

Andover School Committee
Special Meeting of March 3, 2010
School Administration Building - School Committee Room

Members in Attendance: Chair Debra Rahmin Silberstein, Secretary-Dennis Forgue, Richard J. Collins
Annie Gilbert, and David Birnbach

Others in Attendance: Dr. Claudia L. Bach, Superintendent, Dr. Susan M. Nicholson, and Bernie Tuttle,
Interim Business Manager

Salute to the Flag

Chair Deb Silberstein called the meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:05 P.M. Mr. Collins asked for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Collins.

Mark Johnson, Chair of the SBC, started the meeting by explaining the reason for members of the SBC attendance at the meeting. He stated that the SBC has been working with the architects and that at this morning's meeting a decision had been made on the final site option. That decision was to build the new building in front of the current building, but there were still many steps to be defined. Some of these are on enrollment and building composition which the SC will make a decision on and a traffic study impact which the SBC will be looking at in the near future. Furthermore, Mark Johnson stated that a feasibility study needs to be submitted to the MSBA by April.

At this time, the 2 architects from Lorraine Finnegan and Peter Lukacic from SMMA presented to the SC members and audience a small presentation on the 4 options shown at the SBC's meeting on Wednesday morning carefully describing each scenario (this presentation can now be found in the SBC's webpage).

Debra Silberstein pointed out that we don't have a "Master Plan" for use of the buildings. Dr. Bach stated that we need to vote for the best education point. Francine Goldstein, Principal of Bancroft, said that more sections at ground level gave them more options, more proficient learning opportunities for collaborating.

Mark Johnson stated that MSBA won't pay for a PreK project because of the size – that it would be too small for them to take on. Tom Deso thinks that MSBA won't address the same problem so soon again, but that payment for reimbursement has already begun now and not 5 years from now as suggested.

Citizen, Ed Craples of 26 Bancroft Road supports a Bancroft school 700 and states so do some of his neighbors. He only worries about traffic impact especially with putting the school on the front. He said he would like to see the traffic analysis on this. Mark Johnson responded by stating that they were also concerned and would be doing a traffic study.

After further discussion and questions from the SC members a motion was made by Dennis Forgue.

Dennis Forgue motioned to remove the PreK option out of consideration for the Bancroft project with the intent to revisit the item again and come up with a long term plan for PreK. The motion was seconded by Annie Gilbert and unanimously approved.

Dennis Forgue made another motion to move forward with the Bancroft project and the Bancroft School designed to support a student population of 680 K through 5 with no PreK. The motion was seconded by Annie Gilbert and unanimously approved.

J. Adjournment

At 8:45P.M. on a motion by Annie Gilbert and a second by Dick Collins, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Phelan, Recorder