



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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School Committee Minutes 4/12/2012

Approved by School Committee June 7, 2012

Arlington School Committee

April 12, 2012

6:30 p.m.

Arlington High School

School Committee Room – Sixth Floor

869 Massachusetts Avenue

Arlington, MA 02476

Present: Dr. Kirsi Allison-Ampe Chair , Mr. Judson Pierce, Vice Chair, Ms. Leba Heigham, Secretary, Mr. Thielman, Ms. Cindy Starks, and Mr. William Hayner.

Ms. Diane Johnson, Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Robert Spiegel, Human Resource Officer, Ms. Linda Hanson, AEA Representative, Ms. Corey Brazil, Student Representative and Ms. Karen Fitzgerald, Administrative Assistant.

Absent: Dr. Kathleen Bodie, Superintendent, Dr. Wallis Raemer, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Kathleen Lockyer, Interim Special Education Director, Mr. Steve Pereira, AAA Representative

Recognition and Appreciation of School Committee Service

Dr. Kirsi Allison-Ampe, Dr. Bodie and each committee member thanked Mr. Curro for his dedication, his outstanding management and communication with the committee during a very difficult budget term, his leadership skills and his professionalism working on this committee and wished Joe all the best on the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Curro appreciated the comments and thanked everyone too and said he greatly enjoyed serving with all the members.

Opening Remarks and Appointments

Dr. Allison-Ampe welcomed back all the members and outlined her views of the upcoming year. Dr. Allison-Ampe would like each member to be formally address each other, return the Legal Service Review Subcommittee, support school/parent events and presented a puzzle to Mr. Pierce and asked him to build a tower then she knocked it down to illustrate that it takes time to build something but it is very easy to knock it down.

Reading and Signing of Standards and Norms

Dr. Allison Ampe read the new School Committee Policy BDA-E School Committee Norms and Standards and asked each member to sign the contract.

Dr. Allison-Ampe introduced Ms. Corey Brazil, thanked Ms. Hanson and point out the Pierce School Artwork displayed in the School Committee room around medieval themes.

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Voting of Appointments and Subcommittees

Mr. Thielman moved to approve Dr. Allison-Ampe's recommendation as follows:

Budget C. Starks (Chair), L. Heigham, W. Hayner

Policies & Procedures J. Pierce (Chair), C. Starks, J. Thielman

District Accountability/Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment (DACIA) J. Thielman (Chair), W. Hayner, x

Community Relations L. Heigham (Chair), J. Pierce, x

Facilities B. Hayner (Chair), J. Thielman, x

Seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 6-0

Mr. Hayner moved to approve Dr. Allison-Ampe's recommendation of the following subcommittees:

Permanent Town Building Committee

J. Thielman

Thompson Building Committee

J. Thielman

Selectmen Liaison

K. Allison-Ampe

Budget & Revenue Task Force

K. Allison-Ampe, J. Pierce

Five-Year Planning Committee

K. Allison-Ampe, J. Pierce, J. Thielman

Vision 2020 Standing Committee

L. Heigham

Negotiations Committee (AEA)

L. Heigham, C. Starks, W. Hayner

Negotiations Committee (AAA)

L. Heigham, C. Starks, W. Hayner

Negotiations Committee (Cafeteria)

W. Hayner, C. Starks

Negotiations Committee (Unit C)

W. Hayner, C. Starks

School Facilities Working Group

W. Hayner

Student Advisory Council

J. Pierce

Arlington Youth Health & Safety Coalition

C. Starks

Wellness Committee

x

State Aid Task Force

K. Allison-Ampe, L. Heigham

Title IX Committee

L. Heigham

School Committee Legislative Liaison

K. Allison-Ampe

Supt. Diversity Advisory Committee

J. Pierce

AEF Board

K. Allison-Ampe

Town Government Reorganization Committee

J. Thielman

Tourism and Economic Development Committee

K. Allison-Ampe

SEPAC Liaison

J. Pierce

Green Repair Program at Stratton

W. Hayner

EDCO Board

K. Allison-Ampe

Civil Discourse Committee

K. Allison-Ampe

Seconded by Ms. Heigham.

