

Andover School Committee
Monday, September 2, 2021
School Committee Room

Participants from the School Committee: Chair Susan McCready, Asst. Chair Lauren Conoscenti, Tracey Spruce, Paul Murphy, and Sharon Scully.

Others participating: Superintendent Dr. Parvey, Asst. Superintendent Sara Stetson, Business Manager Paul Szymanski and AHS Liaison Jeffrey Connors.

I. Regular Meeting

Call to Order

Chairperson McCready called to order the meeting of the Andover School Committee to order at 6:00 PM and the Committee immediately voted to meet in Executive Session. The Regular School Committee Meeting will be broadcast by Andover TV and on Comcast Channel 99, Verizon Channel 43 or streamed: www.andovertv.org.

II. Executive Session:

Shannon Scully motioned to meet in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A, section 21(a) for the following purpose: Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to bargaining with unionized personnel, namely the Andover Education Association (AEA) Unit A, Occupational and Physical Therapists Association and SEIU Local 888 - School Food Service 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 7:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Paul Murphy. Roll call: S Scully, L. Conoscenti-Y, P. Murphy-Y, T. Spruce-Y, and S. McCready-Y. Motion passes 5-0.

III. Regular Meeting resumed at 7:37 PM

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

The meeting began with a Moment of Silence followed by a Salute to the flag.

B. Recognitions & Communications

Dr. Parvey apologized to the community for the transportation challenges on opening day which overshadowed what was a great opening day for students and staff. They have been in discussions with the bus company.

The Committee members thanked all of the APS staff for their hard work in bringing our students back into the classroom and for making opening day into the school for a great opening day of school.

C. Public Input: None

D. Response to Public Input: N/A

E. Education

1. Opening Day

Dr. Parvey shared the opening day highlights stating that all students and staff had a great opening day, along with kinderten visitations. She felt very proud of everyone

who made our schools ready, warm, and bright. Our children and families were happy to be there. It was a team effort.

a. Highlights and Enrollment

Dr. Parvey reported on the Opening Day Enrollments. The current total school enrollment is 5,565 students while last year it was 5,765 students Elementary: 2,377 students vs 2431 students in 2020. Last year the Middle School enrollment was 1,412 students and currently the enrollment is 1,364 students. Andover High School's enrollment for 2021 is 1,662 students while in 2020 it was 1,840 students. There are 61 home school students that are not reflected in the enrollments.

b. Personnel Update

Asst. Human Resources Director Brian Higgins reported on the New Teacher Orientation with 55 new teachers participating. He recognized Ann McNamee who facilitates the New Teacher Program. He also congratulated our 21 teachers who have earned Professional Teaching Status and we thank them for their dedication and hard work.

2. COVID Mitigation Strategies and HVAC Update

Dr. Parvey thanked our building representatives who are here with us and worked in collaboration with staff on how we will distance and quarantine. Test and Stay & Symptomatic Testing programs have been provided by DPH & DESE. These programs will mitigate large numbers of staff and students being quarantined. This testing will be available at all schools. She also reported on an update on our HVAC systems stating that the school ventilation systems are still in place.

a. Plan for Quarantined Students

The plans for quarantined students align with what the districts educators have consistently provided for our students who have been absent due to illness or injury. APS Staff members will be used to support student learning while the student is in Quarantine. They will also have loaner devices for students who are out.

From PreK to Grade 2: There will be take home packets, and a minimum of two touch points with an APS staff member daily. Touch points will be via Google Meet. Families will be contacted by an APS staff member to establish expectations to meet.

Assignments and materials posted by APS staff available in Seesaw which is accessible through Schoology.

Grades 3-5:

Assignments provided in Schoology by APS staff. Contact from an APS Staff member with students/families to establish expectations. A minimum of two touch points with APS daily and using Google Meet as a touch point (face time) along with take home packets.

Gr 6-8: Assignments provided in Schoology by APS staff. Contact from an APS Staff member with students to establish opportunities to meet for assistance with learning tasks and/or instruction. A minimum of two touch points with APS daily via Google

Meet will take place on Tuesday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday during the 30-minute after school time.

Gr 9-12: Assignments provided by Schoology with contact from APS staff member using Google Meet to establish expectations and opportunities to meet. An APS staff member will be available to assist students during H-Block or Transitions.

AHS School liaison, Jeffrey Connor asked if a student has COVID and is unable make it to any of the H-blocks would they still be held accountable for that work or will there be a distinction saying the student is unable to hand in the assignment and won't be expected to be completed.

AHS Principal, Caitlin Brown said that when students at AHS are out for an extended period of time there is always a time period to make up the work. The clinic staff has been phenomenal with communicating with families. Typically, it is communication between the clinic staff, assistant principal and guidance department staff. The transition program would go into effect if a student is out for 6-7 days. In the transition program, there is a re-entry meeting with staff and family to discuss what the student's needs are.

b. Contact Tracing

Director of Nursing Rita Casper reported that contact tracing will be going on throughout all aspects of the school building except for busses. Contact tracing will include lunchrooms. The parent link for the Consent Form for testing will be sent out on Tuesday, September 8th to both staff and parents. They hope to start the testing the following week.

F. New Business

1. Policy Updates – Update Title IX

- a. Policy ACAB: Sexual Harassment – Update Title IX Officer
- b. Policy A-R: Non-discrimination and Harassment Prevention

Tracey Spruce moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the updates to Title IX Officer and address information in Policy AC-R: Non-Discrimination and Harassment Prevention, and Policy ACAB: Sexual Harassment as presented. Motion seconded by Lauren Conoscenti. Motion passes 5-0

G. Continuing Business

1. Asst. Superintendent for Teaching & Learning transition agreement update

Dr. Parvey is asking the Committee to approve an updated transition work agreement enabling the district to pay Dr. Riley her per diem rate for up to 8 days ending September 10, 2021.

Tracey Spruce moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the transition work agreement between the Andover School Committee and Dr. Julie Riley for up to and including eight (8) transition work days on and between August 16, 2021 and September 10, 2021 at a per diem rate of \$615/day and authorize the Chair to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Committee. Motion seconded by Lauren Conoscenti. Motion passes 5-0.

H. Consent Agenda

1. Grants/Donations to District
2. SC Minutes: August 9, 2021 and August 16, 2021

Shannon Scully moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Tracey Spruce. Motion passes 5-0

I. Adjournment

At 8:17 P.M. on a motion by Paul Murphy and seconded by Lauren Conoscenti., the Andover school Committee voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting of September 2, 2021.

Respectfully submitted

Dee DeLorenzo

Dee DeLorenzo
Recording Secretary