

*Draft
Arlington School Committee
School Committee Regular Meeting
Thursday, March 10, 2016
6:30 PM*

*Arlington High School
School Committee Room
869 Massachusetts Avenue, 6th Floor
Arlington, MA 02476*

Present: Paul Schlichtman, Chair, Jennifer Susse, Vice Chair, Cindy Starks, Kirsi Allison- Ampe, MD., Judson Pierce, and Bill Hayner

Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D. Superintendent, Laura Chesson, Ed.D, Assistant Superintendent, Diane Johnson, Chief Financial Officers, Rob Spiegel, Human Resources Director, Alison Elmer, Director of Special Education, Linda Hanson Arlington Education Association President Representative and Karen Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant to School Committee

Absent: Jeff Thielman, Secretary

Open Meeting

Mr. Schlichtman opened the meeting with a note of thanks for Janet Chaput to the School Committee and to Mr. Schlichtman for holding a moment of silence for Roland Chaput. Mr. Schlichtman spoke highly of Dr. Marilyn Flaherty, retired Peirce School Principal and had the committee hold for a moment of silence in honor of her memory.

Announcements: Mr. Rob Spiegel and Mariam Stein invited the community to a Diversity Coffee on April 14, in School Committee Room and announced artwork in the School Committee Room is from the Peirce Elementary School.

Public Participation

Ms. Sarah Grover has a daughter at Thompson Elementary School and serves on Thompson School Council came tonight to share her professional experience of serving on the Montana School Board, and asked the committee to reaffirm the mission why we are all here, 2.How to make it manifest and 3. to communicate this over and over and works with a lot of people with similar working situations.

Mr. Greg Christiana, 82 Ridge Street, graduate of MIT and reviewed the McKibben's' Report and studied the enrollment problem scenarios and with Kindergarten Registration starting this week would like both the administration

and community to work together and work on projects as one team to achieve the enrollment growth goal with no distractions

Ms. Jane Arsham- Arlington Resident with no children in Arlington speaking spontaneously and would like to speak on Arlington Center for the Arts and how important it is for the community to help find space for them.

Ms. Sarah Stockwell, Thompson Elementary Parent and AEF representative here to invite the School Committee and community members to the annual Trivia Bee, Sunday, March 20, 2016 at Town Hall and noted that she was excited to see the Gibbs Schools being used as a smaller middle school to help with enrollment growth.

Ms. Juliet Moir, 14 Wellesley Road, speaking to of support for the Arlington Center for the Arts but said we need to move forward to open the Gibbs in September 2018 and urges the School Committee to help find ACA Camp space for the summer of 2017.

Mr. Timur Yontar, Bates Road, Thompson parent and member of Gibbs community showed off his pottery vase, he made at the Arlington Center for the Arts, a mug he purchased from Leslie Ellis and art work his children made during time with the Arlington Recreation gym time and spoke of support the Tenants of the Gibbs but spoke on using the Gibbs to help with enrollment growth and wants the School Committee and administration to support ACA and finding them a new location, so the programs can remain in Arlington. (attached)

Mr. Phil Goff, 94 Grafton, 8th grader OMS and 3rd grader at Thompson, on the East Arlington Coalition, and supports ACA and Gibbs building. He expressed his appreciation of this committee and school department to find funding for the Thompson modules and he spoke on his support of having the Gibbs used for 6, 7, and 8 Graders rather than using Gibbs only for 6th grade due to the number of children in the neighbor who would benefit.

Update on Social Studies Curriculum,

Mr. Denny Conklin Presented the History and Social Studies Department Update for K-12. He previously taught at Framingham High School, worked, in Vermont and worked for Facing. Mr. Conklin presented the K-12 Social Studies Curriculum presentation and spoke on his progress so far working in Arlington. He spoke about the new website, walk through and classroom visit and point out what's going on in the schools grades K-5, middle school and high school, clubs and extracurricular. He also discussed out outdated the history text were and will replace text books and have digital copies of history books for the students.

The committee members appreciated how excited and energetic Mr. Conklin is and members spoke how thrilled their children are this year talking about current

events, and Martin Luther King, Jr. day, September 11th, and the elections during their history class. Dr. Bodie noted how excited our students are to learn and said while attending mock trials; they cheer on other students and present themselves well. It's nice to see our teachers are inspiring our students to work hard and it shows. Dr. Allison-Ampe would love the students to attend and present to the School Committee in the future.

