



ANDOVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

SC ROOM Key: I.O. = Information Only; A.R. = Action Request

MEETING AGENDA – DECEMBER 5, 2019 –

***** Please note: Public Comment/Input will be limited to 3 minutes *****

We would like to thank the students and faculty at South Elementary School, particularly art teachers, Janice Chapin and Theresa Denehy, for the wonderful display of art in and outside the School Committee Room.

- I. SC Regular Meeting – Call to Order **6:00PM**
- II. Exec. Session: *Move to meet in Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. chapter 30A, sec. 21(a) for the following purposes:*
Purpose 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Andover Education Association Unit A and with the Andover Occupational and Physical Therapists Association because an open session may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee; and Purpose 7: to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law; specifically, to perform a review of executive session minutes dated 6/6/19, 6/20/19 (two sets), 6/26/19, 7/10/19, and 7/15/19 pursuant to G.L. c. 30A sec. 22 and to determine whether all or portions of such minutes may be publicly released.. The Committee will reconvene in Open Session at approximately 7PM.
- III. Resume SC Regular Meeting **7:00PM**
 - A. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Salute to the Flag –
 - B. Recognitions & Communications
 - C. Public Input
 - D. Response to Public Input
 - E. Education
 - 1. Field Trips Approval: A.R.
 - i. AHS Students to Italy/Berlin Leadership Conf – June 30-July 12, 2021
 - F. Continuing Business
 - 1. School Start Times A.R.
 - 2. FY21 Budget I.O.
 - 3. Update: One Community, One Nation I.O.
 - 4. Policy IHBF – Homebound Instruction (Second Reading) A.R.
 - G. Consent Agenda A.R.
 - 1. Grants/Donations to District
 - 2. Minutes
 - H. Adjournment

This is the SC posted agenda for the upcoming meeting to the best of our knowledge at the time of posting; however, other agenda items may arise; therefore, the SC reserves the right to discuss additional items if merited.

File: IHBF

HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

The School District must provide homebound instruction to students who are unable to attend classes for at least two consecutive weeks or not less than fourteen days due to a physical injury, medical situation, or a severe emotional problem in any school year. The educational instruction is designed to provide maintenance in basic academic courses so when a student returns to school, the student will not be at a disadvantage due to illness or hospitalization.

To qualify for the program, the student's physician must complete the DESE form 28R/3 (or equivalent signed statement) that includes:

- Date the student was admitted to hospital or was confined to home;
- Medical reason for confinement;
- Expected duration of confinement; and
- Medical needs of the student that should be considered in planning home or hospital education services.

This statement must be sent to the administrator in charge of student services. Services will be provided with sufficient frequency to allow the student to continue his or her educational program. The principal will coordinate services with the administrator in charge of student services for eligible students. Students with chronic illness who have recurring home/hospital stays of less than 14 consecutive days, when such recurrences have added up to or are expected to exceed more than 14 school days on the school year, are also eligible for home or hospital educational services.

Home and Hospital educational services under 603 CMR 28.03 (J)(c) must begin without undue delay after the school district receives written notice from the student's physician that such services are necessary.

Homebound instruction is offered in elementary and secondary subjects, which **do** not require laboratories and special equipment, subject in all cases to the availability of qualified teachers. Certified teachers shall be assigned to homebound instruction by the Superintendent or designee.

SOURCE: MASC 2019

Andover School Committee
Minutes of Thursday, October 10, 2019

Members in Attendance: Chair, Joel Blumstein, Vice-Chair, Tracey Spruce, Paul Murphy, Susan McCready, and Shannon Scully

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Berman, Paul Szymanski Assist. Superintendent Finance & Administration, Assist. Superintendent Teaching & Learning Sandra Trach, Asst Superintendent of Student Services Dr. Sara Stetson, and AHS Liaison Ben Roldan.

I. School Committee Regular Meeting- Call to Order

Joel Blumstein called the School Committee to order at 6:04 P.M. in the School Committee Meeting Room located in the School Administration Building.

