

Arlington School Committee
School Committee Regular Meeting
Thursday, June 10, 2021
6:30 PM

Arlington School Committee Conducted by Remote Participation

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/order-suspending-certain-provision-of-openmeeting-law/download>

Open Meeting

Mr. Hayner opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and read the governor's orders and confirmed the attendance of the following: Liz Exton, Present, Paul Schlichtman, Present, Dr. Kirsi Allison-Ampe, Jeff Thielman, Present, Jane Morgan, Present, Mr. Kardon, and Bill Hayner, Present.

Confirmed attendance of Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D, Superintendent, Roderick MacNeal, Jr. Ed.D, Assistant Superintendent, Rob Spiegel, Human Resources Director, Michael Mason, CFO, Alison Elmer, Special Education Director, Jenna Fernandes , AEA Rep, and Karen Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant.

Public Comment

None

School Committee Resolution

On a **motion** by Mr. Kardon, seconded by Ms. Morgan, it was voted to adopt the Arlington School Committee resolution.

Roll Call: Ms. Exton, Yes, Mr. Schlichtman, Yes, Mr. Thielman, Yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, Yes, Mr. Kardon, Yes, Ms. Morgan, Yes, and Mr. Hayner, Yes. (7-0)

Mr. Kardon read [Appreciation Resolution](#) and said it was a difficult year for everyone and appreciates and proposes this resolution to recognize what a year it has been. The committee appreciated Mr. Kardon for bringing this forward.

APS Librarian Update

Dr. Roderick MacNeal, Jr. introduced the following Certified Librarian Team, Stacy Kitsis, Dr. Bisson, Jennifer Lauchian and Liz Phipps-Soeiro and here tonight to give an update on [APS Librarian Presentation](#). The committee members appreciated hearing about all the librarian team has done as they have increased their staff over the last two years and worked with the PTO very hard with fundraising for new books for the entire district and the committee supports the great resources they are to all families and would like to continue to grow this program.

Continuous Improvement and Monitoring Plan (CIMP) Statement of Assurance

Dr. MacNeal, Jr. presented the [Continuous Improvement and Monitoring Plan \(CIMP\) Statement of Assurance](#) report. The structure of the report tells us that to monitor compliance on Special Ed and on Civil Rights. Mr. Kardon thanked Ms. Elmer on their hard work with no findings.

School Calendar for 2021-2022 Second Read

Dr. Bodie presented the calendar for a second read with Kindergarten Screening days and Early Release days for middle school and high school for days before vacation and after vacation when students move into the new building. No evening conference dates are on this schedule for next year. Ms. Morgan back to school nights are not on this calendar and not on a night when School Committee meets. [The 2021-2022 School Calendar](#)

On a **motion** by Mr. Schlichtman, seconded by Dr. Allison-Ampe to accept the 2021-2022 School Calendar.

Roll Call: Ms. Exton, Yes, Mr. Schlichtman, Yes, Mr. Thielman, Yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, Yes, Mr. Kardon, Yes, Ms. Morgan, Yes, and Mr. Hayner, Yes. (7-0)

District Goals for 2021-2022 School Year, Second Read

Dr. MacNeal, Jr. and Dr. Bodie took the feedback received from the previous School Committee meeting and made the updates to language on the goals. The [District Goals for 2021-2022](#) were presented.

Mr. Schlichtman asked if Dr. Homan had a chance to review the update on the goals and said he is uncomfortable voting on these goals if she has not done so. Dr. Bodie said Dr. Homan is listening to this meeting tonight and when they meet tomorrow they will discuss the goals during their meeting. Mr. Schlichtman move to a tentative approval of the 2021-2022 district goals pending a review by Dr. Homan.

Dr. Bodie and Dr. MacNeal agreed that the goals presented is what the School Committee asked for at the last meeting and said the goals are what direction the teachers are looking for. Mr. Hayner, Ms. Exton, and Dr. Allison-Ampe agree with Mr. Schlichtman and feel uncomfortable to approve these goals without Dr. Homan providing input on them since she is the person who is charged with accomplishing the goals of the district but also hesitated to make it difficult with teachers to then be unable to set their goals. Mr. Thielman is comfortable with voting on the goals and moving the goals along. Mr. Hayner said he would postpone the second reading and put them on hold.

