

Andover School Committee
Regular Meeting of November 3, 2011
School Administration Building - School Committee Room

Members in Attendance: Chairwoman Annie Gilbert, Vice- Chair Paula Colby-Clements, Secretary, Dennis Forgue, and David Birnbach

Others in Attendance: Dr. Marinel McGrath, Superintendent, Nancy A. Duclos, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction, and Paul Szymanski, Assistant Superintendent, Finance & Administration, and AHS Liaison, Colin Johnson.

I. Executive Session

Annie Gilbert opened the meeting at 6:02 P.M. in the School Committee Room of the School Administration Building. Dennis Forgue motioned for the Andover School Committee to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters related to collective bargaining strategy and to return to Open Session. The motion was seconded by Paula Colby-Clements and voted 3-0. Roll call vote: A. Gilbert-Y, D. Forgue-Y, P. Colby-Clements-Y. At 6:20 P.M. the School Committee moved from Executive Session to the Triboard Executive Session. At 6:59 P.M. on a motion by Dennis Forgue with a second by Paula Colby-Clements, it was voted 3-0 to adjourn from Executive Session and to move to Open Session. Roll call vote: A. Gilbert-Y, D. Forgue-Y, and P. Colby-Clements-Y.

II. Regular Meeting

A. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the School Committee was opened at 7:06 P.M. by Chairwoman Gilbert.

B. Opening Ceremonies

Mr. Collins asked for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Colin Johnson from Andover High School who is also our new AHS liaison to the School Committee. On behalf of the School Committee Mr. Collins presented Colin with a certificate of appreciation.

C. Recognition

Superintendent McGrath made the following announcements:

~ She thanked National Grid, school custodians, town staff, and Central Office staff on the phenomenal job they did in responding to the power outage this week.

~ Andover High School was recognized by the College Board and placed on the 2nd Annual AP Honor Roll, for simultaneously increasing access to Advanced Placement coursework while maintaining or increasing the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher on AP exams. Achieving both of these goals is the ideal scenario for a high school's Advanced Placement program, because it indicates that the district is successfully identifying motivated, academically-prepared students who are likely to benefit most from AP coursework. Congratulations and thank you to all the teachers for their efforts in this accomplishment.

~The Massachusetts Recycling Committee awarded Andover High School the 2011 Gold Award in the K-2 School Category for recycling. Andover was one of fifty-four candidates nominated. The Awards Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, November 15th at the National Heritage Museum in Lexington.

Mr. Collins recognized the AHS Football team on their performance this season, said they will be playing Billerica on Friday.

D. Communications

Annie Gilbert announced that the presentation and approval of the Strategic Plan has been rescheduled to the November 17th School Committee Meeting. Due to the power outages from the storm the Strategic Plan Committee was unable to meet to finalize the information. Mrs. Gilbert provided an update on the status of contract negotiations with the Andover Educators Association; both sides have explored many options, and discussions have been fluid. The next negotiation meeting with the mediator will be held on Monday and they are optimistic that an agreement will be reached.

E. Citizen Input

Tom Powers – AHS Teacher pointed out ten items that teachers routinely perform beyond the contracted school day. As each item was mentioned, the teachers in the audience held up their appropriate signs.

Bob Willard, 76 Tewksbury suggested that after the conclusion of each negotiation session, a joint but brief statement be prepared by both parties and shared with the public providing full transparency and honest reporting of negotiations.

F. Education

1. Bancroft School Project Update

Annie Gilbert reported on the decision by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) who has affirmed the order of conditions set by the Conservation Commission in our favor. A hearing date for the lawsuit filed under the local Wetlands Act has been scheduled for November 22nd in Superior Court. A decision was received from the Inspector General’s Office allowing the Town to appoint an Interim Project Manager from our internal staff for Bancroft, until we begin the construction phase of the project.

G. Old Business

1. APS Strategic Plan Tabled to November 17th meeting.

2. FY-13 CIP Presentation

Superintendent McGrath introduced Paul Puzanghera, Chief Information Officer and Acting Director of Facilities & Maintenance Maria Maggio who reported on the CIP items for FY-13. The CIP items are displayed by project, priority, over a five year period from FY13 through FY17.

