

**North Andover School Committee
Regular Session**

Date: June 5, 2008

Location: Town Hall

Present: Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby, and Ms. Whidden. Also present were Superintendent Marini, Assistant Superintendent Hutchinson and Business Manager Fortado.

Call to Order

At 7:00 p.m. Chair Whidden called the meeting to order.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Chairman's Report

Chair Whidden congratulated the seniors on awards day.

Chair Whidden appointed teachers George O'Dell, Kate Noonan, and Jeanne Caron and parent Kelly Long to serve on the superintendent search committee.

Chair Whidden asked the Committee to get back to her with input regarding the recently announced one time money available from the state. Chair Whidden will contact Representative Torrisi after information is received.

Ms. Allen updated the Committee on the Education Foundation work including the upcoming Shop North Andover Day, SMART Fund, Strawberry Festival and Logo contest.

Chair Whidden stated that the Committee would need to determine a salary range for the new superintendent search and this would be an agenda item at the next meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Marini informed the Committee that the preschool would be discussed at the School Building Committee meeting on June 12th.

Dr. Marini announced the Mr. Gilligan has accepted the position of interim principal at the Thomson Elementary School.

Dr. Marini informed the Committee that interviews for Business Administrator would take place next week.

Dr. Hutchinson discussed the summer school pilot program for the Thomson School. In response to questions raised, Dr. Hutchinson stated that the preference is for teachers in the program to be North Andover teachers and it is the goal that after the Thomson pilot program the summer school will be opened to other elementary schools.

Dr. Marini informed the Committee that next year substitute teachers will be handled in a different manner. Permanent substitutes will be hired and assigned to the building improving continuity of instruction while not impacting the budget. Substitute teachers will not be eligible for benefits.

Atkinson, Sargent, Kittredge Schools Accomplishments & Goals

Ms. Kline, Mr. Landry and Mr. Cushing gave an overview of the elementary schools for the 2007-2008 year.

Mr. Cushing discussed the accomplishments of the Kittredge Elementary School for the 2007-2008 school year as well as the goals of the Kittredge Elementary School for the 2008-2009 school year.

Ms. Kline discussed the accomplishments of the Sargent Elementary School for the 2007-2008 school year as well as the goals of the Sargent Elementary School for the 2008-2009 school year.

Mr. Landry discussed the accomplishments of the Atkinson Elementary School for the 2007-2008 school year as well as the goals of the Atkinson Elementary School for the 2008-2009 school year.

In response to questions raised, Mr. Cushing stated that things are happening simultaneously at all the elementary schools and that the principals meet and share ideas and information. Mr. Nobile asked that the principals work to ensure that all websites and handbooks contain the same information for parents while still allowing for the individuality of the schools. Mr. Landry, Mr. Cushing and Ms. Kline discussed changes they are making to have adequate space available for students next year. Dr. Hutchinson discussed core essential standards and stated that next year the last two days of school have been reserved for teachers to gather data and set goals for students for the following year so they will be able to follow a like cohort of students.

Nursing Update

Lead Nurse Cheryl Barczak updated the Committee on nursing issues during the 2007-2008 school year, including grants received. Ms. Barczak introduced Dr. Chan, school physician.

Appoint of School Physician Consultant

Dr. Chan discussed his role and responsibilities as school physician consultant.

In response to a concern raised, Dr. Marini will check to see whether the district has a policy for reporting injuries to students hurt on school grounds after school hours.

Dr. Ormsby moved to suspend the rules. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden voted yes.

Mr. Nobile moved to authorize the appointment of Dr. Chan to serve as school physician consultant for FY09 at a cost of \$6,300. Mr. Limpert seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden voted yes.

Community Heart Screening Program

Dr. Chan discussed community heart screening programs. He stated that he does not believe that the school department should be endorsing any program. Dr. Chan distributed a draft heart fact sheet for the Committee to review. He stated that it is important that we provide parents with factual information about this issue that they can then discuss with their child's primary care physician.

FY08 Food Services

Mr. Fortado reviewed the FY08 Food Services financial report and projection.

FY09 Food Services

Mr. Fortado and Ms. Murphy reviewed the proposed FY09 Food Services budget and recommended lunch price increase. Ms. Murphy discussed the expansion of the point of sale system, and the possibility of parents being able to add money to their student's account on line.

