

**Amherst School Committee Meeting  
Thursday, February 23, 2017  
Library, Amherst Regional High School**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Katherine Appy, Chair  
Phoebe Hazzard  
Vira Douangmany-Cage  
Eric Nakajima

Mike Morris, Interim Superintendent  
Faye Brady, Student Services Director  
Mark Jackson, ARHS Principal  
Patty Bode, ARMS Principal  
Public and Press

**ABSENT**

Anastasia Ordonez

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Appy called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**2. Announcements and Public Comment**

Nancy Grossman, community member, discussed the negative financial impact that charter schools have on towns, such as cuts to services and increases to class sizes, and also shared that the reimbursements are not fully funded by the state. Dr. Morris shared a letter from the district affirming transgender rights that has been posted on the ARPS website.

**3. Statement to State Board of Education regarding Expansion of PVCICS**

***DOCUMENT: Draft Letter to State Board of Education***

Ms. Appy reviewed the letter she drafted on behalf of the School Committee to oppose expansion of the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School by the Massachusetts Board of Education. Discussion followed and feedback was offered on the structure and including demographic data. Ms. Hazzard moved to accept the letter with edits provided to be submitted by the Chair to the Board of Education. Ms. Douangmany Cage seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

**4. Adjourn**

Mr. Nakajima moved to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. Ms. Douangmany Cage seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michael Morris