

**Arlington School Committee
School Committee Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 8, 2018**

6:30 PM

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

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

Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D. Superintendent of the Schools, Roderick MacNeal, Assistant Superintendent of the Schools, John Danizio, Chief Financial Officer, Rob Spiegel, Human Resource Director, Karen Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant, Marion Nolan, AEA

Mr. Thielman arrived at 7:02 p.m.

Call to Order

Dr. Allison-Ampe welcomed everyone to the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and informed the committee that Mr. Thielman was on his way.

Public Participation

Ms. Elena Janiak, parent from Bishop, would like the School Committee to look at budgeting issues with our enrollment growth and provide the guidelines for it before parents have to ask for it.

Mr. Matt Miller, parent from the Bishop after school Bright Start, spoke on his concerns of the timeline to fix the problem with the door locks.

GIC update

Mr. Spiegel said the GIC announced major changes and after much outcry and feedback they will maintain the health care carriers, and will continue to discuss the design of the plans, and rats and will provide updates when it happens.

Superintendent's Proposed FY19 Budget and Discussion

Dr. Bodie read the mission of Arlington Public Schools and said our guideline of what we are doing in our schools drives our budget process. Our Budget priorities:

- *Retention and compensation of faculty and staffs.*
- *Enrollment growth & class size mitigation*
- *Program Improvement*

Mr. Danizio, CFO, went over the Budget development process which started back in September and will receive feedback from community, teachers and parents up until we vote on the budget. On Thursday, March 1, 2018 we will hold our FY 19 Budget Public Hearing and take final vote

on March 15th. A week later the Finance Committee reviews the school budget and will vote on it.

Mr. Hayner, Ms. Susse, Mr. Kardon and Dr. Ampe discussed with Mr. Danizio the budget numbers presented, how to plan for any additional funding and discussed the House and Means budget numbers as well. Mr. Kardon and others would like the final budget numbers to show what they will be earmarked for and to show Town Meeting members what we are spending any extra money on.

The committee members suggested receiving a priority list from the administration and Dr. Bodie said the budget details the priorities and if we do receive additional money like the \$240,000 we would spend it on the priority list.

Dr. Allison-Ampe noted she was not happy on the process and presentation on the budget due to concerns of the way things were handled to get the information out to parents on including full time Kindergarten Teaching Assistants into the budget and not hearing from Kindergarten Teachers on what their needs are during the day. Mr. Schlichtman strongly supports the idea of hiring Teaching Assistants for Kindergartens, but others mentioned what happens when the class enrollments have 25 students and share a Teaching Assistant, we need to be flexible with cut off numbers.

The committee discussed the OMS and Gibbs budget, the administration noted no changes in the athletic structure at this time and it is likely the fee structure will stay neutral and Dr. Allison-Ampe suggested a more favorable Superintendent Budget message to show the parents and the community all the positives we are doing.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Bodie mentioned the tough weather we had been having and presented the School Calendar for 2018-2019 but will defer the vote till the next meeting. Certain details of the calendar were discussed, Primary day, early release on Dec 21 like we do for Thanksgiving. Ms. Susse suggests moving the School Committee meetings to June 6 and June 13 for 2019 and having a two year calendar. The last day of school is scheduled for June 18, EA for all, if no snow and dismissal at 11:30 a.m. The Gibbs school times need to be added per Mr. Kardon, and Mr. Schlichtman noted all vacations are scheduled in the weeks of Presidents Day and Patriots Day.

Dr. Bodie informed everyone that last night scheduled AHS Building Public Forum on engaging in vision process was moved to next Tuesday, Feb 13. Dr. Allison-Ampe, Mr. Hayner, Ms. Susses, attended the day AHS Building Ed Visioning meeting held in Old Hall. Dr. Bodie is looking at learning goals and to go deeper into that and educational goal. Look at space. Next Tuesday they will see the slides and will all come together with the educational plan. The School Committee will have a first reading on the educational plan for AHS on March 1 and a second reading and vote of approval on March 15, 2018. The website for AHSBC <https://ahsbuilding.org/>

The Gibbs and Hardy renovations were discussed. The Gibbs is moving along. The Hardy School project increase footage on classrooms and café, as well as budget increase of the entire project was discussed. The playgrounds were talked about.

Ms. Susse was charged by our committee to work with town manager on establishing the Rainbow Commission Committee to work with our large population of LBG youth community members. After hearing from Ms. Watson's credentials, the following motion was made:

Ms. Susse moved to recommend Ms. Anna Watson to the Rainbow Commission Committee, seconded by Ms. Starks.

Voted: 7-0

Alternative Learning

Dr. Bodie talked to the committee members on a pilot program on alternative learning for when school would not in session due to snow days. Dr. Bodie said she attended a Learn Launch conference last week on alternative learning and will provide updates after working on it during the summer and discussing details with the union and the Curriculum Instruction Accountability and Assessment Subcommittee members.

Dr. Bodie announced the farewell concert at AHS for those heading off to Italy on Friday at 7:00 pm.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Hayner moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Approval of Warrant: #18155, dated 1/25/2018 in the amount of: \$745,063.19

Approval of Minutes: School Committee Regular Meeting January 11, 2018 and January 25, 2018

Approval of Trips: AHS Nagaokakyo City, Japan July 3 2018-July 15, 2018, Approval of Trips: UPENN Model Congress Conference 2018 March 22-25, 2018, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.

Voted: 7-0

Subcommittee & Liaison Reports & Announcements

- Budget, Kirsi Allison-Ampe (Chair), will hold a meeting February 15, 2018 meeting*
- Community Relations, Cindy Starks (Chair) nothing to report*
- District Accountability, Curriculum/Instruction & Assessment, (CIAA) Paul Schlichtman, (Chair) will meet to discuss alternative learning proposal*
- Facilities, Jennifer Susse (Chair) will meet to discuss Bishop Afterschool locks*
- Policies & Procedures, Len Kardon (Chair)*
- 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*

Mr. Kardon reported out on the Long Range Planning meeting details and acknowledges it would be favorable that we would get the Chapter 70 money. He said they discussed the override and various scenarios and how to pair it with the debt exclusion. Dr. Allison-Ampe and Ms. Susse discussed what they would like in the budget books and would like to see a three year budget plan and work with Mr. Danizio on this.

Mr. Kardon and Mr. Schlichtman provide an update from the School Committee Chat on 2/3/2018.

· Announcements

The AEEF Trivia Bee will be held Sunday, March 25, 2018 at Town Hall.

· Future Agenda Items

Executive Session

None

Correspondence Received:

Warrant 18155 1/25/2018

Trip approval Japan, July 2018

Trip approval University of Penn Model Congress March 2018

Enrollment Numbers Feb 2018

Invite to Farewell Jazz Band, String Orchestra and Madrigal Singers Concert Tour

OMS email Feb 1 2018

MASC Bulletin, January 2018

Alternative structured learning materials

FY 19 Proposed Superintendent's Budget

Resume and cover letter Anna Watson

Skanska AHS project MSBA Module 3 Project Schedule Summary

AHS Budget Information Session notice February 5, 2018

Bishop security after school email

Art awards for 2018

School Calendar 2018-2019

Best School Districts in the Country email

Commissioner's Weekly Update January 27, 2018

Educational Visioning Workshop Two, Thursday, February 8, 2018, Agenda

School Committee Chat notes 2/3/2018

Adjournment

Mr. Hayner moved to adjourn at 8:45 pm, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.

Voted: 7-0

Respectfully submitted by

Karen M. Fitzgerald

Administrative Assistant

Arlington School Committee