II. Executive Session

Shannon Scully moved for the School Committee to enter into executive session pursuant to M.G.L. chapter 30A, sec. 21(a) for the following purposes: **Purpose 3:** to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Andover Education Association and that the Chair declare that an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee and to return to open session. The Chair so declared. The motion was seconded by Tracey Spruce. Roll call vote: S. Scully-Y, S. McCready-Y, T. Spruce-Y, P. Murphy -Y, J. Blumstein-Y.

III. Regular Meeting resumed at 7:00 PM

A. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Salute to Flag

B. Recognitions & Communications

AHS Science teacher Lindsay L'Ecuyer accompanied two of her students from the AHS Bio-Build Club who explained their biology project, Bottles be Gone - A Bottle for the Future. The students will be competing in the Bio-Builder Synthetic Biology Projects in New York City and are seeking sources of funding to make their project a reality.

Communications by Dr. Berman:

~Thanked Director of Nursing Rita Casper for her initiative in providing flu vaccines to all staff.

~Received a message from DESE regarding a change in their tiered monitoring system and have placed Andover in a Tier Monitoring Level of 1.

~Attended a meeting at MSBA with Paul Rollins and the Town Manager to refine the list of architects for the West Elementary School Building Project and will meet next week to confirm the finalist.

~Information on attendance data from the Jewish Holidays will be provided at the next School Committee meeting.

~Received a clarification on communications from the Andover Educator's Association which indicated that the current president of the AEA, Matthew Bach, is the sole representative of the AEA; the past president, other AEA officers and other members no

longer have authority to speak on behalf of the AEA at any time.

Sandy Trach reported the following: Spring 2019 MCAS results were mailed home to parents earlier this week. Friday, October 11th is an Early Release Day, teachers will be working with the recently launched Frontline Evaluation System to assist with their goals and action plans. ALICE Training will be offered for instructional assistants, cafeteria workers, and custodians at the Collins Center.

Susan McCready met with Karla Kohl and Nicole Kieser to begin the process to cleanup and restructure the APS website to make it more accessible. Susan also reported hearing that accommodations for students observing the Jewish High Holidays were not as sensitive to students as they should have been.

Paul Murphy and Shannon Scully hosted an informal School Committee Forum on September 25th at Memorial Hall Library with one person in attendance who is concerned with the depth of math and how far a student can go.

Ben Roldan was appreciative of the H-Block activity led by Ms. Robb for her Democracy and Media Literature students. Our state representatives were invited to participate in the forum to engage students in the civic process. The Student Council is working on the EMPOWER Act to lower the voting age for local elections. Chairman Blumstein was the moderator of the panel at the forum attended by approximately 40 students. Voter registration for students age 18 was held during lunch period.

Joel Blumstein also received emails and comments from parents frustrated with the lack of follow through on accommodations for students during the Jewish Holidays.

C. Public Input

Roman Pichardo of Lincoln Circle is very concerned with the delay in response to a medical emergency (Epi-pen) at one of the schools. Dr. Berman will check on the instance of the medical emergency.

D. Response to Public Input

None

E. Education

1. School Start Time Report

The Chair thanked everyone who submitted comments on potential changes to School Start Times (SST). The School Committee is still in the information gathering stage with no decision or deliberations made to date. The Committee is charged with doing what is best for the greatest number of children.

Shannon Scully developed a list of frequently asked questions in response to inquiries that arose at the SST forum that will be posted to the school website. The focus of the SST initiative (started in May 2018) was to allow adolescents to get more sleep to improve their physical and mental health and academic performance. There have been regular meetings of

the School Start Time Working Group under the guidance of Sandy Trach and several discussion forums and PTO/PAC meetings at individual schools.

A community SST forum will be held on October 16th. Informal School Committee forums will be held on October 29th and November 16th and the issue will be on the agenda of the October 24th and November 7th School Committee meetings. Additional information can be found on the APS Website schoolstarttimes@andoverma.us.

