

1 Amherst School Board  
2 Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> 2016  
3 Meeting Minutes  
4

5 Attendees:

6 Administrative Team: Peter Warburton- Superintendent, Betty Shankel – Business  
7 Administrator, Gerry St. Amand- Principal Clark/Wilkins School, Porter Dodge-Principal AMS

8 Amherst School Board: Lucienne Foulks- Chair, Amy Facey- Peg Bennett – Secretary, Jim  
9 Manning,

10 Ways and Means Committee: Stephanie Grund and Frank Brown.

11 Minute Taker: Danae Marotta

12 I.CALL TO ORDER – Chair Lucienne Foulks

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14 **Ms. Lucienne Foulks called the Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.**

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16 II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

17  
18 A. Principals' reports

- 19  
20 • Junior National Honor Society

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22 Ms. Lucienne Foulks asked the Board if they had questions or comments on the Principals'  
23 Report. She added that it was a short agenda.

24  
25 Mr. Porter Dodge discussed that AMS has joined the Junior National Honor Society.

26  
27 He then gave background information and noted that the NJHS was established by the National  
28 Association for the Secondary School Principals (NASSP). He added that the NJHS recognizes  
29 and promotes academic achievement while also encouraging the ideals of service, leadership,  
30 character and citizenship.

31  
32 He discussed that members are selected by a 5 member Faculty Council, appointed by the  
33 Principal. He added that Chapter advisors, Maggie Kim and Tom Knapp also appointed by the  
34 Principal are non-voting members of the Faculty Council and are responsible for overseeing and  
35 promoting Chapter activities including a Community Service Project.

36  
37 Mr. Dodge then discussed that students must be in the 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade and have attended AMS  
38 for at least one full trimester to be considered for selection. He noted that students must have an  
39 overall GPA of 3.7 to be considered as well.

40

41 Ms. Foulks asked a question about if the faculty will be contacting the students that are  
42 scholastically qualified.

43  
44 Mr. Dodge replied, yes, students that have a 3.7 GPA will be contacted.

45  
46 He then discussed the timeline of the National Junior Honor Society.

47  
48 He then thanked the Public, and noted that every child who is eligible and has a 3.7 GPA will be  
49 contacted.

50  
51 Ms. Facey asked Mr. Dodge if he would keep the Board Posted on the Community Service  
52 Project that they NJHS will complete.

53  
54 Mr. Dodge replied, yes.

55  
56 Mr. Porter Dodge discussed that they are really excited and happy to be bringing the Junior  
57 National Honor Society to the students.

58  
59 Ms. Amy Facey mentioned that this might provide motivation to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

60  
61 Mr. Dodge discussed that the kids earn this not with just grades but accomplishments.

62  
63 Ms. Lucienne Foulks thanked Mr. Dodge and everyone for bringing this to and remarked that she  
64 is excited for this

65  
66 Mr. Peter Warburton discussed that he had previously conversed with Mr. Dodge about bringing  
67 an AMS Student Representative to the Board. He noted that some other NH School Boards have  
68 HS and Middle School Student Representatives. He mentioned that it would be one student, not  
69 the same one every time and they would not have voting rights.

70  
71 He then noted that if it was ok he would further discuss this with Mr. Dodge and the Board. Both  
72 parties replied, yes.

73  
74 Mr. Warburton remarked that he is proud of Mr. Dodge's leadership.

75  
76 Mr. Dodge then discussed the mathematical numbers to get in. He added that there is an appeals  
77 process and that they would be glad to check for errors that parents or students think might have  
78 occurred.

79  
80 III. PUBLIC COMMENT

81  
82 No Public Comment

83  
84 IV. CONSENT AGENDA

85  
86 A. Minutes

- 87 1. December 17, 2015  
 88 B. Unanticipated Student Activity Fund  
 89 1. Anonymous - \$750.00 for students in need  
 90 C. Retirement requests  
 91 D. Budget transfers

92  
 93 **Ms. Amy Facey made a Motion to accept the Consent Agenda B. Unanticipated Student**  
 94 **Activity Fund- 1. Anonymous- \$750.00 for students in need, C. Retirement Requests and D.**  
 95 **Budget Transfers. Mr. Jim Manning seconded the Motion, the vote was unanimous,**  
 96 **Motion passed.**

97  
 98 **Ms. Amy Facey made a Motion to remove the letter “C” from the Consent Agenda. Ms.**  
 99 **Peg Bennett seconded the Motion, the vote was unanimous, Motion passed.**

100  
 101 Ms. Amy Facey pulled the minutes from December 17<sup>th</sup> 2015 she stated that they will review  
 102 them for the next meeting.

