

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

December 20, 2023

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

AVON SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Tracy Sheehan, Chair
Anne Hagberg, Vice-Chair
Maria Piccirilli, Secretary
Claudia Lucia, Member
Paul Chapman, Member

STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Brynn Gaynor and Gianna Rosa

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS:

Christine Godino

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- I. The Meeting was called to order by the Chair of the School Committee, Tracy Sheehan at 5:30pm.
- II. **Student Advisory Report**

Butler

Butler School will be celebrating the holidays with the Butler Holiday Concert at 6:00pm, Thursday December 21, 2023 in the cafeteria. Come see our third, fourth, and fifth graders perform holiday and pop music favorites. The fall food drive was a big success! A huge thank you to the Butler community who came out big and donated to the food drive over the last couple of weeks. Thanks also to the Austrino family for organizing the food drive. With your help and generosity, we were able to donate 573 items or 473 lbs. of food to the Avon food pantry. Great job, bulldogs! Winter break begins on Monday, December 25 and continues through January 1. Enjoy the time with your families!

AMHS

Students were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society and National Honor Society on December 5th. We inducted 10 students into the National Junior Honor Society: Emma Denham, Cole Faro, Avery Fillion, Amber James, Lucas Meressi, Sydney Olszewski, Brandon Roach, Meagan Sawyer, Colleen Smith, and Kieu-Vy Tran. We also inducted 12 students into the National Honor Society: Christine Auguste, Jelissa Barbosa, Victoria Dang, Chloe Dantus, Tyler von Ehrenkrook, Shayna Finkle, Madelyn Fuller, Micaella Gomes, Lily Hagberg, Emanuela Izadore, Mia Jerry, and Sebastain Montesuma. We are very proud of these students and their accomplishments as they are recognized for their Scholarship, Service, Leadership, and Character. College acceptances have begun and will continue throughout the spring. One student we want to highlight is Senior, Yvangi Jacques. Yvangi has received a full scholarship to Dartmouth College! We are extremely proud of all the hard

work Yvangi demonstrates throughout the school and community and look for others to follow his lead in the years to come. Congratulations Yvangi! We hosted the Winter Art Show and Concert on December 14th. The evening was a great success with some amazing art on display and for sale and some outstanding performances by our Middle School and High School Choirs and Bands. Congratulations to Ms. DiChiara, Mr. Wood, Mr. Ellis, Ms. Neprud and all of the students for a great evening! Winter Sports are up and running. Middle School Basketball, Girls Varsity Basketball, Boys JV and Varsity Basketball, and Varsity Cheerleading have started off their seasons well. We look forward to seeing their success over the next few months. We will be hosting our annual Talent Show during the school day on Friday where many teachers and students will be showcasing their talents. It will be a great way to lead into winter break!

III. Update on Contract Negotiation Status- Tracy Sheehan, Chair

The full update can be found on the School Committee's website.

<https://www.avon.k12.ma.us/district/school-committee/files/aea-contract-negotiations-update-12202023>

IV. Superintendent Report

The Butler School was not invited into the MSBA program. Overall, the MSBA received 63 SOI's from 52 different school districts for consideration in 2023. In reviewing SOI's, the MSBA identifies the school facilities that have the greatest and most urgent need based on an assessment of the entire cohort of SOI's that are received for consideration each year. I spoke to a representative from the MSBA and she encouraged us to submit a statement of interest this coming year. The submission is due in April. On Saturday, December 23 beginning at 8:30 Santa will be riding around town with the Avon Fire Department on Engine 3. The route is posted on AvonFD.com. Donovan Fauvelle, a Butler teacher, Assistant Principal Adam Dackers and Curriculum Coordinator, Laura Louko will attend training to become Science Ambassadors sponsored by DESE at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in January. They will collaborate with DESE staff and science teachers from all over the state to learn more about the new STE MCAS and new classroom performance tasks. They will also prepare materials to bring back to the district. At AMHS, the middle school teachers have begun implementing RACE writing organizers across all content areas. Specialists, subject area teachers, Principal Desmond and Laura Louko have met twice as a team during the rollout to discuss best practices and to review student performance. The tool will give students a common strategy to organize writing regardless of the subject area and teachers will work to develop a shared understanding of the process of teaching writing across content areas as well as assessing student work. We currently have two open positions both at AMHS, a computer science teacher and an ELL teacher.

V. Superintendent's Goals

The Superintendent presented 3 Leadership Goals for the 2023-2024 School Year. The first is focused in district improvement. The Goal is to submit an SOI for the Butler School to the MSBA. The second is focused in professional practice. The goal is to develop and implement an action plan to address diversity, equity and inclusion. The third is focused on student learning. The goal is to work directly with AMHS administrators to decrease chronic absenteeism from 25.7% to 15% by June 2024.

VI. FINANCIALS

Kathy McDonald presented the proposed FY2025 Budget and highlighted any significant changes. Some noted changes would include an additional Guidance counselor salary, an additional SPED and ELL teacher at AMHS. Other noted changes in Budget from last year is the actual contractual salaries of the three positions hired this year, Assistant Superintendent of Pupil Services, Butler Principal and Curriculum Coordinator and budgeted teacher salaries.

VII. ACTION ITEMS:

A request to approve the FY25 Budget. Vote Item.

Moved: Member Chapman

Seconded: Member Piccirilli

All in Favor: Paul, Maria, Anne, Lael, Tracy. Vote Passes.

VIII. Subcommittees:

Budget Subcommittee: FY23, FY24

Personnel Subcommittee: Collective Bargaining Agreement between Avon Education Association (AEA) and the Avon School Committee.

Maintenance Subcommittee:

Policy Subcommittee:

Insurance Subcommittee:

IX. VOTE ON THE MINUTES OF:

Motion to waive the reading of Regular School Committee minutes of November 15, 2023

Moved: Member Chapman

Seconded: Member Piccirilli

All in Favor: Paul, Maria, Lael, Tracy. Vote Passes.

Motion to approve of the Regular School Committee minutes of October 18, 2023.

Moved: Member Chapman

Seconded: Member Piccirilli

All in Favor: Paul, Lael, Maria, Tracy. Vote Passes.

X. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Policy Subcommittee Meeting at 5:00pm Thursday, January 4, 2024

Regular School Committee Meeting at 5:30pm Wednesday, January 17, 2024

Policy Subcommittee Meeting at 5:30pm Wednesday, January 24, 2024

Personnel Subcommittee Meeting at 4:00pm Wednesday, January 24, 2024- Executive Session

Regular School Committee Meeting at 5:30pm Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Policy Subcommittee Meeting at 5:30pm Wednesday, February 28, 2024

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A SESSION PURSUANT TO MGL CHAPTER 30A, SECTION 21, QUALIFICATION #3, TO CONDUCT A STRATEGY SESSION REGARDING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING WITH THE AEA, AS THE CHAIR DECLARES AN OPEN MEETING WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE BARGAINING POSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.

Motion to go into Executive Session.

Roll Call:

Paul, Maria, Anne, Lael, Tracy

XII. ADJOURN:

Motion to Adjourn.

Moved: Member Chapman

Seconded: Member Piccirilli

All in Favor: Paul, Maria, Lael, Anne, Tracy. Vote Passes.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:46pm.