

Arlington School Committee
School Committee Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 24, 2018
6:30 PM
Arlington High School
School Committee Room, 6th Floor
869 Mass Avenue
Arlington, MA

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

Roderick MacNeal, Jr., Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, John Danizio, Chief Financial Officer, Rob Spiegel, Human Resource Director, Alison Elmer, Director of Special Education, and Karen Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D. Superintendent

Jeff Thielman exited the meeting 6:57 pm and returned from the Chorus concert at 7:58 pm.

Open Meeting

Dr. Allison-Ampe informed everyone that Dr. Bodie is absent tonight because her husband is receiving award on the Cape.

Public Participation

Alham Saadat, parent, wanted to thank Dr. Bodie and everyone on the committee working hard on issues on after school care and securing additional spots in the afterschool care programs throughout the town.

Scott Lenzi parent of 3rd Grade at Dallin said he attended the Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment and Accountability subcommittee meeting last Friday, May 18th and addressed a survey administered to Dallin 3rd Grade students back in April on social and emotional learning which he said was age inappropriate. This survey upset students and especially parents since they were unaware of that their children were subjected to such questions as of ranking certain social awareness questions they did not understand. Mr. Lenzi said students were also exposed to transgenderism topics, which again parents had no acknowledgement of. When Mr. Lenzi queried the School Committee members if they were aware of what was going on at the Dallin School, Mr. Schlichtman explained the Public Participation policy that they do not answer questions during this time of the meeting.

Ara Ascanian, Dallin parent, also supports Scott Lenzi's statements on the survey presented to 3rd Grade Dallin students. Mr. Ascanian spoke about his middle school daughter participating in a walk out on gun violence and that she was not fully aware of the law reform and said he was very disturbed that his child was cheered on by the Administration to be involved with the walk out and be a social activist. He wanted the school committee members to be aware.

Raji Bhat, future Stratton School Kindergarten parent appreciated all the work on afterschool issues and suggested making the criteria of the waitlisted students more transparent.

Ray Lafontaine, Hardy School parent, appreciated and thanked everyone with the afterschool care issues and supports the other parents who are still worried about their afterschool care.

Green Ribbon School Award

Ms. Rachel Oliveri, Arlington Public Schools Sustainability Coordinator, The Thompson Green Team students, and parent Elizabeth Rocca presented the highlights of the Thompson School sustainability integration on reducing the waste, providing composting system and reducing plastic straw use in the cafeteria. The students each took turns supporting the mission statement for the Thompson Green Team, which aims to empower and support students and the broader Thompson community to take action to preserve our environment and create a just, healthy and life sustaining society.

The district announced in separate press releases the U.S. Secretary of Education names Arlington Public Schools a 2018 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School District Sustainability Awardee and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education special recognition of a Green Ribbon School.

The committee members appreciated and thanked Ms. Oliveri, Ms. Rocca and the students on their activism and doing a great job.

Health and Wellness

Ms. Sue Franchi, DNP, CNP presented the Arlington Public Schools Nursing Department Report which showed the student encounters with the nurses for the last and current year have increased by 9%. Students with medical conditions have increased each year, and these affect student field trips, due to a mandate that a nurse must be on the trip for a student with serious medical conditions.

Ms. Lauren Connors, Innovative Care Coordinator, ICC nurse, focuses on students with Diabetes. Ms. Connors informed the committee members that we have iPads in all of the nurse's offices to allow for continuous glucose monitoring of blood glucose levels. Ms. Franchi spoke on the placement of school nurses and the changes for next year. The location of mandatory defibrillators, SBIRT screening and Narcan in the emergency bags were discussed. The Hardy Nurse, Cara Dalton and Principal Kristen DeFrancisco are speaking on anxiety issues tonight on a taped show seen on NECN.

The committee members asked Sue Franchi for student encounters data to show the differences at each of the elementary schools and Ms. Franchi said she will provide the document to them.

AHS Building Project Presentation

Mr. Jim Burrows, Skanska, and Ms. Lori Cowles, HMFH, provided an overview of the MSBA building process and how we got to where we are now and the next steps. The Arlington High School Building Project PowerPoint, Building a High School for Arlington's Future, included MSBA's schedule,

Skanska schedule and HMFH Alternative 1-4 preliminary designs, site diagrams and floor diagrams were presented and discussed.

The purpose of the presentation was to inform everyone what is happening and to invite everyone to the AHS Building Committee Forum at Town Hall, on Monday, June 4 at 7:00 pm. Mr. Thielman invited everyone to the additional AHS Building Committee meetings in June for more information on traffic plans, cost analysis, and to take the feedback from the forum and community members to use it to make decision on what the preferred design option would be.

Monthly Financial Reports

Mr. John Danizo, CFO presented the Monthly Financial Reporting packet dated May 24, 2018 for the period ending April 30, 2018. The four different reports, General Fund, Grant, Revolving, and Combined Funding Source have not changed much from last month. The committee members asked John how things are running in the budget and he responded that since we started budgeting for snow removal, substitute and legal services we should not be in a deficient (John said that snow removal and long-term subs are much higher than budgeted but since legal is lower we are okay).. Mr. Kardon would like to see the Nursing Grant in our Monthly Reports, as well in the Budget books, and John will look into it.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. MacNeal acknowledged the recent vandalism events at the high school and thanked the Arlington Police Department, Town of Arlington Human Rights and Rainbow Commissions, Arlington Youth Services Department and Dr. Janger for recognizing our community partners.

