

**Andover School Committee Regular Meeting
Minutes of June 25, 2015**

Members in Attendance: Annie Gilbert, Paula Colby-Clements, Joel Blumstein, Susan McCready, and Ted Teichert.

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Marinel McGrath, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance Paul Syzmanski

I. Executive Session:

At 4:30 P.M. School Committee Chair Annie Gilbert called the School Committee Meeting to order. At 4:31 P.M. the School Committee on a motion duly made and seconded moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to negotiations regarding the Interim Superintendent's contract and to return to Open Session. Roll call: A. Gilbert-Y, P. Colby-Clements-Y, J. Blumstein-Y, S. McCready-Y, and T. Teichert-Y. At TIME on a motion by J. Blumstein and seconded by T. Teichert the School Committee voted to adjourn from Executive Session and not to return. Roll call: A. Gilbert-Y, P. Colby-Clements-Y, J. Blumstein-Y, S. McCready-Y, and T. Teichert-Y.

II. Regular Meeting

A. Opening Ceremonies

Annie Gilbert led the meeting in a Moment of Silence followed by a Salute to the Flag.

B. Communications

Paul Syzmanski reported on his meeting with Frank Keanelly, Vice President of the YMCA, regarding the potential partnership with the YMCA and Andover's Pre-school. After several meetings and visits to Shawsheen and the YMCA to determine the space needed for our Preschool Program it has been determined that Andover needs 28 spaces in the configuration of the floor plan. After reviewing the information it has been concluded that the partnership with the YMCA is not doable because the YMCA does not have significant space available to provide to us for Pre-school space needs. Mr. Szymanski's recommendation is that this is not a viable option so we will continue discussions on what will happen with Shawsheen and other options available.

Annie Gilbert asked if the pre-school program could be divided up – some classes at the YMCA and some in Andover. As Mr. Szymanski understands it, Andover's Pre-school is a contiguous area self-contained and not broken-out. Dr. McGrath said the permanent classrooms would not be available at the YMCA because they will be using the classrooms for their afterschool programs and the pre-school rooms would have to be broken down every night.

Annie Gilbert asked Mr. Szymanski to provide a write-up for the School Committee to review.

C. Education

1. FY-16 Contract & Compensation for Interim Superintendent

Paula Colby-Clements and Joel Blumstein negotiated the proposed contract with Dr. Berman on behalf of the School Committee. Any overall compensation package was not to exceed the current Superintendent's contract. The contract negotiated basically is the same but with a few changes. Dr. Berman is not asking for health or disability insurance but did request a \$10,000 moving allowance. Without taking the health/disability insurance and agreeing to a \$2,000 salary reduction they were able

to meet this request. Dr. Berman also asked for five bereavement days in case they are needed (his father is 98 years young). Since this is a one year position, there will not be a performance evaluation. The contract stays within the value of Dr. McGrath's contract and is consistent with Town benefits.

Dr. Berman was a pleasure to work with and understands that his presence this year is to help the system through the transition.

Paula Colby-Clements moved that the Andover School Committee vote to confirm Dr. Sheldon Berman to the position of Superintendent Designate effective July 1, 2015 and performing transition duties and holding the position of Superintendent effective July 18, 2015, all such employment conditioned upon receipt of a critical shortage waiver from DESE and with Mr. Berman being compensated at the annual rate of \$206,000 with benefits. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 5-0 to approve.

2. Travel Request: Travel Request Andover High School: Ohio – March 2-6, 2016

Dr. McGrath explained that Mark Mercer, AHS Chorus Teacher, will be taking the Show Choir to Ohio to compete in various competitions one being the Heart of America Choral Competition. The students will travel by bus and leave on March 2nd and will miss 1.5 days of school.

Paula Colby-Clements moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the proposed Extra-curricular trip for Andover High School Choir Students to Cincinnati, Ohio on March 2-6, 2016 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, and approved on the condition that 10th grade students and students taking retakes of the MCAS would not be eligible to attend. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 4-0-1 to approve. Annie Gilbert recused herself from voting as her son will be participating.

G. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes: None

2. Warrants: Mr. Syzmanski said they are four warrants and they are all in order

On a motion by Paula Colby-Clements and seconded by Susan McCready, the Andover School Committee voted 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

III. Adjournment

At 5:38 P.M. on a motion by Paula Colby-Clements and seconded by Ted Teichert, the Andover School Committee voted to adjourn. Roll call: P. Colby-Clements-Y, J. Blumstein-Y, S. McCready-Y, T. Teichert-Y, and A. Gilbert-Y.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo
Recording Secretary