

**ANDOVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MEETING
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2014
School Committee Room – School Administration Building**

Members in Attendance: Chair Annie Gilbert, Vice Chair Paula Colby-Clements, Joel Blumstein, David Birnbach, Barbara L'Italien

Others in Attendance: Dr. Marinel McGrath, Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendents – Dr. Nancy Duclos, and Paul Szymanski .

I. Regular Meeting

A. Call to Order

Chairman Annie Gilbert called the SC Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Gilbert gave the Committee an overview of the AHS Schedule process – the 3 meetings leading up to the vote to adopt a new schedule on Oct. 9, 2014. She then further stated that the impact bargaining meetings with the AEA were collegial and done in fewer meetings than first anticipated. She said the MOA was voted on in the affirmative by the AEA teachers on Thursday, Nov 20. The MOA was explained to the audience as in the new Section 14 to Article 7 as follows – “the schedule cycle means the eight (8) days it takes to complete one full student schedule rotation – a difference from what we have now at AHS. She also described what the Schedule Cycle would include including Section 14 to Article 7 Part B – an average of 75% of a teacher’s instructional day designed to teaching assignments, including class time and time a teacher is assigned to Student Learning Community periods; requirement of no teacher to teach more than 5 course sections and an additional section of Student Learning Community; no teacher required to teach more than four periods/day which can include the Student Learning Community period; teachers would be scheduled for one prep period/day that is no fewer than 60 min. and no less than 5% of a teacher’s schedule cycle would be devoted to professional learning community. The MOA will be on the website once it is voted on by the School Committee tonight in the HR contracts section.

Paula Colby-Clements echoed what a collaborative and collegial process it had been to work with the AEA team and that they were all truly focused on what was best for the AHS students. She also said that it was not the SC’s task to implement the schedule, but that the process was still unfolding and would leave that to the administration.

Barbara L'Italien thanked the Committee members and AEA team for working well together and getting the job done.

Kerry Costello, AEA President, also agreed on the collegiality between the parties and stated that members overwhelmingly voted to accept the new AHS schedule.

Janie Moffitt, 68 Beacon St, asked what had changed in the Classroom Staffing policy relevant to the new high school schedule. Ms. Gilbert explained that the advisory group range of 15-17 students is the core group on day one that a teacher will go thru all four years that is being defined in the policy now.

Joel Blumstein moved that the Andover School Committee approve the Memorandum of Agreement dated November 5, 2014 between the Andover School Committee and the Andover Educational Association regarding the High School Schedule as negotiated. The motion was seconded by Ms. L'Italien and voted 5-0 to approve.

As a result of the MOA regarding the high school schedule, there was also an agreement to make a change to the Classroom Staffing Policy. The change is to add language to the Grade 9-12 level “an advisory group range of 15-17 students.”

Joel Blumstein moved that th Andover School Committee approved the addition of language for high school advisory groups in the classroom staffing policy as presented. Ms. L’Italien seconded the motion and it was passed on a 5-0 vote to approve.

The SC remained in Open Session to continue the meeting into the Tri Board meeting with the other 2 committees, the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee.

Respectfully,
Alison Phelan, Committee Recorder

DRAFT