Dr. MacNeal attended the Dallin School Science day and tonight parents will attend the STEM expo.

Our Kindergarten enrollments are up to 556 students and we continue to be aware of the impact on staffing and space and we making sure this is being watched closely.

The K-12 Artwork is on display at the Town Hall and thanks to David Ardito and the talented teachers in the district to promote our student artwork. We would like to highlight that we have over 200 staff trained in the Youth Mental Health First Aid program and we would like to thank the Arlington Education Foundation for their grant funding support.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Hayner moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented: Approval of Warrant: Warrant dated 5/10/2018, Warrant# 18230 Total Warrant, Amount \$462,400.59, Approval of Minutes: School Committee May 10, 2018 minutes, Approval of Trip: None, seconded by Ms. Susse. Voted: 7-0

Policy: CBI Evaluation of the Superintendent - First Read on update May 24, 2018

Mr. Thielman informed the committee that the Curriculum, Instruction, Accountability and Assessment Subcommittee met last Friday, May 18th and during the meeting Dr. Bodie and Mr. Thielman worked on a proposed change in language to the CBI Evaluation of the Superintendent policy. Dr. Bodie submits the District Goals to the School Committee in May, and then they are approved in June. The timeline does not support the districts plans and Dr. Bodie would like to change the language as presented

tonight. The committee members support the change but wanted to be clear on the schedule dates in which they should use to evaluate Dr. Bodie. The members would like to further discuss the CBI policy during a Retreat and to include language that states the superintendent must provide a written report to be submitted to the School Committee by March 31. The committee members will discuss additional language on the timeline, district and superintendent goals at the next CIAA meeting on June 5th.

Subcommittee & Liaison Reports & Announcements

Budget, L. Kardon held a subcommittee meeting and discussed the FY 19 budget, Chapter 70 Funding, and said sufficient funds may be available for technology. Building rental fees were discussed, as well as Community Education using school buildings. Mr. Thielman and Mr. Kardon discussed a multi-year budget plan proposal and will move forward with it.

Community Relations, J. Susse held a meeting on May 17 with representatives from the afterschool programs to discuss the afterschool plan and hear their side of the story, Ms. Susse said the programs will be increased spots next year and will continue to work to alleviate some problems and look for long term solutions, the next meeting tbd.

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment & Accountability, J. Thielman, met on Friday, May 18th to discuss on cultural competency objective and Goal 1 and 2 with Dr. Bodie and Sara Burd. They will look over the goals and said they may be changing some language. The next meeting for CIAA will be on June 5 at 4:30 pm and the full committee will have the Goals on June 7th.

Facilities, B. Hayner met on Tuesday May 15 and discussed the Peirce playground.

Policies & Procedures, P. Schlichtman, meeting planned for Thursday June 14 at 4:30 pm.

Legal Services Review, nothing at this time to report.

Arlington High School Building Committee J. Thielman, K. Allison-Ampe

Gibbs Committee, J. Morgan met this week and received updates from Ms. Kristen DeFrancisco on the Gibbs Parent Forum to be held on Wednesday, June 6th at 7pm.

Liaisons Reports, nothing to report

Announcements

Mr. Hayner announced to the committee members that Chief Jefferson wants to offer a CPR course and invited everyone to the Memorial Day program, and the movie, and informed everyone that the 3rd Graders at Thompson School will hold Mock Town Meeting on Friday.

Future Agenda Items

Mr. Hayner suggested that the committee deal with survey presented to the Dallin 3rd Graders at the next meeting. He suggested that School Committee meetings be moved from Thursday to Tuesday. It was noted that many attend the PTBC meetings held on Tuesday nights. Ms. Susse asked that Mr. Denny Conklin attend a meeting to discuss 8th Grade Civics curriculum. Mr. Thielman sought clarification if we will hold a meeting on June 21st, and it seems like to Dr. Allison-Ampe that we should plan to hold a meeting. Dr. Bodie will present the District Goals on June 7th.

Executive Session

Mr. Hayner moved to enter into executive session at 9:05 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, 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 to exit to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.

Roll Call: unanimous

Voted: 7-0

Correspondence Received:

Warrant dated May 10, 2018

Minutes from Regular School Committee May 10, 2018

Green Ribbon School Award and Press Release, May 15, 2018

Green Ribbon School Presentation, Rachel Oliveri

Health and Wellness Nursing Dept. May 2018 Presentation

AHS Building Project School Committee Presentation

Monthly Financials for April 2018

State Officials Recognized 32 Programs for Excellence in Energy and Environmental Education May 16, 2018

Senator Cindy Friedman Thank you letter re: gun reform, May 2018.

League of Women Voters of Arlington, May 2018

Ottoson Middle School Memorial Day Program, Friday, May 25, 2018, 1 pm

Nursing Update Presentation, Nursing Report and Diabetic spreadsheet May 2018

BeJazzled, Friday, June 8, 2018 7:00 pm Lowe Auditorium

CBI-Evaluation of the Superintendent May 24, 2018

Community Relations minutes 4/2018

Proposed Process to Develop a Multi-year APS Budget Plan 5 24 2018

Adjournment

Mr. Schlichtman moved to exit and adjourn out of Executive Session at 9:22 pm, seconded by Mr. Thielman.

Roll Call: unanimous

Voted: 7-0