

**ANDOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ANDOVER, CT 06232  
Board of Education Special Meeting  
Tuesday April 21, 2020  
School Library/Virtual Meeting**

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Shannon Loudon, Gerard Cremé, Daniel Foran, Lisa Hewett, Steven Fuss, Cynthia Murray

**ADMINISTRATION:** Sally Doyen, Superintendent  
John Briody, Principal/Director of Curriculum

**OTHERS:** Laura Edwards (Business Manager)

**1. Call to order/ Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairperson S. Loudon.

**2. Comments from the Public**

**Via Email:**

- Lauran and Don Woods stated they did not support the non-renewal of teaching staff.
- Katie and Justin Marino stated they did not support the non-renewal of teaching staff or teacher cuts.
- Dana Ming requested not cut teachers from the budget.
- Reilly Ming wishes for all the teachers to remain at Andover Elementary School.

**Via Zoom:**

- Ashley Helton commented that she does not support teacher cuts and to consider other ways to reduce the budget.
- Kelly Haggerty, Long Hill Rd., expressed her concerns about teachers being cut from the budget.
- Lori Blake wanted to take time to thank the Board of Education for the numerous budget meetings and echo the sentiment of others in not supporting teacher cuts.
- Wendy Kopp stated that she would like the Board of Education to consider the idea of not outsourcing students.
- Adrian Mandeville would like the Technology contract with EASTCONN looked into with further detail to costs. He also suggested cutting the costs in preschool by reducing staff and having a wait list of students.
- Joanne Hebert does not support cutting teachers from the budget.

- Jeff Murray stated that budget cuts have already been made at the Town level.
- Melissa Loteczka does not support cutting teachers from the budget. She read a letter to the Board of Education from the teachers.
- Kristen Solloway does not support cutting staff from the budget.

### **3. Communications**

#### **A. Letter from the Andover Board of Finance**

A letter from Marc Brinker, Chair, Board of Finance dated April 5, 2020 regarding the 2020/2021 Budget was read.

#### **B. Letter from A. Beloin**

A letter dated April 9, 2020 was read requesting return to work from leave of absence.

### **4. Approval of Minutes**

D. Foran made a motion to approve the Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes from April 8, 2020. C. Murray seconded the motion.

**6-0-0 (PASSED)**

### **5. Celebrations**

- S. Doyen was pleased to mention that many positive things were taking place.
- J. Briody wanted to celebrate the ability to transition to distance learning with such success. There were also many families and staff who participated in the survey that was sent out regarding distance learning. Communication and feedback has been positive.
- D. Foran thanked J. Briody for all his effort in this transition and all those who are making the effort to social distance in order to protect everyone.
- G. Crémé thanked J. Briody and all the teachers for the parade, which was a huge success.
- S. Fuss echoed the sentiment of the others and wanted to thank all of the Andover Elementary School staff.

### **6. Reports**

#### **A. Chairperson's Oral Report**

S. Loudon stated there was a request in communication from the Board of Finance and another request from the Board of Selectmen to reduce the budget.

#### **B. Principal's Report**

J. Briody provided a preschool update on tuition and numbers for the 2020/2021 school year. He also provided an interim learning update.

**C. Superintendent's Report**

S. Doyen provided an update on the budget.

**D. Enrollment Report – Presented.**

At this time a motion was made to go into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. with the understanding that the Board of Education Special Meeting would resume thereafter.

**G. Cremé made a motion to go into Executive Session. Lisa Hewett seconded the motion.**

**5-1-0 (D. Foran) (PASSED)**

**E. Financial Report**

L. Edwards presented documents on 2019/2020 Projection (Budget), the 2020/2021 Reductions (Budget) considerations and the Budget Reductions per Andover Board of Finance/Board of Selectmen 2019/2020 Budget.

S. Louden made a motion for the Board of Education consideration to move that in addition to the budget reductions approved and agreed upon, she proposed to further reduce the proposed budget by \$71,000. \$7,000 in Health Insurance, \$10,000 in Retirement, \$6,000 in Diesel Fuel, \$3,000 in Facility Supplies, \$12,000 in Custodial fees, and Paraprofessional fees of \$13,245, for a total reduction of \$149,000 and a total Proposed Budget of \$3,916,000.

**S. Louden made a motion to consider the Budget. G. Cremé seconded the motion.**

S. Louden made a motion to amend the current and add Andover Board of Education proposed budget with a formal request for a commitment from the Town of Andover to agree to allow the Board of Education to set aside two percent from School Improvement Fund in anticipation of funding requirements for another outplaced student for 2020/2021 school year.

**S. Louden made a motion to amend. G. Cremé seconded the motion.**

**6-0-0 (PASSED)**

**D. Foran made a motion to combine the Finance Department with the Town of Andover. S. Fuss seconded the motion. S. Louden made a friendly amendment to D. Foran's motion.**

**5-1-0 (L. Hewett) (PASSED)**

**F. Health Room Report – Presented.**

**7. Other Action Items**

**A. Approve the Return to Work Request from A. Beloin**

**G. Cremé made a motion to approve the Return to Work Request. S. Fuss seconded the motion.**

**6-0-0 (PASSED)**

**B. Motion for Non-Renewal Notice for R. Strimple**

**S. Loudon made a motion to approve Non-Renewal Notice. L. Hewett seconded the motion.**

**5-1-0 (D. Foran) (PASSED)**

**8. Comments from the Public on Agenda Items**

- Joanne Hebert agreed non-renewal is an appropriate action and is common practice. She also expressed appreciation to the Board of Education for doing a great job on the budget and requested that the Board of Education and Administration find budget cuts elsewhere other than staffing.
- Jennie Morell requested a timeline for the non-renewal member.
- Curt Dowling wanted to thank the Board of Education for not cutting staff.

**9. Executive Session**

**S. Fuss made a motion to enter back into executive session at 11:21 p.m. C. Murray seconded the motion.**

**6-0-0 (PASSED)**

**10. Upcoming Meetings**

Regular Board of Education Meeting – May 13, 2020

**11. Adjournment**

**A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by C. Murray at 11:58 p.m. G. Cremé seconded the motion.**

**6-0-0 (PASSED)**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Cynthia Bourassa, Board Clerk**