

**Andover School Committee**  
**Regular Meeting of January 10, 2013**  
**School Administration Building - School Committee Room**

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

**Others in Attendance:** Dr. Marinel McGrath, Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Nancy Duclos, and AHS Liaison Brian Wivell

**I. Regular Meeting**

**A. Call to Order**

Chairwoman Colby-Clements called the Regular Meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:08 P.M. followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Dennis Forgue.

Chairman Colby-Clements said the School Committee agenda needs to be amended for tonight's meeting due to an additional agenda item under New Business.

Dennis Forgue motioned to amend the agenda under New Business adding item #3, the Andover Youth Center Warrant Article. The motion was seconded by Annie Gilbert and voted 5-0 to approve.

**B. Recognition**

The fall 2012 AHS Girls and Boys Sports Teams, Coaches, Captains and Co-Captains were introduced and recognized for their achievements by Don Doucette, Andover High School Athletic Director. Mr. Doucette said AHS Sport Teams, who are a terrific collection of coaches and student athletes, had a great season. The following teams were recognized: Boys' Cross Country, Girls' Cross Country, Girls' Field Hockey, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Soccer, AHS Football Team, Girls' Swim & Dive Team, and the Girls' Volleyball Team. The School Committee and Administration congratulated the coaches and athletes on their accomplishments.

Assistant Superintendent Nancy Duclos commended World Language Program Advisor, Dr. Jorge Allen for collaborating with Pei Zhang, Director of the US-China SciTech Promotion Association to arrange an exchange program with Andover's middle school students and middle school students from Beijing, China.

**C. Public Input - none**

**D. Communications**

**1. Bancroft School Project Update**

Annie Gilbert reported the School Building Committee voted the final funding number of \$5,814,029.00 for the Warrant Article for the Special Town Meeting for the Bancroft School Building Project. The \$5.8M includes funds for removal of hazardous materials, payment for the Construction Manager and his team, permitting due to litigation, construction of the berm-wall, funds for the playground, additional construction contingencies and any further delays, and the \$4.4M for cost overruns. If the vote at the Special Town Meeting is unsuccessful, a warrant article will be submitted for the Annual Town Meeting. A negative vote at the Special Town Meeting could also mean a possible 15% increase in amounts on bids received. The Town is working with the Dept of Revenue to determine to what extent additional funding can be added onto the 2011 Town Meeting vote.

## 2. Communication Sub-Committee Report

Paula Colby-Clements reported on the workshops held by the School Committee to develop and define their goals. The School Committee, Superintendent McGrath and her team attended a workshop at the Cambridge Innovation Center at MIT to learn together about 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills and what demands on students and companies will look like. The School Committee will schedule additional workshops to build on this experience.

## 3. Budget Sub-Committee Report

Chair Colby-Clements reported the Budget Sub-Committee has held three higher-level budget assumption meetings in preparation of Town Meeting.

## E. Old Business

### 1. AHS Breathalyzer Policy for Dances

Paula Colby-Clements said the Breathalyzer Policy has been available on the School website for public review since it was first proposed at the previous School Committee meeting. To date, no emails or other communication from the public have been received. Superintendent McGrath said notification for guests attending the AHS Prom was added to the Policy. If approved tonight, the Policy will be effective for the February dance and communication provided to students and parents. AHS School Committee Liaison, Brian Wivell reported on a survey conducted by the Student Council 321 students participating. The survey results showed 60% of those surveyed opposed the Breathalyzer Policy and 76% are opposed to having hall monitors during the school day.

Dennis Forgue motioned for the Andover School Committee to vote to approve the AHS Breathalyzer Policy for dances held for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year including the Prom as presented. The motion was seconded by Annie Gilbert and voted 4-0 to approve.

### 2. Travel Request: AHS –Spain-Language Immersion Class, June 29-21,2013

Superintendent McGrath explained that she has been working with School Counsel on the request for a summer immersion program and, if held as a pilot this year, they do not have to amend the current travel policy. She recommends approval for the travel request as a pilot program contingent upon specific conditions and if the contingencies are not met the trip will not go forward and Superintendent McGrath will have the authority to rescind the School Committee's vote.

Annie Gilbert moved for the Andover School Committee, consistent with the requirements of law and of School Committee Policy JJH – school sponsored student travel and having determined that the Inesle Madrid Program Trip scheduled for June 29 – July 21, 2013 will provide significant educational benefits to Andover High School students who participate, approve such trip. Approval shall be subject to the following express conditions:

(1) Approval is based solely on the specific features, benefits, and evaluation of this trip and is not an acknowledgement that similar trips are permitted under Policy JJH; (2) All of the requirements of Policy JJH shall apply; (3)The permission slip and protocol which apply to international trips under Policy JJH must be utilized; (4) The Superintendent, in her discretion, may determine that the trip shall not take place unless insurance arrangements are in place which are similar to insurance arrangements for trips which have been approved under Policy JJH.

The motion was seconded by Dennis Forgue and voted 4-0 to approve.