Sandy Trach provided an update on School Start Time (SST) efforts and where they are in the process. SST will be an agenda item for the next few School Committee meetings in preparation for the potential vote on November 21st. Transportation is a large component of the study. An RFP was generated for an in-district student transportation routing analysis and review of route scenarios and options. The contract was awarded to Edulog Logistics, Inc, Missoula, MT. Andover anticipates receiving an in-district analysis summary from Edulog at the end of October. The School Committee expects to vote on the change to school start time at the end of November.

Public Comments:

Amelia Condon, Coventry Lane, a Grade 6 student at DMS, is in favor of switching school start times; her bus pickup is at 6:45 am.

Alison Fecht, 66 Burnham Road, spoke about the significant changes the flip option will have on families with an increased length of the day for elementary students. Changing the start time is not reasonable and benefits only one school level (secondary). Many other school districts achieved start time without any compromise to the elementary start times.

Leila Brickman, Locke Street, has a Gr 7 Student at DMS and agrees with changing times for middle school to provide students with an extra hour of sleep.

Kerry Costello (former AEA president) served on the SST Committee and spoke about the factors taken under consideration by the SST Committee. She believes the bussing component is critical. How would the extra cost for bussing affect the school budget and when might the School Committee make a final decision?

Sarah Sudman-Farese, Cassimere Street, has two children in Grade 1 and a preschool child. She is concerned with the shift time and the affect it will have on scheduling the 15 hours per week of physical therapy for their autistic child. It would be difficult to change their schedule. Another parent was also concerned about the effect of scheduling her child's ABA therapy; a shift would make it almost impossible to allow for the time needed for their therapy.

F. Continuing Business

1. MCAS Analysis

Sandy Trach and Hannah Tolla have worked extensively on the MCAS analysis presentation and discussed with school principals at the SAT meetings. Hannah provided a report on the Spring 2019 MCAS and Accountability Results and distributed a hand-out. The presentation is available on the APS website <http://www.aps1.net/893/presentations> and

information on the Massachusetts DESE School and District Profiles at <http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/>.

Congratulations to High Plain High Elementary and South School who were recognized as Schools of Recognition: High Plain for high growth and exceeding targets and South School for high achievement.

Elementary MCAS ELA/Students with Disabilities

The MCAS report showed reading gains in students with disabilities at the elementary level. Changes in scores have continued to improve and can be credited to the strategies implemented by the Student Services Team along with the major investment by Andover in literacy.

One should look at the data on what we are doing well, not at the deficits. Our goal is to focus on what structures we have in place for children and how to support their strengths. Collective efforts of the District will provide help for our economically disadvantaged students and Hispanic/Latino students. The Growth Instrument is a testament to the several years of work and support provided to the schools/students. Students at all levels responded well and the attendance piece has improved.

These are diagnostic tools to evaluate what lessons we can learn to better support our students. Asset based focus is key and data from NWEA assessments will benefit our students. There are plans to address areas of growth and to talk with students and parents about how we are using these assessments.

2. October 1 Enrollment Preliminary Report

A preliminary October 1 Enrollment Report shows a decrease from last year of 118 students at this time. Andover is under in its enrollment projections with major changes in kindergarten (this year class of 340 vs 406+ class last year). There is a decrease in students at the Middle School level but enrollment is consistent at the High School. Our out-of-District students have decreased from 97 to 87 students which supports the data that our internal programs are working. The average class size at the elementary level is in the 19-22 range which is a great improvement over the 2015 class sizes of 22-24. The Enrollment Report will be finalized by the Information Technology Department after all of the school's data is received.

G. New Business

1. All Day Kindergarten Funding

After several years of effort to decrease tuition for All Day Kindergarten, Andover is finally on a path towards eliminating tuition in the 2020-2021 school year by using the balance in the ADK revolving fund in FY21 and, in subsequent years, using the additional Chapter 70 Aid that will result from having all kindergarten students counted as full-day students under the Foundation Budget formula. This proposal for eliminating tuition for Full Day Kindergarten can be accomplished goal at no cost to the taxpayer was explained. The School Committee feels very good about supporting this plan and doing the right thing for the community.

