

**Andover School Committee
Minutes of March 29, 2018**

Members in Attendance:

Chair, Susan McCready, Vice-Chair, Shannon Scully, Joel Blumstein, Paul Murphy, and Tracey Spruce

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Berman, and Assistant Superintendent Paul Szymanski, Assistant Superintendent Nancy A. Duclos, and Noah Colby, AHS Student Government Liaison to the School Committee.

I. Call to Order

Susan McCready called the School Committee to order at 6:05 P.M. in the School Committee Meeting Room located in the School Administration Building.

II. Executive Session

At 6:05 P.M. on a motion by Paul Murphy and seconded by Joel Blumstein the School Committee voted to enter into Executive Session for Purpose 2: To conduct strategy session in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, i.e. Principals, and will reconvene in Open Session for a Regular meeting at 7:00 P.M. not to return to Executive Session. Roll call: S. Scully-Y, P. Murphy-Y, J. Blumstein-Y, T. Spruce-Y, and S. McCready-Y.

III. Regular Meeting Resumes

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

Susan reconvened the School Committee to order at 7:06 P.M. The meeting began with a Moment of Silence and a Salute to the Flag.

Tracey Spruce was warmly welcomed as the newly elected School Committee Member.

B. Reorganization of the Board

1. Chairperson

Paul Murphy moved that Shannon Scully be elected as Chairperson of the Andover School Committee for 2018-2019 effective at the conclusion of the 2018 Town Meeting. The motion was seconded by Joel Blumstein and voted 5-0 to approve.

2. Vice-Chair

Joel Blumstein moved that Paul Murphy be elected as Vice Chair of the Andover School Committee for 2018-2019 effective at the conclusion of the 2018 Town Meeting. The motion was seconded by Susan McCready and voted 5-0 to approve.

C. Recognitions & Communications

Congratulations to Kathy Manscauckas (AHS) on being selected by the Massachusetts Teachers Association as the Massachusetts Educational Support Person (ESP) for the State of Massachusetts. The AEA conference will be held next week, and Kathy will then move to the National Level for Recognition of ESP's.

Dr. Berman welcomed Tracey Spruce to the School Committee and congratulated Susan McCready on her re-election. He also commented on the many events and activities recently held across the school district.

Additionally, Shelley recognized Sara Stetson on the launching of the first issue of the magazine 'Accessibility', and on the presentation given at the ASCD Conference by Sara, Nancy Duclos, and Nancy Koch.

Nancy Duclos recognized Audrey Gallacher and Charlotte Guterman who have earned National Medals in the 2018 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, presented by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers.

Update on Elementary Report Card Task Force: The Task Force has held three meetings, with parent forums scheduled at the elementary schools next week. Each principal has sent out information to their parent population. Faculty representatives along with their administrators will present (common agenda) information based on four questions that will also be available on the website so that everyone will have an opportunity to respond.

Joel Blumstein attended several student performances this past weekend, as well as a Retirement Board Meeting that included a presentation by the Town Manager on the long-range financial plan.

Shannon reported on the AHS Facilities Community Forum held last Wednesday. Options on how to improve the conditions at Andover High School were discussed and a presentation led by Annie Gilbert.

D. Public Input

Bill Pennington, 33 Wildwood, suggested the use of K-9 dogs in schools for the safety of children. Heather Ferro, 12 Alonesos Way, asked about the plan going forward now that an act of civil disobedience has occurred in our schools; what will parental notification be, what is the topic. Suzanne Vazquez, 7 Moraine Street, as a point of clarification, the high school did a wonderful job executing the walkout, staff and parents were out front, and students stood for 17 minutes to honor the 17 students killed in Florida, all in all the walkout lasted about 22 minutes without incident.

E. Response to Public Input

Dr. Berman agrees that the walkout was very well managed and the students went immediately back to class afterwards, and he will provide to the School Committee as a guideline to write a policy.

F. Education

1. Presentation of Prudential Spirit Award of Community Distinguished Finalist Award

Award presented to Makenzie Evans, AHS Senior for the Community Service Project. Mr. Daniel Hamm, a Representative from Prudential Financial, in partnership with secondary school principals, select a few students to present an award to each year.