## **F. New Business**

### **1. Gift to Schools: Andover Coalition for Education (ACE)**

ACE is generously gifting \$30,000 towards the first two years of the Artist in Residence Program to enhance APS Curriculum. Nancy Duclos said the Fine Arts Task Force worked to extend the curriculum to foster experiential and hands-on experiences for students to understand the connection between Fine Arts and other curriculum areas. The Artist in Residence will work collaboratively with school principals and teachers to create opportunities to extend and deepen the Fine Arts Curriculum, teams from all levels will present proposals to a group of Art Department members and proposals will be shared and voted on by members of the Fine Arts Department. ACE will also continue to support the Art Hanging System to showcase student art work with the purchase of flexible walls and movable displays, support a Graphic Arts Lab at AHS, as well as enhancements to other curriculum areas.

Annie Gilbert motioned for the Andover School Committee to accept the gift of \$30,000 from the Andover Coalition for Education (ACE) to fund the first two years of a visiting artist program across grade levels. In addition, the Andover School Committee votes to accept the gift of a hanging system to showcase student artwork in a professional manner at the schools, Central Office, and other Town buildings. The motion was seconded by Dennis Forgue and voted 4-0 to approve.

### **2. FY-14 Budget Development Guidelines and Assumptions**

The School Committee held a budget subcommittee meeting in preparation of the FY-14 budget on January 7<sup>th</sup>. A draft of the Budget Development and Assumptions for FY-14 has been provided to the School Committee for their approval. Superintendent McGrath explained that the Andover School System has many budget obligations and priorities that are statutory, regulatory and unfunded. The Guidelines for Budget Developments include two levels of requests: the base budget (same as the previous year) accounting for current school programs, class sizes, staffing, services, COLA increases, contract increases, statutory, regulatory mandates and accreditation requirements, and initiatives from the Strategic Plan for improved student services. The budget includes an increase of \$2.1M for the 2% Cost of Living (COLA) and a request to raise the rate of pay for substitutes (currently \$65/day). Andover pays less than other communities for substitutes and we are experiencing difficulty obtaining substitutes at the current rate. Unfunded mandates under Accountability Regulations include the new requirement to purchase electronic web-based software for the new Educator Evaluation Program to annually submit information to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education at a cost of approximately \$14,000 for an annual lease. Revenue items include Chapter 70 funds distributed to the Town, Special Education Circuit Breaker, Special Needs Tuition costs, Early Childhood Tuition for the Preschool Peer Partner Program, All Day Kindergarten fees, and Rental Income (Athletic Department).

Dennis Forgue motioned for the Andover School Committee to approve the FY-14 Budget Development Guidelines and Assumptions as presented. The motion was seconded by Annie Gilbert and voted 4-0 to approve.

### **3. Andover Youth Center Warrant Article**

Nancy Jeton, Chair of the Building Committee for the Andover Youth Center, distributed a copy of the proposed Warrant Article for the request to transfer land for the Youth Center. She explained

that a 35' parcel of the land located on the southeast corner of the lot is adjacent to wetlands and in a "no build" area. The Youth Center Building Committee is seeking to push the parcel north by 35' away from the wetlands requiring approval from the School Committee. The School Committee discussed the request and suggested changes and improvements to the parking lot adjacent to DMS and the impact on the traffic flow. They also discussed what the temporary parking plan would look like during construction. Dennis Forgue would like to see the original plan voted at the December 2011 Special Town Meeting.

Next steps include receiving additional information from Maria Maggio on what the parcel will look like with the land transfer, the parking plan, and neighborhood feedback. The School Committee would like to speak DMS Principal, Robin Wilson, to determine if she has any concerns and schedule a meeting to publicly process information with abutters.

4. AHS Overnight Travel Request: DECA Marketing, Boston, March 14-16, 2013

Superintendent McGrath announced that twelve AHS students advanced to the State level competition in the DECA Marketing Program. The competition is a two day event requiring students to stay overnight in Boston requiring approval of the School Committee. Superintendent McGrath reported that the requirements for the request are all in order.

Dennis Forgue motioned for the Andover School Committee approve the proposed extra-curricular trip for the AHS DECA Club to attend the State DECA Conference to be held on March 14-16, 2013 as presented and in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Andover School Committee Policy entitled, "School-Sponsored Trip and Student Travel Policy". The motion was seconded by Annie Gilbert and voted 4-0 to approve.

**G. Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes: School Committee Minutes of December 13, 2012 and Triboard Minutes of December 3 and December 17, 2012.
2. Warrants: Payroll Warrants: 13S025, 13S026, 13S027 and 13S028  
Expense Warrants: SW1309P, SW1309A, and SW1309

Dennis Forgue motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented with revisions to the December 13, 2012 School Committee Meeting. The motion was seconded by Annie Gilbert and voted 4-0 to approve.

**H. Adjournment**

On a motion by Annie Gilbert and seconded by Dennis Forgue, the School Committee voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting of January 10, 2013 at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo, Recorder

Documents: AHS Breathalyzer Proposed Policy, Andover Youth Center Transfer of Land Article, Draft of FY-14 Budget Development Guidelines, List of School Warrants, and Minutes of December 13, December 3, and December 17, 2012