

**MINUTES**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Location: 5 West Street, School Committee Room**

**March 15, 2023 6:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance:**

Jessie Harrington

Gail Holloway

Brooke Wrenn

Samantha Raphael

Beth Chamberland, Superintendent

Alan Keller, Assistant Superintendent

Isabella Faber - Student Representative

Karen Ballway

Susan Lopez, SWIS Principal

Jessica Burbank, SWIS Teacher

Nicole & Mackenzie Dulmain - 10 Sunny Side Road (Student Spotlight)

Angelica Mendoza, Paul Cordero & Sandra Cardenas - 902 Heritage Lane (Student Spotlight)

Francine & Liliana Kubert - 83 Hampton Street (Student Spotlight)

Nathalie & Claire Synal - 611 Oxford Street South (Student Spotlight)

**Absent**

Meghan McCrillis

**Zoom**

Ceceila Wirzbicki

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Jessie Harrington called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

Brooke Wrenn read out loud the Auburn Public School Vision & Commitment.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS:** None

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:**

Dr. Chamberland: This past weekend, March 10 -12, the 2023 New Balance Nationals Indoor Championship event took place in Boston at the New Balance Headquarters. This has proven to be the pinnacle high school track and field event, hosting over 3,500 athletes annually. Two of our very own high school athletes attended.

Katherine Defossee (12th grade) - 55m hurdles

Natalie Frazier (10th grade) - 400m race

Dr. Chamberland: On March 7, 2023 at Holy Cross, Nishil Adina, a senior at Auburn High School, was recognized as the Worcester County Superintendent's Scholar. This honor is given to a high school senior who demonstrates a commitment to academic excellence and serves as a role model to students in their school. Nishil has received the Harvard Book Award, as well as a Certificate of Excellence in computer science and a Certificate of Excellence in Physics. Nishil is a leader in the high school International Club and a member of the Student Council. Nishil also received a promotion at work from cashier to membership sales ambassador. Nishil is just one example of the many talented and dedicated students at Auburn High School.

### **Minutes:** 3/1/23

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to accept the minutes from 3/1/23.

Samantha Rapahel made a motion to accept the minutes from 3/1/23. Brooke Wrenn seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:**

Isabella Faber:

- Today was the first out of two days of final exams to finish out the trimester
- Tomorrow, the 16th, will be green out for St. Patrick's day, which is a great opportunity to wear your Auburn Shamrock shirt if you have one.
- On to more exciting things:

- Mr Auburn was extremely successful with a great turnout. Lots of funds were raised with ticket costs, concessions, and fan favorite voting costs. Congratulations to Kevin Duong who is 2023s Mr Auburn.
- This previous Sunday, the junior class held a Disney breakfast fundraiser at AHS. Students dressed up as Disney characters to talk to and take pictures with all the little kids that came to say hi. I did it with a few of my girlfriends, and I was Belle. We also had Cinderella, Jasmine, Elsa, Olaf, Mickey, and Minnie. There was a great turnout.
- Yesterday at 6:30 pm, students who signed up for the Park City, Utah trip boarded their plane and landed around 12:30 am. They were at the airport for over 6 hours because they had to get there before the snow started. I texted one of my best friends who is on the trip asking for updates, and she took that and ran with it, so I got a call from her at 1:15 in the morning after she landed, which is not quite what I meant.
  - I hear there is lots of snow there, which is great because it's a ski trip.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

### **Spotlight on Students:**

Dr. Chamberland introduced Swanson Road Intermediate School Principal Susan Lopez. Mrs. Lopez introduced Jessica Burbank, 4th grade teacher and the following fourth grade students:

Mackenzie Dulmaine  
Liliana Kubert  
Angelica Mendoza  
Claire Synal

The students, along with Mrs. Burbank, shared literature and games that are used in the classroom to promote diversity. The items included, sign language activities, braille games and books and multilingual partner reading books. The items were purchased from cultural grant money that Mrs. Burbank was awarded.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

