



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **School Committee Minutes 05/09/2013**

*Approved by the Arlington School Committee June 13, 2013*

*Arlington School Committee  
Regular School Committee Meeting  
Thursday, May 9, 2013  
6:30 p.m.*

*Arlington High School  
School Committee Room – Sixth Floor  
869 Massachusetts Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476*

***Present:** Mr. William Hayner, Vice Chair, Ms. Cindy Starks, Secretary, Mr. Paul Schlichtman, Ms. Leba Heigham and Dr. Kirsi Allison-Ampe.*

*Dr. Kathleen Bodie, Superintendent, Dr. Laura Chesson, Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Diane Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Robert Spiegel, Human Resource Officer, Ms. Siobhan Foley, AEA Vice President, Student Representative Shannon Reilly and Ms. Karen Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant.*

*Mr. Thielman arrived at 6:43p.m.*

*Mr. Pierce arrived at 8:24 p.m.*

*Ms. Johnson exited at 6:48 and returned at 6:53 p.m. then exited the meeting at 7:40 p.m.*

*Ms. Siobhan Foley and Student Rep exited at 8:04 p.m.*

*Absent: Ms. Kathleen Lockyer, Interim Special Education Director*

*Mr. Hayner, Vice Chair opened the School Committee meeting at 6:32 p.m. and said Mr. Pierce was absent due to attending the annual Ostregren Award dinner hosted by the Touchdown Club of Arlington, for junior and senior athletes from Arlington High School. Mr. Hayner presented the Pierce Elementary School artwork displayed around the room this month in the School Committee Room.*

### *APS Presentations*

*Mr. Schlichtman introduced Ms. Sue Sheffler, Director of Arlington Nagaokakyo Sister Cities activities. Ms. Sheffler, former School Committee member presented a slide show of students and host families to the School Committee members. Students Nik Streit and Fiona Moseley, freshman, who both had hosted Japanese students the past two years will be traveling to Japan this summer, thanked the community and School Committee for allowing this program to Arlington which continues to enrich the students from Arlington and Nagaokakyo.*

### *Public Participation*

*Ms. Alecia Serafini and Mr. Todd Sundstrom, Ottoson Middle School teachers, as well as Mr. Pat Tassone Interim*

*Director of Music, participated in public participation tonight and offered their support and encouraged the School Committee members to vote to approve the Memorandum of Agreement to Enroll Out of District Children of Teachers into Arlington Public Schools starting in 2013-2014 school year. Mr. Tassone spoke on behalf of Mr. Tino D'Agostino, Music Teacher, who was unavailable to attend the meeting. All said that they appreciate the support they have received with the Union and Negotiation Team, whom they have been working with over the past two years, on an agreement.*

*Discussion on Enrollment of Out of District Children of Teachers into Arlington Public Schools*

***Mr. Schlichtman moved to table the discussion on Enrollment of Out of District Children of Teachers into Arlington Public Schools until after executive session, seconded by Ms. Heigham.***

***Voted 6-0***

*District Goals 2013-2014 Discussion*

*Dr. Bodie presented draft 4 of the Arlington Public Schools District Goals to the full committee. It was the consensus of the committee that the Superintendent and School Committee retreat to work on the goals was a step in the right direction. Dr. Ampe suggested that she would like to see action, results and tracking of the goals. She also requested a long-range planning goal be added to the goals as well. The committee continued the discussion and it was agreed that Dr. Bodie will continue to work with the Administration and bring forth a set of goals with an action plan and to add a long-range planning goal to the set as well and bring all to the next meeting. The budget subcommittee will meet and help draft the goal around long term planning.*

*Monthly Financial Report*

*Ms. Johnson presented the May 6, 2013 tracking reports, and said all principals and department heads have submitted their purchasing requests for FY 13 general funds. Ms. Johnson said due to the winter expenses there could possibly be some funds to purchase additional iPads and other equipment.*

*Update on Thompson Rebuild*

*Dr. Bodie presented some pictures of the Thompson School dated April 2013 of the construction. Things remain on track.*

*Superintendent Report*

*Dr. Bodie announced that Ms. Kristen DeFrancisco was hired as the Hardy Elementary School Principal. Dr. Bodie commended Mr. Pat Tassone on the Pops Concert and the students who performed at the Cherry Blossom Festival, and informed us that the April newsletter was out. Dr. Bodie spoke about the bus challenges during the past week, hosted a Diversity Coffee and spoke about the US News Report on Arlington Public Schools ranking, and thanked the entire staff.*

*Subcommittee & Liaison Reports*

- *Policies & Procedures - Mr. Thielman informed the members the subcommittee will meet May 13, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.*
- *Budget – Ms. Starks will have a meeting soon, and will attend MASC Day on the Hill, May 21, 2013 with Mr. Hayner & Dr. Ampe.*
- *Community Relations – Nothing to report*
- *Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment & Accountability – Nothing to report*
- *Facilities – Nothing to report*
- *Legal Services Review – Will schedule a meeting this week.*
- *Chair – Mr. Hayner reported that he will attend two workshops with Mr. Pierce.*

