

Andover School Committee
Thursday, April 7, 2022
School Committee Room

The Andover School Committee will call to order the meeting at 6:30 PM and immediately go into Executive Session. The Regular SC Meeting will be broadcast by Andover TV and on Comcast Channel 99, Verizon Channel 43 or streamed: www.andovertv.org.

Participants from the School Committee: Chair Susan McCready, Vice Chair Lauren Conoscenti. Members: Tracey Spruce, Emily DiCesaro, and Sandis Wright.

Others participating: Superintendent Dr. Magda Parvey, Business Manager Paul Szymanski, and AHS Student Liaison Justin Jin.

I. **Regular Meeting**

A. **Call to Order**

Chairperson McCready called to order the meeting of the Andover School Committee at 6:30 PM in the School Committee Room and the Committee immediately voted to meet in Executive Session.

II. **Executive Session**

Sandis Wright moved to vote 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 and litigation with unionized personnel, the Andover Education Association (AEA) Unit A, 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 7:00PM. Motion seconded by Tracey Spruce. Roll call: E. DiCesaro, S. Wright, L. Conoscenti-Y, T. Spruce-Y, S.McCready-Y. Motion passes 5-0.

III. **Regular Meeting Resumes/Moment of Silence/Salute to Flag 7:06 PM.**

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

IV. **Reorganization – Elect Chairperson and Vice Chairperson 2022-2023**

1. **Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2022-2023 School Year**

Susan McCready asked for a motion to elect a new Chairperson.

Tracey Spruce moved that Susan McCready be elected as Chairperson of the Andover School Committee effective at the conclusion of the 2022 Town Meeting. Motion seconded by Lauren Conoscenti. Susan McCready accepted the nomination.

Roll Call. E. DiCesaro-Y, T. Spruce-Y, S. Wright-Y, L. Conoscenti-Y, Motion passes 4-0. Susan McCready abstained.

Future Vice Chairperson Election

Susan McCready asked for a motion to elect Vice Chair.

Lauren Conoscenti moved that Tracey Spruce be elected as Vice Chairperson of the Andover School Committee effective at the conclusion of the 2022 Town Meeting.

Motion seconded by Sandis Wright. Tracey Spruce accepted the nomination.

Roll call: E. DiCesaro-Y, S. Wright-Y, L. Conoscenti-Y, S. McCready-Y.

Motion passes 4-0. Tracey Spruce abstained.

A. Recognitions/Communications

Dr. Parvey shared her Superintendent's report on school visits and other activities she participated in across the District. Administrative Updates included a list of the many meetings, focus groups and other professional meetings and learning held in the District for the month of March.

Personnel updates. Michelle Bissel, Director of Grants will start on Monday, April 11th.

Lauren Conoscenti announced that the Doherty Middle School Drama Club is holding their Spring Musical "Lightning Thief" this weekend. She also reported that an Informal School Committee Forum will be held on Friday, April 8th from 9:30-11AM in the Memorial Hall Room in Memorial Hall Library.

On behalf of the AHS Student Government, Justin Jin extended a welcome to the new School Committee members, Sandis Wright and Emily DiCesaro.

Susan McCready attended a read-along at High Plain Elementary School last week and also participated in a mock trial as a juror in the DMS Social Studies Class for Team 7 East, led by DMS teacher Katie Ray. Susan was amazed with the skill and talent the students had and their comfort with public speaking.

Update on West Elem/Shawsheen Building Project: Susan McCready reported that they made decisions on pod signage, room signage and got to see some samples at last night's meeting. They also spent some time value engineering with a process of 'deduct' alternatives. She reported that all permitting requirements are complete.

B. Public Input

C. Response to Public Input

D. Education

1. AHS Students Robotics Program (Minda Reidy and AHS students)

The Andover Robotics Team (ARC) was very excited to come and show the School Committee their robots, what they can do and the approach taken to make them. The students presented a video they made 'Hailstorm ARC' showing the accomplishments of the Robotics Team. The Andover Robotics Club is comprised of three different teams who work together to create robots that can complete a series of tasks. They hosted a competition at AHS with 12 teams competing and hosted a scrimmage at AHS with over 400 people participating. They won three awards this past season; one award for each team and all three teams qualified for the State Competition winning the Inspire Award which is the highest award given.

