

ANDOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ANDOVER, CONNECTICUT 06232

Regular Board of Education Meeting
Wednesday, April 14, 2010
School Library

Present: Jay Linddy, Chairman, Scott Sauyet, Christina Tamburro, Whitney Covell, Kim Hawes

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

Others: Diane Dagon, Michelle Vale, Kathy McCavanaugh, Suzanne Donahue, Amanda Pintarich, Crystal King, John Gasper, Donalyn Maneggia, et al

1.0 Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Linddy called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.0 Contract Signing with CSEA

Mrs. Diane Dagon, President of the Andover Non-Certified Personnel Union, signed the Collective Bargaining Agreement effective July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2013.

3.0 Comments from the Public

The minutes from the March 10, 2010 meeting were provided to Donalyn Maneggia, who asked if they were going to be approved at this meeting.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

4.1 Regular Meeting of March 10, 2010

The following corrections to the March 10, 2010 meeting should be noted:

- Whitney Covell and Michelle Zeuschner were not present at the March 10, 2010 meeting.
- The vote on Item 8.5 – Teacher Negotiations was 4-0-0 (PASSED).

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

VOTE: 3 – 0 – 2 (with W. Covell and S. Sauyet abstaining)

5.0 Opportunity to Add or Delete Items-None.

6.0 Celebrations- The Board congratulated the third and fourth grade boys' team on winning the Eastern Division championship title. The team presented Chairman Linddy with a plaque in appreciation for his contributions to the Andover youth basketball program.

7.0 Communications

7.1 Chairperson's Oral Report – The annual Andover Fun Day is scheduled for April 24, 2010.

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; Of note, the price of oil is steadily rising beyond the price projected in the budget.

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 Report to Board on After-School Dismissal/Student Pick Up

At the March 10th meeting, the Board heard comments and suggestions from concerned parents about the safety of students in the upper parking lot during dismissal. At the Board's direction, Superintendent Maneggia reviewed the concerns. Staff and faculty are now directed to park in the lower lot, creating more available space for parents to park at pick up time.

8.2 Report on Grade 5/6 Lunch

At the March 10th meeting, five parents expressed concerns about how the cafeteria behavior problem was addressed. On March 25, the fifth and sixth grade teachers sent a letter to parents outlining the cafeteria rules, explaining their concerns for student safety in the cafeteria and the point system devised to encourage better behavior in the cafeteria. Superintendent Maneggia met with the teachers and visited the cafeteria. He reported that the action taken was appropriate and student behavior has improved.

8.3 School Maintenance

Superintendent Maneggia reported on the following repairs. The compressor in the cafeteria freezer required repair. The ceiling diffusers in the gym are being inspected after one detached and fell off. Lastly, algae were detected in the oil tank and will need to be removed. Superintendent Maneggia anticipates paying for these repairs by transferring funds from accounts with surplus balances.

8.4 Board Policy Review - Update

The final revisions to the 6000 Series have been submitted to CABE for finalization. The 7000 Series has been sent to CABE for editing.

8.5 Teacher Negotiations

The Board considered forming a core negotiation committee consisting of 3 or 4 members who will attend all the teacher negotiations sessions for purposes of maintaining consistency. Based on state statute, the Board must begin negotiations by June 19. All negotiations must be mediated by August 8 and, if not resolved, they must be arbitrated by September 2. S. Sauyet suggested entering executive session at the next regular meeting for the purpose of reviewing and discussing comparative data.

9.0 Comments from the Public

Crystal King and Amanda Pintarich, on behalf of the Andover Education Association, invited the Board members to a social before the next regular meeting on May 12, 2010.

Suzanne Donahue told the Board that since the last meeting she and another parent met with the fifth and sixth grade teachers regarding the cafeteria behavior. She understands their intent was not to punish and she fully supports implementing and enforcing rules and manners. She questioned the lapse in time from the March 10 meeting and the teachers' March 25 letter to parents explaining their safety concerns in the cafeteria. Ultimately, she does not agree with assigned seating for the non-offending students.

Donalyn Maneggia thanked Superintendent Maneggia for taking their concerns into consideration. She suggested that the staff rules concerning cafeteria behavior cited in the teachers' March 25 letter should be printed in the Student Handbook. She questioned how the students could earn 70 points at 5 points a day in 10 days. Apparently, the students, but not the parents were made aware that they started off with 20 points. She asked what happens if the students don't achieve the goal number of points by the deadline. Mrs. Correia responded that the points earned will carry over after the April vacation. Mrs. Maneggia asked what will happen if the offending behavior resumes. She would like to see a plan formulated and proposed to the parents prior to being implemented.

Michele Vale suggested that cafeteria behavior should be addressed in the other lunch waves as well.

Kathy McCavanaugh asked if the assigned seating plan takes into consideration the students with peanut allergies, who would be even further segregated from the other students.

10.0 Upcoming Meetings

10.1 Regular Board Meeting – May 12, 2010

11.0 Adjournment

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

5 – 0 – 0 (PASSED)

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristen Frankenberger