

ANDOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ANDOVER, CONNECTICUT 06232

Regular Board of Education Meeting  
Wednesday, March 10, 2010  
School Library

Present: Jay Linddy, Chairman, Kim Hawes, Christina Tamburro, Sharyn Keeney

Administration: Andrew Maneggia, Superintendent, H. David Griffin, Principal/Director of Curriculum

Others: David Cooke, Scott Beebe, Clayton Folsom, Kim Mawdsley, Deb Wazer, Sue Vernali, Donalyn Maneggia, Kelly Bednarz, Suzanne Donahue

**1.0 Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Linddy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Dr. Griffin.

**2.0 Recognition of Boys' & Girls' Basketball Teams**

The girls fifth and sixth grade basketball team came in second place at their championship game. The boys' fifth and sixth grade basketball team won the championship. The Board congratulated them and they celebrated with cake in the cafeteria.

**3.0 Comments from the Public**

Several parents of fifth and sixth grade students attended the meeting to address the issue of the fifth and sixth grade teachers' handling of a behavior problem during the third lunch wave. All the fifth and sixth grade students were issued a contract which they were required to sign, acknowledging specific consequences for certain behavior, including assigned seating. Mrs. Donahue told the Board that she disagrees with the teachers punishing the entire group for the actions of a few and does not condone teachers requiring students to sign a contract for any reason. Mrs. Maneggia believes the school should have communicated to the parents that there was a behavior problem. Mrs. Mawdsley, Mrs. Smith and Mr. Cooke expressed their disappointment with the teachers' negative treatment of the entire group of students. The parents felt that the students responsible for the misbehavior should have been identified and punished accordingly, not the entire lunch wave. In accordance with Board Policy 11-20a, the Board will refer to Superintendent Maneggia for appropriate staff review.

The discussion then turned to parking lot safety during pick-up and drop-off time. Several parents supported the idea of creating more parking spaces for parents by having faculty and staff park in the lower lot and enter and exit the building through the cafeteria. Another suggestion for enhancing pedestrian safety is to build a walkway from the upper to the lower parking lot. The Board and administration will take the suggestions under advisement for further discussion at future meetings.

**4.0 Approval of Minutes**

**4.1 Regular Meeting of February 10, 2010**

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2010 regular meeting was made by C. Tamburro and seconded by K. Hawes.

**VOTE: 3 – 0 – 1 (PASSED)  
(with S. Keeney abstaining)**

**5.0 Opportunity to Add or Delete Items**

A motion to add Item 8.5 – Contracts for CSEA (Paraprofessionals), Item 8.6 – Seatbelts on School Buses, as well as to add the gymnasium roof to Item 8.2 – Maintenance Projects was made by K. Hawes and seconded by S. Keeney.

**VOTE: 4 – 0 – 0 (PASSED)**

**6.0 Celebrations - None.**

**7.0 Communications**

*7.1 Chairperson's Oral Report - None.*

*7.2 Assistant Principal/Director of Special Education's Report; as presented in packages.*

*7.3 Principal/Director of Curriculum's Report; as presented in packages.*

*7.4 Superintendent's Report; as presented in packages.*

*7.5 Enrollment Report; as presented in packages.*

*7.6 Health Room Report; as presented in packages.*

*7.7 Financial Report; as presented in packages.*

**8.0 New Business**

**8.1 Parent-Student-Staff Notification System**

The administration is seeking to implement a parent-teacher notification system to inform parents/staff of school cancellations, school delays and early dismissals, as well as other brief messages. Of the notification systems researched, the most professional and cost efficient system was School Messenger. The cost of the notification system from April 2010 through June 2011 is \$853.00.

A motion to approve contracting with School Messenger from April 2010 to June 2011 was made by K. Hawes and seconded by C. Tamburro.

**VOTE: 4 – 0 – 0 (PASSED)**

**8.2 Maintenance Projects: Additional Cameras, Sealing and Painting Basketball Court, Parking Lot Lighting, Repair Gymnasium Roof Leak**

The following maintenance projects have been proposed, pending availability of funding:

1. Installation of three additional security cameras inside the building (\$3,000)
2. Seal and line the basketball court and walks in the area of the addition (\$1,800)
3. Repair lighting in the parking lot (requiring a lift rental) (\$2,100)
4. Repair the membrane over the gymnasium roof expansion joint which is currently leaking (\$3,364)

The total cost of the maintenance projects is \$10,979.00. Currently, the maintenance account balance is \$13,946.00, with four months left in the fiscal year.

A motion to approve \$10,979.00 in funding, pending availability, for the completion of the proposed maintenance projects was made by K. Hawes and seconded by S. Keeney.

**VOTE: 4 – 0 – 0 (PASSED)**

### **8.3 Report from Connecticut Magazine**

In its March issue, Connecticut Magazine rated small towns in Connecticut based on education, crime, economy, cost, and leisure. Of the 27 towns with a population of less than 3,500 people, Andover has the third best school system and is the seventh safest town.

### **8.4 Board of Education Annual Report**

A rough draft of the 2008 – 2009 Board of Education Annual Report was reviewed by the Board. The report gives an overall summary of the various grants awarded, programs provided and activities offered.

### **8.5 Contracts for CSEA**

The Board reviewed the revisions resulting from the January 27, 2010 negotiation session with the CSEA. Revisions were made with regard to overtime, insurance, weather conditions, changes in duties, wages, duration of contract and the head custodian's job description.

A motion to approve the newly negotiated modifications to the existing contract for paraprofessionals was made by K. Hawes and seconded by S. Keeney.

**VOTE: 4 – 0 – 0 (PASSED)**

**8.6 Seatbelts on School Buses**

The Board discussed the potential impact of the state passing a seatbelt law for school buses. Some of the concerns raised included how school bus drivers could monitor the use of the seatbelts, whether the seatbelts would be cause for greater injury by students misusing them, and how towns would fund the installation of the seatbelts.

**9.0 Comments from the Public**

Tina Hatch supports the idea that seatbelts are unsafe.

**10.0 Upcoming Meetings**

**10.1 Regular Board Meeting – April 14, 2010**

**11.0 Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. was made by C. Tamburro and seconded by S. Keeney.

**VOTE: 4 – 0 – 0 (PASSED)**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kristen Frankenberger