

Andover School Committee
Regular Meeting of May 20, 2014
School Administration Building - School Committee Room

Members in Attendance: Annie Gilbert, Paula Colby-Clements, David Birnbach, and Joel Blumstein
Others in Attendance: Dr. Marinel McGrath, Superintendent, Paul Szymanski, Assistant Superintendent Finance and Administration, and Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, Dr. Nancy A. Duclos.

I. Executive Session

The School Committee on a motion duly made and seconded voted to meet in Executive Session to discuss strategy relative to successor contract negotiations with custodians and food service employees and potential litigation and to return to open session. Roll call: A. Gilbert-Y, P. Colby-Clements-Y, D. Birnbach-Y, and J. Blumstein-Y. At 6:58 P.M. on a motion by Paula Colby-Clements and seconded by Joel Blumstein, the School Committee unanimously voted to adjourn from Executive Session and return to Open Session, not to return to Executive Session. Roll call: A. Gilbert-Y, P. Colby-Clements-Y, D. Birnbach-Y, and J. Blumstein-Y.

II. Regular Meeting

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

Annie Gilbert reconvened the School Committee meeting to order at 7:06 P.M in the School Committee Room and led the meeting in a moment of silence followed by a salute to the flag.

B. Recognition/Communications

Dr. McGrath briefly remarked on the circumstances regarding the arrest of a middle school teacher for an incident in Strathmore, New Hampshire. An email was sent out to parents in the Andover Community to let them know that the situation does not involve any Andover students and is being handled by the Strathmore Police.

Dr. McGrath gave a special recognition to Assistant Superintendent Dr. Nancy Duclos for achieving her dream to obtain a Doctoral Degree in Philosophy. Dr. McGrath presented Nancy with a bouquet of roses and a new name plate to acknowledge her accomplishment. Nancy spoke about her dissertation titled "How School Superintendents Develop Trust with Principals during Implementation of School Initiatives".

C. Public Input

Kerry Costello, President of the Andover Education Association, asked if the results of the recent SEPAC survey would be discussed at a future School Committee and if she could be notified of the date.

D. Education

1. Gift to Schools: Mr. Jay Jang: Academy at Harvard Sq. to West Middle & AHS

Dr. McGrath explained that part of the Strategic Plan is to develop relationships outside of the Andover School Community and to expand our partnerships. Earlier this year through the efforts of Jorge Allen,

World Language Program Advisor and the West Middle School community, Korean students and their teachers attended West Middle School to learn about American education and culture. In addition, thirty-nine Chinese students will come to Andover High School this June.

Jorge Allen said how thankful he is for the support received to make this initiative happen. Timothy An, a former Andover student who taught English in Korea for five years, worked with Dr. Jung on the collaboration with Andover Public Schools. Dr. Jung said it was a great honor to work with the Andover community and would like to continue this type of educational opportunity and promote international peace.

Paula Colby-Clements motioned that the Andover School Committee vote to accept the gift of \$5,000 from Dr. Jay Jang, Educational Divide Reform to West Middle School for the purchase of iPads for student use. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 4-0 to approve.

Paula Colby-Clements motioned that the Andover School Committee vote to accept the gift of \$5,000 from Dr. Jay Jang, Educational Divide Reform to Andover High School for the establishment of the Global Partners Student Travel Scholarship Fund. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 4-0 to approve.

2. New Adoption: K-8 Mathematics Program: Math in Focus

Dr. McGrath introduced Katherine Richard, K-12 Math Program Advisor, and members of the Math Curriculum Advisory who were instrumental in bringing the new math program forward; Liz Roos, Amy Brady, Frank McCall, Marj Andresen', Steve Hunt, Ann Odgen, and Tara Brink. Dr. Duclos provided background information on the curriculum cycle and math curriculum advisory review which includes evaluation, examination, and recommendation, followed by an implementation year and teacher feedback.

Katherine Richard explained the process used to arrive at the recommendation of Math in Focus. Five different programs were reviewed, presentations were provided by publishers, and an examination of the curriculum and technical resources conducted. Math in Focus incorporates a visual approach, provides differentiation, has focus and depth, relevance and rigor and the inclusion of the four C's, and the teachers were really enthusiastic about this choice. Each of them provided a brief explanation of an area of the program that stood out above the other math programs. The K-8 program will cost \$403,058.62 and is included in the CIP funds for FY-2015. The implementation plan will include a math week, professional development for teachers, administrative training, Parent University, and an updated website with resources for parents. The School Committee will vote their approval on Thursday, June 5th and it was noted they must have a 2/3 vote to approve new textbook adoptions.