### **School Choice Enrollment for 2023-2024**

Dr. Chamberland: There has been a review of the expected enrollment in grades 6-12 for the 2023-2024 school year. I have shared the numbers with you in your packet. We have 13 school choice students who will graduate in June, and a small class of students entering grade 6. The recommendation before you for the number of additional students to be accepted into the Auburn Public Schools via our School Choice option in grades 6-12 is 15 for the middle

school and 15 for the high school with a total of 30 new school choice students. We are specifically looking to add in the 6th, 9th and 10th grades, as well as any siblings of current school choice students in other grades. This will result in the total number of school choice students at 92 accepted students, for the 2023-2024 school year. I have spoken with Ed Kazanovicz regarding the 2 incoming housing developments. One seems to have stalled. Perry Place looks to proceed, but is a year or two out. It should not impact our enrollment at this time, and we can revisit our numbers next year.

Brooke Wrenn: The numbers make sense..

Jessie Hrrington: I agree, it does not look like it will be a burden for our staff.

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to *approve the acceptance of 30 new school choice students*.

Samantha Raphael made a motion to *approve the acceptance of 30 new school choice students*. Brooke Wrenn seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Site Manager Stipend**

Dr. Chamberland: Building usage, primarily at Auburn High School and Auburn Middle School is seeing a significant rise. COVID 19 had a negative impact on the number of site managers available to us. The recommendation before you is to increase the site manager stipend from \$15/hour to \$20/hour to allow us to better supervise and monitor groups in our buildings.

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to *increase the site manager stipend from \$15/hour to \$20/hour*.

Brooke Wrenn made a motion to *increase the site manager stipend from \$15/hour to \$20/hour*. Samantha Rapahel seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

## **TEACHING AND LEARNING REPORT:**

Alan Keller: Greg Walton and I have been working together throughout the year enhancing the skills and knowledge of our staff in behavior management and de-escalation. One of the ways we are doing this is by increasing the number of certified Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) trainers from one to three. This offers us increased flexibility in delivering formal training to staff members whose positions require certification in verbal and physical intervention techniques. In addition, our trainers have presented to the faculty at each school offering foundational knowledge in escalation and tools, the goal of which is to equip all educators with strategies that they can apply regularly to support all students.

Dr. Chamberland shared a story regarding a strategy that was shared at a training that she found interesting and helpful.

Jessie Harrington asked, who are our trainers?

Alan Keller responded, Samantha Spezio, Cassie Moriarty and Jessica Pitsillides.

## **BUSINESS/FINANCIAL REPORT:**

### **Year to Date Budget Report**

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a year to date budget report dated March 8, 2023 for review.

### **Budget Transfers**

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a listing of Budget Transfers dated March 8, 2023, between the same series for information and between different series for approval.

Jessie Harrington entertained a motion to *approve the list of Transfers dated March 8, 2023, as presented by the Business Manager.*

Brooke Wrenn made a motion to *approve the list of Transfers dated March 8, 2023, as presented by the Business Manager.* Samantha Raphael seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

### **FY 2022 End of Year Audit Report**

Mrs. Wirzbicki provided a copy of the FY2022 End of Year Audit Report, conducted by Scanlon Associates, LLC for information. The findings did not require any amendments to be made with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

## **Executive Session:**

At 6:34pm Jessie Harrington entertained the motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss the bargaining position with non-union personnel that could be compromised if discussed in open session. We will not return to open session.

Gail Holloway made the motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss the bargaining position with non-union personnel that could be compromised if discussed in open session. We will not return to open session. Samantha Raphael seconded the motion, it was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned into executive session at 6:34pm.

## **Roll Call Vote**

## ***Adjournment***

Respectfully submitted,

Mandy Williams

Recording Secretary

### **Referenced Documents:**

Meeting Minutes for 3/1/23

Auburn Cultural Council Application Summary

Anticipated Enrollment for 2023-2024

Year to Date Budget Report Dated 3/8/23

Budget Transfers Dated 3/8/23

FY22 End of Year Audit Report

**APPROVED: 4-5-23**