Voted: 6-0

Ms. Starks moved to approve the recommendations of Dr. Allison-Ampe's for the following School Liaisons:

Brackett

L. Heigham

Thompson

x

Bishop

J. Thielman

Hardy

L. Heigham

Stratton

W. Hayner

Dallin

J. Pierce

Peirce

J. Pierce

OMS

C. Starks

AHS

J. Thielman

Town wide PTO

C. Starks

Seconded by Ms. Heigham.

Voted: 6-0

Ms. Heigham moved to approve the recommendation of Dr. Allison-Ampe for the Committee Liaisons for Negotiations Committee (Bus), W. Hayner and C. Starks, seconded by Mr. Pierce.

Voted: 6-0

Notification of Committee Vacancy and Commencement of Unexpired Term Fulfillment BBBE Process

Dr. Allison-Ampe addressed the committee and read policy BBBE aloud and asked for a motion from the School Committee to commence the process of fulfillment of the vacancy of the unexpired term of Mr. Curro for the remainder of this year.

Ms. Heigham moved to commence the process to fill vacancy as per policy Notification of Committee Vacancy and Commencement of Unexpired Term Fulfillment BBBE seconded by Mr. Pierce.

Voted: 6-0

After the committee voted to start the process to fill the vacancy, Dr. Allison-Ampe said she will draft a notice to invite all residents of the Town who are interested in serving to submit an application to the me, the administrative assistant, by no later than 4:00 p.m. Thursday, April 26, 2012. The committee agreed to hold a Special Meeting on Thursday, May 3, 2012 between 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. to invite all candidates to an open meeting to make a case for their appointment, therefore the following motion was made:

Ms. Heigham moved to hold a Special School Committee Meeting on Thursday, May 3, 2012, 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for the purpose to invite all candidates to an open meeting, seconded by Mr. Hayner.

Voted: 6-0

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Public Participation

None

Updates on hiring and searches

Mr. Robert Spiegel read the email letter addressed to the School Committee members dated April 12, 2012 notifying them Dr. Bodie was unable to forward a candidate for appoint to the position of Director of Special Education. Dr. Bodie said Interim Director, Kathleen Lockyer has agreed to serve another year.

The committee was very disappointed in hearing this news and since Dr. Bodie was not present at the meeting, they would like to discuss this at the next School Committee meeting. Ms. Starks requested a review of the process and a recommendation on how to move forward so Arlington can get qualified candidates to apply and would like this done sooner rather than later.

Mr. Spiegel reported that Dr. Bodie has five Finalist for the Assistant Superintendent position they are Sheryl Boris-Shackter, Laura Chesson, Kerry Dunne, Michael Harvey and Alexander Wyeth. The Math Director search is ongoing.

Mr. Hayner requested that Dr. Allison-Ampe ask Dr. Bodie to bring forth the contract of the Interim Director of Special Education and the Assistant Superintendent in Executive Session before bringing forward the candidate.

Approval of Job Descriptions

Mr. Spiegel presented two job descriptions for approval Human Resources/Benefits Administrative Assistant and the Database Administrator.

Mr. Thielman moved that the School Committee approve the Human Resources/Benefits Administrative Assistant job description, seconded by Ms. Heigham.

Voted: 6-0

Ms. Starks moved that the School Committee approve the Database Administrator job description, seconded by Ms. Heigham.

Voted: 6-0

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Update on Thompson Rebuild

Ms. Diane Johnson said the Thompson Building Committee had meet on April 4th selected G&R Construction bid to Rebuild the Thompson School.

Review of Warrant Articles that needed more review

Dr. Allison-Ampe had researched if additional action was needed on the following Warrant Articles and Kirsi said that after the Town Government Reorganization Meeting she learned that the warrant article 12 was language modification only and article 13 on budget submission and timelines, she will work out with the Town Manager. Therefore no action was needed by the School Committee on these two:

Article 12: Vote-Bylaw Amendment/Human Resources Department

Article 13: Bylaw Amendment Budget Submissions

Subcommittee & Liaison Reports

Policies & Procedures - None

Budget, Ms. Starks said the budget presentation went smoothly to the Finance Committee and was well received and the budget was accepted by FinCom.

