

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Regular School Committee Meeting will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public body and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Town website. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the meeting may do so in the following manner: Andover public access television (Comcast Channel 99, Verizon Channel 43) or streamed on the Andover TV Education Channel at www.andovertv.org. Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the AndoverTV website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

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Advanced Placement Program

The Advanced Placement program at Andover High School is designed to offer the able and motivated student an academically challenging classroom experience comparable to a first year college course. Students recommended for an Advanced Placement course are expected to complete a student contract and the required summer assignments. **It is the expectation that students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses take the A.P. exam(s) on the scheduled date in May as outlined by the College Board. Students who decide not to take the AP exam will receive Honors level credit for the course.** Students taking the exam(s) are responsible for paying the standard test fee. Assistance is available for students with financial hardship.

2021 Change Request: Waive the highlighted portion of the policy. AHS will assign AP weight to all AP courses regardless of whether or not a student takes the College Board's modified Spring 2021 AP Exam.

For reference, the School Committee approved a number of handbook changes in April 2020 (see below) including the one submitted for approval again this year as outlined above.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zkqIIPlcPCuI9N934unxMOoclW6kVdgvqB1dnJ2iZU/edit?usp=sharing>

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE ANDOVER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

For consideration at the March 4, 2021 School Committee meeting.

Uses MASC resolution as baseline, and modifies as indicated to specifically address MCAS for 2020/21 school year.

~~WHEREAS the MASC Membership and MASC Board of Directors have previously and repeatedly taken the position of opposing high stakes testing including the MCAS; and~~

WHEREAS the COVID-19 Remote Learning Model has negatively and disproportionately affected students with learning disabilities, students of lower socioeconomic status, ELL students and students who identify as minorities; and

WHEREAS the social and emotional trauma both individually and collectively has yet to be truly realized in the students who have experienced the shutdown of their local school buildings and separations from their peers and supportive adults; and

WHEREAS the students of the Commonwealth have already missed valuable face to face instructional opportunities with their teachers and would benefit from focusing on those important instructional opportunities and social emotional supports;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ~~MASC~~ the Andover School Committee rejects the calls for the students of 2022 who missed their tenth grade MCAS testing to be required to make it up during the 2020-2021 school year or ever. We demand those students be held harmless for not taking the MCAS and that their graduation requirements shall be determined by locally controlled voices of the School Committee and School Administration within the remaining graduation requirements of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Additionally, we ~~reiterate our~~ call for a moratorium on ~~all high-stakes~~ MCAS testing for the 2020-2021 school year so all students can benefit from their time being focused on direct instruction and we ~~urge the legislature to enact a moratorium on high-stakes testing of three years.~~



SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Shannon I. Scully- Chairperson
Susan K. McCready- Vice Chairperson
Lauren M. Conoscenti, Ph.D.
Paul D. Murphy
Tracey E. Spruce, Esq.

Claudia L. Bach, Ed.D
Interim Superintendent

March 4, 2021

The Honorable Charles D. Baker
Governor, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133

Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
75 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Dear Governor Baker and Commissioner Riley,

Following your announcement yesterday that vaccine eligibility will be opened to K-12 educators and other school staff beginning on March 11, we are writing to respectfully request that you reconsider providing a supply of vaccine to our local Board of Health in order to host accessible and convenient COVID-19 vaccination clinics for Andover's educators. We fully recognize that there have been supply challenges with vaccines to date, but as the supply begins to increase along with the availability now of the single-dose Johnson and Johnson vaccine, a return to local vaccinations clinics allows for expedient and convenient vaccination efforts.

In our letter of January 21st to you both and our follow-up meeting with Commissioner Riley on February 3rd, we explained the real challenges Andover is encountering with returning our students to full in-person schooling including space and staffing availability. Timely vaccinations for our educators will be an important step toward achieving the full-in person returns that you are both strongly advocating for beginning in April. We could not agree more that in-person learning is the best possible educational environment for our K-12 students and along with the appropriate mitigation measures can be done safely for all as we continue to combat the Covid-19 virus.

As our town manager, Andrew Flanagan explained in his February 24th letter to you, Andover is well prepared logistically to offer vaccination clinics and *"our public health professionals are the best equipped to vaccinate vulnerable populations, teachers and K-12 professionals, public works employees and other essential workers in our community. We believe we can make the greatest impact on vaccinating these populations here in Andover, even with a modest supply of vaccine."* Equally, it allows for a more flexible delivery of vaccine to our educators thereby avoiding the problem of providing substitute coverage while educators leave in-person and virtual classrooms during school hours to visit a state vaccination site.

We hope as you've entrusted local school committees to make decisions on return to school and modifications to those plans to date, that you'll see a collective effort with local vaccination clinics will

be most effective in getting our children back to a greater sense of normalcy while protecting our teachers and staff that are essential to providing academic, social and emotional support to our students.

We thank you for your consideration of our request along with that of our town manager and the Massachusetts Municipal Association to partner with local governments on expedient vaccination efforts.

Sincerely,

Shannon I. Scully
Chairperson

Lauren M. Conoscenti

Susan K. McCready
Vice Chairperson

Paul D. Murphy

Tracey E. Spruce, Esq.

CC: Andrew P. Flanagan, Andover Town Manager
Barry Finegold, State Senator
Tram Nguyen, State Representative
Frank Moran, State Representative

**SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL
AT MARCH 4, 2021 SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Follow up to February 4, 2021 School Committee vote which affirmed categories and number of members.

School Committee to establish a sub-committee of the School Committee for activities related to the hiring of a new Superintendent of School, including:

- Screening of candidates selected by Ray & Associates for consideration
- First round interviews of candidates
- Determination of finalist candidates to move on to next round of consideration

COMPOSITION AND MEMBERS OF SUBCOMMITTEE		
School Committee	2	Paul Murphy Shannon Scully
Assistant Super/COO	1	Sara Stetson
Program Coordinator	1	Steve Sanborn
Director	1	Steve Chinosi
Principal	1	Caitlin Brown
Teacher	1	Ann McNamee
Town Manager	1	Andrew Flanagan
Other Town (facilities)	1	Janet Nicosia
Community Member	2	Emily DiCesaro Jayashree Mohandas
TOTAL	11	

PROCESS LEAD: Jess Porter with Ray & Associates

HIRING DECISION: School Committee* (by statute)

* finalist interviews conducted in public followed by community sessions for feedback prior to SC vote