

**Arlington School Committee
School Committee Regular Meeting
Thursday, March 1, 2018**

6:30 PM

Arlington High School
School Committee Room, 6th Floor
869 Mass Avenue
Arlington, MA

Present: Jennifer Susse, Chair, Jeff Thielman, Vice Chair. Bill Hayner, Secretary, Paul Schlichtman, Kirsi Allison-Ampe and Len Kardon

Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D. Superintendent, Rod MacNeal. Assistant Superintendent, Chief Financial Officer, Rob Spiegel, Human Resources Director, Alison Elmer, Director of Special Education, Karen Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant to School Committee, and Jason Levey AEA Representative

Absent: John Danizio

Open Meeting

Mr. Thielman opened the meeting at 6:38 p.m. after the Public Hearing on the FY 19 Budget, and held for a moment of silence for the death of Mr. William Carey, Jr. former School Committee member who served from 1971 to 2001 and for the students and victims of Parkland, FL and for the young Winchester women murdered at the library.

Public Participation

Mr. Matt Miller, parent, who wanted to bring to the towns attention the security issues with the doors at the Bright Start program. He would hope the town acts to take care of locks on all doors over the summer.

FY 19 Budget Discussions

Mr. Hanna spoke on behalf of the elementary principals on their support to prioritize funding for full time Teaching Assistants to support teaching and learning in all Kindergarten classrooms.

After Mr. Kardon asked if Kindergarten classrooms with 18 students would receive a full time TA, Mr. Hanna said the learning challenges for some students yet id still warrant a full time TA. Mr. Kardon would like principals to have flexibility to place the TA's where classrooms in Grade 1, 2, 3 and 4 have 25 students.

AHS Draft Educational Plan for MSBA, First Read

Dr. Bodie introduced Dr. Janger, Principal of Arlington High School, Ms. Lori Cowles, HMFH Architect, Mr. Chuck Adam, Skanska and Ms. Victoria Clifford, Skanska and said they are here tonight to inform the committee and the community that they will hear the overview of the AHS Educational Plan and understand the report which the AHS Building Committee will be submitting to the MSBA. Ms. Cowles will go over the timeline of submissions and then the School Committee needs to process the plan, receive edits or comments and then the committee

will vote to approve the plan at their next meeting, Thursday, March 15th. Dr. Janger and Ms. Cowles provided the overview and the committee discussed the Adjacency Diagram and the written Education Plan. The construction project should start in the spring of 2020 and we do not know how long the project would take.

FY 19 Budget Discussions

Dr. Bodie did inform the School Committee members of the Long Range Planning's commitment to provide Chapter 70 Funding toward the town's appropriation budget numbers of at least \$200,000. Mr. Kardon recommended that Dr. Bodie provide the School Committee with a priorities list of requests up to \$500,000.

2018-2019 School Calendar Second Read

Dr. Bodie presented the 2018-2019 School Calendar and informed the committee members that the first day of school will be September 4th for all 1-12 Grade students and elementary students have an early release on September 4th, which is also the State Primary voting day, therefore, Dr. Bodie is suggesting an EE: Early Release for Elementary students with no lunch and a dismissal at 11:15 am. At the present time no decision has been determined for when Kindergarten students will start school.

After the committee members reviewed the proposed second reading of the 2018-2019 School Calendar a brief discussion on the start date for all system wide, the concern of having the gyms being used for the Primary Election, the end date of school by moving dates back, and with new alternative learning project, where students learn during school cancellation days; there will be no more snow days to make up in June. Dr. Bodie informed the committee that the Elementary principal's supports holding school on Tuesday, September 4th, and Mr. Thielman noted he supports Dr. Bodie and the administrations judgment. Mr. Hayner made the following motion;

Mr. Hayner moved to start the school year of 2018-2019 to Wednesday, September 5, opposed to Tuesday, September 4 system wide due to the State Primary Elections, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.

Voted: 3-4 defeated

Roll Call: Mr. Kardon No, Ms. Susse No, Ms. Starks No, Mr. Schlichtman Yes, Mr. Hayner Yes, Dr. Ampe Yes, and Mr. Thielman No.

Ms. Susse moved to amend the 2018-2019 School Calendar and asked to move the June 13 and 27, 2019 School Committee meetings dates to June 6, and June 20, 2019 seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.

Voted: 7-0

After additional discussion and hearing from Dr. Bodie that she and the administration, as well as a few School Committee members support having the Kindergarten students start school on the same date as the school district, the following motion was made:

Mr. Schlichtman moved to accept the Kindergarten start and hold an Open House on Tuesday, September 4, 2018, with ½ day on Wednesday, and ½ day on Thursday for half the

class, and full day on Friday, September 7, 2018 for the entire class, seconded by Dr. Allison-Ampe.

Voted: 3-3-1 Motion Fails

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

Mr. Schlichtman moved to accept the 2018-2019 School Calendar, as amended, seconded by Ms. Starks.

Voted: 6-1, Mr. Hayner voting No.