2. SC Approval: Eye-to-Eye Stipends

The AEA Stipend Committee met on September 18, 2019 and approved two advisor stipend positions: one for the high school and one for the middle school. The \$2,400 stipend is being paid through a grant this year for each of the advisors.

Susan McCready moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the Eye-to-Eye Chapter Advisor Stipend as presented. The motion was seconded by Paul Murphy and voted 5-0 to approve.

Superintendent Goals – First Reading

A discussion on the Superintendent's goals was led by the Chair in conjunction with the Superintendent. Joel said the goals are ambitious and asked the other Committee members if they have any changes to make to any of the seven major goals: strategic plan, facilities, literacy, data analysis, communications, budget, and school start times.

Paul Murphy would like to see more improvement in the low income and Latino MCAS numbers, and as focus areas for next year. Susan McCready said it is the Superintendent's team who are working with the goals and important to have a conversation if goal(s) become too aggressive for the team/staff. One of the goals she is concerned with is having report changes to MAP. Susan would like there to be an equal focus on math as much as reading; we have reading specialists, but we do not have math specialists.

H. Consent Agenda

1. Grants/Donations to Andover Public Schools N/A
2. Minutes N/A

I. Adjournment

At 9:35 P.M. on a motion by Paul Murphy seconded by Susan McCready, the Andover School Committee voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting of October 10, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo

Recording Secretary

Documents: MCAS Analysis

In-District Transportation Routing Analysis

Preliminary Enrollment & Elementary Class Size Chart

**Andover School Committee
Minutes of October 24, 2019**

Members in Attendance: Chair, Joel Blumstein, Vice-Chair, Tracey Spruce, Paul Murphy, Susan McCready, Shannon Scully, Paul Murphy

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Berman, Paul Szymanski Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Administration

I. SC Regular Open Session Meeting

A. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. in the School Committee Meeting Room located in the School Administration Building.

1. Executive Session

Shannon Scully moved to meet in executive session pursuant to M.G.L. chapter 30A, sec.21(a) for the following purposes: Purpose 3: to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Andover Education Association because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee. Motion seconded by Susan McCready. Roll call: P. Murphy-Y, S. McCready-Y, S. Scully-Y, T. Spruce-Y, J. Blumstein-Y.

II. Regular Meeting resumed

The Chair reconvened the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

A. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Salute to Flag

The meeting began with a Moment of Silence and a Salute to the Flag led by Bancroft Students Sage Edward (4th grader) and Scarlett Edward (2nd grader).

B. Recognitions & Communications

On October 15th Dr. Berman, the Town Manager, and Paul Rollins met with the officials at MSBA to select the architectural firm for West Elementary School (3 firms presented) and chose SMMA architects who designed Bancroft School, Wood Hill Middle and High Plain Elementary. Once again, Lorraine Finnegan will be our principal representative from SMMA. Dr. Berman also acknowledged AHS Principal Phil Conrad who has been in discussion with students on decisions made regarding decorating the "Rock" in front of AHS. Joel Blumstein said it will be helpful to have clear procedures around painting the 'Rock' at AHS.

Sandy Trach recognized the teachers and administrators involved in professional development activities including those that attended and presented at MassCue. Sandy attended the League of Innovative Schools in Washington, D.C. with Joanne Najarian, Director of Digital Learning.

Sandy also thanked Greg & Ellen Sebasky for their generous donation of \$25,000 to start the Liz Roos Professional Development Fund; staff can apply for Professional Development funding beginning in the Spring of 2020.

On November 14th the West Elementary Building Committee will meet at 7:30 AM in the School Committee Room. Meetings are open to the public.

