

**North Andover Public Schools
School Committee Meeting**

DATE: July 17, 2007

PLACE: NAHS Lecture Hall

PRESENT: Members Allen, Kelly, Ormsby, Pybus and Whidden. Also present were Interim Superintendent Marini, and Business Manager Fortado.

Call to Order

Chair Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Superintendent's Update

Dr. Marini updated the Committee on his activities during his first two weeks in North Andover, including:

- Tour of town facilities with Town Manager Rees.
- Meeting with the Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Accountant, Business Administrator, and Payroll Coordinator to discuss the implementation of new payroll procedures.
- Meeting with the Athletic Director to inform the AD that since an increase in athletic fees had not been brought before the Committee, athletic fees would not be raised this year. He asked the AD to watch expenditures and delay any non-safety item purchases.
- Meetings with NAHS department heads and the PTAC president to discuss the high school principal position. He stated that he would be looking for an interim principal and that once an interim principal is in place, he will form a search committee and take input from the community to identify the qualities that a permanent principal should possess.
- Meeting with Boosters. Dr. Marini noted that over 50 candidates had applied for the AD position and he hopes that two or three strong candidates will be identified.
- Meeting with the NATA that was very positive.

Dr. Marini stated that Principal Nicholson deserves much credit for her work in North Andover over the past years. He stated that Ms. Nicholson is committed to closing out her career in North Andover in a strong way and will work towards a smooth transition. Ms. Nicholson will send a report to NEASC noting the significant positive impact the passage of the override has had on NAHS.

Dr. Marini informed the Committee that Assistant Superintendent Hutchinson was here last week attending teacher evaluation training and is now onboard full time.

Dr. Marini stated that he was happy to be in North Andover and that spirits in the district are high and people are ready to move forward.

Old Business

Dr. Marini stated that the proposed vote this evening authorizes the superintendent to submit the statements of interest. Submission of the statements of interest allows the MSBA to have discussions with local communities regarding facilities.

Mr. Fortado distributed and reviewed the MSBA flow chart.

Mr. Pybus asked what the MSBA considered more important, building condition or lack of space.

Mr. Fortado stated that the MSBA is not saying what the priority is but if you look at the MSBA website it appears that they are looking at facilities as a priority.

Ms. Whidden asked what the current reimbursement percentage is.

Mr. Fortado stated between 30% and 80%. He noted that MSBA uses the word grant rather than reimbursement now.

Chair Kelly asked if anyone would be attending the Selectmen's meeting to answer questions the Selectmen may have regarding the Statements of Interest.

Mr. Fortado stated that he would be attending the Selectmen's meeting.

Ms. Whidden asked for clarification on when MSBA would notify the district of their decision.

Dr. Marini stated that notification should be made in January. He noted that he was not optimistic that North Andover will make it through the first round

Dr. Ormsby asked what impact transferring control of the Bradstreet School to the Town may have on the process.

Chair Kelly stated that it seems that MSBA retracted the letter sent to the *Eagle Tribune* regarding funding.

Ms. Whidden noted that Dr. O'Connor had sent a letter to MSBA in January asking whether or not transferring control of Bradstreet would impact future funding. She stated that she was concerned that MSBA had waited six months to respond and then responded to a local newspaper rather than to the district.

Ms. Allen made a motion to accept the Statement of Interest for the Franklin School using the specific language included in the Statement of Interest. Mr. Pybus seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Kelly, Dr. Ormsby, Mr. Pybus and Ms. Whidden voted yes.

Below is the specific language that was included in the Statement of Interest for the Franklin Elementary School:

Having convened in an open meeting on July 17, 2007, the School Committee of North Andover, in accordance with its charter, by-laws and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated July 16, 2007, for the Franklin School, located at 2 Cypress Terrace, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category for which North Andover may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School

Building Authority in the future: Priority #2 Existing conditions causing severe overcrowding at the Franklin School: the inclusion of four preschool classes housed at the school; and hereby specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Ms. Allen made a motion to accept the Statement of Interest for the Annie L. Sargent School using the specific language included in the Statement of Interest. Ms. Whidden seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Kelly, Dr. Ormsby, Mr. Pybus and Ms. Whidden voted yes.

Below is the specific language that was included in the Statement of Interest for the Annie L. Sargent Elementary School:

Having convened in an open meeting on July 17, 2007, the School Committee of North Andover, in accordance with its charter, by-laws and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated July 16, 2007, for the Annie L. Sargent School, located at 300 Abbott Street, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category for which North Andover may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: Priority #2 Existing conditions causing severe overcrowding at the Annie L. Sargent School: the inclusion of four preschool classes housed at the school; and hereby specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Adjourn

At 7:30 p.m. Ms. Whidden made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Pybus seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Kelly, Dr. Ormsby, Mr. Pybus and Ms. Whidden voted yes.

William Kelly
Chairman

Approved 8/14/07