

Arlington School Committee Regular Meeting
March 16, 2023
6:30 p.m.

METCO Headquarters
11 Roxbury Street
Boston, MA 02119

6:30 p.m. Tour and Presentation

The School Committee Members and additional presenters and administration received a presentation of the METCO Program and tour of the METCO Headquarters from Milly Arbaje-Thomas, President and CEO of the METCO Program.

7:21 p.m. Open Meeting (L. Exton)

The Chair of the School Committee Meeting opened the meeting and confirmed the attendance of the following School Committee Members: Mr. Thielman, yes, Mr. Kardon, yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, yes, Mr. Schlichtman, yes, Ms. Morgan, yes, Mr. Hayner yes, and Ms. Exton, yes. Also in attendance, R. Spiegel, M. Mason, A. Elmer, R. MacNeal, R. Smith, J. Medeiros, Superintendent Homan and the three AHS Student Representatives M. Hagenbuch, A. Chelariu, T. Sugihara.

Ms. Exton thanked Ms. Arbaje-Thomas for hosting us and for the presentation about and tour of METCO.

7:22 p.m. APS METCO Presentation (R. Smith)

Ms. R. Smith provided an update on the Arlington METCO Program for the 2022-2023 school year. She began with an overview of the Arlington METCO Program Structure. Ms. Smith reviewed the employee affiliations as well as the employee and student highlights/updates). Ms. Smith presented the new program implementations and connections (e.g., METCO breakfast, SummerFun, community service opportunities, a counseling partnership with AYCC, job opportunities, including jobs to become counselors, youth wellness luncheon and bus monitor employment opportunities). Ms. Smith presented various resources being used to spread the word in Arlington about the METCO Program. She completed her presentation with a look ahead for the METCO Program which will include a college tour, hiking and trying to bring the middle school students to a college basketball night. Ms. Smith answered the various questions from the School Committee members. Ms. Smith recognized that the Program needs additional bus transportation.

7:50 p.m. Public Comment (L. Exton)

There was no public comment

7:50 p.m. AHS Student Representatives to the School Committee

It was reported that the spring fling is coming up; there doesn't seem to be much interest though. Spring sports are also opening up. Recent graffiti in the bathrooms is being discussed among the student body. April advisories will be run for exclusion and diversity awareness. Amy says "that's it."

7:53 p.m. Superintendent's Proposed Budget - Possible Vote for Approval (E. Homan)

Dr. Homan shared a few brief updates/adjustments to the proposed budget and where the ability to do so existed which included adding full-time librarians at a couple of schools. Another change was the reduction in two part time to a full-time librarian. Another change is that there is a role in the ESSER Grant at Gibbs and a previous ESSER Grant position is now in the General Fund. We will have five full-time librarians next year toward the seven needed. Certified librarians are secured at all levels. One of the librarians is not mentioned in the summary document. Dr. Homan will update it in the presentation.

Dr. Allison-Ampe made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. Hayner to approve the Superintendent's Proposed Budget.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Thielman, yes, Mr. Kardon, yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, yes, Mr. Schlichtman, yes, Ms. Morgan, yes, Mr. Hayner, yes and Ms. Exton, yes. A unanimous vote in the affirmative.

7:55 p.m. Job Descriptions for Approval (E. Homan)

Dr. Homan presented an overview of the positions below. All positions are via a hire letter.

- Director of Research, Data and Accountability
- Director of Communications and Family Engagement
- Assistant to Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations (Business Office)
- Assistant Director of Finance (Business Office)
- Grant Administrator (Business Office)

Mr. Schlichtman made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. Hayner to approve the Job Descriptions.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Thielman, yes, Mr. Kardon, yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, yes, Mr. Schlichtman, yes, Ms. Morgan, yes, Mr. Hayner, yes and Ms. Exton, yes. A unanimous vote in the affirmative.

8:00 p.m. Superintendent's Report (E. Homan)

The Superintendent's Report was presented which included a Family Walk that will be hosted by METCO, a LGBTQIA+ forum that was held, the April Inclusion Workshops at AHS, Heritage Day at OMS and Recent hate speech/vandalism events and statements. She gave an update on the status of the strategic plan, hiring season (coffee on April 1), hiring search (open and upcoming) and enrollments (current and projections). School Committee Members asked questions and the Superintendent answered accordingly.

8:10 p.m. Consent Agenda (L. Exton)

The Chair presented the agenda items for approval:

Warrant #23207, 3/7/2023, \$490,589.42

School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes, 3/2/2023

A motion was made by Mr. Hayner and seconded by Mr. Schlichtman to approve Warrant #23207 and School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes from 3/2/2023.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Thielman, yes, Mr. Kardon, yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, yes, Mr. Schlichtman, yes, Ms. Morgan, yes, Mr. Hayner, yes and Ms. Exton, yes. A unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Subcommittee/Liaison Reports/Announcements (L Exton)

- Budget - K. Allison-Ampe, Chair - Met this week, went over budget books, job descriptions and long-range plan (a bit).
- Community Relations - B. Hayner, Chair - CHAT upcoming on March 18, 2023.
- Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Accountability - Jane Morgan, Chair - Met to go over job descriptions and will meet again on March 27 to go over the content and dollars around the strategic plan.
- Facilities -J. Thielman, Chair - No report.
- Policy & Procedures - P. Schlichtman, Chair - No report.
- Arlington High School Building Committee, J. Thielman, Chair - Making good progress.
- Superintendent's Evaluation - L. Kardon, Chair - No report.

- Liaison Reports - none.
- Announcements - none.
- Future Agenda Items - none.

8:14 p.m. Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Hayner and seconded by Ms. Morgan to enter Executive Session.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Thielman, yes, Mr. Kardon, yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, yes, Mr. Schlichtman, yes, Ms. Morgan, yes, Mr. Hayner, yes and Ms. Exton, yes. A unanimous vote in the affirmative.

8:27 p.m. Return to Regular School Committee Meeting

The Chair called the meeting to order.

**8:27 p.m. Possible Vote to Approve Contract with Superintendent, Elizabeth C. Homan,
July 1, 2023-June 30, 2028.**

A motion was made by Mr. Schlichtman and seconded by Mr. Hayner to approve the Superintendent's Contract with administrative changes to section to 8.1 and for the Chair to sign on behalf of the Arlington School Committee. Various members made comments on their happiness with signing the contract and Dr. Homan thanked the Committee for their confidence and is excited about the work that has happened and the work that has to be done in the future. She commended her Team for all that has been done so far. Dr. Homan is grateful for everyone in the Community who has confidence in her leadership.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Thielman, yes, Mr. Kardon, yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, yes, Mr. Schlichtman, yes, Ms. Morgan, yes, Mr. Hayner, yes and Ms. Exton, yes. A unanimous vote in the affirmative.

8:31 p.m. Adjournment (L. Exton)

A motion was made by Mr. Hayner and seconded by Mr. Schlichtman to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Thielman, yes, Mr. Kardon, yes, Dr. Allison-Ampe, yes, Mr. Schlichtman, yes, Ms. Morgan, yes, Mr. Hayner, yes and Ms. Exton, yes. A unanimous vote in the affirmative.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Elizabeth M. Diggins
Administrative Assistant to the Arlington School Committee**