Tracey Spruce encouraged everyone to attend the AHS Annual Broadway Cabaret beginning next Wednesday at the Collins Center and support our incredibly talented students.

Shannon Scully stated that the State increased the Circuit Breaker Fund by \$200M per year which is a significant increase.

Joel Blumstein reported on the Retirement Board Meeting he attended today where there was discussion around eligibility for retirement benefits and restricting benefits for part-time employees (currently working 20 hours or more per week are eligible for retirement benefits). APS employs many part-time employees and a decision to limit retirement benefits to full-time employees would impact our ability to hire and retain top quality employees. Joel is attending the Chairs meeting tomorrow and will report back to the Committee. In addition, a Triboard meeting is scheduled for December 11th at 7:00 P.M. in the School Committee Room.

C. Public Input: None

D. Response to Public Input: None

E. Education

1. AHS Overnight Field Trip (Model UN Jan 30-Feb 2, 2020)

Sandy Trach summarized the request of Michael McCarthy, Social Studies faculty member, with the support of Principal Phil Conrad and Program Coordinator Adrienne Bock, to take the Model UN Club members to the annual Model UN conference in Boston on January 30, 2020.

Susan McCreedy moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the proposed extracurricular trip for Andover High School students to attend Model UN in Boston on January 30-February 2, 2020 as presented and in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Andover School Committee Policy entitled "APS School-Sponsored Trip and student Travel Policy. Paul Murphy seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

F. Continuing Business

1. Turf Field at Wood Hill/High Plain Schools

The Town Manager is seeking support from the School Committee to build two U-14 and one U-12 turf fields with the potential for future installation of lighting for night usage on the grounds of WHMS/High Plain Elementary. This request, if approved by the School Committee, would be included in the FY-2021 Capital Improvement Program contingent on appropriation from Town Meeting and ASA securing funding. The project would be funded through Free Cash in the amount of \$1.2M and \$750,000 from the Andover Soccer Association. The School Committee and Select Board will need to agree to the terms of the agreement with the ASA. Athletic Director Bill Martin said that P.E. classes at High Plain and Wood Hill would make use of the fields and that this is a great opportunity for the Town as a whole.

Tracey Spruce moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the Town Manager's request to support a submission to the FY-2021 Capital Improvement Program to design and construct two U-14 and one U-12 fields on the grounds of High Plain/Wood Hill subject to the Committees' review of the final warrant article and approval of a Tripartite Agreement to stipulate field usage as presented. Susan McCready seconded the motion. Motion voted 5-0 to approve.

2. School Start Time Report – Sandy Trach

The Chair thanked everyone in attendance tonight and acknowledged the interest and passion around this issue and the importance it has to a lot of people. It is the duty of the School Committee to do what is in the best interest of all students. The discussion on sleep deprivation in adolescents began in Andover about a year and a half ago and was based on compelling research on the impact of sleep deprivation on adolescents. The School Committee is still gathering information and has not made a decision at this time. They have received a wide range of opinions across the community and there is not a consensus across the community on the way to progress. The transportation study results should provide us with better options. The School Committee will have a much more informed discussion before any decision is made.

Sandy Trach said studies have found that puberty is occurring in earlier years in young children and sleep restrictions associated with changes in start times could have an adverse effect on elementary students. They will continue the communication with Edulog for optimizing bus times. Sandy and Dr. Berman's discussions with other Massachusetts School Superintendents on their experience with changing school start times found that every district is individual.

Public Comment:

There was an overflow crowd of parents in the audience who came to speak on this issue. Many people spoke and expressed a number of similar concerns. Some shared their angst around the process and timeline and the compressed nature of this decision. Others requested a delay in voting because there is very little information on the impacts and effects the flip option would have on elementary students, while others asked for more collaboration and patience in the process.

