

**Andover School Committee**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting ~ December 9, 2010**

**Members in Attendance:** Chair Dennis Fogue, Annie Gilbert, Richard Collins, and Paula Colby-Clements  
**Others in Attendance:** Dr. Marinel McGrath, Dr. Susan M. Nicholson, AHS Liaison Jared Rosen

**I. Regular Meeting**

**A. Call to Order**

Chairman Fogue reconvened the meeting from Executive Session to Open Session at 7:08 P.M.

**B. Opening Ceremonies**

Mr. Collins asked for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Annie McGovern, Grade 5-Sanborn School. Mr. Collins presented Annie with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the School Committee.

**C. Recognition**

Dr. McGrath welcomed AHS Athletic Director Chris Bergeron and all of the coaches, captains, co-captains, and participants of the AHS fall athletic teams and congratulated them on their successful season. Mr. Bergeron introduced the team coach(s) who then introduced their captains and co-captains, and acknowledged the team's achievements.

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|---------------------|--|
| Boys Soccer         | Coach Jim Saalfrank<br>Captains: Bryan Burkhard, Mike McQuillan, Will Ossoff, Panayioti Kostakis<br>MVC Champions  |
| Football            | Coach E.J. Perry - Coach of the Year<br>Captains: Brian Miller, Ned Deane, Connor Clancy, Lyle Baker<br>MVC Champions, State Semi-finalists<br>Team Captains are all All-Conference Players            |
| Girls' Volleyball   | Coach George Sullivan<br>Captains: Annie Ye, Sarah Arvidson, Ava Bakhtyari<br>MVC Champions, Div 1 North Champions, State Semi-finalists   |
| Girls' X-Country    | Coach Leo Lafond<br>Captains: Jess Salley, Danielle Slauzis, Rebecca Noymer<br>MVC Champions   |
| Girls' Swim/Dive    | Coach: Marilyn Fitzgerald<br>Captains Gabrielle Galat, Kanella Christopulos, Monica Paterson, Lizzy Carroll<br>MVC Champions, Div I North Champions, Div I State Champions for 11 of the last 12 years |
| Girls' Field Hockey | Coach: Maureen Noone<br>Captains: Laura Cahill, Jillian Manning, Laura Dimitruk<br>MVC Champions, Div I North Champions, Div I State Champions   |

Dr. McGrath also recognized the Andover students and staff who participated in the AHS production of "Rent" on their extra-ordinary performance this past weekend.

### **C. Recognition (Cont'd)**

Sanborn Principal Patricia Barrett publicly recognized two former Sanborn students, Shannon Callahan and Ned Deane, both guest speakers at the Sanborn Harvest Festival and who are wonderful role models for elementary students.

Chairman Forgue reported on the status of the formation of a legislative subcommittee to include two members from each board that will meet periodically with our State Legislators. He also announced that there will be a meeting of the Tri-Board members on Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup> in the School Committee Room at which time the Town Manager and Superintendent will present budget projections for FY - 2012.

### **D. Citizen Input**

Bob Willard, 76 Tewksbury Street, distributed a hand-out of his remarks about the Bancroft School Project and the upcoming January 25<sup>th</sup> debt-exclusion vote. Mr. Willard said the December 6<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting vote to approve the Bancroft Project does not guarantee passage of the January 25<sup>th</sup> debt exclusion vote. He reminded the Committee of previous failed attempts for override funding and provided several ideas on how to communicate to residents that the new Bancroft School is a good investment, the Town's money is being spent wisely, and what will happen if the funding fails. An intense effort for a successful funding vote will be needed given the state of economy.

### **E. Education**

#### **1. Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan**

Assistant Superintendent, Susan M. Nicholson and members of the Bullying Prevention & Intervention Task Force gave an overview of the Anti-Bullying Plan which they feel is meaningful, supports the intentions of the law, and provides a safe environment for our students. The Task Force has been working on the plan since August and the document has been vetted numerous times by a number of people, including a two week public comment period. Dr. Nicholson provided an overview of the process and the roles each of the task force members played. Members of the Task Force include: Detective Kevin Aufiero, Patrick Bucco, Rita Casper, Deb Downes, Lisa Glickstein, Carl Grygiel, Marilyn Jordan, Pam Lathrop, Andy Long, Brian McNally, Judy Norton Liz Roos, Jackie Salvesen, Ray Tode, Cheryl Todisco, Luz Valverde, Brendan Wang, Elaine Wu, and Janet Yedinak. Information on their investigation and the culminating of the Plan was provided by Deb Downes, Patrick Bucco, Pam Lathrop, Deb Downes, Cheryl Todisco, Janet Yedinak, and Judy Norton.

The Task Force reviewed the guide provided to all districts by the DESE. They collected data, examined evidence and research-based curriculum, studied student handbooks, and protocols for special education. They also investigated professional development, reporting forms, internet safety policies, educational and training opportunities for staff and parents, and grade level focus groups for students/teachers. Four members of the Task Force attended a "Train the Trainer" workshop. The plan has been presented to the School Improvement Councils, and posted on the APS website for the required 2 week public comment period. A public parent/community presentation with Dr. Elizabeth Englander has been scheduled for March 23, 2011. If approved by the School Committee, the plan will be submitted to the DESE on or before December 31, 2010 as required.

