School Committee Minutes - Annual Retreat

Date: August 12, 2022

Location: 566 Main Street

Attendees: Pam Pietrowski, Holly Vietzke-Lynch, Joe Hicks, Helen Pickard, Andrew McDevitt, Gregg Gilligan, James Mealey, Lorene Marx, Marci Boccuzzi, Attorney Matt McAvoy (remote at 2:00 pm)

Call to Order
At 12:30 pm the Chair called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to move into Executive Session, to return to Regular Session at approximately 1:00 pm.

Mr. McDevitt made a motion to move into executive session, seconded by Ms. Pickard. A roll call vote was taken, Ms. Pickard, Ms. Lynch, Mr. Hicks, Mr McDevitt and Ms. Pietrowski voted yes, and the motion passed.

Return to Public Session
At approximately 1:30 the meeting was called back to session and the Chair announced that, with the approval of the Town Manager and as with past Annual Retreats, the meeting was not being recorded.

Public Comment
There was no public comment.

Consent Items
A motion was made by Mr. McDevitt to approve both sets of minutes as presented in the packet, seconded by Ms. Lynch. A roll call vote was taken, Ms. Pickard, Ms. Lynch, Mr. Hicks, Mr McDevitt and Ms. Pietrowski voted yes, and the motion passed.

Working Session

Dr. Gilligan, Dr. Mealey and the committee discussed the FMP II and the plans for both the Kittredge and NAMS Project. Dr. Mealey explained the process for building with the MSBA and some of the rules and regulations that might make it a longer project. He also offered an alternative renovation for the Middle School project that might be a better solution: instead of building in the courtyard, he suggested adding a smaller wing parallel to existing cafes and into the current back parking lot. The access road to ABECC would be relocated toward Rte 125. The committee had several questions regarding both projects and discussed the need to appoint 1, maybe 2, School Building Committees to oversee the projects. The members were asked to forward potential Committee member recommendations to the Chair.

Dr.Gilligan asked the committee their thoughts on this year's School Committee/Superintendent goals. He and the committee discussed the timing of the goals, when to start the process and how best to present them to the community at large. Some felt the fall was too late and others requested that more student data, such as MAP results, be available to the committee before finalizing the goals for the year. Dr. Gilligan asked the members to forward their suggestions to his office for further discussion at a future meeting.

Old Business

2nd Reading - 2022-2023 Student Handbook
Attorney Matt McAvoy joined the meeting via remote link at 2:00 pm for the second reading on the 2022-2023 Student Handbook.
Mr. McAvoy reviewed the recommended changes and revisions to the handbook with the committee and administrators. There was also discussion on revising & updating some of the policies included in the handbook later in the year.
Chair Pietrowski asked for a motion to approve the handbook with the recommended changes.

Ms.Pickard made a motion to approve the 2022-2023 handbook as presented and with the changes outlined by Mr. McAvoy, seconded by Mr. Hicks. A roll call vote was taken, Ms. Pickard, Ms. Lynch, Mr. Hicks, Mr. McDevitt and Ms. Pietrowski voted yes, and the motion passed.

New Business

1st Reading - Disposal of Furniture
Dr. Mealey explained that the school department has several items that are no longer useful and in order to dispose of these items appropriately, the School Committee will be asked to transfer ownership of these items to the Selectboard who will then vote on the final disposal.
Dr. Mealey indicated that he would have a list of specific items available for the 2nd reading.

Nuts & Bolts

a. The Committee reviewed the proposed meeting calendar and the only change was moving the proposed date of September 22nd to September 20th, to avoid open house conflicts at the schools
b. A review of the Subcommittee & Liaisons Appointments resulted in no changes
c. Dr. Gilligan extended an invitation to all the School Committee members to the August 30th Opening Day program at North Andover High School.
d. He also gave a brief update on staffing for the school year.
e. The enrollment numbers to date were discussed.
f. Dr. Mealey reviewed the summer projects, including the security upgrades made at the schools.

Adjournment
At approximately 4:30 Chair Pietrowski asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Lynch made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McDevitt.
A roll call vote was taken, Ms. Pickard, Ms. Lynch, Mr. Hicks, Mr McDevitt and Ms. Pietrowski voted yes, and the motion passed.

Meeting Documents