2. Introduction of Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Teaching:

Dr. Berman introduced Sandra Trach, Andover's successor Assistant Superintendent for Learning and Teaching. We are very excited to have Sandy come on Board starting July 2, 2018.

3. Sprint Presentation

Superintendent Administrative Team (SAT) Members of the Social Emotional Learning Sprint Group shared information on the Sprint for Respect, Self-awareness, Empathy, and Relationships and responses to the Essential Question: how to create safe, caring, and culturally responsive classrooms and schools.

G. Continuing Business

1. AHS Facility Study Subcommittee

Joel Blumstein moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the appointment of Mark Johnson as Chair of the AHS Facility Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Shannon Scully and voted 5-0 to approve.

2. MSBA Statement of Interest (SOI) AHS

The District is required to submit an SOI for AHS by April 6th to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in order to meet the deadline and be considered for the next steps. The language for the vote is specified and provided by Paul Szymanski. The motion made is as follows.

Chairperson Susan McCready resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on March 29, 2018, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the Andover School Committee of Andover, Massachusetts, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted 5-0 on a motion by Shannon Scully and seconded by Paul Murphy, to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated April 5, 2018 for the Andover High School located at 80 Shawsheen Road which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future, herein, described as: Priority 2: Existing conditions that constitute severe overcrowding; Priority 4: Conditions expected to result in increased enrollment; Priority 5: Issues surrounding school facility systems that require repair or replacement; Priority 7: Programs not currently available due to facility constraints.

Priority 2: Existing conditions that constitute severe overcrowding as described

Andover High School has 1782 students and is well over the functional capacity of the building. In its report, MGT assessed the building capacity as 1517. However, an analysis by HMFH Architects finds that the core classrooms have space to accommodate only 1400 students, based on current MSBA standards. With the current enrollment, room utilization exceeds 95%, and 75% of the staff move from classroom to classroom to provide instruction. Twenty-five non-classroom spaces have been converted to classroom use. Teacher workrooms have been converted to small classrooms, teachers are planning lessons in storage closets, and there is almost no space for students or teachers to work in small groups or for staff to meet with parents. Eighty percent of classrooms are smaller than current MSBA standards. The cafeteria, hallways, and common areas were all designed for a lower student enrollment, thereby adding to the overcrowding. There is very limited and inadequate space for current instructional strategies or project-based learning or such programs as career technical programs, engineering, and robotics.

Priority 4: Conditions expected to result in increased enrollment as described

New/planned housing developments coupled with in-migration will lead to higher enrollment over the next two decades. The MGT study released in April 2017 projects enrollment exceeding 1900

within the decade. The October 2017 Cropper Demographic Study indicates that AHS enrollment will exceed 1800 students in 14 of the next 20 years and could exceed 1900 in some of those years. This added enrollment will create even greater pressure on already overcrowded classrooms and facilities.

Priority 5: Issues surrounding school facility systems that require repair or replacement as described

Many of the building systems are outdated and in need of replacement. The boilers are 23 years old and will need to be replaced. Nearly all of the windows need replacement, with some stemming from original construction. The electrical distribution system is inadequate and requires upgrading. The academic areas lack thermal comfort, which impacts teaching and learning. Because of the building's uninsulated masonry walls, the outdated and drafty window systems, and the concrete structure that connects directly to the outside with no thermal break, there is no way to control interior temperatures effectively using through-wall unit ventilators. The vents introduce direct outside air with limited temperature control, exacerbating uncomfortable room temperatures and negatively impacting learning conditions. The cooling equipment uses refrigerant that has a regulatory phase-out in 2020. The main academic building lacks an automatic fire suppression system. The building site has significant issues with traffic congestion, circulation, and parking. Numerous building features are not compliant with ADA accessibility recommendations.

