



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## **School Committee Minutes 09/22/2009**

*Approved by the Arlington School Committee October 27, 2009  
and enter ACMI video into the records*

**THE ARLINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2009  
7:30 P.M.**

**Present:** Denise Burns, Vice Chair      Joe Curro, Secretary  
Leba Heigham  
Ronald Spangler                      Cindy Starks  
Jeff Thielman

**Interim Superintendent:** Kathleen Bodie  
**Interim Assistant Superintendent:** Wallis Raemer  
**Special Education Director:** Mark Ryder  
**Chief Financial Officer:** Diane Johnson

**Student Representatives:** Erin McDonald and Lindsay Diranian.

**Absent:** Joe Curran, Chair

*Mr. Thielman exited the meeting at 8:29 and returned at 8:32 p.m.  
Ms. Johnson exited the meeting at 9:45 p.m. and returned at 9:50 p.m.  
Dr. Spangler exited the meeting at 9:56 p.m. and returned at 10:03 p.m.*

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*Sean Harrington, AHS student asked the School Committee members to make a motion to support the Pledge of Allegiance to be recited in all of the Arlington Public Schools. Sean will continue his effort until all schools in Arlington are reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.*

*Mr. John Kohl, an Arlington Public Schools parent, asked the superintendent to consider early planning for the school calendar and to inform parents on the start date for the next school year.*

*Ms. Burns introduced and welcomed the student representatives: Erin McDonald and Lindsay Diranian.*

### **INTRODUCTION OF DALLIN PRINCIPAL**

*Dr. Bodie introduced and welcomed Ms. Tara Rossi, Principal of the Dallin Elementary School. Ms. Rossi stated how pleased she was with the warm welcome she had received from teachers, parents and students over the summer and the first few weeks of school. Ms. Rossi looks forward to working collaboratively with the learning team and invited parents to join the School Council.*

### **COMMUNITY EDUCATION/SUMMER FUN PROGRAM**

*Dr. Bodie introduced Ms. Donna Eidson, Director of Community Education and Ms. Melanie Konstandakis, Social*

Studies teacher at Arlington High School who together headed a 4-week summer enrichment program sponsored by Arlington Public Schools. The enrichment program, which ran at no cost to the district, had 29 teachers with 31 classroom aides (high school student volunteers) and ran 35 courses including Summer Fun, Insider Guide to Ottoson and Club Invention. Due to the success of the summer enrichment program, the Brackett Elementary School will pilot an after school enrichment program and plans for next summer's enrichment schedule should be rolled out in January 2010.

## **HIGH SCHOOL AP & GRADUATION REPORT**

Mr. Charles Skidmore, Principal of Arlington High School and Ms. Linda Buckley, Arlington High School Guidance Counselor provided the Class of 2009 College Acceptance and Matriculation Report.

## **OPENING DAY PRESENTATION**

Dr. Kathleen Bodie, Interim Superintendent of Schools presented her welcoming address from opening day to the School Committee members.

## **FY 11 BUDGET TIMELINE**

Mr. Joseph Curro, Chairman of the Budget Subcommittee, present the proposed FY 2011 Budget Timeline.

**Mr. Curro moved to have the School Committee accept the FY 11 Budget Timeline, seconded by Dr. Spangler.**

Mr. Curro reviewed the proposed FY 2011 Budget Timeline the subcommittee voted on September 16, 2009 to the committee. Dr. Bodie stressed that after meeting with Brian Sullivan, Town Manager, the town's finances are changing and that budget projections put the School Department at a \$2.5 million deficit. After hearing this news, the committee discussed moving the budget timeline around to fit in a public visioning exercise before January.

**Mr. Curro moved to shift the Budget Timeline dates around: November items moved to late October, December items moved to November and move January items to late November/early December, seconded by Mr. Thielman.**

After the committee's discussion and Mr. Curro agreeing to move the Budget Timeline around with one exception, **Mr. Curro withdrew all motions** and the committee unanimously agreed to table the Budget Timeline to the next meeting.

The committee requested that Dr. Bodie present the FY 2011 Budget Development at our next meeting and to have the Budget Subcommittee meet again to discuss the timeline. Ms. Heigham inquired about a date to hold the Superintendent/Administrative Team Retreat which School Committee members would be attend. Dr. Bodie stated that she would provide the budget development and work on a date for the retreat.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**\*Approval of Warrant # 10035 dated September 8, 2009 in the amount of \$82,903.91**

**\*Minutes to be approved: July 2, 2009 and July 27, 2009**

**Ms. Burns moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, with Ms. Heigham requesting to split the warrant and the minutes from the Consent Agenda.**

**Mr. Thielman moved to approve the Warrant dated September 8, 2009, seconded by Ms. Starks.**  
**Voted 6 - 0**

**Ms. Heigham moved to separate July 2, 2009 and July 27, 2009 minutes, seconded by Ms. Starks.**

Ms. Heigham explained that the minutes of July 2, 2007 page 3 and 4 are inconsistent to other minutes, the amount of information written under each agenda items various due to information being summarized and information being verbatim.

After further Committee discussion regarding style guidelines and the appropriate level of detail to be reflected in minutes, **Ms. Heigham moved to postpone consideration of the minutes of July 2, 2009 and July 27, 2009 to Tuesday, October 13, 2009, seconded by Mr. Curro.**

Voted 6-0

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

*Dr. Bodie presented the Superintendent Report dated for September 22, 2009 and a proposed School Committee Curriculum Presentation Calendar for 2009-2010. Committee members expressed appreciation for the curriculum calendar and inquired of Dr. Bodie about the committee's policy calendar.*

*After the committee heard the report, the focus of the discussion was around MCAS scores; Thompson School making AYP; and the Ottoson Middle School missing AYP for both ELA and Math for the subgroups of special education and low income.*

*Dr. Bodie stated Arlington High School would remain in the Dual County League until our membership in the Middlesex League begins in September 2011.*

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

*Mr. Curro reported on all correspondence received: Brackett, Peirce and OMS Newsletters, MCAS Results, Mass Budget & Policy Calendar, OMS Physical Education Awards announcement and materials included in packet: draft minutes for review June 9 and June 23, 2009, Approved minutes June 2, 2009, School Newsletters, OMS Phys Ed Awards, AP, Gov Deval Patrick letter September 15, 2009, Draft of Minutes from September 8, 2009, AYP - 2009, Budget Subcommittee draft September 16, 2009, Five Year Plan 2011-15 & FY 2011, MCAS*

## **ROUNDTABLE**

*Second Reading of KCBA: RESPONSE TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY GENERATION PROPOSALS*

***Mr. Curro moved to table the Second Reading of policy KCBA until the Policy and Procedures Subcommittee can review this policy again, seconded by Ms. Starks.***

***Voted 5-0, Dr. Spangler had exited the room***

*Ms. Burns presented the First Reading of IGA: CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT and IL: EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS.*

*Each committee member reported out on past and upcoming meetings. All meetings are posted to the website.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

***Ms. Starks moved to adjourn at 10:10 p.m., seconded by Mr. Thielman.***

***Voted 6-0***

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