

Chair, R. Cohen, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Roberta G. Doering School auditorium.

Present: A. Bonavita, R. Doering, D. Juzba, L. Galarneau, K. Mouneimneh, & S. Reed
W. Sapelli, A. LeClair, P. Cavanaugh, & student representative Leisl Bard

During Citizen's Speak Time, no one from the public came forward.

Next, under Highlights on Education, the Committee, Miss Cavanaugh, & Mrs. LeClair joined Mr. Sapelli, who presented the annual *M.A.S.S. Certificate of Academic Excellence Awards* to AHS seniors Jillian Newton & Jeffrey Rovatti.

Under Superintendent's Notes, Mr. Sapelli reported on the following:

- Thank you to Mr. Lemanski, high school administrators, & the Post-Traumatic Stress Team for all their efforts during the recent tragedy involving high school student Ashlee Glod. A special thank you to Mrs. Schoenberger and Mr. Cowles for coordinating all the efforts at the high school.
- Announcement that an *Inclement Weather Survey* has been placed on the homepage of the district's website asking parents & staff which of the vacation weeks in February or April would cause the least hardship if the district uses more than 5 snow days this winter. The survey closes on December 16th, and the results will be shared with the Committee once they are compiled.
- Announcement that on Thursday, November 17th, he along with Mayor Cohen, Mrs. Doering, & Miss Cavanaugh had the pleasure of serving pie to junior high students during the School Lunch Program's Annual Thanksgiving Feast.
- Announcement that the Agawam Rotary Club hosted its annual Thanksgiving Football Team Luncheon with West Springfield at the Storowton Tavern on Tuesday, November 22nd. Joining him were Mr. Lemanski, Mr. Stratton, coaches, football team captains, and cheerleader captains.
- Announcement that the Agawam Rotary Club presented checks in the amount of \$100 each to the following groups that assisted with their recent Harvest Festival Weekend: Rosie Robotics; AHS Cheerleaders; Honors Art Class; & AHS Band Program. The civic organization also presented Rosie Robotics with their annual donation of \$250.00.
- Announcement that the Annual Orange & Brown Pep Rally will take place at 10:00 a.m. in the high school gym on Wednesday, November 23rd. As past practice, the School Committee will serve as judges with administration for the cheering competition amongst classes.
- Reminder that Wednesday, November 23rd, is a ½ day of school for students and staff. Schools will be closed on November 24th and 25th for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Schools will reopen on Monday, November 28th.
- Attendance at the Annual Agawam vs. West Springfield Football Game, which Agawam will be hosting at 10:00 a.m. at the Harmon Smith Field.
- Request that the rules be suspended so action can be taken on Resolution SCR-11-26, *Approval of Common Core Facilitator Job Description*, due to the mandated implementation of the Common Core. Funding for these positions will be taken from the "Race To The Top Grant."
- Wish for a safe and Happy Thanksgiving to the Committee, staff, students, and viewing public.

Next, under Student Advisory Committee Representative Update, Leisl reported on the following activities and events taking place at AHS:

- Congratulations to all varsity sport teams
- The annual Powder Puff game between the juniors and seniors took place on November 18th
- The annual Kid Party took place on Friday, November 18th, and was a great success.
- Reminder that the annual Pep Rally will take place in the gym on Wednesday, November 23rd, and the varsity football game with West Springfield will be held on Thursday, November 24th.
- Announcement that students behaved admirably during the November 18th power outage and were able to follow their normal schedule after power was restored.
- Thank you to everyone who assisted students and staff through the loss of fellow student Ashlee Glod.

Under Unfinished Business, on a motion made by R. Doering, 2nd by A. Bonavita, the Committee voted to approve SCR-11-23, *Approval to Dedicate a Rock with Plaque in Memory of Thomas Lockwood at Phelps School*.

Vote: 7 – 0

Next, on a motion made by D. Juzba, 2nd by S. Reed, the Committee voted to approve SCR-11-24, *Acceptance of Gift by AHS Class of 1959*.

Vote: 7 - 0

Under Business Meeting, on a motion made by R. Doering, 2nd by D. Juzba, the Committee voted to approve the October 25, 2011, regular meeting and Executive Session minutes.

