

**ANDOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ANDOVER, CT 06232
Regular Board of Education Meeting
Wednesday, November 8, 2023
7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting/School Library**

Members Present: Chairperson Gerard Cremé, Mike Beckwith, Steven Fuss, Caitlin Greenhouse, Shannon Louden, Celeste Willard

Members Absent:

Administration: Valerie Bruneau, Superintendent
Taylor Parker, Principal
Terri Smith, Finance

Others: Anne Cremé, Brianne Lanzieri (virtual), Lisa Hopkins (virtual), Jen McGoldrick (virtual), Kimberly Person (virtual)

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Cremé, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Comments From the Public

-Brianne Lanzieri asked if there will be an increase in bus routes due to increased enrollment.

3. Communications – None.

4. Approval of Minutes

S. Louden made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 11, 2023 Regular Board of Education Meeting, seconded by C. Greenhouse. Discussion; approved with change noted.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

5. Opportunity to Add or Delete Agenda Items

S. Louden made a motion to add Agenda Item 9D, Andover Elementary School Capital Expenditure, seconded by G. Cremé.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

6. Celebrations

- Supt. Bruneau noted that B. Lanzieri will be joining the Board next month as new BOE member.
- Three new books are going into the library, picked and donated by Chris Bernard who was a previous member of the BOE, to honor his service and reflect his cyber interests.

7. Reports

A. Chairperson's Oral Report – Celebrated the members of the Board who were elected for subsequent terms, thanked them for continuing to serve and welcomed B. Lanzieri as a new member starting next month.

B. Superintendent's Report – Supt. Bruneau noted that there are no new grants to report at this time, but there are some coming up. Intergenerational and family programming starting. Working with Scott & Steve (custodians) to create Capital Plan. Going through contracts and doing forward planning together. Update on solar at next meeting, second round is this month (November) but we are waiting to hear if we have made it to the second round.

C. Principal's Report – Principal Parker reported that teachers attended training “Rekindling Joy in the Classroom” yesterday (11/7/2023). 24 staff members went together; the training was fantastic, with fun and bonding time for staff. Paraprofessionals completed PMT (de-escalation and hands-on de-escalation) training together recently as well. Excited about PreK opening a new classroom Nov. 20, 2023. Participating in The Hour of Code this year (week of Dec. 4, 2023), bringing coding to all children starting with PreK and up to the 6th grade classes. Parent conferences today and tomorrow with almost 100% participation from parents.

D. Financial Report

Terri reviewed financial reports as presented.

E. Liaison Reports

- S. Louden reported that CIP will meet next month.
- S. Fuss noted that we will need to begin discussions (set for next month) on the next budget. With new joint meetings with BOF & BOS, we can bring concerns to that body in advance to discuss while working on the budget.
- C. Greenhouse thanked everyone for participating in the joint meeting. There will be additional meetings scheduled to continue the collaborative work of the BOE, BOF, and BOS.

8. Executive Session – For the Purpose of Bus Contract Update & Preschool Expansion Discussion

Chairperson Cremé made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of Discussing the Bus Contract and Preschool Expansion, seconded by S. Louden. No discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

Board entered Executive Session at 7:17 p.m.

Board exited Executive Session at 8:29 p.m.

9. Items for Discussion & Actions

A. Bus Contract

S. Fuss made a motion to approve the temporary approval of the contract extension with DATTCO, seconded by S. Louden. No discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

B. Preschool Expansion

S. Louden made a motion to approve the hiring of a new PreK teacher, seconded by C. Greenhouse. No discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

C. BOE Meeting Schedule

S. Louden made a motion to adopt the 2024 BOE Meeting Schedule as presented, seconded by S. Fuss. Some discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

D. Andover Elementary School Capital Expenditure

S. Louden made a motion to adopt policy as drafted, change date in section 3 to August 31, in Section C change, seconded by S. Fuss. No further discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

10. Other Action Items – None.

11. Upcoming Meetings

- A. Regular Board Meeting – December 13, 2023
- B. Items for Next Meeting – 2024 School Calendar, Update on Pre-K, Appointment of New Officers, Update on Solar, Begin discussion on new budget.

12. Adjournment

C. Willard made a motion to adjourn at 8:52 p.m., seconded by G. Cremé. No discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

**Respectfully submitted,
Dawn M. Longley, Clerk**