Priority 7: Programs not currently available due to facility constraints

AHS is limited by space constraints from offering important educational programs outside of the basic core curriculum. As a result, AHS provides primarily introductory level courses in the arts, engineering, robotics, and computer programming—despite student demand for advanced coursework. The size of most classrooms limits active engagement and collaborative activities, as well as project-based learning. There is also no space for credit recovery classes to keep students on target to meet their graduation requirements, or for on-site mental health counseling or drug and alcohol counseling. The lack of space limits programming for students with special needs. There is no space to serve students with emotional disabilities. Overcrowded classrooms make it difficult to include special education students in classes co-taught by regular and special education teachers. Space and classroom size limitations compromise all teachers' ability to provide differentiated and engaging instruction, thereby diminishing the quality and depth of student learning. The increase in enrollment over the next decade will significantly exacerbate these problems.

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The motion was voted 5-0 to approve.

3. APS 2017-2018 Calendar: Additional Contingencies

New information and contingencies provided by the Acting Commissioner of DESE to consider waiving the 180-day requirement was provided to the School Committee by Dr. Berman. The Committee discussed the new information and their decision previously made to hold school on two Saturdays (April 28 and May 12).

Shannon Scully moved that any additional loss of school days after April 1st, per the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Regulations would not need to be made up. The motion was seconded by Paul Murphy and voted 5-0 to approve.

4. Safety in our Schools: Progress and New Steps

Paul Szymanski reported on the safety procedures in place for our schools and information on products and options available for safety measures and assessment of such products and steps taken on outcomes of assessment. Chief Mansfield has offered to provide detailed communications of all systems under review. Joel Blumstein asked if the Committee could have something in writing on activities planned district wide, and specific actions the School Committee may need to take (i.e. funding). The School Committee would like to schedule an Executive Session with the AHS Facility Subcommittee to discuss safety options.

5. Mid-Year Progress Report

The Superintendent submitted the Mid-Year Progress Report on February 8th; however the School Committee recommended rescheduling the report to another date due to time constraints.

6. Financials Period ending January 31, 2018

Financial information was provided by Paul Szymanski. He reported they are still within a manageable budget, but concerned with the revolving account for Food Services related to the health insurance costs imposed upon Food Services to be paid out of this account, and following State guidelines to have an average of 3 months of operating expenses on hand. They are considering a modest adjustment in lunch prices.

7. FY-19 Draft Warrant Articles and Revisiting SCH-3 and SCH-4

SCH-3 Textbooks: Tracey Spruce moved that the Andover School Committee vote to withdraw SCH-3 as presented by the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Administration. Paul Murphy seconded the motion and the School Committee voted 5-0 to withdraw.

SCH-4 Andover High School Addition-Renovations Full

Paul Murphy moved that the Andover School Committee vote to withdraw SCH-4 as presented by the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Administration. The motion was seconded by Shannon Scully and voted 5-0 to withdraw.

Group Motion:

Joel Blumstein moved that the Andover School Committee vote to recommend approval of the following Warrant Articles.

- Article 4: Fiscal Year 2019 Budget
- Article 5 Fiscal Year 2019 Capital Projects Fund
- Article 11 General Housekeeping Article
 - A – Grant Program Authorization
 - B - Contracts in Excess of Three Years
- Article 16 Fiscal Year 2019 Revolving Accounts
- Article 35 Town / School Energy Efficiency Initiatives

Article 36	Major School Projects
Article 45	West Elementary School Feasibility Study
Article 46	Information Technology Platforms and Infrastructure
Article 47	Student Device Refresh

The motion was seconded by Tracey Spruce and voted 5-0 to recommend approval.

H. New Business

1. Contract: Valerio Dominello & Hillman, LLC

Joel Blumstein moved that the Andover School Committee vote to retain Valerio Dominello & Hillman, LLC as Counsel on the same terms on which the Committee has retained Deutsch Williams as Counsel. The motion was seconded by Paul Murphy and voted 5-0 to approve.

I. Consent Agenda

1. Warrants: Expense SW1822, and SW1822A Payroll: 18S037, 18S038, 18S039
2. Minutes: February 1, February 6, February 8, 2018.

On a motion by Paul Murphy and seconded by Shannon Scully, the School Committee voted 4-0-1 to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the revisions to minutes of February 1 as provided by Paul Murphy. Tracey Spruce abstained.

J. Adjournment

At 10:30 P.M. on a motion by Joel Blumstein and seconded by Paul Murphy, the School Committee voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting of March 29, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo
Recording Secretary