Vote: 7 - 0

Under Calendar/Correspondence, R. Doering said she had nothing to report.

Next, on a motion made by D. Juzba 2nd by A. Bonavita, the Committee, via roll call, approved the following warrants as read: SW-12-16 in the amount of \$124,652.79; SW-12-17 in the amount of \$37,304.51; SW-12-18 in the amount of \$375,905.27; SW-12-19 in the amount of \$63,209.19; SW-12-20 in the amount of \$5,387.00; and SW-12-21 in the amount of \$688,877.02.

Vote: 6 – 1 (Nay – K. Mouneimneh)

Under Reports, R. Cohen said the Committee should have received two paper reports regarding Home Schooling and Personnel in their packets. Questions about those reports should be directed to the appropriate administrator.

The first report of the evening concerned a School Lunch Price Increase as presented by P. Cavanaugh, Director of Finance/HR & J. Lecuyer, Director of Food Services. In their report, Miss Cavanaugh explained that new Federal regulations require districts to raise the price of a school lunch to meet the Federal reimbursement price, which is \$2.46 for a free meal. Consequently, Miss Cavanaugh proposes raising the present school lunch price by 25 cents in January 2012 and then another 10 cents in September 2012.

A lengthy question and answer session then took place during which Committee members expressed their concern that instituting an additional 10 cent increase 6 months later in September 2012 would be a hardship for some families during this difficult economy. Also discussed was information about the new nutritional guidelines and how they will be incorporated into the district's school lunch program. At the end of discussion, it was agreed that a resolution to increase the price for a school lunch would be placed on the December 13, 2011 school committee agenda for review and approval.

The next scheduled report was a Financial Update. Miss Cavanaugh said she needed to postpone her report to the December 13, 2011 meeting because the recent power outage caused a delay in her completion of the DESE End-Of-Year Report, which had to be submitted prior to the November 22nd Committee meeting.

Next, under Subcommittee Updates, no updates were given.

Under New Business, A. Bonavita made a motion, 2nd by D. Juzba, to suspend the rules to take action on SCR-11-26, *Approval of Common Core Facilitator Job Description*.

Vote: 7 – 0

During discussion, Committee members agreed that they needed more information about these positions and suggested a workshop should be scheduled prior to approval of the job description. Mr. Sapelli concurred with the Committee's request and said he would schedule a workshop in the very near future, as these positions were crucial for the implementation of the mandated Common Core curriculum.

Then, on a motion made by A. Bonavita, 2nd by D. Juzba, the Committee, via roll call, voted to table SCR-11-26 until after a workshop regarding the Common Core curriculum was conducted.

Vote: 6 – 1 (Nay – K. Mouneimneh)

Next, SCR-11-27, *Request to Move ½ Day of Professional Development*, was moved to the next meeting where it will appear under Unfinished Business.

Items discussed, all Committee members wished staff, students, and the viewing public a Happy Thanksgiving holiday. S. Reed said she placed at her colleagues seats a LPVEC update, which shows the large savings the district realizes from using the collaborative programs and transportation. She also said she had attended the Annual MASC Business Meeting on November 11th, and all resolutions passed. L. Galarnau asked if the district has a truancy officer. P. Cavanaugh explained that she only can serve in a limited capacity as the district's truancy officer because she is not certified. She further explained that she does go to the homes of students who are truant, but cannot go to court proceedings. R. Doering announced that she had attended the MIAA Sportsmanship Summit, which was held at Gillette Stadium, and where AHS MIAA student representative, Jon Reidy, introduced and presented an award to Robert Kraft. K. Mounemneh asked if an exam schedule has been finalized yet for the high school. Mr. Sapelli said he would contact Mr. Lemanski for that information. She concluded her remarks by inviting/challenging everyone to do random acts of kindness during the holiday season. R. Cohen announced that the Bethany Assembly of God Church would be hosting a non-denominational get together on November 23rd at 7:00 p.m. to celebrate and give thanks during the holiday season.

There being no further business, on a motion made by D. Juzba, 2nd by R. Doering, the Committee voted to adjourn.
Vote: 7 - 0
Time: 8:28 p.m.

Alexis Ferioli
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent & School Committee

Roberta G. Doering
Secretary