Dr. Ormsby moved to raise lunch fees by \$.25 at the middle school and the high school. Mr. Nobile seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Mr. Limpert moved to raise lunch fees by \$.25 at the elementary schools. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Additional SpEd Positions in FY09 Budget

Ms. Laundre discussed the need for the two additional special education positions in the FY09 budget for the medically fragile program and the K-2 program for students with pervasive developmental delays.

Ms. Allen moved to approve two additional special education positions in the FY09 budget one for the medically fragile program and the second for the K-2 program for students with pervasive developmental delays. Mr. Nobile seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Transfer of Funds

Mr. Fortado discussed the requested transfer of funds from the special education salary lines to the special education expense lines.

Dr. Marini recognized Director of Special Education Laundre for the work she has done in overseeing the budget.

Mr. Limpert requested that Ms. Laundre produce a list of large unexpected items during FY08 and that the list be presented to Representative Torissi to see if any of the items could be eligible for the one time money from the state.

Ms. Allen moved to suspend the rules. Mr. Limpert seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Mr. Limpert moved to transfer funds from the special education salary accounts to the special education out of district transportation and out of district tuition accounts as detailed in the memorandum of June 3, 2008. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Energy Education Contract

Mr. Fasnacht of Energy Education, Inc. discussed the proposal submitted in response to the Energy Management/Conservation Program request for proposal. He discussed how the part-time Energy Educator/Manager is selected and the work he/she would perform. He stated that after the first six months, progress reports could be issued monthly or quarterly depending on the preference of the Committee.

Dr. Marini and Mr. Fortado stated that additional reference checks had been done on Energy Education, Inc. and all were positive.

Mr. Nobile moved to award a three year contract to Energy Education, Inc. to implement an Energy Management and Conservation Program. Dr. Ormsby seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Chair Whidden asked that any member that has any creative ideas for use of the Bradstreet School get the information to her over the summer. If the School Department has no further use for Bradstreet she stated that she would be meeting with the Town to explore the option of returning the building to the Town.

Mr. Fortado discussed the paying ahead, as allowed by Massachusetts General Law, of up to three months of special education tuition for FY09 from FY08 funds as has been done in the past.

Athletic Expenses

Mr. Nobile moved to suspend the rules. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Mr. Nobile moved to authorize the payment of the remaining FY08 athletic department expenses out of the FY08 school department budget. Mr. Limpert seconded the motion.

The Committee asked Mr. Fortado to inform them if the athletic department expenses are substantially more than the \$35,000 discussed.

The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

FY09 Budget

Dr. Marini stated that the budget distributed to the Committee is a first run and has not been reviewed by the principals and directors but the bottom line of the budget, \$36,395,338, would not change. Dr. Marini highlighted the changes that were made to the proposed budget to meet the dollar amount approved by Town Meeting. He discussed the staffing and programmatic impacts the budget would have at both the elementary and secondary schools.

Ms. Allen stated that she and Dr. Hutchinson would meet with Ms. Donato of the Educational Foundation prior to June 19th to discuss the possible funding of some curriculum.

In response to a concern by Dr. Ormsby, Mr. Fortado stated that he would review the electric accounts.

Mr. Limpert moved to approve the FY09 budget of \$36,395,338 and direct that all major policy decisions discussed this evening by Dr. Marini be implemented. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee that the administration look at ways they would use available funds if the entire salary reserve is not used.

Dr. Ormsby stated his concern about spending further money in the science area until we have evidence of the success of the program. Dr. Hutchinson stated that he would be giving an update on science curriculum at the June 19th meeting and confirmed that no science purchases would be made prior to June 19th.

Increase to FY08 Transportation Revolving Account

Mr. Limpert moved to authorize the increase in the receipts account in the FY08 Transportation Revolving Account Budget from \$162,000 to \$204,600. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Nobile moved to approve the minutes of April 3, 2008. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Mr. Nobile moved to approve the minutes of May 1, 2008. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Mr. Nobile moved to approve the minutes of May 15, 2008. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Subcommittee Reports

Personnel Subcommittee – The policy manual is being reviewed and will be brought to the Committee for approval.

School Committee Policy Subcommittee – Mr. Gilbert will be working on the policies and the Committee will get them back in two or three groups. Ms. Allen asked that if anyone has any suggested policies that they send her the information so she can add it to her list.

Athletic Subcommittee – Mr. Longely will be presenting to the Committee on June 19th.

Executive Session

At 9:50 Mr Limpert moved to enter into executive session to discuss collective bargaining and pending litigation. Not to return to regular session. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.