



ANDOVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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

Meetings are prepared for live broadcast by AndoverTV via Andover public access television (Comcast Channel 99 and Verizon Channel 43) or by streaming from www.andovertv.org.

**MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021
VIRTUAL OPEN MEETING**

Public Participation

Public Input should follow School Committee [policy BEDH](#) *Public Comment at School Committee Meetings* and [policy BEDH-E](#) *Guidelines for Public Comment*.

<p>Public input via email: scremote@andoverma.us <i>please include name and address along with comments</i></p>	<p>Public input via live video: Registration link</p>
<p>Members of the public who wish to provide written Public Input, or to provide comment or ask a question on a particular agenda item can do so by sending email to the above email address. The public is encouraged to email questions ahead of time, and we will do our best to relay questions received during the meeting to the School Committee.</p>	<p>The Committee welcomes members of the public to provide live video comment during the Public Input portion of the agenda. To participate via video, you must register in advance and the meeting administrator will move you from a WebEx lobby into the main meeting at the appropriate time. To participate in this way, please register using the above link.</p>

- I. School Committee Meeting – Call to Order 6:30 PM
- II. Executive Session (VIRTUAL)
 - A. *Motion and vote to meet in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A, section 21(a) for the following purposes: Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to bargaining with unionized personnel, namely the Andover Assistants Organization because an open session may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee. The Committee will reconvene in regular session at approximately 7PM.*
- III. Resume Regular Meeting: Call to Order/Moment of Silence I.O.
- IV. Recognitions/Communications I.O.
- V. Public Input
- VI. Response to Public Input
- VII. Policy EBCFA Face Coverings – 2nd Reading and Vote A.R.
- VIII. Adjournment A.R.

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.

The mission of the Andover Public Schools, in partnership with the entire Andover community, is to educate by engaging and inspiring, students to develop as self-reliant, responsible citizens who are thinkers, problem solvers, and contributors prepared to participate in an evolving global society.

Pursuant to S.2475 "An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency," which was enacted into law on June 16, 2021, this meeting of the School Committee will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. The virtual meeting will be broadcast on Comcast Channel 99 and Verizon Channel 43 and livestreamed on AndoverTV.org

Members of the public who wish to participate in the meeting can do so by emailing SCRemote@andoverma.us or by live input through the link above. Residents are encouraged to email their questions or comments ahead of the meeting – however, staff will be available to present the School Committee with questions and comments received during the meeting. Please include your name and address with your question or comment.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so despite our best efforts, we will post on the APS1.net website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

EBCFA - FACE COVERINGS

The Andover Public Schools District is committed to providing a safe environment as schools operate during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to public health experts, one of the best ways to stop the spread of coronavirus and to keep members of our school community safe is the use of face masks. Therefore, in accordance with guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) ~~and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs,~~ the following requirements are in place until further notice.

A face mask that, per DPH guidance:

- covers the nose and mouth;
- fits securely and comfortably against the side of the face;
- is secured with ties or ear loops;
- allows for breathing without restriction;
- does NOT have an exhalation valve or vent;
- can be laundered and machine dried without damage or change of shape if a multi-use mask;
- is a fresh surgical mask if single use

must be worn by all individuals inside school buildings and on school transportation, even when social distancing is observed.

~~Effective May 21, 2021, s~~Students are ~~not longer~~ required to wear face masks outdoors even if social distance is not observed. This applies to:

- recess;
- physical education classes;
- athletics as defined by the MA EEA and adopted by the MIAA;
- learning environments; and
- eating and drinking

Students and staff retain the option to wear a mask outdoors if desired.

~~Adults must continue to wear masks outdoors if 6 feet of social distance cannot be observed.~~

Individuals may be excused from the requirement for the following list of reasons, per CDC guidance:

The individual:

- has trouble breathing;
- is unconscious;
- is incapacitated;
- cannot remove a face mask without assistance

Accommodations will be made for individuals for whom face masks are not possible due to medical conditions, disability impact, a significant impediment to communication, or other health or safety factors, which for students may include behavioral challenges. Medical documentation acceptable to APS is required for a requested accommodation. Any accommodations must be approved by the building principal in consultation with the school nurse or local Board of Health. Face shields or physical barriers may provide an alternative in some instances. Parents may not excuse their child from the face mask requirement by signing a waiver.

Face masks will **not** be required **indoors** ~~except when 6 feet of social distancing is enforced~~

- during approved mask breaks of less than 15 minutes;
- while eating or drinking during designated snack and lunch;
- while alone in an office or classroom; and

~~• during athletics as defined by the MA EEA and adopted by the MIAA~~

A student's face mask or face covering is to be provided by the student's family. Staff members are responsible for providing their own face mask or face covering. However, the district will supply a disposable face mask for individuals who arrive at a building, or want to board school transportation, without one.

If students are in violation of this policy, the building principal or designee will consult with the parent/guardians to determine whether an accommodation is appropriate, or the student may be removed from ~~in-person learning in~~ the school building until such time as they can comply with the requirement, or the requirement is lifted.

Violations of this policy by staff will be handled in the same manner as other violations of School Committee policy.

Visitors in violation of this policy will be denied entry to the school/district facility.

This policy will remain in place until rescinded by the School Committee.

Authority is delegated to the Superintendent in consultation with the Chair of the School Committee to update and amend this policy in accordance with guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and departments of public health.

CROSS REF: [EEAEC](#): Student Conduct On School Busses

[GBEB](#): Staff Conduct

[JIC](#): Student Discipline

[KE](#): Public Complaints

LEGAL REF: ~~Commonwealth of Massachusetts, COVID-19 Order No. 31 <https://www.mass.gov/doc/may-1-2020-masks-and-face-coverings/download>~~

~~ADD AAP statement~~

~~REFS: Center for Disease Control and Prevention - [Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools \(Updated August 5, 2021\): https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html) [Considerations for Wearing Masks - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html)~~

~~American Academy of Pediatrics - American Academy of Pediatrics Updates Recommendations for Opening Schools in Fall 2021 (Updated July 19, 2021): <https://services.aap.org/en/news-room/news-releases/aap/2021/american-academy-of-pediatrics-updates-recommendations-for-opening-schools-in-fall-2021/>~~

~~Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education - Reopening Guidelines (Updated July 30, 2021): <https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/2021-0730fall-2021-covid19-guidance.pdf> <http://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/>~~

~~Massachusetts Executive Office Of Energy And Environmental Affairs
Workplace Safety And Reopening Standards For Businesses And Other Entities
Providing Youth And Adult Amateur Sports Activities~~

~~<https://www.mass.gov/doc/safety-standards-for-youth-and-adult-amateur-sports-activities-phase-iv-step-1-effective-on-51821/download>~~

SOURCE: ANDOVER - September 2, 2020 (adopted from MASC August 2020 template) Updated 10/1/20; 5/20/21

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Center for Disease Control and Prevention - Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools (Updated August 5, 2021):

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