Dr. MacNeal noted that due to procedure the teachers have an agreement that the goals be approved by the last School Committee meeting of the year and Mr. Spiegel confirmed.

On a **motion** by Mr. Thielman, seconded by Mr. Schlichtman, moved that the Arlington School Committee approve the second reading of the 2021-2022 district goals presented with the understanding that Dr. Homan's review them and bring them back to the full school committee at the first meeting in September 2021.

Roll Call: Ms. Exton, Yes, Mr. Schlichtman, Yes, Mr. Thielman, Yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, Yes, Mr. Kardon, Yes, Ms. Morgan, Yes, and Mr. Hayner, Yes. (7-0)

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Bodie said the AHS Building project is moving forward and looking at transition issues this fall for the students when they move into the new building. The AHSBC will meet the first Tuesday in July. Dr. Bodie wanted to congratulate our seniors on a great ceremony and wished

them well. Kathy congratulated Jason Levey, Social Studies teacher at OMS his award on receiving the Brian Shefry award for National History.

Mr. Kardon asked for an update on the hiring of the assistant principal positions and on the allocations for the reserved positions we have in the budget. Kathy said one hiring letter went out and that she is in the process of hiring an assistant principal at the Gibbs School. Mr. Kardon would like to receive updates as things change and get a list where those positions went.

Honoring Kathleen Bodie, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools on her retirement

The Arlington School Committee members honored Dr. Bodie on her dedication and tireless years of service during her dedicated years of leadership for the faculty and students of the Town of Arlington. The affection the staff has for Dr. Bodie was confirmed today as they attended and spoke at the Staff Appreciation Ceremony held in the Arlington High School courtyard for staff years of service, attaining professional status and for those retiring. The members of the committee had presented flowers and a delivered a rocking chair for their appreciation of Dr. Bodie as she retires at the end of the month with over 21 years of service, with 13 years as Superintendent of Arlington Public Schools.

The Public Memorial Committee met tonight and received the following letter from Alexander J. Salipante, Chairman:

Arlington Public Memorials Committee
C/O Arlington Board of Selectmen
730 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington Massachusetts 02476-4908

June 10, 2021

Mr. William Hayner
Chairman
Arlington School Committee
P.O.Box 167
869 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington, MA 02476

Dear Chairman Hayner:

This is to inform you and the members of your Committee that the Arlington Public Memorials Committee met on Thursday June 10, 2021 to review the request for Memorializing Superintendent of Schools Dr. Kathleen Bodie.

The Committee acknowledged that Dr. Bodie's accomplishments, outstanding performance and unselfishness in promoting excellence in education far exceeded the limits and responsibilities that Superintendents are obligated to perform.

After reviewing the request submitted by Chairman Hayner the Public Memorials Committee unanimously voted to memorialize Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Kathleen Bodie in the form of naming the High Schools Discourse Lab. In her Name. Therefore, please be advised that the request submitted by Chairman Hayner dated April 30, 2021 meets the criteria for being memorialized by the Town of Arlington.

If you require any further information or assistance I can be reached at (781) 643-4485.

Sincerely,

Alexander J. Salipante
Chairman
Cc Arlington Select Board

On a **motion** by Ms. Morgan, seconded by Mr. Thielman, it was voted to approve to support the Arlington School Committee dedication plaque in the Discourse Lab of Arlington High School in honor of Dr. Kathleen Bodie.

Roll Call: Ms. Exton, Yes, Mr. Schlichtman, Yes, Mr. Thielman, Yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, Yes, Mr. Kardon, Yes, Ms. Morgan, Yes, and Mr. Hayner, Yes. (7-0)

Dr. Bodie really enjoyed her work as an educator and how special it all has been for her. Kathy said it was a very emotional day today and thanked the members for the kind words and said it has been a honor and privilege to have this roll as Superintendent and to have the success for our students and our teachers.