Linda Shorts-Bouchard, Director of Kids Club After-school Program, is concerned with the health and wellness and the social/emotional effects on students and stressed the importance of collaboration and patience in the process. Shelley Penna is requesting a delay in voting due to serious transportation reports surrounding accidents in the early morning hours of 6-7 A.M. and the need to develop a safe plan that benefits all students. Paul Wheeler said we are sending the wrong message; kids are up late on devices. More information on time management should be provided before shifting all schedules.

To have your name added to the community email list to receive information, please contact Nicole Kieser Nicole.kieser@andoverma.us Shelley will reach out to Carol Green at Shawsheen Preschool for contact information for area pre-schools.

The School Committee thanked everyone for sharing their thoughts and providing feedback and they look forward to having more discussions on this subject. This item will be on the School Committee agenda for the next few meetings in preparation for the November 21st potential vote on School Start Times.

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, October 29 th	Informal School Committee Forum at MHL.
Tuesday, November 5 th	Presentation from Edulog with options and discussion
Saturday, November 16 th	Informal School Forum at 9:00 AM at MHL
Thursday, November 21 st	School Committee Meeting at 7:00 PM

3. Approval of Superintendent Goals

The Superintendent Goals were presented at the October 10th School Committee Meeting. The Chair summarized the seven (7) goals: sprints; building projects; continuing literacy efforts; data analysis; internal/external communications; budgetary item including Full Day K tuition elimination; and lastly, changing school start times.

Susan McCreedy moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the Superintendent's Goals as presented. The motion was seconded by Paul Murphy and voted 5-0 to approve.

G. New Business

1. FY21 Budget Guidelines

Paul Szymanski reported on the budget guidelines for FY-21 and has shared the information with the members of the SAT to assist the school leaders as they go through the budget process. The Committee will begin contract negotiations with the AEA this year and therefore the value for that expense will be contingent upon on-going discussions. Other budget concerns include rates for user fees, costs related to potential school start time change, and the cost of rentals. The High School Athletic Budget will be offset by an estimated \$343,500 in user fees, \$80,00 in rentals, and \$60,000 in gate receipts. This is a conservative approach due to the concern Triple E may have on gate receipts. Middle School Program fees have been increased to \$125.00 per student with a family maximum of \$250.00. To be more in line with Substitute Nurse pay rates offered by other districts, rates have been increased to \$200/day. The \$3,575 Full Day Kindergarten Tuition will stay in effect until the School Committee makes a decision.

Dr. Berman reported on DESE proportionate shares services and a lawsuit against the State for not providing the proportionate share to private schools. They have now increased both the standards set and funds received through the IDEA Grants.

Shannon Scully moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the FY-21 Budget Guidelines as presented. Tracey Spruce seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0 to approve. (Paul Murphy not in room at time of vote).

2. **APS School Calendar 2020-2021 – First Reading**

The Superintendent provided two APS School calendars for the 2020-2021 School Year; one with two religious holidays, and one without. Both calendars have schools starting prior to Labor Day and both calendars have been provided to the AEA. The Committee discussed the impact on attendance of students on the religious holidays; it seems that students felt pressured into being at school; showed in the student attendance.

3. **Monthly Financial Report**

Paul Szymanski provided the Committee with the financials for the period ending 09-30-19. The report shows a \$1.5M deficit and explanations will be provided when posted. Dr. Berman said Andover has two new Out-of-District students costing over \$800K per year. This expense may fall into the range of extra-ordinary relief (unanticipated costs) and provide about \$400K from the State. However, we will not know the outcome until after April 2020 and maybe after Town Meeting. In addition, there is \$350K deficit in the Human Resources Salary Account for employees who have been transferred from IT to the Town which the School Department has not been reimbursed for yet. All adjustments will be appropriately made and we will be reimbursed back to July 1st from the Town.

4. **SEPAC**

Joel Blumstein reported that after the SEPAC workshop presented by Leslie Leslie, Project Director for the Federation for Children with Special Needs, a group of parents have stepped up to form a new Andover SEPAC and will be coming forward to the School Committee for approval.