E. Continuing Business

1. Transportation Update (Paul Szymanski, Asst. Superintendent for Finance/Administration)

Mr. Szymanski provided a brief update on transportation issues in the district that includes construction and paving in the areas around the schools. Daily updates are received from the Director of Public Works on road closures and problem areas. The public should expect delays, but busses will be allowed to pass through. There will be closures on Red Spring Road this weekend.

They are working with Trombly Transportation to correct the situation of the driver-bus/shortage and parent telephone calls wondering where their child or bus is. They received a reimbursement of \$91,717.00 from Trombly on our contract because they did not have busses to provide services. They are also receiving credits for Special Education Transportation from the SEEM Collaborative and NRT (North Reading Transportation). A recommendation for a bussing contract for Regular Education and Special Education transportation for the upcoming school year(s) will be presented at the April 28th School Committee Meeting. Discussion on pro-rated reimbursements for families included a conversation on options to alleviate the bus/driver shortage situation.

F. New Business

1. Superintendent's Entry Report of Findings Why What How

Dr. Parvey gave a presentation to the Committee members on her research that included an analysis of her entry plan, introduction and background, objectives and goals, report of findings, additional stakeholder insights, an overall summary of findings, opportunities, and next steps.

An entry plan provides the incoming administration the opportunity to learn about a district's values, goals, and aspirations and allows Dr. Parvey to learn about the strengths and challenges of our system and will assist in the development of a strategic plan. There are four phases in the process: Process, Review and Reflection, Conclusions and Sharing, and Strategic Plan Development and Launch. The presentation included Guiding Questions, Survey results which included strengths and challenges of APS from APS students, parents /guardians responses.

The members thanked Dr. Parvey for her presentation and recognized all of the time she put into this work and for making herself so available to the community. Justin complimented Dr. Parvey on her outreach to the community.

Kerry Costello, AHS School Psychologist commented on the Superintendent's Entry Plan on training and coaching for Administrators. She respectfully requests administrators have coaching in the area of training and teacher evaluations. She also asked Dr. Parvey for the definition of a team leader. Dr. Parvey agreed that administrator's, as professionals, need coaching as well. Teacher leaders are sometimes grade level teachers who emerge as leaders and are respected by their colleagues. Some of our teachers emerge as leaders because of their interest in specific work.

School Choice Vote

By law, the School Committee needs to consider annually whether or not to allow school choice.

Lauren Conoscenti moved that the Andover School Committee vote not to participate in the Massachusetts School Choice Program for the 2022-2023 School Year. The reason for this action is both philosophical and programmatic as the Andover Public Schools are already enrolled at capacity. Motion seconded by Tracey Spruce. Motion passes 5-0.

2. School Committee and Liaisons Assignments

Susan McCready provided a brief overview of the Liaisons Assignments and asked members to review the list.

3. Job Descriptions

As per Dr. Parvey's Organizational Review presentation to the School Committee, below are the new positions she would like have approved as part of her restructuring plan.

Tracey Spruce moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve following new positions as presented.

- Executive Director of Elementary Instructional Operations (grades prek-5)
- Executive Director of Secondary Instructional Operations (grades 6-12)
- Executive Director of Technology Integration and Digital Literacy
- Pre-k – 5 Math Coordinator

Motion seconded by Lauren Conoscenti. Motion passes 5-0.

G. Consent Agenda: Grants/Donations to District; Minutes

1. Grants/Donations to District: \$10,000 for AHS Scholarship Fund from DCU.
2. Surplus/Disposal Requests (Sanborn).

Sanborn Principal, Jason DiCarlo, has submitted a disposal inventory form (see attachment) for obsolete desks and chairs at the Sanborn Elementary. The desks will be disposed of in accordance with Chapter 30b regarding the disposal of surplus property.

Emily DiCesaro moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the disposal of obsolete school desks and chairs from Sanborn School as presented. Motion seconded by Lauren Conoscenti. Motion passes 5-0.

3. SC Meeting Minutes: March 17 and February 17th SC Meeting

Lauren Conoscenti moved that the Andover School Committee vote to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Tracey Spruce. Motion passes 3-0-2. Sandis Wright and Emily DiCesaro abstained.

H. Adjournment

At 10:10 PM on a motion by Lauren Conoscenti and seconded by Tracey Spruce, the Andover School Committee voted 5-0 to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted
Dee DeLorenzo
Recording Secretary
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