



Voted to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 9, 2000.  
6 yes votes Mr. McKenna abstained

On a Motion by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Thrope it was

Voted to enter executive session for a grievance hearing; after the hearing the committee will continue with the agenda. Roll Call: Unanimous

Executive Session 7:45-8:30

Mr. Carey took the opportunity to thank Joani for chairing the last meeting. He also thanked everyone who took part in running the Children's Festival; it was a huge success.

#### Notice of Teachers

##### .. Distinguished Service Awards

Mr. Carey thanked Dr. Gurry for presenting him with a Distinguished Service Award for serving on the School Committee for 29½ years. Mr. Carey congratulated Judie Phelps on her term as AEA president and wished her well.

Mrs. Donovan echoed that Judie has done tremendous work on behalf of all the staff and she appreciates the long hours and the hard work.

The Superintendent announced that at the Distinguished Service Awards ceremony, staff of APS were recognized for their years of service, 46 staff members were presented a gift from Dr. Gurry and also received a certificates of achievement.

##### .. Teacher Notification

Mrs. Donovan stated that relative to teacher resignations only four teachers from the entire list are leaving to teach in other systems. The remainder of staff are leaving to go back to school, relocating or staying home.

The Superintendent reported that the AHS graduation services went very well.

#### Report on Subcommittees

Mr. Healy reported that at the subcommittee meeting of May 25th Mr. Jim Harding of MASC was in attendance to discuss the process of updating our policy manual. The process will be a lengthy one, perhaps as long as 18 months.

Mr. Healy suggested that committee members review the minutes of that meeting which explains the process (minutes will be sent to the committee).

##### .. Tobacco Policy File JICG

Mr. Healy brought the AHS Policy on Tobacco before the committee noting that they have seen and discussed the proposed policy at previous meetings; he recommends that the full committee vote on the policy.

On a motion by Mr. Healy and seconded by Mr. McKenna it was

Voted to accept the Arlington High School Policy on Tobacco File JICG as presented. Unanimous

##### .. Superintendent Evaluation Policy File AFB

Mr. Healy stated that there is draft #1 and draft #2 of the superintendent evaluation preamble. The subcommittee voted on draft #1 but draft #2 has some recommended changes after review by a committee member. Mr. Healy further stated that he would recommend the full committee vote on draft #1 but would be happy to hear Mr. Sullivan's proposed changes on draft #2. After discussion the committee agreed that the new policy would include draft #2 as the preamble along with the flow chart and the evaluation form.

On a motion by Mr. Healy and seconded by Mr. Sullivan it was:

Voted to accept the amended Superintendent Evaluation Policy – File AFB draft #2 and all attachments. Unanimous

It was decided that the policy would be used this year as a dry run and that committee members will return the evaluation forms to Joani by June 26th

#### Report on Safety

Ms. LaMachia acknowledged Judie Phelps as a member of the Task Force on Safety who has done an incredible amount of work. The memorandum of understanding is an agreement between the Arlington Public Schools and the Arlington Police Department which promotes an effective working partnership between schools and police. The task force recommends that we move forward with the memorandum.

Mrs. Donovan noted that the principals did have some concerns and questions about how much is reported and when to report altercations. The principals requested a meeting with Chief Ryan for clarification on what is expected.

Although she supports the memorandum, Kay asked that the committee wait to vote on the agreement until the concerns are addressed.

Mr. McKenna stated that Youth Watch, a group that meets once a month at the police station while school is in session includes members of the district attorney's office, principals and other agencies involved with youth and deals with issues that come up in the town.

Ms. LaMachia reported that Arlington has recently become a member of NEMLAC (North Eastern Massachusetts law Enforcement Council), which helps communities deal with crisis intervention and safety issues.

#### MASC Resolution

Ms. Goodman reported that letters have been sent to other school committees and a message has been listed on MASC listserv asking for support and co-sponsorship on our MCAS resolution. Our goal is to have the Massachusetts Association of School Committees adopt a resolution to use its powers and its lobbying efforts at the State House to change the regulations as they now stand.

Ms. Goodman recommended that we vote to support the resolution sent to us by Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee to end MCAS test results as a requirement for high school graduation.

On a motion by Ms. Goodman and seconded by Mr. Thrope it was:

Voted to support the resolution proposed by the Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee to 'End Use of MCAS Test Results as Requirement for High School Graduation'. Unanimous

Mrs. Donovan noted that we would send a letter to their Superintendent endorsing their resolution by June 26, 2000.

#### Report on School Councils

Kay reported that the State Department has new requirements on what is required on the school improvement plans.

Since we are having the school committee workshop on June 26th, and the school councils and the principals will have their workshop in the fall, the Superintendent recommended holding the plans until after that time.

On a motion by Mr. Healy and seconded it was voted to receive the School Council Improvement Plans as presented by Superintendent Donovan. Unanimous

#### Recess

#### End of the Year Report

Superintendent Donovan reported on the accomplishments achieved during the past school year.

Some of the achievements include:

- .. Newsletters, emergency protocol for staff, safety handbook for parents, K-5 curriculum booklet.
- .. A teacher mentoring program, staff and parent workshops, new text funding, reduced full day kindergarten fee,
- .. Three contracts settled, increased grant money received, a successful debt exclusion.
- .. A new K-2 Spanish program, improved MCAS scores, a new Stratton School principal, a new Math Director, a new House Dean.
- .. Opening of the new Brackett School and continued construction on the Bishop and Hardy.

#### Report on PTBC

Mr. Thrope reported that the Peirce and Dallin submission to the state has been approved: The next step is to be placed on the list of approved projects; those votes are taken by the Board of Education in July.

The Hardy project will go into full swing by the beginning of July. On the Bishop School, there are some short-term staffing issues, but full occupancy is expected in August.

#### School Committee Workshop Update

Joani LaMachia informed members that Dr. Joanne Newcombe from the Center for School Board Leadership would run the School Committee Workshop. It will be held at the Whittemore-Robbins House from 7:00 – 9:00 PM. Joani asked that members read the back-up materials and send the completed survey to Karen by June 16th. The committee discussed meeting at 6:30 to vote on the memorandum of understanding, the MASC resolution, and the school calendar.

On a motion by Mr. Thrope and seconded it was voted:

That the School Committee hold a special meeting on Monday, June 26th at 6:30 PM at the Whittemore-Robbins House; the only items on the agenda will be votes taken on the memorandum of understanding, the MASC resolution and the 2001-2002-school calendar. Unanimous

Appointment of Subcommittees

Mr. Carey explained that although he tried to honor everyone's request on appointments, he did have to make some changes. Mr. Carey asked Mr. Sullivan to chair the Maintenance & Operations Subcommittee, with Mr. Healy and Mr. McKenna as the other members.

On a motion by Mr. Healy and seconded it was

Voted to accept Mr. Carey's recommendation for assignments and appointments as noted. Unanimous.

Ms. Goodman requested that we ask AEEF for a recommendation for the vacancy.

On a Motion by Mr. Sullivan and seconded it was

Voted to enter executive session for the discussion of a legal issue and negotiations, with the possibility of returning to vote in open session. Roll Call: Unanimous

Executive Session 10:15 – 11:00 PM

Motion: Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Ms. LaMachia:

Voted to accept and ratify the Unit A 2000-2003 contract as presented by the Superintendent. Roll Call: Unanimous.

Motion: by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Healy:

Voted to accept and ratify the Unit C 2000-2003 contract as presented by the Superintendent. Roll Call: Unanimous

Voted unanimously to adjourn at 11:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Tassone