

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

March 27, 2024

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

I. Meeting was called to order by School Committee Chair, Tracy Sheehan, at 5:33pm.

II. INFORMATION:

A. Student Advisory Update

Butler-MCAS testing season is here! Butler students in grades 3-5 will begin MCAS testing next week, starting with grade 4 ELA on Tuesday, April 2nd. Students have been working hard to prepare all year and are excited to show off what they have learned!

The ASA is hosting a Someone Special Glow Dance next Friday, April 5th from 6-8. All students are invited to bring an adult for an evening of glow-enhanced dancing! Pizza will be provided.

Butler is hosting a donation bin for Cradles to Crayons crafted by Avery Fillion of AMHS! Donations of new and gently used clothing items are being collected now through April 3rd.

AMHS-The Student Council hosted Mr. Avon on March 14th. It was a mixture of staff and students competing for the title. Congratulations to Mr. Ferro, who won the title Mr. Avon 2024. The 10th grade ELL MCAS was held this week and Middle School Students in 2 weeks. Spring Softball and Baseball are underway. Both Sports have a JV and Varsity Team. Friday, April 5th and Saturday, April 6th the AMHS Drama Club will be putting on a play called the ‘Con’.

B. Town Hall Feasibility Committee Open House Update-Tracy Sheehan

Last Saturday, Tracy Sheehan, School Committee Chair, attended the open house given by the town hall feasibility Committee. The benefit of this project would be the inclusion of the School offices in the new building project.

C. Superintendent Report

Gina Day was hired as the new 5th grade teacher at the Butler. She started on Monday. Most recently Miss Day taught 6th grade social studies and ELA for the Dighton Rehoboth Regional School District.

Candice Quinn has been hired as an ESL teacher for AMHS. She has taught in Barnstable and New Bedford.

Tonight you are being asked to vote to support the MSBA Statement of Interest for the renovation or replacement of the Butler Elementary School. The priorities are outlined and will be discussed further during the vote. If approved by the committee, the Select Board will be asked to vote at their April 4th meeting. Once both boards approve the SOI will be submitted to the MSBA. Last year the MSBA visited the Butler in September and made their decision in December.

D. Early College Update-Shawn Desmond

We are excited to announce a new partnership between Avon Middle High School and Quincy College. Through this partnership, we are looking to create an Early College Pathway where students have the ability to earn college credits beginning in Grade 10 that are transferable and can be used to fill pre-requisite and core course requirements at a number of two and four-year colleges. All current 9th grade students are eligible to apply for this opportunity that will begin in the 2024-2025 academic year. Space will be limited as there are only 15 spots available!

In addition to earning free college credits, we provide students with many tips and success strategies that will allow them to succeed at the college level. We also assist with the college application process, financial aid, and much more to ensure that students are prepared for college.

Below are the courses we will be offering for the 2024-2025 academic year:

Grade 10

Music Across Cultures: 3 credits

Criminal Justice: 3 credits

III. FINANCIALS

IV. ACTION ITEMS:

A. A request to approve line item transfers. Vote Item.

Motioned by: Vice Chair Hagberg

Seconded by: Member Piccirilli

All in favor, Aye Anne, Aye Maria, Aye, Lael, Aye Paul, Aye Tracy. Vote passes.

B. A request to approve the Student Opportunity Act. Vote Item.

Motioned by: Vice Chair Hagberg

Seconded by: Member Piccirilli

All in favor, Aye Anne, Aye Maria, Aye, Lael, Aye Paul, Aye Tracy. Vote passes.

C. A request to approve Sections A & B of the School Committee Policy Manual in form. Vote Item.

Motioned by: Vice Chair Hagberg

Seconded by: Member Piccirilli

All in favor, Aye Anne, Aye Maria, Aye, Lael, Aye Paul, Aye Tracy. Vote passes.

D. Having convened in an open meeting on March 27, 2024, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the Avon School Committee of The 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 April 2024 for the Ralph D. Butler Elementary School located at 1 Patrick Clark Drive Avon, Ma which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

Priority 2- Elimination of existing severe overcrowding

- There is on shared inadequate space that is an office for a physical therapist, occupational therapist, an art teacher, and a computer teacher. That classroom also houses equipment for physical and occupational therapy (a swing, therapy balls etc.). The art and computer teachers travel to classroom with all materials on carts.
- There is one shared inadequate space for a Title I teacher and special educator where services for students are provided.
- There is one shared inadequate space for two English learner teachers and one speech and language therapist where services for students are provided.
- The music teacher teaches some classes on the stage which is in the cafeteria/auditorium. During lunch the music teacher travels on a cart to classrooms.
- Due to inadequate space ACCESS testing (mandated for English learners) took place in the cafeteria revolving around lunch times.

Priority 5- 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.

- The modular's were added to the Butler elementary in 2004. Modular's are designed to last approximately 20 years.
- The roof leaks in the modular wing. 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.

Priority 7- Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements.

- There is no library which is a necessary space in an elementary school to increase reading skills, research skills, and open students minds to new ideas.
- No computer room, no music room and no art room limit educational programming in those areas.
- There are no conference rooms. Family engagement and meeting with families is critical. Yearly special education meetings are required.
- There is no private exam space in the nurse's office.
- There are no conference rooms.

; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement 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 other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Avon Public Schools to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Vote Item.

Motioned by: Vice Chair Hagberg

Seconded by: Member Piccirilli

All in favor, Aye Anne, Aye Maria, Aye, Lael, Aye Paul, Aye Tracy. Vote passes.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Subcommittees:
- B. Budget Subcommittee: FY24, FY25
- C. Personnel Subcommittee:
- D. Maintenance Subcommittee:
- E. Policy Subcommittee:
 - a. Policy Manual Review with MASC
- F. Insurance Subcommittee:

V. VOTE ON THE MINUTES OF:

- A. Regular School Committee minutes of March 13, 2024

Motion to waive the reading of the Regular School Committee minutes of March 13, 2024

Motioned by: Vice Chair Hagberg

Seconded by: Member Piccirilli

All in favor, Aye Anne, Aye Maria, Aye, Lael, Aye Paul, Aye Tracy. Vote passes.

Motion to approve the Regular School Committee minutes of March 13, 2024

Motioned by: Vice Chair Hagberg

Seconded by: Member Piccirilli

All in favor, Aye Anne, Aye Maria, Aye, Lael, Aye Paul, Aye Tracy. Vote passes.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Any business not reasonably anticipated by the Chair.

VII. UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- A. Policy Subcommittee Meeting at 5:45pm, Thursday, March 28, 2024-Zoom
- B. Regular School Committee Meeting and Budget Hearing at 5:30pm Wednesday, April 10, 2024
- C. Annual Town Meeting at 6pm Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at AMHS
- D. Regular School Committee Meeting at 5:30pm Wednesday, May 15, 2024

VIII. ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn.

Motioned by: Vice Chair Hagberg

Seconded by: Member Piccirilli

All in favor, Aye Anne, Aye Maria, Aye, Lael, Aye Paul, Aye Tracy. Vote passes.

Meeting adjourned at 6:26pm

