

# ACUSHNET SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2018



The Acushnet School Committee met in the John Tavares Library on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. Members present were Mr. Sumner, Mr. DeTerra, Mrs. Gomes, Mrs. Downing, and Mrs. Tavares. Mr. Shea, Mrs. Flynn, Mrs. Beck, Dr. Greeson, Mrs. Silvia, and Mr. Oliver were in attendance as well as others.

1. Call to Order.

2. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of minutes and payroll and warrants.

a. A motion was made by Mrs. Downing and seconded by Mr. Sumner to approve the minutes of January 16, 2018. The committee approved unanimously.

b. A motion was made by Mrs. Tavares and seconded by Mr. Sumner to approve all payrolls and warrants. The committee approved unanimously.

4. Delegation: None

5. Old Business:

a. Curriculum Update, Dr. Greeson. Dr. Greeson gave a brief update about the district's curriculum, discussing social studies and science. Dr. Greeson also informed the committee that the Department of Education released the revision of the history and social science curriculum frameworks and they are available for the public's review and comment. Mrs. Gomes asked that that information be sent out to parents/guardians. Discussion ensued.

b. Superintendent's Search, Mrs. Gomes. Mrs. Gomes mentioned that the superintendent interviews have begun, and reviewed the remaining schedule.

c. Policy and Evaluation Subcommittee, Mr. Shea. Motion was made by Mr. DeTerra and seconded by Mrs. Downing to approve the changes to policy IMG-Animals in Schools or on School Grounds. The committee approved unanimously. A motion was also made by Mrs. Tavares and seconded by Mr. Sumner to eliminate policy KEC-Public Complaints about the Curriculum or Instructional Materials. The committee approved unanimously.

d. Playground at the Elementary School, Mr. Shea. At last month's meeting, a parent and teacher brought her concerns to the committee that the playground at the elementary school was unsafe. Mr. Shea, the town administrator and other members of the town inspected the equipment and found that the playground is in fact structurally sound, although some cosmetic work needs to be done. Discussion ensued.

6. New Business:

a. Kindergarten Update, Mrs. Charpentier. Mrs. Charpentier, kindergarten teacher, informed the committee of all the happenings going on in the kindergarten classes, discussing the many service projects the kindergarten classes were involved in, as well as many of the academic activities.

b. Solar System Ambassador Program, Mr. Cote. Mr. Cote provided a power point presentation explaining the Solar System Ambassador Program. Mr. Cote and a number of solar system explorers, provided information regarding their involvement with others across the nation to communicate the science and excitement of NASA's space exploration missions and discoveries to the people in their communities. Discussion ensued.

c. Budget Update, Mrs. Flynn. Mrs. Flynn reviewed the budget as of February 27, 2018 reviewing the anticipated surpluses and deficits. After reviewing all the line items, there is an anticipated total surplus of \$122,555 as of February 22, 2018.

d. Out of State Field Trip Request, Mr. Shea. Mr. Shea presented an out of state field trip request from the fourth grade to go to Mystic Aquarium in Connecticut. A motion was made by Mr. Sumner and seconded by Mrs. Downing to approve the out of state request. The committee approved unanimously. Discussion ensued.

e. School Transportation Bid Opening, Mrs. Flynn. Mrs. Flynn informed the committee that the bid opening for July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021 was held on Feb 14, 2018. Amaral Bus Company and First Student submitted sealed bids. Amaral was the lowest bidder. Mrs. Flynn will examine all the documents submitted by Amaral to make sure they have complied with all the bid requirements and will prepare the contract documents for the committee's signature.

f. Legal Services, Mrs. Gomes. Mrs. Gomes introduced Mrs. Tavares who mentioned that, it might be worth looking into the services provided by Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, our legal advisors, asking about the contract and fees, whether the committee was happy with their services, and availability. Discussion ensued.

g. FY19 Budget, Mrs. Flynn. Mrs. Flynn presented the preliminary FY19 budget to the committee, reviewing budget lines and detailed budget requests. Mrs. Flynn noted that the FY19 budget in the amount of \$14,207,094 is a 2.49% increase from last year's budget. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Mr. Sumner and seconded by Mr. DeTerra to approve the FY19 preliminary budget. The committee unanimously approved.

7. Business by Members and Administration: Committee members asked about lunch room procedures and concerns. Discussion ensued. Mrs. Flynn mentioned that the Bristol County Sheriff's Office work crew was in the buildings doing some cleaning; also the custodial staff was trained to use the new electrostatic sprayers.

8. Communication and Information: As noted in packet.

9. Executive Session: None

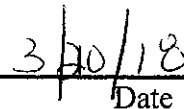
10. Adjourn: The next regular meeting will be held in the John Tavares Library at the Ford Middle School on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 immediately following the public hearing on the FY19 budget. A motion was made by Mrs. Downing and seconded by Mr. Sumner to adjourn the meeting. Vote was unanimous by roll call.

Mr. Sumner	Yes
Mr. DeTerra	Yes
Mrs. Gomes	Yes
Mrs. Tavares	Yes
Mrs. Downing	Yes

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:  
Mary E. Carter, Secretary

  
Signature

  
Date