FY 17 Superintendent's Budget for School Committee Approval

Dr. Allison-Ampe moved to approve the FY 17 Superintendent's Budget Transfer Summary for All Funding including Elementary, Secondary, Special Education, Curriculum, & Instruction, Administration Total, and other Total, Revolving and Town Appropriation and Grant Totals in the amount of \$62,637,124, as submitted, seconded by Ms. Susse.

Roll Call: Mr. Hayner, No, Mr. Pierce Yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe Yes, Ms. Starks Yes, Ms. Susse Yes, and Mr. Schlichtman No

Voted: 4-2, Mr. Thielman absent

Mr. Pierce supports the budget and the investment into purchasing more text books, especially after hearing from Director of Social Studies, Denny Conklin. Mr. Hayner thanked Ms. Johnson and Dr. Bodie, but will be voting no, because he feels the prior budget submitted should be the one the committee votes on. Dr. Allison-Ampe adds her disappointment that we cannot fund all the items that are shown on the budget spreadsheet, even the budget items in red, which gives you a sense, what we were not able to obtain funding for. Ms. Susse she praised Dr. Allison-Ampe and thanked her and Ms. Johnson on what they did with limited resources and disappointed that all could not be funded but happy to be involved in the budget discussions.

Ms. Johnson explained that everything we are doing this year will remain, but some of the things suggested to add into the budget will not be added and noted we are not cutting anything like we did in FY 11. Mr. Schlichtman said the budget is our hopes, dreams and values and we since we cannot fund everything we are not keeping up with these, even though our population and sizes are growing. He noted, we are not voting for the budget with much joy.

Discussion on the Gibbs

Ms. Starks reported out on the School Enrollment Task Force meeting held on Tuesday, March 8 and noted that motions were made at their last which included information on costs and details on renovating the Gibbs and Ottoson Middle School. Ms. Starks thanked the Finance Committee for splitting the cost with the School Department to fund the analysis for HFMH Architects to provide us with proposals on the projects. Mr. Cole provided a timeline which is in alignment when things would go to Town Meeting such as

debt exclusion, even though we don't know about the costs for Minuteman High School and the Thompson Elementary School.

After Ms. Starks brought up the K-6 proposal and said it was discussed at the SETF meeting and that it would not help out with space issues but would cause a massive redistricting without grandfathering in families, it was pointed out that it would not be a pliable option.

Mr. Hayner thanked Ms. Starks and Dr. Bodie on their reports from SETF meeting. Dr. Allison-Ampe had a few questions about the OMS Feasibility study, and wanted to know who was designing it, and since we have not seen any design would like to make sure we are comparing it with apples to apples and to make sure we have adequate space for gyms and cafeterias and not just classrooms. She wants to make sure it is for everything we need and doesn't want a number that is artificially low and then realize later what Arlington really needs. Mr. Schlichtman noted if building onto the Ottoson Middle School becomes an option then the cost to keep the building in tack then those numbers need to come into play and knows Dr. Bodie and HFMA will do that. Ms. Susse spoke on the 6th grade model and is hearten we are going with the Thompson additional but wants to come up with a design. She wants people to know we didn't vote on just a 6th grade add, we decided to look at it as a whole and that is not forgotten. Ms. Susse wants people to know if we go with the Gibbs option, would like to know from teachers, what model would be the best model to go with. Dr. Bodie said she heard from Needham teachers on their education model and will invite Arlington teachers to the table during a subcommittee meeting, after she receives the study. The design phase needs to be done when we know about the money and then Arlington can explore eight K-6 schools too.

Mr. Schlichtman feels comfortable with the Gibbs timeline and that School Committee needs to take a vote only to take the Gibbs out of reserve and this will be down between now and June. The members continued the discussion on when to have a debt exclusion and it was determined that the conversations will continue during the Regular School Committee meetings with the new Chair in April.

Monthly Financial Reports

Ms. Johnson presented the monthly financial reports and Mr. Pierce thanked Ms. Johnson on doing a wonderful job on getting the school budget books for Town Meeting in a better way.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Bodie said the School Enrollment Task Force update was already discussed; therefore, Dr. Bodie gave an update on the Stratton Elementary School Rebuild and said that Ms. Johnson will receive the timeline on the project at

the next PTBC meeting. Dr. Bodie and Adam Chapdelaine met to discuss the Stratton Modules and said they will be in place by August 22, and they are currently working on the cost of the Thompson School modules now. Dr. Bodie provided an athletic updated on 4 teams qualifying for the state tournament; Girls and boys varsity basketball, and Girls and Boys Varsity hockey.

