

ANDOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ANDOVER, CONNECTICUT 06232

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Wednesday, November 12, 2008
School Library

Present: Jay Linddy, Chairman, Kim Hawes, Wendy Baver, Scott Sauyet, Michael Davidson

Administration: Andrew Maneggia, Superintendent, H. David Griffin, Principal/Director of Curriculum, Michelle Zeuschner, Assistant Principal/Director of Special Education

Others: Jay Ames, Anne Keedy

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 Comments from the Public – None

3.0 Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting of October 8, 2008

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2008 regular meeting, as corrected, was made by S. Sauyet and seconded by W. Baver.

VOTE: 4 – 0 – 1 PASSED (M. Davidson abstained)

4.0 Opportunity to Add or Delete Agenda Items

5.0 Celebrations – Happy Birthday to Mr. Gasper and Mrs. Bush.

6.0 Communications

6.1 Chairperson's Oral Report - None.

6.2 Assistant Principal/Director of Special Education's Report: as presented in packages.

6.3 Principal/Director of Curriculum's Report: as presented in packages.

6.4 Superintendent's Report: as presented in packages.

Superintendent Maneggia reported that the Board of Education received a check in the amount of \$13,935.01 to cover the damages incurred by the lightning strike on October 1. The check must first be signed over to the Town who will then reappropriate the money to the Board of Education. On another note, magnet school tuition has risen \$242.00 per student since last year.

6.5 Enrollment Report: At 336 students, enrollment is at its lowest in 7 years.

6.6 Health Room Report: as presented in packages.

6.7 Financial Report: as presented in packages.

7.0 New Business

7.1 Report – Board Policy Committee

Series 0000, 1000, and 9000 of the policy manual were distributed to the Board members for their review in preparation for the next meeting. The Policy Committee will consider the Board members' suggestions for revisions to the manual at the December meeting.

7.2 Budget Information

The Superintendent is in the process of preparing the budget for the 2009 – 2010 school year. The Board set a date of January 21, 2009 to review the Superintendent's proposed budget.

7.3 Strategic School Profile

The Board reviewed the 2007-2008 Strategic School Profile. According to the report, Andover's per capita income is \$30,273, considerably higher than surrounding towns. Student enrollment is down 5.4% from five years ago. The average class size is lower than the state average by 2 or more students. Andover students attended school 183 days and received 1,009 hours of instruction, 32 more hours than the state average. 84.6% of Andover's special education students spent over 79% of their time with non-disabled peers, significantly higher than the state average. There are 3.9 students per computer. The average yearly absence for teachers was 7.2 days, lower than both the district and the state average. Minority students comprise 5.8% of the student population, and there are no minority professional staff. 30% of fourth graders and 66% of sixth graders reached the health standard on all four physical fitness tests. The average per pupil expenditure in Andover was \$3,688, as compared to \$10,658 at the district level and \$12,151 at the state level. The CMT scores reflect an overall improvement over past years, with some areas in need of improvement. There were no incidences of suspension for disciplinary offenses. Overall, Andover provides a very positive and safe learning environment with a smaller budget than the average elementary school state-wide.

7.4 Insurance Claim

An insurance claim was submitted to the Massamont Insurance Company in the amount of \$14,935.01, to pay for damages incurred by the lightning strike that hit in the vicinity of the school on October 1. Less the \$1,000 deductible, the Board of Education was issued a check in the amount of \$13,935.01 which will be reappropriated by the Board of Finance to the school.

8.0 Comments from the Public

On behalf of the Andover Education Association, Mr. Ames asked whether the Board solicited input from the teachers or staff in their revision of the Board's policy manual. Superintendent Maneggia told him that the teachers were not invited to participate in the revision of the policy manual. He likened the policies to an operational manual relating mostly to legal aspects of the Board's responsibilities.

9.0 Request for Executive Session-Personnel Matter

A motion to enter into Executive Session regarding a personnel matter was made by S. Sauyet and seconded by K. Hawes.

VOTE: 5 – 0 – 0 PASSED

10.0 Upcoming Meetings

Regular Board Meeting: December 10, 2008

11.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. was made by S. Sauyet and seconded by M. Davidson.

VOTE: 5 – 0 – 0 PASSED

Respectfully submitted:
Kristen Frankenberger
Board Clerk