

*Arlington School Committee
School Committee Regular Meeting
Thursday, September 13, 2018
6:30 PM
Arlington High School
School Committee Room
869 Massachusetts Avenue, 6th Floor
Arlington, MA 02476*

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

Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D. Superintendent, Roderick MacNeal, Jr., Assistant Superintendent, John Danizio, Chief Financial Officer, Rob Spiegel, Human Resource Director, Alison Elmer, Director of Special Education, Karen Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant, and Jason Levey, AEA President and AHS student representative

Dr. MacNeal, Ms. Elmer, and Mr. Levey exited the meeting at 9:39 pm.

Open Meeting

Dr. Allison Ampe opened and welcomed everyone to the meeting at 6:32 PM.

Public Participation

Karen Barrett, Bishop Parent and Sarah Pooper, Bishop Parents spoke on their concerns on the large class sizes at the Bishop School. They presented materials on the class enrollments at each grade but noted the 2nd grade class is larger than any other class. After speaking they thanked the committee for their time and attention to this topic

Opening Day Update, K. Bodie

Dr. Bodie said the opening day of school went smoothly and schools were managing quite well. The 11:15 AM dismissal for the elementary and no lunch worked out well due to the State Primary voters in the school gyms. A lot of preparation by our custodians, maintenance, IT, secretaries and administrative staff helped considerable with the effort to open our schools. Kathy noted considerable curriculum work done over the summer by many of our teachers, and many teachers participated in responsive classroom training. The weather over the first few days was extremely hot and the high school dismissed students. The high school has very few air conditioned spaces and no place to rotate for the students to cool off during the day. Gibbs and Peirce are the only two schools with AC, therefore opening day for teachers we had to spread out teachers to those two buildings during the hot days. Dr. MacNeal took a picture and video of the first student walking in the Gibbs School building and all students went to the gym and met Principal Kristen DeFrancisco.

Mr. Jason Levey said last night went well at the open house at the Ottoson Middle School of course with fewer people in the hall way.

Dr. Allison-Ampe welcomed Jason Levey and Sam Deiringer, 10th Grade student rep to the meeting.

Dr. Allison-Ampe and Ms. Morgan asked for better communication to all parents when high school students are dismissed and other students are not. Dr. Bodie did point out that we usually will not dismiss elementary or middle school students during the day.

Enrollment Update

Dr. Bodie said we had 25 students registered for Kindergarten that did not show up and some students move away and didn't show up or notify us. The class list out are created based on those students we think are returning. It is very important for families to notify us of changes. We have an increase of 250 students from last year and we had to add Kindergarten classrooms in Stratton, Peirce and Dallin. Dr. Bodie said Bishop numbers are high and pointed out that we should look at our redistricting lines and take a look at it at our next Community Relations subcommittee meeting. Dr. Bodie said the second grade class will always have two adults in the classroom. We are still looking for Teaching Assistants and for the longer term looking at redistricting.

The School Committee members noted we are a growing district and we could use other music or art classrooms for regular classroom space, but we need a long term plan for Bishop and Brackett School. The committee members would like Dr. Bodie to bring a plan to them sometime in November.

Ms. Morgan asked Dr. Bodie to include SLC students into the enrollment charts. Dr. Allison-Ampe would like to add her support to get more support for the 2nd Graders and that we need to revisit the demographic study and have a subcommittee take it up. Mr. Hayner thinks this would be good to have this data to help with the override.

Appoint Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools as a voting member of the

EDCO Collaborative Board

Mr. Thielman moved to Appoint Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools as a voting member of the EDCO Collaborative Board, per the EDCO's Articles of Agreement, "Each district member executing this Agreement shall annually appoint the Superintendent of as a voting member of the Collaborative Board." Seconded by Ms. Susse.

Vote: 7-0

APS Staff Hiring Update

Mr. Spiegel announced the names of the new Administrators, Hardy Principal, Ottoson Principal, Ottoson Assistant Principal, Elementary Special Education Coordinator, Athletic Director, and an increase in FTE of Dean at AHS. Rob said we have hired 65 new teachers, team chair, specialists, TA, BSPs and tutors were hired but some positions are still unfilled. We have hired bus drivers, food service, traffic supervisors, café/recess monitors, substitute teachers, and after school employees. After school programs are hiring a lot and we have

increased our staffing to work 25 to 26 hours a week and they are placed in our Arlington Retirement system as well as receive health insurance.