*Consent Agenda*

***Ms. Starks moved to approve the Consent Agenda - All items listed with an asterisk (\*) are considered to be routine***

*and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the committee so request, in which event the item will be considered in its normal sequence:*

*\*Approval of Warrant # 13155 Dated April 25 2013, Total Warrant Amount \$623,577.92,*

*\*Minutes for Approval: Organizational Meeting, April 11, 2013, Regular Minutes April 11, 2013 and April 25, 2013, seconded by Dr. Allison-Ampe.*

*Ms. Starks moved to pull out April 11 Organizational Meeting and Regular April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes.*

*Vote: 6-0 pull out the two meeting minutes and to approve the Warrant and April 25, 2013 meeting minutes.*

*Ms. Starks moved to amend the April 11, 2013 Organizational Meeting minutes to change "Mr. Schlichtman" to "Mr. Pierce" as moving the motion for the MASC motion, seconded by Ms. Heigham.*

*Voted 4-2-0 Mr. Thielman and Dr. Allison-Ampe abstained*

*Ms. Starks moved to approve April 11, 2013 Regular Meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Heigham.*

*Voted: 5-1-0 Dr. Allison-Ampe abstained*

#### Secretary's Report

*Correspondence for SC 5/9/2013*

*We received the following correspondence:*

- *Invitation to the retirement party for Hardy Principal Deb D'Amico on Monday, June 3 from 6-9pm at the Arlington Center for the Arts*
- *Copy of a letter to all school nurses to thank them for their service in honor of School Nurse Recognition Day on May 8 this year from Dr. Bodie*
- *Email about school security*
- *Email about Arlington teachers being able to enroll their children in the APS*
- *Architect's Field Report on the Thompson School Rebuild*
- *Draft of minutes for regular SC meetings on 4/11/2013 and 4/25/2013 and the organizational meeting on 4/11/2013*
- *Letter from Judson Pierce to Sharon Grossman confirming and congratulating her on her appointment to the Human Rights Commission*
- *Commissioner's Weekly Update from Mitchell Chester, dated May 3, 2013*
- *Copy of a flyer and the letter that went home to all parents about the pilot of the after school Spanish immersion program next year at Brackett*
- *Copy of Judson's notes from the school committee retreat on 4/13/2013*

#### Executive Session

*Mr. Schlichtman moved to enter Executive Session at 8:04 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 and 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 conduct and return to open session to discuss tabled item Discussion on Enrollment of Out of District Children of Teachers into Arlington Public Schools, seconded by Ms. Heigham.*

*Roll Call: Unanimous*

*Voted: 6-0*

*Returned to Open Session at 8:27 p.m.*

*After Mr. Hayner welcomed Mr. Pierce, Chair to the meeting, back from the Annual Touchdown Dinner, the following motion was made:*

***Mr. Schlichtman moved to take off the table the Discussion on Enrollment of Out of District Children of Teachers into Arlington Public Schools, seconded by Ms. Starks.***

***Voted: 7-0***

*Dr. Bodie recommends that the School Committee accept and approve the Memorandum of Agreement to permit the enrollment of school-age, nonresident children residing with our employed teacher in the district, with the 10 guidelines outlined in the collective bargaining language proposed.*

*Dr. Bodie would like to provide an incentive to retain teachers and after having a two-year discussion about it, hopes the committee agrees to the agreement on a one year trial on a space available basis.*

*Dr. Allison-Ampe expressed concern with space issues at the Ottoson Middle School and said she will be abstaining from the vote. Ms. Starks was concerned with the space issues too especially if it causes issues with late enrollments in the district. Ms. Heigham pointed out that she missed the discussion on proposed MOA during the last Executive Session meeting when the committee voted. Ms. Heigham inquired on the plans for those in the buffer zones or open enrollment priorities before allowing teacher's children into the district. Mr. Thielman agrees with the union and to study the trial and agrees it is an attempt to attract and retain teachers in Arlington. Mr. Schlichtman agrees with Mr. Thielman and with said it is an excellent policy. Mr. Schlichtman said Dr. Bodie would have to look into the enrollment numbers to insure no overcrowding was going to happen in each of the schools.*

***Mr. Hayner motioned: Beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, on a trial basis for that school year, the School Committee shall permit the enrollment of a school-age, nonresident child residing with his/her parent or guardian who is employed as a teacher (or other Unit A position) in the district subject to the restrictions outlined in the attached Memorandum of Agreement with the AEA., seconded by Ms. Starks.***

***Roll Call: Dr. Allison-Ampe, Abstained, Ms. Heigham Yes, Mr. Thielman Yes, Mr. Schlichtman Yes, Ms. Starks Yes, Mr. Hayner Yes, Mr. Pierce Yes.***

***Vote: 6-0-1 Dr. Allison-Ampe Abstained.***

*Mr. Pierce wished a Happy Mother's Day and Teaches' and Nurses week to all.*

*Adjourn*

***Mr. Hayner moved to adjourn at 8:57 p.m., seconded by Ms. Starks.***

***Voted: 7-0***

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