

ACUSHNET SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF JANUARY 16, 2018



The Acushnet School Committee met in the John Tavares Library on Tuesday, January 16, 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, Mr. Oliver, Dr. Barboza, and Mr. Corrigan 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. DeTerra and seconded by Mrs. Downing to approve the minutes of January 16, 2018. The committee approved unanimously.

b. A motion was made by Mr. Sumner and seconded by Mrs. Tavares to approve the executive session minutes of January 16, 2018 not to be released. The committee approved unanimously.

c. A motion was made by Mrs. Downing and seconded by Mrs. Tavares to approve all payrolls and warrants. The committee approved unanimously.

4. Delegation: Mrs. Coelho, teacher and parent at the elementary school, approached the podium and spoke of her concerns regarding the condition of the playground describing what she feels are unsafe conditions. Mrs. Coelho distributed pictures to the committee.

5. Old Business:

a. Superintendent's Search, Mrs. Gomes. Mrs. Gomes named the 11 individuals who will make up the search committee and reviewed the remaining time table in the search process.

b. Curriculum Update, Dr. Greeson. Dr. Greeson gave an update as to where the district stands in regards to the district's curriculum standards and when they were adopted, realigned, or updated. Discussion ensued.

6. New Business:

a. Use of Facilities for Voting, Mr. Noble and Mrs. Labonte. Mrs. Labonte discussed the possibilities of using the elementary school gymnasium for upcoming elections. Mrs. Labonte explained that using the school facility would result in a cost savings to the community, the building would be more easily accessible, and there is now ample parking due to the addition of the new parking lot. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Mr. Sumner and seconded by Mrs. Tavares to approve the use of the elementary school for voting. The committee approved unanimously.

b. Soccer Fields – Mr. Noble, Mr. Fonseca, and Mr. Macaroco. Mr. Noble introduced Mr. Fonseca who gave some background information about the AYSA league and the current status of the field conditions. Mr. Fonseca mentioned that AYSA would like to develop a field improvement plan and is asking the town and the school committee to approve the development of a plan as well as a long term partnership with AYSA. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Mr. Sumner and seconded by Mr. DeTerra to approve going forward with the improvement plan. The committee approved unanimously.

c. Special Education Update, Dr. Barboza. Dr. Barboza briefly discussed the special education programs provided in the district and discussed some of the related services such as speech and language, occupational therapy, physical therapy, behavioral support and social/emotional support. Dr. Barboza also discussed the special education resource rooms and services provided to the students as well as the out-of-district program. Discussion ensued.

d. Fifth Grade Update, Ms. Meunier. Ms. Meunier, science teacher, informed the committee of the various activities being worked on in the fifth grade, discussing activities during the ELT block, social studies, reading, writing, and math.

e. Bus Contract, Mrs. Flynn. Mrs. Flynn informed the committee that we will be going out to bid for a three year bus contract. She is in the process of reviewing and revising bid specifications and the bid opening is tentatively scheduled for February 14, 2018. Discussion ensued.

f. Curriculum Coordinator/Coach Position, Mr. Shea. Mr. Shea presented a proposal to hire a full time curriculum coordinator/coach for the district, discussing salary, work year, job description, and timeline for hiring. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Mrs. Tavares, seconded by Mrs. Downing to approve the position. Vote passed with four ayes and one nay.

Mr. Sumner	Yes
Mr. DeTerra	No
Mrs. Gomes	Yes
Mrs. Tavares	Yes
Mrs. Downing	Yes

g. Policy and Evaluation Subcommittee, Mr. Shea. Mr. Shea brought two policies to the committee for elimination/revision. Policy IMG-Service Animals in Schools would be amended to reflect that animals are not allowed on school property from 7:30 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. on days when school is in session, except as permitted by state or federal law or regulations for service animals. Policy KEC-Public Complaints about the Curriculum or Instructional Materials would be eliminated as it is included in policy KE. This item will come back for a second reading and vote at the next meeting. Discussion ensued.

7. Business by Members and Administration. Mrs. Tavares asked if the maintenance department could brighten up the school signs. Mrs. Flynn indicated that this has been discussed and is on the list of school improvements. Mrs. Flynn responded to the comments made earlier in the evening regarding school facilities and school grounds noting that as the school business manager, she is aware of the issues presented earlier, they have been discussed and wanted the school committee and the public to know, that all of these issues are being addressed.

Mrs. Gomes mentioned that the PTO will be sponsoring a night at the Providence Bruins on Feb. 26th. The Ford Middle School chorus will be performing prior to the game.

Movie night will be held at the elementary school for grades prek-4 at the end of the month. The cookie and soup fundraiser will be launched at the elementary school on February 13th and at the middle school on the 14th of February.

8. Communication and Information: As noted in packet

9. Executive session: None


10. Adjourn: The next meeting will be held in the John Tavares Library at the Ford Middle School on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. A motion was made by Mrs. Tavares and seconded by Mrs. Downing 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 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Mary E. Carter, Secretary


Signature


Date