F. Consent Agenda

1. **Grants/Donations to Andover Public Schools**

Elizabeth Roos Staff Development Grant Fund
Shawsheen, Funds from Andona
Doherty Donation

2. **Surplus/Disposal Request(s)**

Disposal of old uniforms request from Sean Walsh, Program Coordinator for Fine Arts.

3. **Minutes** September 5, 12 and 18, 2019 SC Meetings

Susan McCready moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Paul Murphy seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.

G. Adjourn

On a motion by Susan McCready seconded by Tracey Spruce, the School Committee voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting of October 24, 2019 at 10:07 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo
Recording Secretary

Andover School Committee
Minutes of Tuesday, November 5, 2019

Members in Attendance: Chair, Joel Blumstein, Vice-Chair, Tracey Spruce, Paul Murphy, Susan McCready, Shannon Scully, Paul Murphy

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Berman, Paul Szymanski Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Administration, and Ben Roldan, AHS Liaison

I. SC Regular Open Session Meeting

A. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. in the School Committee Meeting Room located in the School Administration Building.

A. Call to Order/Moment of Silence/Salute to the Flag

The meeting began with a Moment of Silence followed by a Salute to the Flag

WHMS Art Teacher Zee Saffron was recognized for the artwork displayed in the School Committee Room.

The Chair reported that a communication was sent out announcing that the Transportation Study by Edulog is not complete so the presentation will be rescheduled to a future meeting.

B. Recognitions & Communications

Dr. Berman reported the following:

~attended the Broadway Cabaret at AHS and was amazed by the talent of the students, which was truly impressive.

~The Mother Connection is hosting a pre-school fair at Memorial Hall Library on Thursday, November 7th

~Thank you to Nicole Kieser, Director of Communications, for developing a notification to Preschools on school start times.

The Capital Improvement Plan is out and available on the Town website. The School 5 Major Projects include: AHS Field House Floor Replacement, design of elevator at DMS, replacement of the Sanborn School Roof, Air-Conditioning Design at Sanborn, installation of Air-Conditioning at South WMS auditorium renovations, and WHMS/HPE playgrounds renovation and resurfacing. In addition, two IT articles are included for Staff Device Refresh and Student Device Refresh.

Sandy Trach reported that the Elementary Literacy Benchmark Assessment training is in progress and the NWEA Assessment Training for 120 teachers will be held on November 19th and 20th in the School Committee Room. This Friday our Elementary Parent Conferences are scheduled and it will be a full Professional Day for all teachers. We are looking to advance the offer to Middle School parents to voluntarily have their child's device put on the IT Management System during the school day which will allow us to use the Chromebook for MCAS along with providing other safety features.

AHS Production of 'Legally Blonde' opens on November 21st at the Collins Center. Tracey Spruce encouraged everyone to attend and enjoy the students' performances.

Susan McCready and Shannon Scully reported on the Informal SC Forum recently held. There was a good turnout with three areas of focus: withholding recess concerns, opinions on middle and high school guidance counseling, and school start time including elementary level research and the anticipated transportation report from Edulog.

Joel Blumstein announced that Tracey Spruce, Shannon Scully and Andrew Flanagan will be the members of the Negotiation Sub-Committee for the upcoming negotiations with the Andover Education Association.

Last week's Chairs meeting touched on the CIP, funds for AHS if accepted into MSBA, elimination of full-day kindergarten tuition (on agenda for Finance Committee to present), and a follow-up on unexpected Out-of-District expenses and supplemental budget appropriation for the current fiscal year if needed. The meeting also included a discussion on changes in school start times and the potential need for additional busses.