103  
 104 Ms. Lucienne Foulks discussed that there are just a few errors in the December 17<sup>th</sup> 2015  
 105 Minutes and they will add them to the next Agenda. She added that they are not voting on  
 106 retirement requests.

107  
 108 V. PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

109  
 110 A. FY’16 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter report

111  
 112 B. FY’17 Budget Draft 3

113  
 114 Ms. Betty Shankel discussed the Budget changes for FY’ 17 Budget Draft 2 to Draft 3.

115  
 116 She began by discussing the 1% Administrative Salary pool increase, and for replacement  
 117 equipment adding \$5,000 for a carpet extractor that had been left out of the Budget previously.  
 118 She also noted that under new equipment they will be adding a new wheelchair lift.

119  
 120 She noted that they took out \$2,400 out of the Budget because the PTA will be responsible for  
 121 coordinating the volunteers. She added that they took a deeper look into the Food Service Budget  
 122 under small wares and that there was \$550 that they took out of the Budget. She finalized by  
 123 saying there was an increase of \$16,503 reductions of \$2,950 to a final amount of \$24,597,380.

124  
 125 She then discussed the Budget summary of a 0.56% decrease in the Budget.

126  
 127 She then discussed the revenue sheet that shows an analysis of expenditures. She added they use  
 128 the second quarter report for forecasting and that the revenues are very close to what they have  
 129 projected about \$3,600 over. She added that a lot of the change is due to variances with  
 130 unexpected retirements. She noted that they had savings in the amount of \$604,500 in the  
 131 forecast.

132

133 She then discussed the Unreserved Fund Balance

134

135 Ms. Shankel then discussed the Amherst School District Tax Impact for FY' 14- FY' 16. She  
136 noted that in FY'14 they had a tax rate of \$12.16. In FY'15 they had a tax rate of \$12.05 with a  
137 Return of Taxes of \$36.30 and in FY'16 the tax rate was \$12.02 with a return of \$9.90. She  
138 added that this is based on a \$330,000 home price, the median in Amherst.

139

140 Ms. Shankel then discussed the Default Budget.

141

142 She then discussed the Warrant Article 12, related to the Operating Budget in which the voters  
143 would vote yes or no and giving them the Proposed Budget of \$24, 597,380 or a Default Budget  
144 of \$24,172,489. She noted that the estimated tax impact of passing this article is an increase of  
145 .26 cents per \$1000. And if it does not pass it should be a decrease of .01 cent. She added that  
146 that are the updated amounts.

147

148 She noted that with Article 13, they have not been able to come to an agreement with the AEA  
149 and they will probably not have an article here for the AEA agreement.

150

151 Ms. Shankel discussed Article 15 as relating to the \$50,000 from the year end Undesignated  
152 Fund Balance. She added that \$50,000 will go into a fund for educating students with disabilities  
153 that was previously established in March 2014. And that there is \$100,000 in there currently and  
154 the goal is to have \$200,000.

155

156 Ms. Lucienne Foulks asked if the .3 cent increase in Article 15 is correct.

157

158 Ms. Shankel replied, yes, and noted that there are very few changes and the Board is aware of  
159 what they were.

160

161 Ms. Lucienne Foulks asked the Board if they have any questions on the changes that were made.

162

163 Ms. Lucienne Foulks asked where the wheelchair lift will be located.

164

165 Mr. St. Amand noted that it go to Wilkins.

166

167 Ms. Betty Shankel discussed that it is moveable.

168

169 Ms. Lucienne Foulks noted that the Minutes were pulled and have a few minor spelling errors  
170 that need to be fixed. She noted that Consent Agenda items B and C were voted on and  
171 approved. She added that Item C. Retirement Requests will not be voted on tonight and will be  
172 done at the next meeting. She also noted that they will table the Policies and that they are a first  
173 look now.

174

175 Ms. Betty Shankel discussed the Public Hearing times and locations for the following week.

176

177 VIII. ACTION ITEM

178

- 179           A. Policies  
180                 1. AA - School District Legal Status  
181                 2. AC – Non - Discrimination  
182                 3. ACA – Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence  
183  
184       Ms. Amy Facey asked the Board if they can please review the policies for the next meeting and  
185       noted that there might be a few minor things that need to be adjusted.  
186  
187       Ms. Lucienne Foulks discussed that they will table to review the policies.  
188  
189       XI. REVIEW OF MEETING/ADJOURN  
  
190       **Mr. Jim Manning made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 pm, Ms. Amy Facey**  
191       **seconded the Motion, the vote was unanimous, Motion passed.**  
  
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