

**Andover School Committee
Minutes of September 19, 2019**

Members in Attendance: Chair, Joel Blumstein, Vice-Chair, Tracey Spruce, Paul Murphy, Susan McCready, and Shannon Scully.

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Berman, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services Dr. Sara Stetson, Assistant Superintendent for Administration and Finance Paul Szymanski, and Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Sandy Trach, AHS Liaison Ben Roldan

I. SC Regular Open Session Meeting- Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. in the School Committee Meeting Room located in the School Administration Building.

II. Executive Session

At 6:00 P.M. Paul Murphy moved for the School Committee to meet in executive session pursuant to M.G.L. chapter 30A, sec. 21(a) for Purpose 2: to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, specifically the Benefits Specialist in the Human Resources Office, and Purpose 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Andover Education Association because an open discussion may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Committee; and Purpose 7: to comply with, or act under the authority of any general or special law, specifically, to perform a review of executive session minutes dated 6/6/19, 6/20/19 (two sets), 6/26/19, 7/10/19, and 7/15/19 pursuant to G.L. c. 30A sec. 22 and to determine whether all or portions of such minutes may be publicly released. The motion was seconded by Shannon Scully. Roll call: S. Scully-Y. P. Murphy-Y, S. McCready-Y, T. Spruce-Y, and J. Blumstein-Y. Motion passes.

III. SC Regular Meeting resumed at 7:06 P.M.

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

The meeting began with a Moment of Silence and a Salute to the Flag.

B. Recognitions & Communications

Commissioner Riley is coming to Andover on Friday. Dr. Berman said this will be an opportunity to share the work of the District along with a quick tour of the district. The three students presenting tonight will talk about climate change on Friday as well. MCAS results will be released next week and a presentation given to the School Committee on October 10th. MSBA will be visiting the high school soon as a follow-up to the statement of interest sent to them this past April.

Sandy Trach acknowledged all administrators and teachers for their work and preparation for the school open houses. The Middle School Chromebook Night to encourage families to take part in the school management program went well thanks to the IT Dept. Slides from the School Start Time Survey have been posted to school website.

Sara Stetson reported on the upcoming workshop with Federation of Children of Special Needs on how to start a SEPAC which is a parent driven group that provides input to the School Department and School Committee on issues and works collaboratively on projects. The Workshop will be held on Monday, October 7th at 7:00 P.M. in the School Committee Room. The meeting will be posted as a School Committee meeting so all members can attend.

Welcome back to Ben Roldan who is serving his second year as the AHS Liaison to the School Committee. Andover High School Student Government has been very busy planning an event for Student International Climate Strike Day.

Shannon Scully reported on the Student Opportunity Act fact sheet sent out by the Joint Committee on Education that will benefit students. The State is investing an additional \$1.5B in education across Massachusetts over the next several years. They will be looking at increasing funding for health care, English Language Learners and the Circuit Breaker reimbursement. They also are expected to include SpecEd Transportation within the Circuit Breaker. A commitment was made to give MSBA additional funding for school building improvements.

The first Informal School Committee Forum for this school year will be held on September 25th at 7:00 P.M. at MHL on the 2nd floor. Shannon Scully and Paul Murphy will be present from the School Committee.

As the School Committee liaison to the Revenue Expenditure & Task Force and Retirement Board, Joel Blumstein said there has been a lot of discussion on increasing the funding for the Town's unfunded liabilities; there also has been discussion of changing pension eligibility and other pension requirements. A communication update on School Start Time (SST) will be sent out to the community next week.

C. Public Input

Students from AHS spoke about the Student Climate Strike being held tomorrow at AHS during H-Block in Room 321 at 10:16 AM. There will be a short video and two student presentations full of information on climate change as well as a short presentation by their Environmental Science Teacher followed by a Q & A session. Kerry Costello shared that this is world-wide climate strike.

Robert Landrum from ATM Martial Arts works with kids age 3 and older. He would like to help out the school system wherever he can i.e. with bullying, respect, and instilling confidence, as well as goal setting all of which can be done in a variety of different ways. Fundraising for schools and, providing scholarships are just a few items.

D. Response to Public Input

none

E. Education

F. Continuing Business

1. DD – Funding proposals and Applications – 2nd Reading

The Policy Subcommittee (Joel and Susan) shared the revised version of Policy DD at the previous School Committee meeting on September 5th.