Community Relations - None

Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment & Accountability - None

Kindergarten Advisory Committee-Bill Hayner reported that the committee met and public participation was very long and will be scheduling a meeting soon, due to April 23rd being the opening of Town Meeting.

Redistricting - Ms. Heigham reported that the committee had met on March 27, 2012 and continues moving toward a plan and goals. Ms. Heigham said the progress is on schedule.

Chair – Dr. Allison-Ampe said she attended the Board of Selectmen’s meeting and updated the committee on CDBG Application process of the \$8,000 requested. Ms. Johnson said she would be comfortable with this figure for the schools because we can only collect on what we are eligible, and this figure works for Arlington Schools.

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: Warrant # 12130, Dated, March 22, 2012, Total Amount: \$486.466.13

Approval of School Committee Minutes: March 8, 2012

Ms. Starks moved to approve the Consent Agenda: Approval of Warrant: Warrant # 12130, Dated, March 22, 2012, Total Amount: \$486.466.13 and Approval of School Committee Minutes: March 8, 2012, seconded by Ms. Heigham.

Voted: 6-0

Secretary’s Report

Mr. Pierce presented the Secretary's Report – Correspondence 3/23/12-4/12/12

- *Notification of SDAC Meeting: 4/5, Thursday, 4:30pm.*
- *Redistricting Agenda for 3/27/12.*
- *Posting and agenda for the 4/4/12 Arlington School Committee Neg Subcommittee for AFSCME Local 680, Cafe, Bus Operators.*
- *Posting and agenda for the Arlington School Committee, AEA, Unit C, Clerical Negotiations meetings on 4/11/12 and 5/9/12.*
- *Posting and agenda for the 4/23/12 Arlington School Committee AAA Negotiations.*
- *Posting and agenda for Arlington School Committee Arlington Education Association, Unit A Negotiations upcoming meetings with no end time.*
- *Decision in the Bouris arbitration.*
- *Information on the Diversity Coffee Social on Tuesday, April 10, at 4pm, at Arlington High School, in the School Committee room.*
- *ASC recommendation for positive action Warrant Article 14.*
- *Arlington School Committee Approved Policies BBBE, BDA, BDA-E and HE/HF.*
- *Invitation to 5th Grade "Images of Arlington" Art Opening - Thursday, April 5, 6:30pm.*
- *Section B, K and H indexes.*
- *Invitation to Diversity Coffee Social on April 10th.*
- *Superintendent's congratulations to the Ottoson website group that won first place in the state for the National History Day Contest.*
- *Superintendent March Newsletter.*
- *postings for three meetings for the Arlington School Committee Negotiations Committee AFSCME Local 680.*
- *4/9/12 BOS Agenda.*
- *4/12/12 SC Agenda.*
- *Letter from citizen of Arlington concerning the Stratton Principal Search.*
- *Email from Representative Garballey with the Ways and Means Local Aid Numbers.*
- *Information from the Superintendent regarding Asst. Superintendent Finalists.*
- *Information from the Superintendent regarding Special Education Director Search ending.*

Executive Session

Mr. Hayner said he asked that Executive Session Minutes be included on the agenda for the committee to review and approve.

Mr. Pierce moved to enter Executive Session at 8:18 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 conducted to return to open session, seconded by Ms. Heigham.

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

Voted: 6-0

Resume Regular meeting at 9:11 p.m.

Ms. Heigham moved that the School Committee authorize Superintendent Bodie to negotiate with Dr. Raemer and authorize the chair, Dr. Allison-Ampe, to sign her contract with the purpose of amending Dr. Raemer's contract to increase her hours and compensations for the remainder of this school year, seconded by Mr. Thielman.

Voted: 6-0

Adjourn

Mr. Hayner moved to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. seconded by Mr. Thielman.

Voted: 6-0

Respectfully submitted by

Karen Fitzgerald

Administrative Assistant

Arlington School Committee