Consent Agenda

***Mr. Pierce moved to approve the Consent Agenda, amended by Dr. Allison-Ampe to pull out to discuss the Japan and France trip and to Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant: Warrant Number 16129, Dated 2/25/2016 total Warrant Amount \$687,193.31, and Approval of Regular School Committee Minutes: February 25, 2016 Approval of AHS, 8th Annual Model Congress Trip to University of Pennsylvania, March 31-April 3, 2016., seconded by Ms. Susse
Voted: 6-0***

Dr. Allison-Ampe wanted to pull the trip after the committee discussed the issues of safe travels abroad, it was determined that it should be left up to each family.

***Dr. Allison Ampe moves approval of the two trips: approval of OMS/AHS Trip to Japan our sister city, July 2016. Approval of AHS sophomores and juniors and approval of France Exchange Melun, France April 14-25, 2017, and Home Stay (French Students in Arlington October 14-25, 2016. seconded by Dr. Susse
Voted: 6-0***

Subcommittee & Liaison Reports & Announcements

First Reading on the following policy changes:

File: JEB Entrance Age

File: KAA Physical Restraint of Students

*Files: GCA, GCB, GCBA and GCBP Profess Staff contracts & compensation
(Not included in this packet yet)*

File: IJNDD- Email Distribution List Policy

File: ACAB-E Policy on Sexual Harassment Delete File JICG

Delete File KGC

Delete File ADC

File KI Visitors to the Schools

File EEAA

File JKAA Physical Restraints Policy

Mr. Pierce made edits to the above policies and will discuss again at the next subcommittee meeting, on Monday, March 21, 2016 and bring forth for a second reading at our next School Committee meeting on Thursday, March 24th.

Budget Kirsi Allison-Ampe (Chair) said she and Mr. Hayner discussed the budget with OMS parents.

Facilities Cindy Starks (Chair) no meetings held since meeting as School Enrollment Task Force but may hold a meeting to discuss difference for 6 or 6, 7, 8 grade designs.

District Accountability, Curriculum/Instruction & Assessment Jeff Thielman (Chair) no report

Community Relations Jennifer Susse (Chair) met a few weeks ago, discussed the calendar survey, made updates and took out religious language and added to question 5. Ms. Susse hopes to have a meeting to discuss dashboard, a coffee meeting to discuss district goals, and ask what kind of open public meetings to hold for community discussion on important issues.

After discussing the questions to be included in the survey, it was said that because something is in a survey does not mean that things will or will have to actually change, the start time of high school was briefly discussed. The survey is for community input, and does not necessarily mean things are changing. but the survey is for community input only. in stone

Ms. Susse moved to approve the Community Relations Survey on the School Calendar as amended, seconded by Mr. Pierce.

Voted: 6-0

Executive Session Minute Review Subcommittee Voted 5/28/2015

Mr. Hayner said Mr. Doug Heim, Town Counsel reviewed all the Executive Session minutes. The minutes will be included over several meetings to be voted on. At this time we don't have to make reviewing the minutes a policy but make them regular procedure to vote and release.

*Warrant Committee - Voted 4/9/2015 Bill Hayner (Chair) all got paid
School Enrollment Task Force*

Liaisons

Mr. Pierce said he attended a meeting at the Dallin and parents informed him that they had brought up the crowding issue at the middle school a few years ago and wanted the committee to know that we can learn from that and they are pleased on how the district is going with planning curriculum.

Ms. Starks report out on attending a MASC task force meeting on social and emotional issues and working together with other School Committee members from surrounding towns.

Executive Session

Mr. Hayner moved to enter into Executive Session at 9:12 PM to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with union and/or nonunion personnel or contract negotiations with union and /or nonunion in which if held in an a open meeting may have a detrimental effect. To conduct strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, with Unit C, in which if held in an open meeting may have a detrimental effect, collective bargaining may also be conducted, and not return to open session, seconded by Mr. Pierce.

Roll Call: Unanimous

Voted: 6-0

Adjournment

Ms. Susse motion to adjournment at 9:27 PM, seconded by Mr. Pierce

Roll Call: unanimous

Voted: 6-0

Respectfully submitted by

Karen Fitzgerald

Administrative Assistant

Arlington School Committee