

ANDOVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
September 1, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: S. McCready, Chair
E. DiCesaro
S. Wright
T. Spruce, Vice Chair
L. Conoscenti

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT: M. Parvey, Superintendent
K. Taverna, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations
J. Riley, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning
Sophia Miele, SGA student representative

I. **Call to Order** – S. McCready, Chair, called the Regular Meeting of the School Committee of September 1, 2022, to Order at 6:00pm, at the School Committee Conference Room.

II. **Ms. Spruce made a Motion to into Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) for purpose #3, to discuss strategy with respect to litigation with Fusion Academy. The Chair has determined that holding this discussion in Open Session may have a detrimental impact on the Committee’s litigating position. The Committee will return to open session after the conclusion of the Executive Session. The Motion was seconded by Ms. DiCesaro .**

Roll Call: E. DiCesaro – yes S. Wright – yes L. Conoscenti – yes
T. Spruce – yes S. McCready – yes. Motion passes 5-0

III. **Resume Regular Meeting at 7:05pm.**

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

Ms. McCready recognized the SGA student representative, Justin Jin for his service and dedication to the SC for the past year. Justin Jin thanked the SC, teachers and Administration for their guidance and introduced Sophia Miele the first female SGA liaison who will be the liaison this year.

B. **Recognitions/Communications**

Dr. Parvey welcomed the students back to school and visited a number of classrooms Opening Day. The students were most excited when the teachers asked how they best learn. Staff convocation took place August 29th with Weston Kieschnick giving the convocation speech.

Administrative Updates: AHS Building Committee met 8/18

DPW Town Construction met 8/17

Institute for Learning Seminar for Administrators 8/24

Professional Development:

A retreat for 52 administrators regarding strategic planning; school improvements plans and team building. Professional learning for HS staff and new teacher orientation also took place.

AHS Art Dept. is involved in the Flags on Main where students had to answer why Andover is important to them.

Opening Day Enrollment:

Opening day in 2021 had 5,565 students, 2022 had 5,610 students.

Home school students in 2021 totaled 61 and 25 in 2022.

Dr. Riley thanked the Principals and Administration for their hard work opening the schools.

Mr. Taverna thanked the custodians for the work over the summer preparing the schools for opening day. There were some bussing delays due to staffing shortages opening day, however they were improved this morning. The drivers will drive the routes Friday, the routes will be analyzed for efficiency and the results reported to the bus company.

“Where’s My Child App” will be revisited in the future.

The bus routes were not published due to family/student privacy concerns and enhancing student safety. The transportation department will provide route information to custodial parents upon request.

Mr. Howard reviewed the Instructional Assistant orientation. There were 20 attendees and new employee orientation will occur the first Monday of every month.

Mr. Wright and Ms. McCready hosted the informal SC meeting 8/12 with Jennifer Starr and 3 parents attending. Reminders and updates were provided. The topics included building and facilities updates; building security and student safety; language-based classrooms; co-teaching model; curriculum development and parent involvement.

Dr. Riley informed the SC that there is PD planned for language-based classes and tutors and reviewed the summer program for the science of reading.

Dr. Conoscenti thanked the APS community for getting the schools open and ready for opening day.

Ms. DiCesaro met with the new principal of Bancroft School, Beth Leavitt. She also asked that the district let parents know when operational changes are made such as the decision not to release bus routes..

Ms. Spruce agreed the year is off to a great start. The next informal SC forum will be held 9/10 from 9:30am-11:00am at Memorial Hall Library with 2 SC members present.

Ms. McCready thanked everyone for their work over the summer. The convocation was a huge success and was well received by everyone.

C. Public Input

Kerry Costello, School Psychologist and Student Government Advisor recognized Justin Jin for his work this past year. He was elected President of the Student Government Association.

D. Response

E. Education

Jason DiCarlo spoke about the Eureka Math Summer PD. This program is launching in the district “The Year of Lightbulb Moments”. The Summer PD launch training took place on 4 different days with 99%-100% attendance in the Elementary Schools. There was Lead Training for Principals, Asst. Principals, Team Chairs and Coaches with 100% attendance. The Math Coaching Team was introduced. He reviewed the feedback from the training. Consistency and communication sent to families were the most important feedback. The district will offer parent training and upcoming workshops.

F. New Business – Policy Manual Updates Sections D, JIC, JICA, AC, AC-R, GB A, GCF, JB, JFBB. Ms. Spruce reviewed the changes, most of which were recommended by MASC, and

informed the SC that she and Ms. McCready met with Mr. Taverna and Dr. Parvey about Section D who provided recommendations to reflect what needs to be done and what we are doing. Ms. Spruce also reviewed a recent change in MA law which includes the expanded definition of race to include traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture, hair type, hair length, and protective hairstyles and the correlating legal reference to Acts of 2022, Chapter 117..

Dr. Riley added that there is staff mandated training which includes any updates.

Ms. Spruce also added that there were updates to Policies so wording will align with the student handbook. The updates to the policy will be sent out to parents via the newsletter.

Dr. Parvey added there will be a “There is a Policy for That” section in All Around APS newsletter.

Mr. Wright asked if the change was district wide or building specific. This is a district wide update.

Sub -Committee Appointments

Ms. McCready reviewed the individual sub-committees and the duties of the liaisons.

There are openings for the Audit Committee; CREST Board of Directors; Legislative; and Retirement Board. Ms. McCready asked the SC members to review the openings and contact her with any interest.

AHS Building Committee

Dr. Conoscenti was previously appointed to the building committee. This evening, Dr. Parvey and HS Principal Brown were appointed by the SC to the AHS Building Committee. They were previously approved by the Select Board to be on the Committee.

Ms. Spruce moved to appoint the Superintendent Dr. Parvey and AHS Principal, Caitlin Brown to serve on the AHS Building Committee; it was seconded by Dr. Conoscenti and passed unanimously on a 5-0 vote.

G. Consent Agenda

There are no Grants or Donations.

Minutes from June 2, 2022; June 27, 2022; August 11, 2022 and SC Workshop June 16, 2022.

Ms. Spruce moved to approve the Minutes of June 2, 2022; June 27, 2022, August 11, 2022 and SC Workshop minutes of June 16, 2022; it was seconded by Dr. Conoscenti and passed unanimously by on a 5-0 vote.

Dr. Conoscenti moved to Adjourn the Andover School Committee Meeting, it was seconded by Ms. Spruce and passed unanimously on a 5-0 vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Submitted By: _____
Lynn Viselli, Recording Secretary

Approved _____
Date

Per the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, the following is a list of documents that were either distributed to the Andover School Committee before the meeting in the packet or at the meeting.

1. Agenda
2. Policy Manual Sections D, JIC, JICA, AC, AC-R, GBA, GCF, JB, JFBB
3. Eureka Math Presentation
4. IA Orientation Presentation
5. 22-23 SC subcommittee, liaison, and appointment assignments
6. Consent Agenda