3. New Adoption: Gr. 6-8 Engineering Program: Lego Mindstorms

Steve Sanborn, K-12 Science Program Advisor, talked about restructuring of the Middle School Engineering Program to optimize the opportunity for students to express creativity, problem-solving, and coding skills. The new components to the Engineering Program would include the Legos Mindstorms Core and Expansion Sets and provide a sequence of skills to the Grade 6-8 program finishing with a capstone program in Grade 8. Dr. Duclos said the recommendation will strengthen

the value of the program. The cost of the proposal is \$48,690.03 of which \$34,000.00 is being paid through a grant from the Andover Coalition for Education (ACE), leaving a balance of 14,690.03. Professional development for teachers is budgeted through the regular school budget.

4. Bancroft School Project

The Bancroft School is close to completion with workmen installing the solar panels and putting the final pieces into place. It is expected the Andover Public Schools will take ownership of the building by May 22nd. There will be a community open house over the summer with a formal dedication in late September/early October.

E. Old Business

1. 2013-2014 School Year: Last Official Day for Students & Teachers

Paula Colby-Clements moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve Friday, June 20, 2014 as the last day of school for students and Monday, June 23, 2014 as the last day of school for teachers in the 2013-2014 school year barring any unforeseen emergencies or inclement weather. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 4-0 to approve.

2. Liaison Appointment: Audit Committee- Joel Blumstein

Paula Colby-Clements moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the appointment of Joel Blumstein as the School Committee Liaison to the Audit Committee through June 2015. The motion was seconded by David Birnbach and voted 4-0 to approve.

3. Authorization of Chair Communication

Paula Colby-Clements moved that the Andover School Committee vote to authorize the Chair to write a communication to the Boosters surrounding practice, standards, and expectations. The motion was seconded by David Birnbach and voted 4-0 to approve.

F. New Business

1. FY2015-2017 Transportation Contracts

Paul Szymanski, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Administration explained the process of the bus bids and provided information on the contractors. The first two motions are for a public bid, the third is an out-of-district competitive bid.

Regular Transportation/Kindergarten/Extra-curricular and Athletic Field Trips

Paula Colby-Clements moved that the Andover School Committee vote to award a three-year contract for Regular Route Buses and Mid-day Kindergarten Buses, and as needed buses for Extracurricular Field Trips, and Athletic Team Trips, covering the period from July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2017 with two additional one-year renewals, solely at the discretion of the School Committee to Trombly Motor Coach Services, Inc. of Dracut, Massachusetts. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 4-0 to approve.

In-Town Special Needs

Paula Colby-Clements moved that the Andover School Committee vote to award a three year contract for In-town Special Needs Student Transportation Services for our Summer Program for the Period beginning July 2014 and ending August 2016, and In-Town Special Needs student Transportation

Services for our School Year Program for the period beginning August 2014 and ending June 30, 2017 with two additional one-year renewals, solely at the discretion of the School Committee to NRT Bus, Inc., of Methuen, Massachusetts. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 4-0 to approve.

Out of District – Competitive Bid

Paul Colby-Clements moved that the Andover School Committee vote to award a three year contract for Out of District Special Needs Student Transportation Services for our Summer Program for the period beginning June 2014 and ending August 2016, and Out of District Transportation Services for our School Year Program for the period beginning August 2014 and ending June 30, 2017 with two additional one-year renewals, solely at the discretion of the School Committee to NRT Bus, Inc., of Methuen, Massachusetts. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 4-0 to approve.

2. Disposal of Surplus Equipment: Bancroft, DMS, Sanborn, High Plain, and Shawsheen

Paula Colby-Clements motioned that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the disposal of the School Surplus property as presented. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 4-0 to approve.

G. Consent Agenda

1. School Committee Minutes of March 27, 2014
2. Warrants: Expense: SW1425 and SW1425A and Payroll S14S046 and 14S047

Paula Colby-Clements moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 4-0 to approve.

H. Adjournment

At 9:32 P.M. Paula Colby-Clements motioned the Andover School Committee adjourn the meeting of May 20, 2014. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 4-0 to approve. Roll call: P. Colby-Clements-Y, D. Birnbach-Y, J. Blumstein-Y, and A. Gilbert-Y.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo
Recording Secretary

Documents: Transportation Contracts
 Disposal of Surplus Equipment Requests
 Math Presentation
 LegoMania Presentation