

**Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School
School Committee
School Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 21, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
School Committee Conference Room**

In Attendance:

Bill Charbonneau; Christopher Evers; Laura Ross; Lynn Ryan; Peggy Ayres (by remote access); Virginia Simms George

Also:

Ernest F. Houle; Kris Luoto; Mark Hollick; Dawn Bacon; Emily Blackwood

Not In Attendance:

Paul George

The School Committee met in regular session in the Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by the Chair.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Virginia Simms George and seconded by Laura Ross to approve the regular session meeting minutes of January 10, 2017 as presented. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting "yea" on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no "nay" votes.

Bills and Payroll

A motion was made by Virginia Simms George and seconded by Laura Ross to approve Warrant Nos. 19-21, 1070-1088, and 5564-5571. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting "yea" on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no "nay" votes.

Audience

Keith Baldinger was present to give an update on JROTC activities.

Carolyn Madzar was present to answer any questions about the After Dark program and Discovery Camp brochures that were recently sent out.

Student Representative Report

Mr. Hollick gave a student report on behalf of the student representatives. Upcoming and completed student group activities were discussed. A complete list of the activities was provided to members.

Policy

Laura Ross asked if members had any input for previously distributed Policies C-F. Lynn Ryan noted that she had difficulty accessing the documents online. Members were

told the documents will be located in the BoardPaq library. Members will review the policies and prepare to discuss any questions or concerns and vote at the next meeting. Policies G-I will be added to the library for review as well.

Public Hearing

At 7:10, a motion was made by Virginia Simms and seconded to suspend the regular portion of the meeting and enter the Public Hearing for budget review. The motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.

Kris Luoto gave an overview of the FY18 budget and assessments.

At 7:15 p.m., a motion was made by Lynn Ryan and seconded by Virginia Simms George to close the public hearing. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.

Superintendent-Director’s Report

- Ernie Houle discussed his report as follows:
- FY18 Budget Meetings – Meetings are upcoming and School Committee members are encouraged to join the Administration at their respective town meeting.
- DESE CPR Follow-Up Meeting: Safety – A follow-up meeting to the CPR Audit in the fall was held on February 7, the Final Report is expected in July or August.
- Potential Partnerships – Ernie Houle is speaking with several organizations in the area to discuss the possibility of partnerships and/or student internships.
- Manufacturing Roundtable Panel Invitation – Former Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts, Tim Murray recently asked Mr. Houle to be part of a panel discussion held by the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce (WRCC) to be held in March 2017. Mr. Houle will update members after the event.

Additional Items Added after Superintendent-Director’s Report was submitted:

- Ernie discussed his recent meeting with the Superintendent of West Boylston schools and DESE regarding the recent agreement to send West Boylston students to Leominster High instead of Assabet Valley.
- Ernie is in talks with Maynard regarding the TV and Radio Broadcasting program, he will keep the Committee updated.

Director of Business Operations Report

Kris Luoto discussed his report as follows:

- FY18 Budget: Vote on Setting Member Community Assessments – Members received an electronic copy of the Budget Book for FY18. A motion was made by Virginia Simms George and seconded by Laura Ross to approve the member town assessments as set forth in the FY18 Budget Book. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.
- FY18 Health Insurance Renewal – members reviewed the presentation from NFP (the district’s Health Insurance Consultant) regarding rates for FY18. The IAC has met and unanimously recommended the approval of the rates to the School Committee.

A motion was made by Lynn Ryan and seconded by Virginia Simms George to approve the proposed 3% increase for health insurance and 6% increase for dental as defined in the presentation “Medical & Dental Renewal” effective July 1, 2017. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.

- Update on the Assabet Stadium Project (Track and Field Renovation) – Kris updated members on the status of the project. Chris Huntress of Huntress Sports was present to answer any questions from members. Members received copies of the bids submitted. A motion was made by Lynn Ryan and seconded by Virginia Simms George to authorize the Administration to award the stadium project contract to Argus Construction, low bidder, in the amount of \$2,487,000. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.

A motion was made by Virginia Simms George and seconded by Laura Ross to appropriate \$120,000 for contingency funds for the stadium project and to move ahead with the construction of the stadium project. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.

Principal’s Report

Mark Hollick discussed his report as follows:

- 2017-2018 School Calendar – Members received a copy of the proposed 2017-2018 school calendar for review. Lynn Ryan questioned the reason for half-days for staff Professional Development days. Mark noted that this has been preferential in the past. A motion was made by Virginia Simms George and seconded by Laura Ross to approve the 2017-18 school calendar as presented. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.

