

Ms. Owayda requested that the Committee take a vote relative to article 74, Borrowing Cap/Elementary School Projects which was inserted at the request of the Town Treasurer. Supt. Donovan supplied background information relative to the article and suggested a vote of no action by the Committee.

On a motion by Ms. Goodman and seconded by Mr. Thrope it was unanimously Voted no action on Article 74, Borrowing Cap/Elementary School Projects

IDA ROBBINS SCHOLARSHIP/VOTE

Supt. Donovan recommended for School Committee approval two AHS students nominated for the Ida Robbins Scholarship. The Superintendent requested that the student's names remain confidential until the awards night.

On a motion by Mr. Thrope and seconded by Ms. LaMachia it was unanimously Voted to award the Ida Robbins Scholarship to the designated individuals as recommended by Supt. Donovan.

MASC RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Schlichtman as chair of the MASC resolution committee drafted two resolutions for the annual delegate assembly, School and Municipal Finance and State Board of Education. Mr. Schlichtman reviewed the resolutions and requested the School Committee's consideration in supporting the resolutions.

On a motion by Ms. Goodman and seconded by Mr. Thrope it was unanimously Voted to adopt the MASC proposed resolution **School and Municipal Finance**.

Ms. Goodman made the motion to adopt the proposed resolution **State Board of Education** seconded by Ms. LaMachia. Mr. Thrope amended the motion seconded by Mr. Thielman to eliminate the second to last paragraph "now therefore, be it Resolved that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees urges the dissolution of the current Massachusetts Board of Education to be replaced by a board that is elected by the voters, and". Mr. Schlichtman offered a friendly amendment that would leave the paragraph intact but change the last part of the sentence to read "**to be replaced by a board that is selected by another method providing greater accountability to the voters**". Unanimous vote.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Policy & Procedures - Mr. Thielman reported that the subcommittee met earlier in the evening and discussed the revised field trip release form and cover letter with the hope that it would be approved and recommended to the full committee. After receiving additional input from parents there will be a revision of the release form by two parents. The revised form will be sent to Town Counsel John Maher for review. The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 10th at 5:30 pm.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Update on NCLB – Asst. Supt. Joanne Gurry reported the completion of the **NCLB Strategic Plan Priorities and Improvement Objectives** phase II. Dr. Gurry then reviewed the five goals of the NCLB, how those goals will be met, the indicators to be used in reaching said goals and the Summary of Strategies to accomplish the improvement objectives. Phase III (due July 1st) is to submit a budget to support the Strategic Plan.

Distribution List Acceptable Use Policy

Supt. Donovan requested that the proposed e-mail distribution list policy be referred to the policy & procedure subcommittee for review.

On a motion by Ms. Goodman and seconded by Ms. LaMachia it was unanimously Voted to refer the distribution list acceptable use policy to the policy & procedure subcommittee.

Town Meeting Update –Supt. Donovan explained that TM is using a different process this year in the presentation of the budgets. Instead of presenting all of the Town budgets and holding out those with questions as in the past, each department will present and defend their budget individually before Town Meeting for any comments, questions etc. Because of this new process Mrs. Donovan stated there is no way to tell how long before the School Budget will be presented, the school department is number 17 on the list.

Upcoming Events –Senior Week Activities

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Thrope addressed the Committee relative to students who have met graduation requirements but have not passed the MCAS and made the following motion seconded by Ms. Goodman:

“Resolve that the Arlington School Committee will continue to award diplomas to all students who meet local performance standards based on multiple assessments as indicated in the Education Reform Act of 1993.

Ms. Owayda ruled Mr. Thrope’s motion out of order stating that she will not allow the committee to direct the Superintendent or herself to violate the laws of the Commonwealth. The Chair stated that if the SC believes the law is flawed that work must be done through the legislature and MASC for change; however Ms. Owayda stated that she would entertain a motion directing that students are awarded Certificates of Attainment as well as support through the summer to help those students pass the MCAS.

Mr. Thrope appealed the decision of the Chair. No second.

On a motion by Mr. Thielman and seconded by Ms. Goodman it was Voted that the Superintendent may grant Certificates of Attainment to those AHS seniors who did not pass the MCAS requirement; in addition, to request Supt. Donovan to develop a plan that provides support and report back at the next meeting with a plan on what offerings will be available to support these students. 6 yes –1 no, Mr. Schlichtman voted no

On a motion by Mr. Schlichtman and seconded by Ms. Goodman it was unanimously Voted to refer the AHS Program of Studies to both the Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Subcommittee (to rework a number of issues) and the Policy and Procedures Subcommittees (to create a policy that reflects the revision statement in the program of studies) for further consideration.

Mr. Thrope stated that he intends to schedule a Specialized Student Services subcommittee at the request of Special Education, Director Marilyn Bisbicos.

On a motion by Mr. Schlichtman and seconded by Ms. LaMachia it was unanimously Voted to adjourn at 9:30 pm.

Submitted by
Karen Tassone
Committee Secretary