

Arlington School Committee
Facilities Subcommittee Meeting, October 15, 2020

-DRAFT Minutes-

Attendance

Subcommittee members: Jeff Thielman (Chair), Kirsi Allison-Ampe, M.D.

District administration: Dr. Kathleen Bodie (Superintendent), Jim Feeney (Interim Facilities Director), Michael Mason (CFO), Robert Spiegel (Chief Human Resources Director), Matthew Janger, Ph.D. (AHS Principal), William McCarthy (AHS Assistant Principal)

Other Attendees Jane Morgan (Chair, Arlington School Committee), William Hayner (Member, Arlington School Committee), Paul Schlichtman (Member, Arlington School Committee)

Mr. Thielman called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Minutes

Motion by Dr. Kirsi Allison-Ampe, second by Mr. Thielman to approve the September 9, 2020 minutes. Motion approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Context

Mr. Thielman explained that the purpose of the meeting was to review the preliminary report due to the School Committee on Friday, October 16, 2020 per a motion made and adopted by the full School Committee on September 10, 2020. The reports due are:

- An update on HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning) issues in Arlington High School.
- A report on the plan in place for remote instruction at AHS for the 2020-21 school year.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the report on HVAC issues.

Discussion of Preliminary Report

Jim Feeney walked the committee through a spreadsheet of more than 120 learning spaces in Arlington High School that have undergone or are undergoing repairs. The report also includes the capacity of each space for students and staff, assuming six feet of separation between desks. Mr. Feeney described repairs that included installing ductwork, repairing HVAC equipment, installing air purifiers, and other repairs. The total costs in the work done to date is \$45,965, as of 10.15.20.

Mr. Feeney said that his team will be able to make repairs to 50 of the 53 learning spaces at AHS; these spaces, including rooms without windows, will have ventilation. The district will add air purifiers if Mr. Feeney and his team determine that they will be helpful.

Dr. Janger concurred that when all repairs are made 50 learning spaces will be useable. He pointed out that with desks required to be six feet apart he could not create a 50/50 hybrid model of learning at AHS this year. If the average room holds ten students, there still would be classes that would need to accommodate more than ten.

Len Kardon asked Dr. Janger to consider other alternatives, including utilizing the School Committee room on the 6th floor for instruction or redeploying the art rooms for one of the core subjects. This would mean keeping art as a permanently remote program.

Mr. Kardon further asked about making it possible for groups of students to be in the building in a hybrid model, such as the graduating seniors.

Mr. McCarthy said that the room capacity information for each classroom will be updated by the time the final report is transmitted to the School Committee.

Motion to move to Executive Session

At 10:40 a.m., Dr. Allison-Ampe made a motion to move to Executive Session. Second by Mr. Thielman. Roll Call. Dr. Allison-Ampe – Yes, Mr. Thielman – Yes.

Motion to Adjourn

At 11:25 a.m., following Executive Session, Dr. Allison-Ampe moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mr. Thielman. Motion approved unanimously by roll call vote.