

**ANDOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ANDOVER, CT
Board of Education
Meeting Wednesday, November 13, 2024
7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting/School Library**

Members Present: Celeste Willard, Gerard Cremé, Shannon Loudon, Mike Beckwith, Brianne Lanzieri, Caitlin Greenhouse, Eric Becker

Members Absent: None

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

Others: Lisa Hopkins, 5th Grade Teacher (5th grade students and their family members), Jen McGoldrick (virtual), Jennie Morrell (virtual), Katie Dixon (virtual), Liz Lokiec (virtual), Kimberly Person (virtual), Kirstina Frazier (virtual), Joanne Hebert (virtual)

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 6:59 p.m. by Chairperson Willard, who read an opening statement, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by the 5th graders.

2. Comments from the Public – None.

3. Communications – None.

4. Student Celebrations

Presentation by Mrs. Hopkins and 5th Graders regarding Red, White, and Blue Schools – teaching Civics, their platforms, elected positions, and election process.

5. Approval of Minutes

- **Minutes from the October 9, 2024, Regular Board of Education Meeting**
- **Minutes from the October 22, 2024, 7:00pm Special Board of Education Meeting**
- **Minutes from the October 22, 2024, 7:30pm Special Board of Education Meeting**

C. Greenhouse made a motion to approve all minutes as submitted, seconded by G. Cremé. There was no discussion. All minutes were approved.

7-0-0 (PASSED)

6. Opportunity to Add or Delete Agenda Items – None.

7. Other Celebrations – None.

8. Reports

A. Chairperson’s Oral Report

C. Willard – Playground will be installed on Monday, November 18, 2024; Food Drive on Sunday, November 17th, by the Fire Department for the Food Pantry.

B. Superintendent’s Report

Supt. Bruneau – received additional free Covid Tests; Saturday is the CABA/CAPPS Convention.

Grants – one application is out; working on another – regional shared RFP.

Facilities – installed outlet for dryer; had FPT sprinkler inspection; radon test has been submitted, waiting for results; overhead door inspection passed; FPT stove hood inspection passed; FPT display has been repaired for a glitch; had to fix boy’s room toilet – a doorstep was flushed. C. Greenhouse inquired about how the BOE can be of assistance with facilities management. B. Lanzieri inquired about maintenance scheduling and if they are looking ahead. Scott is doing a great job as Head Custodian.

C. Principal’s Report

Principal Parker – SBAC: presented and explained growth scores, targets, and how the State projects this, a good interactive tool; explained what the Early Childhood, Reading, Math & Tech Support Specialists do and how many students they are serving; S. Loudon asked how students get tiered, Principal Parker explained, and the goal is to support all students who need extra support; C. Greenhouse asked if students who are excelling are discussed – yes all students are reviewed by Principal Parker, Specialists, Psychologist, and ancillary services (Speech, Special Ed., etc.), parents are contacted by letter if support services are needed. 242 students are enrolled with 2 new students coming.

D. Financial Report

T. Smith – discussed the report that was provided.

C. Greenhouse asked about the Expansion Fund that was supposed to be moved. Communicated with Town Treasurer and the Town reports don’t match the presented reports. T. Smith is waiting for clarification and will seek an explanation for the December meeting.

E. Liaison Reports

School Readiness – B. Lanzieri reported that the first meeting was held on 10/29/24; discussion about revising bylaws; introduced new Preschool teacher, all spots filled; School Readiness Grant goes to salaries; partnership with the Library; next meeting is in January 2025. Next update – February 2025.

PTA – No updates.

Tri Board Policy – No updates. S. Loudon attended Board of Finance meeting and asked that if there will be no Tri Board that they revert to the financial requesting that is already in place. There will be a meeting on December 3rd at 7:00 p.m. to review Charter revisions.

Town Meetings – C. Greenhouse reported that they still do not have a newly elected Board of Selectmen member, there are currently 4 members; the gym fan project is moving forward.

Solar – Supt. Bruneau presented a binder with the Roof Project information dating back to the 1950's; this information was sent to Solar Company (Titan); blueprints were sent as well; should be on track to move forward.

9. Items for Discussion & Actions

A. Item: Non-Certified Contract Agreement

Action: Vote to Approve Non-Certified Agreement

G. Cremé moved to approve the Non-Certified Contract Agreement, seconded by S. Loudon and there was no discussion.

7-0-0 (PASSED)

B. Item: STIF Account

Action: Discussion/Possible Vote

More clarification is needed; will revisit at December meeting.

C. Item: Budget for 2025-2026 – Initial Update

Action: Discussion

M. Beckwith reported that there was an initial meeting to determine Budget priorities; Supt. Bruneau reported on behind the scenes actions: staff needs, contracts, data, needs based on enrollment, academics, state law, oil prices.

10. Comments from Public on Agenda Items

J. Hebert applauded the efforts of S. Loudon regarding the Tri Board initiative; Capital Fund, will be following up as well as the Board of Finance wants the BOE to have answers.

11. Other Action Items – None.

12. Upcoming Meetings

- Regular Board Meeting – December 11, 2024
- Items for Next Meeting – Election of Officers, Discussion on Bathroom Project, Solar Project, Explanation of Finances, STIF Discussion, Budget Discussion/Workshops, Town Meeting Update (M. Beckwith), Repair & Maintenance Spreadsheet, Tri Board Information

13. Adjournment

S. Louden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m., seconded by G. Cremé. No discussion.

7-0-0 (PASSED)

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn M. Longley, Clerk