Consent Agenda

On a **motion** by Mr. Schlichtman, seconded by Dr. Allison-Ampe, it was voted to Approval of Warrant: Warrant# 21268, Dated 6/1/2021, Total Amount \$850,244.60, and Approval of Minutes: School Committee Regular Minutes, May 27 2021.

Roll Call: Ms. Exton, Yes, Mr. Schlichtman, Yes, Mr. Thielman, Yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, Yes, Mr. Kardon, Yes, Ms. Morgan, Yes, and Mr. Hayner, Yes. (7-0)

Subcommittee/Liaison Reports/Announcements

Budget, Kirsi Allison-Ampe meeting date next week.

Community Relations: Liz Exton, Chair meet last Thursday to discuss in person meetings, voted to recommend P&P to permit remote participation after July 1, 2021. Discussed chats for the fall and less rigors schedule the subcommittee will share in September.

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Accountability, Len Kardon said the Arlington Education Foundation held their last meeting of the year and had a good fundraising year.

Facilities, Jeff Thielman goals approved and will plan to meet this summer.

Policy & Procedures, Paul Schlichtman, will handle tasks by Community Relations on moving forward and look at policies that relate to remote participation.

Arlington High School Building Committee: Jeff Thielman, (Chair), Kirsi Allison-Ampe, Dr. Homan will consult with AHSBC and next meeting is July 6 via zoom.

Liaisons Reports, Ms. Exton attended the SEPAC meeting last Tuesday and Dr. Homan attended and introduced herself.

Jane Morgan will serve as the liaisons to hire the School Committee/Superintendent Administrative Assistant

Future Agenda Items

Mr. Hayner has scheduled the School Committee / Superintendent workshop for Saturday, July 24 and tentative School Committee meetings in August 12 and August 26.

Executive Session

On a **motion** by Mr. Schlichtman at 8:19 p.m. seconded by Dr. Allison-Ampe it was voted to enter into Executive Session at 8:19 p.m. 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. 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. To discuss and approve the AFL-CIO, STATE COUNCIL 93, LOCAL 680 School Bus Operators contract
Roll Call: Ms. Exton, Yes, Mr. Schlichtman, Yes, Mr. Thielman, Yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, Yes, Mr. Kardon, Yes, Ms. Morgan, Yes, and Mr. Hayner, Yes. (7-0)

Returned to open session at 8:26 p.m. to Vote the LOCAL 680 School Bus Operators contract

On a **motion** by Mr. Schlichtman, seconded by Mr. Kardon, its was voted to approve the contract of the AFL-CIO, STATE COUNCIL 93, LOCAL 680 School Bus Operators contract.

Roll Call: Ms. Exton, Yes, Mr. Schlichtman, Yes, Mr. Thielman, Yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, Yes, Mr. Kardon, Yes, Ms. Morgan, Yes, and Mr. Hayner, Yes. (7-0)

Correspondence Received:

Warrant Dated 6/1/2021

School Committee Regular Minutes, May 27, 2021

District Goals 2021-2022 RM and

District Goals 2020-2021 documents updated

School Calendar 2021-2022 final draft 9

Continuous Improvement and Monitoring Plan (CIMP) Statement of Assurance

AHS Graduation Exercises Class of 2021

Email to Families regarding early release due to heat, June 7, 2021

APS Librarians Program slide deck

Bus MOA contract June 7 2021

Arlington School Committee Appreciation Resolution

Community Relations Minutes

Adjournment

On a **motion** by Mr. Thielman, seconded by Mr. Kardon, it was voted to adjourn at 8:28 p.m.

Roll Call: Ms. Exton, Yes, Mr. Schlichtman, Yes, Mr. Thielman, Yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, Yes, Mr. Kardon, Yes, Ms. Morgan, Yes, and Mr. Hayner, Yes. (7-0)

Respectfully submitted by
Karen M. Fitzgerald
Administrative Assistant
Arlington School Committee