The next steps include the formation of an Advisory Board to work with the School Council and Leadership Team on an on-going basis, and establishing a subcommittee to create grade level/appropriate explanations of the plan to make sure the program is clearly articulated at all levels.

Dr. McGrath and the School Committee thanked Dr. Nicholson and the members of the Task Force for their hard work, time, and effort in putting together a comprehensive Bullying and Intervention Plan in a short period of time.

**E. Education (Cont'd)**

**1. Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan (Cont'd)**

On a motion by Annie Gilbert with a second by Paula Colby-Clements it was voted 4-0 to accept the Andover Public School Anti-Bullying and Intervention Plan as presented.

**2. Phillips Academy Approval**

Dr. McGrath explained that Becky Sykes, Associate Head of School at Phillips Academy Andover was unable to find documented evidence that Phillips Academy was ever approved to operate as a private school in Andover. Through additional research of our school records, it has been concluded that there is no evidence of PA being approved to operate as a private school in Andover in accordance with MGL Chapter 76, Section I. Dr. McGrath stated she has read and reviewed the curriculum/program of study documents and deems all requirements have been met and is therefore recommending approval.

On a motion by Annie Gilbert with a second by Paula Colby-Clements, it was voted 4-0 to approve Phillips Academy Andover as a Private School for Grades 9-12.

**3. Bancroft School – Update**

Annie Gilbert is pleased to announce that at the December 6<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting residents voted to approve the Bancroft School Project. The next important approval will be the January 25<sup>th</sup> debt exclusion vote. The SBC is moving forward with hiring of a construction manager to be on board as a working partner through the design development phase. The SBC has received an excellent number of applicant responses and an RFP will be sent out to selected candidates. Pending the outcome of the January 25<sup>th</sup> Debt Exclusion Vote, a construction manager will be selected on February 10, 2011.

**F. New Business**

**1. Andover Youth Services Presentation**

Youth Services Director Bill Fahey introduced Joseph Ole Titanko, a teacher and village chief from Kenya. Joseph is a cultural ambassador of schools and social groups working in collaboration with Youth Services in sharing and building of bridges with students. Joseph has been visiting Andover Schools, sharing information with students, and will be speaking at Memorial Hall Library on December 15<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:30 P.M. Joseph presented souvenir necklaces made from the people in his village to the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent.

Diane Costagliola updated the Committee on the Youth Services Building Project and explained that as a result of a series of meetings and the formation of a coalition, they have decided to continue moving forward with the Youth Services Building Project. The plan is to redesign and downsize the building to make it more feasible and realistic, and to be more aggressive in their fund-raising efforts.

**2. Gifts to Sanborn School and South School**

Principal Patricia Barrett said Sanborn School is extremely grateful to the family of Agnes Devonian for the generous gift of \$10,000 in her memory. Agnes was a former teacher at Sanborn School who was greatly admired and respected.

On a motion by Paula Colby-Clements with a second by Richard Collins, the Andover School Committee voted 4-0 to accept the gift of \$10,000 from the Robert K. Devejian Revocable Trust for the purchase of books, equipment, and library materials for the Sanborn School Library.

Pfizer Incorporated has donated \$5,000 to South Elementary School for the purchase of a Smartboard to expand the use of technology in the classroom. Special thanks to James Callahan, Community Outreach

**F. New Business (Cont'd)**

**2. Gifts to Sanborn School and South School (Cont'd)**

Director, Ken Bradley, Pfizer Site Head, Dr. Colleen McBride, Principal of South School and South School parents and Pfizer employees: Dana DiNino, Martin Allen, Bill Mounts, Heather Dowty, and Jennifer Sloan.

On a motion by Paula Colby-Clements with a second by Richard Collins, it was voted 4-0 to accept the gift of \$5,000 from Pfizer Incorporated for the purchase of an inter-active white board for South School.

**3. Disposal of Surplus School Property**

Dr. McGrath explained that to dispose or sell of surplus school property the Interim Director of Plant and Facilities first needs the approval of the School Committee, followed by a vote to sell or dispose from the Board of Selectmen, in order to put items out to bid or dispose of property. A list of items to be disposed or sold is included in the School Committee packet.

On a motion by Annie Gilbert with a second by Paula Colby-Clements it was voted 4-0 to approve the sale and/or disposal of the school surplus property as presented.

**G. Consent Agenda**

**Warrants:** Dr. McGrath reported the Warrants are in order

**Minutes:** Regular School Committee Minutes of November 18, 2010

Paula Colby-Clements motioned to approve the Consent Agenda and the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2010 with revisions. The motion was seconded by Annie Gilbert and voted 4-0 to approve.

Paula Colby-Clements reminded everyone about the revisions to the Public Gift Policy that apply to gift-giving to teachers from students/PTO/PAC, etc, and is effective as of Friday, December 11, 2010.

Teachers can receive \$150 in aggregate per year, and no student names are allowed in association with a group gift to a teacher.

**H. Adjournment**

On a motion by Annie Gilbert with a second by Paula Colby-Clements, the School Committee voted 4-0 to adjourn at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dee DeLorenzo*

Dee DeLorenzo

Recording Secretary

Documents:

Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan

Remarks by Bob Willard

List of surplus items for disposal