Minutes

**ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**April 12, 2017 6:30 P.M.**

**Athol-Royalston Middle School**

# CALL TO ORDER

The session was called to order by acting Chair Steven Meyer at 6:33 P.M.

1. **ROLL CALL –** 
   1. **SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Deborah Kuzmeskas Present Joao Baptista Present

Lee Chauvette Present Dale Lougee Present

Joseph Maga Present Mitchell Grosky Present

Nancy Melbourne Present Charles Pretti Present Amber Parker Present Carla Rabinowitz Absent

**B.** **RECORDING SECRETARY** Julie Marynok

Also present: Superintendent S. Meyer, Atty. Dupere and L. Bassett

**IIA. COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION**

Nominations for School Committee Chair – N. Melbourne nominated D. Kuzmeskas, L. Chauvette seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

Nominations for School Committee Vice-Chair – A. Parker nominated L. Chauvette, N. Melbourne seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

Nominations for School Committee Secretary – L. Chauvette nominated S. Meyer, J. Maga seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

Nominations for School Committee Treasurer – N. Melbourne nominated L. Bolasevich, M. Grosky seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

March 15, 2017 – Regular Session – L. Chauvette moved approval, N. Melbourne seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

**VI. PUBLIC INPUT –** Mason Barrieau, an Athol High School sophomore student read the following statement:

“I am Mason Barrieau. I am here as a representative of the sophomore members of the AHS Honors Academy. Recently, some information has been made public concerning an architectural plan to build a new track at AHS. This is a project with which our group has a keen interest. We would like to strongly advocate that the school committee continue to pursue this very important school and community project. Some if our research has shown that this is a project that could have numerous benefits to both local community and the school community. Thank you for your time.” Mr. Barrieau was accompanied by Desmond Pottinger and Julia Carey, also sophomores.

William LaRose, teacher at AHS also commented on the newly equipped weight room an AHS. He can’t keep students out of there they like it so much.

**V. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

**Recent Events:**

* AHS ELA MCAS was March 21st, 22nd, and 23rd
* Saturday April 1st was the Sophomore Dinner Dance
* We had a half day April 5th
* Report cards came out April 7th for AHS

**Athletics:**

* Spring sports have started
* Baseball and softball got their first wins over pathfinder and frontier
* Boys volleyball are enjoying their new coach Sean from frontier regional
* Mason Barrieau broke his own 400 meter hurdle record

**Upcoming Events:**

* The school Musical is coming up
* April Vacation is from the 17th- 21st
* The Junior Prom is April 29th
* The Senior Prom is May 13th
* The Seniors last day of school is May 25th
* Class day is June 2nd at 8:30 a.m.
* Graduation is June 4th at 1p.m.

**VI. RECOGNITION**

* School Committee – D. Kuzmeskas recognized Nancy Melbourne for her five years as chair of the school committee.

M. Grosky recognized Carl Seppala, David King, Mitchel Aho, The L.S. Starrett Company, Mike Butler and Douglas A. Starrett for all their hard work to establish the Athol Starrett Lab located at the Athol High School.

C. Pretti also recognized N. Melbourne

J. Maga also recognized N. Melbourne

* Staff Member of the Month – Elizabeth Gospodarek, District ELL teacher
* Students of the Month

Principal Michael Leander, Athol Community Elementary School, recognized Bailey Lefsyk – grade 2

Principal Tom Telicki, Athol-Royalston Middle School, recognized Justin Giansanto, grade 8

Principal Mitchel Aho, Athol High School, recognized Jessica Soucie, grade 12

Principal Jan Williams, Royalston Community School, recognized Madilyn Hermes, grade 3

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Vote the FY18 Budget – N. Melbourne moved to approve Budget Version C, $23,850,600.00, M. Grosky seconded, roll call vote taken:

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Aye Joao Baptista Aye

Lee Chauvette Aye Dale Lougee Aye

Joseph Maga Aye Mitchell Grosky Aye

Nancy Melbourne Aye Charles Pretti Aye

Amber Parker Aye Carla Rabinowitz Absent

MSV Report – Highlights reviewed by Superintendent Meyer

Superintendents Report of Entry Findings – Copy in packet

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

Grants Update – Jana Harrison – Ms. Harrison informed the committee of the many grants she has pursued since starting her start here at ARRSD in November.

Disbanding of the MSBA Elementary School Building Committee – N. Melbourne moved to disband the MSBA Elementary School Building Committee, L. Chauvette seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

M. Grosky thanked the committee for all their hard work and many hours.

YMCA/ACES MOU – J. Robichaud, Director of the Athol Area YMCA gave an update on the current YACES afterschool program. L. Chauvette moved the YMCA/ACES MOU, A. Parker seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

Surplus or Non-usable Equipment/Supplies at AHS – L. Chauvette moved to approve the surplus list, J. Baptista seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

Superintendent Update – Superintendent Meyer read a letter to the committee and community thanking the district for the time he has spent here. L. Chauvette handed out a timeline to start the process of replacing the Superintendent. After a lengthy conversation it was decided that anyone interested in serving on the search committee should send a letter of email to J. Marynok. N. Melbourne moved to accept the timeline as presented by L. Chauvette, M. Grosky seconded, motion passes.

