



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## School Committee Minutes 10/10/2013

*Approved by the Arlington School Committee October 24, 2013*

*Arlington School Committee  
Regular School Committee Meeting  
Thursday October 10, 2013  
6:30 p.m.  
School Committee Room  
Arlington High School  
869 Massachusetts Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476*

*Present: Mr. Judson Pierce, Mr. William Hayner, Ms. Cindy Starks, Mr. Jeff Thielman, Mr. Paul Schlichtman, and Dr. Kirsi Allison-Ampe*

*Dr. Kathleen Bodie, Superintendent, Dr. Laura Chesson, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Rob Spiegel, Human Resource Officer, Ms. Linda Hanson, AEA Representative, Caroline Merta, Student Representative and Karen Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant*

*Absent: Ms. Diane Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, Kathleen Lockyer, Interim Director of Special Education, AAA Representative*

### Opening Remarks

*Mr. Pierce gave a brief history update on special events of today. The artwork of AHS students was displayed in the School Committee Room for the month of September and October.*

### Happenings at Arlington Public Schools

*Dr. Chesson introduced three elementary teachers: Ms. Annemarie Abbott and Ms. Nicole Melnick, both will present at the International iPad Summit. Each spoke on the work their students are doing in the classrooms on individual iPads, which are available to all Thompson students. Ms. Anita Christina Calcaterra, along with Dr. Kerry Dunne, will present at the ASCD Conference. Dr. Bodie acknowledged the honor for each teacher to be asked to present at these conferences.*

### Public Participation

*None*

### Diversity Hiring Report (Goal 4.2)

*Mr. Spiegel updated the Diversity Chart for the 2013 Report and said the goals of the Superintendent Diversity Committee was to hire staff to represent all students who attend Arlington Public Schools. Mr. Spiegel noted the Superintendent Diversity Committee will hold a coffee and job fair here at the high school over the school year.*

### MCAS Data Update Reports (Goal 1.1 and 1.4)

*Dr. Chesson provided the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) for Arlington Public Schools, MCAS Analysis 2013 and provided information regarding the district performance, accountability goals, detailed analysis of school performance, accountability goals, comparison of district results to state and like districts, detailed analysis of subject area results and summary of MCAS , as well as what lies ahead for Arlington.*

*Monthly Financial Report*

*Tabled to next meeting due to Ms. Johnson out sick.*

*Approval of METCO Social Worker Job Description*

*Superintendent Bodie asked the School Committee to approve the METCO Social Worker job description to help serve students within the METCO Program, who need additional social/emotional support. The funding will come from the METCO grant.*

***Mr. Thielman moved to approve the METCO Social Worker Job Description, seconded by Ms. Heigham.***

***Voted: 7-0***

*Superintendent's Report*

*Superintendent Bodie reported that the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education sent a letter dated October 7, 2013 in response to our letter of appeal of the 2013 accountability determination for Ottoson Middle School. Our appeal contested the classification on the grounds that 15 students who were marked absent for the ACCESS had previously exited Limited English Proficiency (LEP) status and were therefore not required to participate in ACCESS in 2013. The DESE used our data and adjusted our file and in re-running the school's calculations, the participation rate for ELLs and Former ELLs changed from 73 percent to 98 percent. Participation rates for all groups now exceed 95 percent and the Ottoson Middle School will be classified into Level 2 and the Arlington Public School District will also change from Level 3 to Level 2.*

*Dr. Bodie reported on the NEASC Letter and that Arlington High School is accredited, the issues are around the building itself. The AHS Jazz Band has been invited to attend the JEN Conference in Dallas, TX and a vote to approve this trip will fall under the consent agenda. Mr. John Dubzinski, AHS Football coach received the New England Patriots High School Football Coach of the Week award and received \$1,000 donation to the AHS football program in coach Dubzinski's name toward the football program. The District DDM State Submittal (Goal 1.3) report was presented.*

***Mr. Hayner motioned to have the Chair send a letter to congratulate the AHS Jazz Band, seconded by Mr. Thielman.***

***Voted: 7-0***

*Consent Agenda*

***Ms. Heigham moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented: \*Approval of Warrant #14043 Dated 9/26/2013 Total Warrant Amount \$869,562.66, \*Approval of draft minutes: none, and \*Approval of AHS Jazz Band to Dallas, TX, January 9-12, 2014, seconded by Ms. Starks.***

***Voted: 7-0***

*Subcommittee & Liaison Reports*

*Policies & Procedures*

***Mr. Thielman motioned to approve the following policies of a second read of edited:***

- ***Educator Evaluation GCO***
- ***Deletion of Evaluation of Professional Staff GCO-R***
- ***Deletion of Evaluation of Professional Staff Teachers GCO-1-R***
- ***Evaluation of Teachers and Administrators GCO-2-R to be GCO-R***

***Seconded by Mr. Schlichtman.***

***Voted: 7-0***

**Mr. Thielman moved to adopt and amend the School Committee Liaisons To Individual Schools BEDB, seconded by Ms. Starks.**

**Voted: 7-0**

*~Budget*

**Ms. Starks moved approval of the Budget Timeline, as amended, with the FY 13 Review being held on October 24, 2013, seconded by Ms. Heigham.**

**Voted: 7-0**

*Ms. Starks reported on attendance at the Budget Revenue Task Force. The next Budget Subcommittee meeting will be held on November 6, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. The committee is requesting class sizes at the middle school and high school.*

*Community Relations, L. Heigham— nothing to report*

*Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment & Accountability, K. Allison-Ampe – nothing to report*

*Facilities, B. Hayner – updated everyone on the town wide maintenance committee agendas such as the SOI for the high school, building and playground concerns at the Bishop School. Mr. Hayner reported that he has met with Mr. Adam Kurowski, Town System Analyst and Mr. Good regarding the School Committee going paperless.*

*Chair – Mr. Pierce reported on attendance of MCLR conference with Mr. Hayner and the changes of OML and the AYCC 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Event on Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.*

#### Secretary's Report

*s. Starks reported on all correspondence received for School Committee meeting of October 10, 2013.*

- *Email from a parent concerned about crossing Mass. Ave. at Marathon Street getting to Hardy*
- *Email invitation to a Massachusetts Bar Association Conference on Bullying from 8:30-3:30 on Friday, October 25 at Harvard Law School in Cambridge*
- *Email from Dr. Bodie on Massachusetts education spending rankings from the MassBudget and Policy Center*
- *Information forwarded by Dr. Bodie from Adam Chapdelaine on the impact the government shutdown is having on Massachusetts*
- *Mitchell Chester's weekly update, dated October 4, 2013*
- *Client Alert from Stoneham, Chandler & Miller about Health Care Exchanges*
- *Invitation to the Trick or Trot 5K Fun Run to support Arlington High School Sports to be held Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 10am*
- *ACMI alert regarding primary election programming*
- *Letter from Mass Dept. of Elem & Second Education in response to our appeal over the rating of the Ottoson, granting our requested change and returning it to a level 2 school.*
- *Email from principal Janger informing us of Coach Dubzinski's receiving the New England Patriot's High School Football Coach of the week (I would like to add our congratulations to the AHS football team for being undefeated so far in their season!)*

#### Executive Session

**Ms. Starks moved to enter into Executive Session at 9:08 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 discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, seconded by Ms. Heigham and to exit only for the purposes of adjournment.**

**Roll Call: unanimous**

**Adjourn**

**Mr. Hayner moved to adjournment at 9:24 p.m., seconded by Ms. Starks.**

**Voted: 7-0**

*Respectfully submitted*

*Karen Fitzgerald*

*Administrative Assistant*

*Arlington School Committee/css*