

ACUSHNET SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2017

The Acushnet School Committee met in the John Tavares Library on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. Members present were Mr. Sumner, Mr. DeTerra, Mrs. Gomes, Mrs. Downing, and Mrs. Tavares. Mr. Shea, Mrs. Flynn, Mrs. Silvia, Dr. Greeson, and Mr. Oliver were also 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 Mr. Sumner and seconded by Mrs. Tavares to approve the minutes of October 17, 2017. 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: No comments.

5. Old Business:

Mrs. Gomes asked the committee's permission to go out of order so that Mr. Polansky, Old Colony High School Superintendent, could give his presentation to the committee and the public. The committee agreed. Mr. Polansky showed a brief video which promoted many of the educational and career opportunities at Old Colony. Amy Pringle, former Ford Middle School Student and senior in the culinary department, also spoke about her experiences at OC and the opportunities that have been afforded to her.

a. Superintendent's Search, Mrs. Gomes and Mr. Hardy. Mr. Hardy gave an update on the search for the superintendent, mentioning that the focus group for the community would be meeting on November 29th at 6:30 p.m. In addition, Mr. Hardy mentioned that the survey was still up and running. He also noted that the search committee will be finalized by December 19th and reviewed the remainder of the superintendent's search timeline. After a discussion as to the makeup of the search committee, a motion was made by Mr. Sumner and seconded by Mrs. Tavares to establish the following 11 participants as follows: two school committee members, two teachers, the town administrator, two principals, two administrators, and two parents. The committee unanimously agreed to the makeup of the search committee. Discussion ensued.

b. Policy and Evaluation Subcommittee, Mr. Shea. At the last meeting Mr. Shea presented policies DJG-Vendor Relations, HA-Negotiation Goals, IJJ-Textbook Selection and Adoption, and JRA-R-Student Records for elimination. Motion was made by Mrs. Gomes and seconded by Mrs. Downing to approve the elimination of the above listed policies. The committee unanimously agreed.

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In addition Mr. Shea presented the following policies for amendment.

(1) BC-Reorganization of the Acushnet School Committee. Motion was made by Mrs. Tavares and seconded by Mrs. Downing to amend the policy as presented. The committee unanimously agreed.

(2) BDE-Subcommittees of the School Committee. Motion was made by Mrs. Downing and seconded by Mrs. Tavares to amend the policy as presented. The committee unanimously agreed.

(3) GCE-Substitute Teachers. Motion was made by Mrs. Tavares and seconded by Mr. Sumner to amend the policy as presented. The committee unanimously agreed.

(4) JEB Policy on Entrance Age of Children to Kindergarten and First Grade. Motion was made by Mrs. Tavares and seconded by Mrs. Downing to amend the policy as presented. The committee unanimously agreed.

6. New Business:

a. Technology Update, Mr. Oliver. Mr. Oliver gave an overview of the status of the numerous projects and new technology equipment that we have in the district. He discussed the expansion of the chromebooks in grades 7 and 8, updating the iPads, the new identification fob printer and many other aspects of the technology department.

b. FMS School Update, Mrs. Silvia. Mrs. Silvia mentioned the upcoming activities at Ford Middle School, which included the hour of code, robotics, the upcoming book fair, field trips, parent/teacher conferences, the second annual Taste of Ford, STEM night, and more.

c. AES Grade 3 Update, Mrs. Aviza and Mrs. Hamilton. Mrs. Aviza and Mrs. Hamilton informed the committee of all the activities going on in the third grade, mentioned their recent trip to Plymouth Plantation and the numerous educational activities going on in the classrooms.

d. Personnel Matters, Mr. Shea. Mr. Shea mentioned that Patricia Carlson K-2 resource room teacher at the elementary school has resigned her position effective November 28th and the position has been advertised.

e. MCAS Review, Mr. Shea. Mr. Shea presented a MCAS power point, reviewing the categories in which the 2017 MCAS scores fall into, reviewing the percentages of students meeting or exceeding expectations in ELA, mathematics, and science. Mr. Shea also reviewed the percentages of students with disabilities in grades 3-8 in math and ELA. Lastly, Mr. Shea discussed the district's short and long term goals to improve results. Mrs. Gomes asked Mr. Shea for comparison scores of the surrounding communities and Mr. Shea will have them for the next meeting. Discussion ensued.

f. FY17 Budget, Mrs. Flynn. Mrs. Flynn gave the final update on the FY17 budget, reviewing purchases made with remaining FY17 budget funds and also the breakdown of the total funds remaining at the end of the year.

g. FY18 Budget Update, Mrs. Flynn. Mrs. Flynn gave an update of the FY18 budget, reviewing transportation, salaries, and tuitions and also reviewed budget surpluses and deficits. Discussion ensued.

7. Business by Members and Administration. Mr. Flynn gave an update on the repair of the pump station. Mr. Sumner asked about the possibility of solar installation and Mr. Shea mentioned that this is on the capital improvement list for further discussion.

8. Communication and Information: As noted in packet.

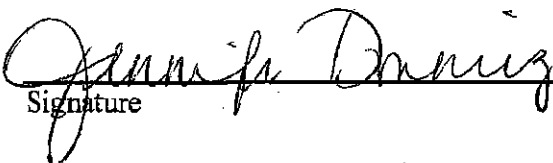
9. Executive Session. To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares and to discuss strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel.


10. Adjourn. The next meeting will be held in the John Tavares Library at the Ford Middle School at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 19, 2017. A motion was made by Mrs. Tavares and seconded by Mr. DeTerra to adjourn the meeting, not to reconvene. Vote was unanimous by role call.

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Mary E. Carter, Secretary


Signature


Date