Discussion of Special Education Program Evaluation Report

Ms. Allison Elmer noted the Special Education Program Evaluation is focused on the specific area of inclusionary practices for students who are determined eligible for special education. Ms. Elmer updated the committee on the timeline and the purpose of the evaluation and said the DESE said we need to evaluate our programs. .to assist in having a guided and focused discussion that will enable effective short and long-range planning.”

Alison updated the committee on the timeline and the purpose of the evaluation, that DESE says we need to evaluate our programs. The evaluators were Robert McArdle and James Early. The presentation will be uploaded into Novus and presented to the SEPAC with notice.

Arlington District Goals, 2018-2019 Key Activities and Benchmarks

Dr. Bodie explained the process--that her administration attended a retreat to develop overarching goals, to vision on what is important, and develop objectives on how we can improve. The District Objectives are being presented tonight to the full committee members but will be discussed at a future meeting.

Summer Professional Development Report

Dr. MacNeal provided the summer professional development highlights to the full committee.

The committee members made suggestions to Dr. MacNeal on how they would like the professional development to show how it is enhancing our curriculum and how it can show the community what we are doing.

Superintendent's Report

School Building Update

AHS into Schematic Design

Dr. Bodie said at the August 29th meeting the MSBA voted to move Arlington into the AHS Schematic Design phase. The AHS Building Committee members have decided to hold a few forums to update the community on traffic and green space, with the first forum scheduled on Monday, September 24, 2018. Additional forums will be help in October and late January.

Mr. Thielman reported out that the AHS Building committee will meet September 17 and October 2 and encouraged the community to attend. MSBA schedule moves quickly and over the next several months a lot will need to get done. Those interested should go to the AHSBuilding.org website for updates.

Thompson, Hardy and Gibbs School Updates

Thompson School opened without any modules and the lawn is green. Hardy is on schedule and this project is being overseen by PTBC, to be completed by December 1, 2018. Teachers will move in during winter break. The Lake Street playground is almost completed.

Gibbs School looks wonderful, and the punch list is ongoing. The Ribbon Cutting ceremony will be held soon. Ms. Morgan asked if more bikes racks could be installed. Kathy said she will look into it.

Discussion on the On-line Registration

Dr. Bodie spoke about the on-line registration and said that 2000 families have completed the on-line registration, but we still have many elementary parents who have not done this yet. We need all families to update their student's records with emergency information. A few concerns were heard from the committee members on data not being saved, how to access the portal, they felt the roll out was not clear to staff and parents.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Hayner moved to approve the Consent Agenda:

Approval of Warrant: #18266 Total Amount \$927,123.42 Dated 6/21/18

#18275 Total Amount \$341,996.17 Dated 6/29/18

#19012 Total Amount \$333,977.55 Dated 7/31/18

#19023 Total Amount \$503,555.97 Dated 8/16/18

#19033 Total Amount \$626,697.17 Dated 9/05/18

Approval of Minutes: Regular School Committee, June 21, 2018 minutes

Approval of Trip: California Trip for Foreign Exchange students April 13-20, 2019 Mary Villano, seconded by Ms. Susse.

Voted: 7-0

Policy

Mr. Schlichtman said the Policies and Procedures subcommittee is going through policies and pulling out expired things and updating law and recorded minutes on policy update. The following policies are changes or are a new policy and appear as a First Read:

Policy: GBEBD Online Fundraising and Solicitations-Crowdfunding is new and recommended by MASC and KFD has changes, BEA Regular School Committee Meeting policy: changing Thursday's to Tuesday with the intent of implementing the policy starting in September 2019. The policy manual will be sent over by email and all materials will go through Mike Gilbert. Paul has presented all changes and said Mike Gilbert will get this up on the MASC server and all revisions will be sent to School Committee members through Novus when ready.

Mr. Thielman asked Dr. Bodie if policy GBEDB Online Fundraising and Solicitations-Crowdfunding works for the district and Kathy would say no on the district. Mr. Schlichtman said teachers cannot do this without Kathy knowing about it, therefore, it was suggested to have our School Committee attorney review the policy since it is a new policy. Mr. Schlichtman

pointed out that Policy BEA Regular School Committee Meeting is being discussed to move the meeting night of Thursday to Tuesday evenings. The committee members agreed to list this on the agenda at our next meeting for further discussion.

Subcommittee/Liaison Reports/Announcements

Budget: Len Kardon, Chair said they met for a joint Budget /CIAA meeting and received budget priority list, discussed the next steps to put cost estimates up on those priority items and will meet again October 17, at 7pm.