Monthly Financial Reports

Mr. John Danizio was absent, No report

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Bodie informed the committee members that Kindergarten registration opens on March 10th, and that you do not all have to registered at once, and we will also hold evening registrations. N

Update on School Buildings

Arlington High School

The public is invited to take a tour of the current AHS building and join the conversation about future design needs for the facility. The evening will begin with tours of the building followed by Q&A with the AHS principal and Superintendent. David Stephen from New Vista Design will facilitate the second half of the evening leading an interactive discussion about potential design patterns and ideas for the future facility. Tours start at 7:00 p.m. in the foyer of the main entrance of the high school and then go back to Old Hall at 8:00 pm, where District leaders and representatives from HMFH Architects (project architect) and Skanska (Owner's Project Manager) will be on hand to answer questions.

This is the third in a series of public forums to gather community input for the future renovated/rebuilt Arlington High School.

The next forum will be held on April 4. What are some of the site options? And Where? Learn more about the project at www.ahsbuilding.org. Snow date: March 12

Hardy School

Hardy is moving forward and a meeting was held to hear about the Hardy constructions details with Mr. Hayner and Ms. Susse in attendance. Construction will begin in March and go through Thanksgiving. Parents heard a discussion on the Lake Street playground and heard the fence will be replaced and the good news is the EPA will do a study on Chandler Street side if Town Meeting approves it, and that will then begin in the summer of 2019.

Gibbs

Gibbs is on time and on budget and with a July 31 completion date. The PTBC held a tour of the Gibbs School and Abby Facebooked it live for all to see.

Kathy said Ms. DeFrancisco will send a newsletter to 5th grade parents to share the link of the tour of Gibbs. The Gibbs Advisory will meet March 14, 7 to 9 pm at Stratton Elementary School.

The Arlington Eats will hold a fundraiser on Saturday, March 10 at Town Hall.

Dr. Bodie spoke on security here at the schools knowing it's on the minds of teachers, students and everyone, and Mr. Danizio is contacting principals to review our protocols, locked doors, and cards locks. Most important thing the school system can do is to help students and provide at risk help with mental health issues and provide security which makes sense.

Dr. Allison-Ampe inquired who Bright Start afterschool program director should contact regarding card lock system issues and Dr. Bodie said the principal of the school.

Mr. Kardon suggested that our school resource officer and social and emotional director meet in executive session to discuss what are protocols are for APS. Mr. Schlichtman suggested that the full committee add agenda item to vote on a statement on our view on giving our teachers guns. Mr. Schlichtman and Dr. Bodie will craft a draft letter together and bring to the full committee members on Thursday, March 15, 2018.

On Wednesday, March 14, students from AHS and OMS will support the students in Florida and hold a walk out. This is not a community event; it is a school event only. March 24th is the march in Washington and in Boston.

Dr. Bodie said a request from Massachusetts Governor Charles D. Baker has ordered that the United States flag and the Commonwealth flag be lowered to half-staff at all state buildings from sunrise until sunset on Friday, March 2, 2018, the day of interment, in honor of Staff Sergeant Stephen A. Sprague, US Army, Fort Belvoir, VA, Company A, Warrior Transition Unit; of West Yarmouth, Massachusetts who died on Wednesday, February 21, 2018.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Hayner moved to approve all items listed with an asterisk are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the committee so requests, in which event the item will be considered in its normal sequence: Approval of Warrant: February 8, 2018, Warrant # 18165 in the amount of \$401,885.65, Approval of Minutes: None, and pull the Approval of Trips: AHS Student Council Conference, Cape March 7, 2018, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.

Voted: 7-0

Mr. Hayner moved to the Approval of trips: AHS Student Council Conference, Cape March 7, 2018, seconded by Ms. Starks.

Voted: 7-0

Policy: None

Subcommittee & Liaison Reports & Announcements

Budget, Kirsi Allison-Ampe (Chair) will be meeting March 7 6:00 p.m. and will discuss budget as well as the Budget Revenue Task Force meeting process of the tax levy in 2019.

Community Relations, Cindy Starks (Chair) – nothing

District Accountability, Curriculum/Instruction & Assessment, (CIAA) Paul

Schlichtman, (Chair) rcvd email from Ms. Miriam Stein, to meet to discuss district goals for next year and cultural competency.

Facilities, Jennifer Susse (Chair) nothing

Policies & Procedures, Len Kardon (Chair) will schedule a meeting in March on the Policy review.

School Enrollment Task Force, Bill Hayner, Cindy Starks, Jeff Thielman

Legal Services Review, Bill Hayner, Len Kardon

Arlington High School Building Committee Jeff Thielman and Kirsi Allison-Ampe

Gibbs Committee, Cindy Starks

Liaisons Reports

Announcements

Arlington Eats fundraiser to be held March 10th, Town Hall

Future Agenda Items

To have School Resource Officer and the Social and Emotional on security

List of priorities for the FY 19 Budget

Deutsch and Williams attorneys are spiting up and School Committee should approve the change of council at our next meeting. 9:05 p.m.

Executive Session

None

Correspondence Received:

AHS Draft Educational Plan for MSBA

AHS Draft Space Study

2018-2019 School Calendar for Second Read

Monthly Financial Report

Warrant dated 2/8/2018

Draft School Committee minutes 2/8/2018

Student Council trip approval, March 2018 Cape Cod, MA

MASC policy newsletter Feb 2018

Hardy Principal Finalist press release 2 27 2018

Adjournment

Mr. Hayner moved to adjourn at 9:05 pm seconded by Ms. Starks.

Voted: 7-0

Respectfully submitted by

Karen M. Fitzgerald

Administrative Assistant

Arlington School Committee