C. Public Input: None

D. Response to Public Input: None

E. Education

1. Presentation: Skype w/Education Logistics Inc (Edulog) representative Andy Leibenguth, Sr. Consultant: Delayed until a future date

F. Continuing Business

1. School Start Times

Sandy Trach reported on the status of the School Start Time Study. The working group had questions about the bell time scenarios, bussing, and if they can be compressed. There were three responses to the Request for Proposals and Edulog Transportation was chosen to analyze bussing scenarios and identify viable solutions. The scope of work included six different tasks. The charge is to conduct routing analysis in various scenarios in a timely and efficient manner, drop offs, traffic patterns, etc. The Andover Team has met with Andy Leibenguth of Edulog and his team several times to discuss the analysis that included double run values, exploring how to add better service without adding costs, the importance of timing for our private schools and their impact, and various scenarios including flip and switch.

Sandy appreciates the School Committee allowing additional time to further explore the options and the anticipated outcomes including a presentation to help determine next viable steps.

Joel Blumstein said there is a lot of work left to be done. We still need to receive final report and presentation by Edulog and identify what the most viable options are and analyzing the impacts. It was a surprise to many the role the private schools play in

making this a more complicated issue than we thought. There are a number of steps that need to take place before the School Committee can announce a decision date. Once the report is received from Edulog, they hope to establish a Parent Advisory Group for further collaboration.

Shannon Scully said the general sense is that we need to get it right, not quick. The Transportation Study is a critical component before coming out with responses and she looks forward to seeing the results.

Tracey Spruce agrees with Joel and Shannon on waiting until we have the analysis. Paul Murphy said the process involves more stakeholders than we understood in the beginning. There is a lot going on in the District and the Committee needs to use their energy wisely. Susan McCready is very much in favor of having all of our stakeholders represented in an Advisory Group.

Public Comments:

~ Concern with health effects on elementary students using the flip model and information from sleep study experts who believe the shift occurs in ages of children from 5- 7 years old.

~ How was the survey conducted and how many families was it sent to. A lot of attention has been given to the middle and high school level but little to elementary school children and their parents. Take it slower, examine the information more closely

~ If the Committee is considering how long it takes the kids to get to school by bus, figure out how to make bus routes more compact, reduce homework so kids can go to bed earlier or leave things the way they are.

Dr. Berman said they have asked Edulog to look at efficiencies, and the Administration is having conversations on meaningful homework.

2. APS School Calendar 2020-2021 – Second Reading

Two Calendars under consideration; one with Yom Kippur and Good Friday as no school days, and one without. The AEA, by a slim margin, favored Version 2 with no school on Good Friday and Yom Kippur. A study of teacher and student attendance showed an average attendance of 94% for students, and 95% student attendance on Rosh Hashanah and 93% student attendance on Yom Kippur. Teacher attendance was slightly lower than average.

Paul Murphy moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the APS School Calendar 2020-2021 Version 1 and students will be in school on Yom Kippur and Good Friday. Tracey Spruce seconded the motion as presented. The Committee voted 4-1 to approve. Joel Blumstein opposed.

3. SEPAC Conditional Recognition

The Chair reported that after a presentation by Lesley Lesley on October 8th arranged by the School Committee, eight parents have stepped forward to establish a Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) and are inviting other parents and

guardians to join them. The School Committee will vote on whether to recognize these parents as the Andover SEPAC, conditioned on their adopting bylaws and electing officers at a properly noticed public meeting. The School Committee is happy to help with logistics; and Dr. Sara Stetson will be one of the primary contacts.

Tracey Spruce moved that at the request of Melissa Irvin, Georgeann Keer, Maureen Khoury, Lauren Kinney, Sherry Kirby, Rhonda Musikar-Rosner, Nicki Pelus and Katie Smith, the Andover School Committee establish a SEPAC pursuant to G.L. Sec.3., conditional on such SEPAC as represented by the eight requesting parents convening a meeting to adopt by-laws and elect officers. The motion was seconded by Shannon Scully and voted 5-0 to approve.

F. Consent Agenda

1. Grants/Donations to District N/A
2. Minutes N/A

G. Adjournment

On a motion by Tracey Spruce and seconded by Susan McCready, the Andover School Committee voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting of November 5, 2019 at 8:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo
Recording Secretary

Documents: 2020-2021 Andover Public School Calendars