Susan McCready moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the updated version of Policy DD, Funding Proposals and Applications, as presented. Paul Murphy seconded motion. Motion approved 5-0.

2. Appointment: Jennifer Hunt, West Elem Principal, to West Elementary School Building Committee

Although retired, Liz Roos will still participate in the West Elementary Building Committee, but it is now appropriate to appoint the new principal, Jennifer Hunt, to the committee.

Tracey Spruce moved that the Andover School Committee vote to recommend for appointment to the West Elementary School Building Committee Principal Jennifer Hunt as the replacement for retired Principal Elizabeth Roos to the Town Manager. The motion was seconded by Susan McCready and voted 5-0 to approve.

G. New Business

1. Approval of benefits package for Benefit Specialist in the Human Resources Office

Joel Blumstein provided information on a proposed benefits package for a new Benefits Specialist in the Human Resources Office. This would be a non-union employee, not affiliated with any bargaining units. The benefits reflect much of the same benefits as for the current nonunion employees.

Susan McCready moved to approve the benefits package for the Benefit Specialist in Human Resource as presented. Paul Murphy seconded the motion. The School Committee voted 5-0 to approve.

2. Capital Improvement Projects FY21

Director of Facilities Janet Nicosia provided information on the Capital Improvement Projects for FY21. She has met with Paul Syzmanski and Dr. Berman on several occasions as well as with school principals on their school projects. Dr. Berman appreciates how aggressive Janet has been in getting work done in our school buildings.

Information on the FY2021-FY2025 can be found on the Town website.

www.andoverma.gov

<https://andoverma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6509/Town-Managers-Recommended-Capital-Improvement-Program-FY2021---FY2025>

- i. SCH 1 School Wide Maintenance Projects

- ii. SCH 2 Projects by Building
- iii. FAC-3 Town and School Security Projects
- iv. SCH-5 - Major School Projects
- v. FAC-7 Town/School Energy Initiatives
- vi. IT-1 Staff Device Refresh
- vii. IT-2 Student Device Refresh
- viii. IT-3 Platform and Infrastructure

School 1: Discretionary money to be put towards line items such as ADA compliance, asbestos remediation, refinishing gym floors, etc.

School 2: Includes more of the smaller repair items that are school and project specific such as, AHS window renovations, carpet & flooring, finishing of the Collins Center floor, rubberizing of the stairwell near the field house, new ceiling fans, and general classroom renovations at all the schools.

Town Security: Includes designing new security entrances at the schools, a second egress for the Human Resources Office and upgraded security cameras at two elementary schools.

Major School Projects: Funding of \$5.8M to replace entire floor of the AHS Field House, additional parking at Bancroft; DMS design of elevator and ramp; installation of A/C in the Veteran's Auditorium, Sanborn Elementary roof, A/C design for South and Sanborn, etc.

Town/School Energy Initiatives: Funding of \$920K DMS is next in line for boiler replacements over next few years, more LED lighting in South, replace old generator at Shawsheen that failed during the Columbia Gas disaster and upgrading of electrical.

Paul Puzzanghera, CEO of Information Technology, provided a brief presentation on the CIP Articles that includes IT-1 Staff Device Refresh in the amount of \$538,022 and \$549,086 for IT-2 Student Device Refresh now a BYOD. This year, 400 Chromebooks were purchased to provide a fleet of computers to conduct MCAS testing. IT is also requesting \$198,500 for IT-3 Platform and Infrastructure. They are also requesting additional funding for anti-virus protection to help discern threats.

Dr. Berman said October 3rd will be the first vetting of all Town CIP Projects followed by recommendations by the Town Manager and a revised CIP in mid-October.

H. Consent Agenda

1. Grants/Donations to District: two donations
2. Warrants: Warrants are in order.
3. Minutes June 26, 2019

On a motion by Susan McCready seconded by Paul Murphy the Consent Agenda was voted 5-0 to approve as presented.

I. Adjournment

On a motion by Tracey Spruce seconded by Susan McCready the Andover School Committee voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting of September 19, 2019 at 8:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo
Recorder

Documents: Revised Funding Proposals and Applications Policy FILE: DD