

MEMO

To: Members of Select Board, Town of Arlington
From: Christa Kelleher, Town Meeting Member (Pr. 5), and Jennifer Susse, Arlington School Committee Member, Town Meeting Member (Pr. 3)
Dt: 5 February 2020
Re: Warrant Article (Vote/Appropriation/School Committee Member Stipends)

We submit the following information on compensation practices to provide some context and background research as you consider the warrant article on the provision of stipends to Arlington School Committee members.

The following table outlines compensation currently made available to those serving in elected or appointed positions in the Town of Arlington. Please note that, in a few cases, the compensation offered is not taken.

Office/Body	Number of Members	Elected or Appointed?	Compensation Level
Select Board	5	Elected	\$3,000 per Member (\$3,500 for Chair)
Arlington Contributory Retirement Board	5	Appointed	\$4,500 per Member
Finance Committee	21	Appointed	\$650 for Chair; \$450 for three Vice Chairs and Recording Secretary; \$50 for Members
Board of Assessors	3	Elected	\$4,900 per Member
Moderator	NA	Elected	\$500
<i>Source: Website of the Town of Arlington, Massachusetts; www.arlingtonma.gov/town-governance/all-boards-and-committees [Retrieved: 8 January 2020]</i>			

The following table provides information on compensation provided to School Committee Members in TM12 communities.

Town Manager 12 Communities: School Committees With Stipends	
Town/City	Compensation Level and Source, If Known
Medford	\$10,800, plus \$2,400 additional for Secretary and \$600 extra for Vice Chair; funds are from school budget
North Andover	\$5,000 plus \$500 additional for Chair; funds are from town budget
Watertown	\$4,500; funds are from school budget
Town Manager 12 Communities: School Committees Without Compensation	
Belmont, Brookline, Melrose, Milton, Natick, Needham, Reading, Stoneham, and Winchester	
<i>Source: Jennifer Susse, Personal Communication with School Committee Members in TM12 communities [3-18 January 2020]</i>	

The following table provides the most updated, available listing of towns that offer compensation to School Committee members. This is an incomplete list as it reflects self-selected reporting to the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) and there is no follow-up for towns that don't respond. While incomplete, it indicates the range of types of communities that do offer compensation and varying levels of compensation.

Town/City	Compensation Amount
Agawam	Members=\$5,000 (FY19)
Bellingham	Members=\$1,000 (FY19)
Berkley	Members=\$924 (FY16)
Beverly	Members=\$5,867 (FY19); Chair \$6,167 (FY19)
Carver	Members=\$600 (FY19); Chair \$750 (FY19)
Deerfield	Members=\$100 (FY18); Chair \$150 (FY18)
East Longmeadow	Members=\$1,250 (FY19); Chair \$500 (FY19)
Marlborough	Members=\$3,500 (FY19)
Methuen	Members=\$2,500 (FY19)
Millbury	Members=\$1,948 (FY19); Chair \$487 (FY18)
Palmer	Members=\$1,200 (FY19)
Peabody	Members=\$5,100 (FY19)
Seekonk	Members=\$1,000 (FY17); Chair \$1,400 (FY17)
Southern Berkshire RSD	Members=\$200 (FY17)
Whately	Members=\$357.26 (FY18)
Woburn	Members=\$6,500-includes \$2K travel stipend (FY19); Chair \$8,199 (FY19)
<i>Source: Massachusetts Association of School Committees website; www.masc.org/publications/misc [Retrieved on 5 January 2020]</i>	

For those communities offering stipends (as outlined in the two tables above), and for which compensation data are available, the range is \$200-\$10,800, with an average of about \$3,020.