Community Relations: Jennifer Susse, Chair, said they the administration is working on short survey on calendar changes, to parents, teachers, and clear if we revisit issues to general committee. Ms. Susse suggested office hours 11-12 noon on Saturdays, and no more than two meetings per member from October-May. Jennifer informed the members that she is working on School Committee appointments to get a clear list on who is in there and their term. She is looking at issues for after-school care. The committee suggested revisions to Policy KFD and have send the policy to Policies and Procedures and to have it done by the end of this year. Ms. Susse noted that each after school program has different expectations but all should be the same.

Mr. Kardon moved to approve the School Committee Chat office hour schedule, seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 7-0

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Accountability: Jeff Thielman, Chair, meet and approved district goals and objectives. It was decided to see how this year goes before going through to change or add cultural competency to the goals.

Facilities: Bill Hayner, Chair are going on to look at Peirce playground and hope to have meeting end of October since and hope there is some update on the swings then.

Policies & Procedures: Paul Schlichtman, Chair, the next meetings are scheduled for September 24 to review section J, and on October 17, to review section K&L at 5 pm.

Legal Services Review: Bill Hayner, Len Kardon, nothing to report

Arlington High School Building Committee: Jeff Thielman, Kirsi Allison-Ampe.

Gibbs Committee: Jane Morgan said they need to meet one more time and Kathy agreed.

Liaisons Reports

Announcements

Mr. Hayner announced future social events on Bridging Two Communities: apple picking Saturday September 22. The Children's Room will hold a memory Walk, October 15. Ms. Susse announced Community Eats Nov 8. Paint the Town Green will be held September 23, at Town Hall. Peirce and OMS moved their Parent Open House.

Future Agenda Items

Update on 8th grade history curriculum and GL/Youth Villages closing impact on this.

Executive Session

Mr. Hayner moved to enter into Executive Session at 9:39 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 open meeting, may have a detrimental effect. (Principal Contracts) 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. Vote to approve MOA between Arlington School Committee and The Arlington Traffic Supervisors, AFSCME, Local 680 for term July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2020 to update wage increases for FY 19 and FY 20. Vote to approve MOA for AAA, and return to open session, seconded by Ms. Morgan

Roll Call: unanimous

Voted: 7-0

Mr. Hayner moved to exit out of Executive Session and return to open session at 10:08 pm.

Roll Call: unanimous

Voted: 7-0

Mr. Hayner moved to approve the MOA between the School Committee and Arlington Administration Association, AAA a presented, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.

Voted: 7-0

Mr. Hayner moved to approve the MOA between the School Committee and the Arlington Traffic Supervisors, AFSCME, Local 680, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.

Voted: 7-0

Correspondence Received:

New Covenant School Request letter

Draft minutes from School Committee Regular meeting June 21, 2018

Warrants: #18266, #18275, #19012, #19023 and #19033

AHS Foreign Exchange Students Trip Approval, California April 2019

Arlington Historic District Commission letter to Mr. Jack McCarthy, MSBA cc:

School Committee Chair regarding AHDC Concerns AHS Building Project.

MASC Bulletin

League of Women's Voters September 2018

MASC Policy Newsletter

G.L/Youth Villages News July 25, 2018 email

Letter to Jack McCarthy regarding MSBA AHS Rebuild concerns

C. Wagner July 11, 2018

DESE on the Desktop August 23, 2018

AHS Preferred Schematic August 22, 2018

P&P minutes: 6/14/18, 8/6/18, 8/29/18 and Recommendations for E&F sections of Policy manual, with policy changes BEA, ADF, and GBEBD

CIAA draft minutes 6/5/18, 8/28/18

Community Relations 6/20/2018 draft minutes
CIAA/Budget Joint Meeting draft 7/31/2018
Arts Commission Follow up email
Arlington Commission of Arts and Culture seeks member notice 9/6/18
Letters to the Advocate: APS Opens for 2018-19 and Op-Ed AHSBC 8/31/2018
Summer Professional Report
AHS Schematic Design Presentation 9/4/2018 AHS Building Project
Enrollment Sept 1, 2018
Staff Hiring Report presentation
Special Education Program, Evaluation Report, District-Wide Inclusionary
Practices, APS Dept. of Special Education, Arlington, MA Conducted November
2017, Submitted by LABBB Collaborative, Bedford, MA
Summer Professional Development Report, Rod MacNeal Sept 2018

Adjournment

Mr. Hayner moved to adjournment at 10:10 pm, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.
Voted: 7-0

Respectfully submitted by
Karen Fitzgerald
Administrative Assistant
Arlington School Committee