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**AMESBURY CASHMAN SCHOOL COUNCIL
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
[Date: November 20, 2025]**

Attendees:

Dr. Amy Mitchell, Principal
Larissa Vincent, Special Education Teacher
Christine Leary, Fourth Grade Teacher
Cara Ripley, Third Grade Teacher
Laurie Spielvogel, Paraprofessional
Liam Davey, Paraprofessional
Alison Pruna, Parent
Heather Lull, Parent
Tiffany Purington, Parent
Maggie Begis, Parent
Emily De La Cruz, Parent

Agenda Item 1:

Welcome and introduction

Agenda Item 2:

Community norms

Agenda Item 3:

Appointment of a School Council Co-Chair and Notetaker
Chris Leary- Co-Chair
Cara Ripley- notetaker

Agenda Item 4:

Community voice:

- Concerns over staffing shortages
 - Two special staff openings- multi-grade special ed and Language based teacher
 - CES is working with Central Office on hiring and everyone impacted has been notified
- Extra recess has been positive- recess is split into two 15-min recess for 3rd and 4th
- Positive feedback about happiness with children in 3rd grade
- Homework has been a big shift for 3rd Grade students and families

Agenda Item 5: School Improvement Plan Draft Review and Feedback

- Data protocol pertaining to beginning of the year scores
 - Included in writing after seeing needed focus areas in that subject
- Scores and data are in the plan
- Time spent to review draft
- Feedback:
 - Questions/Comments:
 - Level 3-4 on ACCESS testing, are they pulled out?
 - Consult model
 - AI: explain how it is used for Wit and Wisdom
 - Math: more in strategic than reading. More of a challenge.
 - Rubrics for paraprofessional would be helpful for ELA and writing to show expectations as well as additional training for writing support
 - Paras could be considered for involvement in CPT time
 - Observation: not as much parent involvement in the building would prompt community
 - Writing: where was the benchmark assessment from?
 - Writing intervention team was created. MCAS rubric was used for assessing and benchmark was an MCAS released expository text
 - Interventions taking place during WIN and ELA
 - Assessments conducted during ELA block
 - Teachers are using materials from Wit and Wisdom, Step Up to Writing, SRSD
 - Assessments will be conducted in the about 5 different pieces with a mix of expository, narrative, and opinion
 - How does the reading data compare to last year and how do they compare? What worked? What didn't work? What is new?
 - Discussed progress in each grade
 - Is data from a summer slide?
 - Improvement in math program with different changes Amplify made
 - Students report it is noisy
 - We focus on trying to create a quiet work environment by grade-level testing times
 - Paper copy of report cards is missed and missing teacher comment section
 - How are we capturing progress monitoring?
 - Leveled groups are main intervention- needed more interventions
 - ST Math time can we used
 - Standards based report card- missing data coming home to parents to have them see progress. Adding to the communication: more individualized feedback along the way
 - Discussed rubric for report card scores
 - Not meeting, approaching, meeting, exceeding expectations
 - Moving conferences forward- feeling they are a little late
 - Questions on data- asking about specific interventions on missing foundational gaps

- UDL work to show understanding
 - Additional supports with new writing materials
 - Additional supports/differentiation with Amplify
- Math groups- are they pod based or grade based?
 - 4th and 5th- three math groups with team teaching model
 - 3rd grade has two groups of 3. 6 groups last was a lot
- SEI- how are students engaging with the larger community
 - Level 1 and 2 work with curriculum Reach
 - Consult model for students at a higher level

Agenda Item 6: General

- How can parents be in the classroom more?
 - Discussions on how to get parent volunteers into the classroom
 - More engagement in parent/principal coffee talk
 - Bring in high school students into the schools
- Positive note: appreciate introducing teachers and teams in the newsletter

Next Meetings: December 18 3:30 - 4:30