**Vote: 8-1-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga No Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

M. Grosky moved to form a screening committee and authorize Chairwoman D. Kuzmeskas to choose the members, A. Parker seconded, motion passes.

**Vote: 8-1-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga No Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

Resumes for the Superintendent position to be sent to J. Marynok and D. Kuzmeskas.

Director of Pupil Services Position – N. Melbourne feels that it is wrong for the exiting superintendent to hire a Director of Pupil Services person. D. Kuzmeskas feels moving forward with the search is the right thing to do. M. Grosky feels there is a need for a talented individual to fill that position. L. Chauvette feels individuals acted irresponsibly for not bringing the position change forward to the budget subcommittee and the school committee as a whole. He feels to move forward with the process is not the right move. J. Baptista moved to put the Director of Pupil Services position on hold until a new superintendent is hired, N. Melbourne seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

D. Kuzmeskas moved to have the negotiations subcommittee meet to discuss the contract for the Special Education Director, C. Pretti seconded, motion passes.

**Vote: 8-1-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga No Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

**IX.** C**OMMUNICATIONS**

A letter regarding an early entry consideration for a preschool child to kindergarten was reviewed by the committee. A. Parker moved to deny the request due to the district’s policy, J. Baptista seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

**X. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS**

a. Business Managers Report and Financial Statement – Reviewed

**XI. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

Year 2 Priorities – Implementation Plan

* Community Partnerships – Report given to committee
* Climate and Culture – Report given to committee

**XII. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE**

1. Reports of the Chair – D. Kuzmeskas asked everyone who wishes to be on a specific subcommittee or

who wish to leave a certain subcommittee to please email her.

2. Budget/Finance Sub Committee – A description of the substitute line usage was given to the committee.

L. Chauvette stated that he had been approached by part-time employees and other staff that there have

been positions filled without postings.

3. Facilities/Buildings/Grounds Sub Committee – L. Chauvette was impressed with the youth that were in

attendance were there to encourage the committee about the need for the track project .

4. Negotiations Sub Committee – Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 18th at 12:30 p.m.

5. Academic Excellence Sub Committee – Minutes in packet

6. Policy Sub Committee – a. Parker moved to approve GBEA, GDO, IGB, IHAMA, IJ, JCA, JJE, JJH-R, JLCB,

JLCD AND JQ as amended, M. Grosky seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

M. Grosky moved IKF, JII AND KDB for first readings, A. Parker seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

M. Grosky moved to drop DJG, H, IHAE, IJJ, IJK, IJM, JBA, JICG, JRA-R, KEB, KEB-R, KEC AND KJA from the district’s policy book as recommended by MASC, J. Maga seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

7. Public Relations Sub Committee – Cancel April 19th meeting as more information is needed for the

welcome packets.

**XIII. COMMITTEE MEMBER REFERRALS**

M. Grosky thanked the chair for recognizing him throughout the meeting

L. Chauvette mentioned that the committee is invited to a reception for Town Counsel Mark Goldstein as he is leaving to begin his new career as a judge for Worcester District Court .

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION, Chapter 30A, Section 21 (Summary) - NONE**

**1. *To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual.  The individual to be discussed in such executive session shall be notified in writing by the public body at least 48 hours prior to the proposed executive***

***2. To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel;***

***3. 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;***

***4. To discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto;***

***5. To investigate charges of criminal misconduct or to consider the filing of criminal complaints;***

***6 To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body***

***7. To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements;***

***8. To consider or interview applicants for employment or appointment by a preliminary screening committee if the chair declares that an open meeting will have a detrimental effect in obtaining qualified applicants;***

***9. To meet or confer with a mediator, as defined in section 23C of chapter 233, with respect to any litigation or decision on any public business within its jurisdiction involving another party, group or entity,***

***10. To discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively-sensitive or other proprietary information;***

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

N. Melbourne moved to adjourn, J. Baptista seconded, motion unanimous.

**Vote: 9-0-0** Deborah Kuzmeskas Yes Joao Baptista Yes

Lee Chauvette Yes Dale Lougee Yes

Joseph Maga Yes Mitchell Grosky Yes

Nancy Melbourne Yes Charles Pretti Yes

Amber Parker Yes Carla Rabinowitz Absent

Meeting adjourned at 8:57

Enclosed:

March minutes

Student Representative Report

FY18 Budget – Version C

AIR Report

Superintendent’s Report of Entry Findings

Grants List

YMCA/ACES MOU

AHS Surplus List

Superintendent Timetable

Superintendent Posting

Director of Pupil Services Search Committee Information

Parent Letter

Budget – Revenue and Expenditures

Strategic Plan Community Partnership and Climate and Culture Update

Floating Substitute Report

Academic Excellence Minutes

Policy Minutes

Policies GBES, GDO, IGB, IHAMA, IJ, JCA, JJE, JJH-R, JLCB, JLCD, JQ, KDB, IKF, JII, KDB, DJG, H, IHAE, IJJ, IJK, IJM, JBA, JICG, JRA-R, KEB, KEB-R, KEC and KJA

Public Relations Minutes

Invitation to a Farewell Reception