Ms. Maggio reported on the CIP items in SCH-1 Yearly Maintenance Requests for all schools, and SCH-2 Projects by Buildings which have both sustained significant cuts over the last few years and are not fully-funded. Items listed under SCH-2 considered safety issues include:

- Bancroft: Removal of snow from roof
- Sanborn: Rugs, intercom system
- South: Intercom system, paving for emergency exits
- West El: Replacement of windows
- DMS: lockers, shades, bathrooms
- WMS: Carpets, floor tiles, renovation work
- AHS: Rubber stair treads, carpeting, smoke detectors, security upgrades for the Collins Center and, NEASC requirements

G. Old Business (Cont'd)

2. FY-13 CIP Presentation (Cont'd)

The amount of \$2,700,000 was requested for SCH-5 Major School Projects and the Town Manager is recommending \$1,000,000. Items in SCH-5 are funded through General Fund Borrowing. SCH-1 and SCH-2 are funded through General Fund Revenue (pay as you go).

SCH-4 -Information Technology was presented by Paul Puzzanghera, CIO of IT. Mr. Puzzanghera gave a summary of the first five months of the transition of the Town/School IT Department. The transition included interviews with staff of all departments, an analysis of the Blum-Shapiro Report, and development of a preliminary work plan with includes many projects and challenges.

Mr. Puzzanghera reported that the school fiber optic network is robust and prepared for expansion and the school server infrastructure is close to current best practices. The level of support of the schools and town is good and service is responsive. The School Technology Department has a work order system in place, teachers are excited about technology and the school website has a content management approach.

Areas of improvement include concerns with the infrastructure, applications, and organizational issues, as well as the need to increase the band width. The goals for a 21st Century Town are to measure everything, eliminate paper, increase transparency, make all data accessible, have a 24/7 Town Hall with improved communications, and provide a higher level of communication for parents and students, as well as a 24/7 virtual school. In addition, we need to increase tools to empower the 21st Century Learner. Four phases of the plan include reorganizing the team, improving the wireless infrastructure, improve efficiencies, and improve ethnicity. A review of the schools technology fleet shows that computers are aging and need to be replaced. The FY-13 CIP for Technology includes six major projects at a cost of \$487,000 which includes: annual replacement of Town and School Administration Computers, upgrade of teacher's personal computers, 1-1 computer initiative for students, wireless connections, and infrastructure upgrades.

Superintendent McGrath reported on the SCH-3 Textbooks request of \$375,000 to fund wireless curriculum pilots, and to address needs of various learners by having a robust and dependable wireless environment to support the paradigm shift from textbooks to e-books. Priority requests for FY-13 include Foreign Language, Math Science and Social Studies for Grades 6-12; Pre-K-Grade 5 English Language Arts, and Pre-K-12 Electronic Textbooks, and Pre-K-12 Response to Intervention for a total of \$273,000. Second priority requests include: Grade 6-12 English Language Arts, Grade 6-12 Science, and Pre-K-5 Math. Third priority requests include Pre-K-5 Science and Social Studies. These instructional materials address the full range of learners in our classrooms with specific attention to the needs of advanced learners, English learners, special education students, and students with learning difficulties. Lack of textbooks and instructional materials that reflect Massachusetts current academic standards can be a factor in litigation charging a school system with the failure to provide the opportunity to learn the knowledge and skills which they are entitled and tested through the MCAS.

H. New Business

1. Policy: First Reading Pediculosis (Head Lice) Management Policy

Superintendent McGrath reported that Director of Nursing Rita Casper along with the school nurses

H. New Business (Cont'd)

1. Policy: First Reading Pediculosis (Head Lice) Management Policy

reviewed APS guidelines on Pediculosis, as well as recent research by the Harvard School of Public Health and the American Academy of Pediatrics, and drafted a policy for Andover that would be consistent across the district. The policy will be available on the school website for a two week public comment period. As this is a first reading of the policy, no action was required.

2. Equipment Lease

Paul Szymanski is recommending approval of a new lease with Xerox for the copy center machines that would provide savings and efficiencies for the district. Xerox provided two proposals, a two year lease and a five year lease, Mr. Szymanski is recommending approval of the five year lease.

Motion: Dennis Forgue moved that the Andover School Committee approve a five-year lease agreement with Xerox Corporation as presented. The motion was seconded by Richard Collins and voted 4-0 to approve.

I. Consent Agenda

1. **Warrants:** Mr. Szymanski reported on the School Warrants consisting of two Expense Warrants, SW1208, SW1208A and two Payroll Warrants 12S017, and 12S018.

Motion: Paula Colby-Clements motioned for the Andover School Committee to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Richard Collins and voted 4-0 to approve.

J. Adjournment

On a motion by Paula Colby-Clements and seconded by Richard Collins, it was voted 4-0 to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo
Recorder

Documents: CIP Program FY2013-2017
Pediculosis Management Policy (Head Lice)
School Warrants