- School Law – Senate Bill S2449 is currently waiting for final sign-off into law by the Governor. It will require all schools have an Automated External Defibrillator on premises by July 2018, along with staff trained on site for all school events. Assabet currently has four AED units in the building and multiple people are currently trained.
- School Safety and Security – Members were informed that a K-9 police search of the building was conducted on January 27 with the assistance of the Marlborough Police Department.
- Out-of-State/Overnight Travel Requests – The Business Professionals of America are seeking permission to participate in the State Conference from March 2-6 in Framingham, MA. A motion was made by Lynn Ryan and seconded by Laura Ross to approve the request. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.
- A request was made by the AV Sliders Ski Club for permission for a trip to Okemo Mountain on March 5, 2017. A motion was made by Lynn Ryan and seconded by Peggy Ayres to approve the request. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.
- The Biotechnology Program is asking for permission to go to Mystic Aquarium in Mystic, CT on May 25, 2017. A motion was made by Lynn Ryan and seconded by Laura Ross to approve the request. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.
- A request was made by the Varsity Baseball Team to participate in a Baseball trip to Cooperstown, NY on April 17-18 and to attend a Baseball Clinic in Mashpee on March 25-26. A motion was made by Lynn Ryan and seconded by Laura Ross to approve the request. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting “yea” on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no “nay” votes.
- School Events – The Junior Prom will be held on May 19, 2017 at Mechanics Hall in Worcester, and Graduation will be on June 3, 2017 at the DCU Center in Worcester.
- An article regarding donation of used baseball equipment to players in Cuba was passed around for members to review, as well as a photo of student Brian Colleoni-Pimenta being honored at the Hudson Rotary.

Communications

- Wicked Local Northborough article re: Assabet football field project gets thumbs up from Conservation Commission
- Community Advocate article re: Assabet Valley robotics team hosts kickoff for 2017 competition
- MASC Weekly updated – January 9, 2017

- Wicked Local Ashland article re: High schoolers test auto repair skills in Ashland
- Commonwealth Article re: Voc-tech schools are a Mass. Success story
- Community Advocate article re: Assabet Valley student honored as Student-Athlete of the Month
- Email from Ricci Hall, Principal at Claremont Academy Worcester, Main South Basketball, thanking Assabet Valley for a recent moment of silence at a basketball game to honor a Main South staff member who had passed away

Program Advisory Committee

A motion was made by Lynn Ryan and seconded by Virginia Simms George to approve the appointment of Kerri Nason to the Practical Nursing Program Advisory Committee. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting "yea" on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no "nay" votes.

Personnel

Ernie informed the committee of a retirement. The position will be re-evaluated and a job description will be developed and brought to the next meeting for a vote.

Old Business

Members discussed attendance at the NSBA conference in Denver, CO March 25-27, 2017. Members present are not able to attend. Ernie will check with Paul George to see if he is interested in attending.

New Business

Discussion of upcoming MASC events.

Members received the Conflict of Interest Summary and Acknowledgement. Ernie asked that members review and submit the Acknowledgement form to Emily.

At 8:00 p.m., a motion was made by Lynn Ryan and seconded by Virginia Simms George to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously by a roll call vote. Voting "yea" on the motion were Christopher Evers, Laura Ross, Lynn Ryan, Peggy Ayres, Virginia Simms George and Bill Charbonneau. There were no "nay" votes.

The minutes herein were recorded by the Clerk, approved by the Committee, and so noted in a subsequent record.

Laura Ross, Secretary

Accompanying Paperwork for School Committee Meeting – February 21, 2017

- Proposed meeting minutes of January 10, 2017
- Memo from Ernest Houle dated February 21, 2017 re: Warrant Vote
- School Board Meeting topics for Student Rep report
- Superintendent-Director's Report dated January 30, 2017
- Director of Business Operations Report dated February 7, 2017
- Huntress Sports Bid Results
- Huntress Sports letter dated February 15, 2017 re: AVRTHS – 400m Track & Field Construction
- Stadium photo rendering for stadium project
- MASS Memo re: FY2018 Governor's Chapter 70 and educational budget recommendation are released
- FY18 Budget Book
- NFP Insurance Renewal Meeting report dated January 30, 2017
- Principal's Report dated February 2, 2017
- Proposed 2017-2018 School Calendar
- Explanation of dates School Calendar 2017-2018
- February travel request Biotechnology, BPA, and AV Sliders
- Travel request from Varsity Baseball coach
- Wicked Local Northborough article re: Assabet football field project gets thumbs up from Conservation Commission
- Community Advocate article re: Assabet Valley robotics team hosts kickoff for 2017 competition
- MASC Weekly updated – January 9, 2017
- Wicked Local Ashland article re: High schoolers test auto repair skills in Ashland
- CommonWealth Article re: Voc-tech schools are a Mass. Success story
- Community Advocate article re: Assabet Valley student honored as Student-Athlete of the Month
- Email from Ricci Hall, Principal at Claremont Academy Worcester, Main South Basketball, thanking Assabet Valley for a recent moment of silence at a basketball game to honor a Main South staff member who had passed away
- Telegram article re: Assabet baseball donates equipment to share love of game
- Memo from Russell Mangsen re: Candidate Kerri Nason
- MASC Summit on Poverty flyer
- Summary of the Conflict of Interest Law for Municipal Employees