the Board of Selectman will be asked to vote. It is required that both boards approve before the SOI is officially submitted.

We are happy to be welcoming Anna Branco who has been hired as the Food Services Director. She will start on March 20th.

We are sorry to announce the Connie Berdine passed away on February 10th. Connie was the principal of the Butler 1997-2005. On behalf of the Avon Public Schools, the Superintendent would like to express our deepest condolences to Connie's family and friends.

1. District Report Card

The District Report has come out and can be viewed under School Profiles on the DESE website.

https://www.doe.mass.edu/

1. AMHS Program of Studies 2023-2024

Principle of AMHS, Shawn Desmond presented new course description for the 2023-2024 Program of Studies. The new courses will consist of new art electives, new English electives and new music electives. New art courses would include Ceramics II, Drawing and Painting II, Fiber Art and Photography II. New English Electives would include Creative Writing I, Creative Writing II and Podcasting: Modern Storytelling. The new Music electives would include Jam Band, Music Theory and Topics in Music and Pop Culture***.***

1. **FINANCIALS:** None at this time.
2. **ACTION ITEMS:** 
   1. A request to approve 2025 International Trip. - Vote Item. Moved by member Chapman, seconded by Member Piccirilli. All in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy, Aye Claudia. Vote Passes.
   2. Having convened in an open meeting on February 15, 2023, prior to the SOI submission closing date, The School Committee of Avon Public Schools, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated April 2023 for the Ralph D. Butler Elementary located at One Patrick Clark Drive, Avon, MA 02322 which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future. The description of the priorities listed on the Statement of Interest Form are as follows:

1. Replacement or renovation of a building which is structurally unsound or otherwise in a condition seriously jeopardizing the health and safety of school children, where no alternative exists.

* Ten interchangeable classrooms are housed in a modular unit (2004). The modular is designed to last 20 years.

2. Elimination of existing severe overcrowding.

* One shared inadequate space for Title I teacher, 2 special educators, art teacher and computer teacher.
* One shared inadequate space for Occupational therapist, Physical therapist, speech and language therapist and a special educator.
* One shared inadequate space for two English learner teachers and one special educator teacher.

3. Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility.

* Roof leaks in modular. Roof was replaced on the main building only in 2011.
* Asbestos tile remains in a large percentage of the main building. Popcorn asbestos ceilings remain in the main building.
* Windows in the main hallway are leaking. Half were replaced in 2004 and the remainder were replaced in 2007.

4. Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements.

* There is no library, no music room, no art room, no motor room and no computer lab.
* There are no conference rooms.
* There is no private exam space in the nurse’s office.

; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this State of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the town of Avon in filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The Avon School Committee authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to submit the Statement of Interest to the MSBA. -

Vote Item.

Moved by member Chapman, seconded by Member Piccirilli. All in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy, Aye Claudia. Vote Passes.

1. A request to approve proposed changes to the Butler Student Handbook. -Vote Item.

Moved by member Chapman, seconded by Member Piccirilli. All in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy, Aye Claudia. Vote Passes.

1. A request to approve proposed changes to the AMHS Student Handbook. - Vote Item.

Moved by member Chapman, seconded by Member Piccirilli. All in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy, Aye Claudia. Vote Passes.

1. A request to approve AMHS Program of Studies 2023-2024-Vote Item.

Moved by member Chapman, seconded by Member Piccirilli. All in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy, Aye Claudia. Vote Passes.

1. A request to approve NHS –Individual Service Project to donate to South Shore Health Foundation. -Vote Item.

Moved by member Chapman, seconded by Member Piccirilli. All in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy, Aye Claudia. Vote Passes.

1. A request to enter into negotiations with AFSCME. - Vote Item.

Moved by member Chapman, seconded by Member Piccirilli. All in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy, Aye Claudia. Vote Passes.

1. **OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
2. Subcommittees:
3. **KEEP THIS IN ALL AGENDAS**
4. Budget Subcommittee: FY23, FY24
5. Personnel Subcommittee:
   1. Collective Bargaining Agreement between Avon Education Association (AEA) and the Avon School Committee.
6. Maintenance Subcommittee:
7. Policy Subcommittee:
8. Insurance Subcommittee:
9. VOTE ON THE MINUTES OF:
   1. Regular School Committee minutes of January 18, 2023. Vote Item.

**Motion to waive the reading of the** Regular School Committee minutes of January 18, 2023 **moved by member Chapman,** seconded by Member Piccirilli. All in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy, Aye Claudia. Vote Passes. Motion to approve Regular School Committee minutes of January 18, 2023 **moved by member Chapman,** seconded by Member Piccirilli. All in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy, Aye Claudia. Vote Passes.

NEW BUSINESS:

* + 1. -Any business not reasonably anticipated by the Chair.

1. **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**
2. Personnel Subcommittee Meeting at 6:00 pm Tuesday March 7, 2023-Executive Session
3. Regular School Committee Meeting at 5:30 pm Wednesday, March 15,2023
4. Personnel Subcommittee Meeting at 6:00 pm Tuesday, March 21, 2023-Executive Session
5. Professional Development Workshop for School Committee at 5:30 pm Wednesday March 22, 2023
6. Regular School Committee Meeting at 5:30 pm Wednesday, April 26, 2023
7. Regular School Committee Meeting at 5:30 pm Wednesday May 17, 2023

**XI. ADJOURN:**

Motion to adjourn moved by member Chapman, seconded by Member Piccirilli. All in favor, Aye Paul, Aye Maria, Aye Anne, Aye Tracy, Aye Claudia.

*The Avon Public Schools is committed to ensuring that all of its programs and facilities are accessible to all members of the public.  We do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, gender, gender identity, homeless status, or sexual orientation.*