

**ANDOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ANDOVER, CT 06232
Regular Board of Education Meeting
Wednesday, February 14, 2024
7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting/School Library**

Members Present: Celeste Willard, Mike Beckwith, Gerard Cremé, Steven Fuss, Brianne Lanzieri, Shannon Loudon (virtual)

Members Absent: Caitlin Greenhouse

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

Others: Nick Caruso/CABE, Joanne Hebert (virtual), Jennie Morrell (virtual)

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairperson Willard, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Comments from the Public – None.

3. Communications – None.

4. Approval of Minutes

G. Cremé made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2024 Regular Board of Education Meeting, seconded by S. Fuss. No discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

G. Cremé made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the January 17, 2024 Special Meeting Budget Seminar, seconded by B. Lanzieri. No discussion. S. Fuss abstained.

5-0-1 (PASSED)

G. Cremé made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the January 24, 2024 Special Meeting Budget Seminar with an amendment to correct the spelling of his name from Gerald to Gerard, seconded by S. Fuss. No discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

G. Cremé made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the January 31, 2024 Special Meeting Budget Seminar with an amendment to correct the spelling of his name from Gerald to Gerard, seconded by S. Fuss. No discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

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

6. Celebrations

- Congratulations to teacher K. Dixon on the birth of her child.
- Thank you to Nick Caruso for attending and providing professional development/training for the Board of Education members.

N. Caruso from CAGE presented training for Board of Education Members highlighting roles and responsibilities as well as policy.

7. Reports

- A. Chairperson's Oral Report** – Thanked all BOE members and administrators for work on the budget workshops. PTA has been very busy with successful fundraising events. BOS has two budget meetings coming up, February 21 & 26, 2024, and the regular BOS meeting was yesterday, February 13, 2024. BOF meeting coming up on February 28, 2024.
- B. Superintendent's Report** – Supt. Bruneau highlighted recent grant opportunity through State Department of Education, grant funds managed by Donors Choose, to give microgrants to teachers. Most of the teachers who submitted had grants that were funded. Working with COOL on summer expansion grant. Will meet with AHM to help us utilize summer mental health grant. Working on diversity educator plan, new mandate for this plan, due March 15, 2024; we need to present our plan to attract and maintain a more diverse workforce.
- C. Principal's Report** – Principal Parker updated the BOE on the status of the website and its functionality. Enrollment is going strong for Preschool and Kindergarten for next year. Great winter concert two weeks ago. Beginning band and younger chorus will participate in spring. Spelling Bee went well and was a wonderful experience for children. Invention Convention will be the next event. Requesting BOE members to participate and assist in the event and ceremony. Working on District Literacy Plan, will be using BookWorm for the Reading program. Officially submitted NAEYC Accreditation paperwork, next step will be the NAEYC visit, which will happen within a six-month period after March 1, 2024.
- D. Financial Report** – T. Smith reviewed the financial reports as presented. No questions from BOE members at this time.

E. Liaison Reports

B. Lanzieri attended the School Readiness Council Meeting and gave an overview.

S. Loudon reported that there is a CIP meeting tomorrow night and will report back to BOE next month.

Chairperson Willard discussed liaison roles with the desire to align them with the District goals. Chairperson Willard asked BOE members to contemplate their liaison roles and prior to next meeting submit to her a written outline of what their particular liaison role entails. Deadline for write-ups will be March 6, 2024 and they will be shared prior to the next BOE meeting.

Chairperson Willard asked that BOE members take one month to attend the BOS/BOF meetings and then report back to the BOE about what transpired in the meeting. She will attend in March and would like other BOE members to take future months.

8. Items for Discussion and Possible Action

A. Item: 2024-2025 Budget

S. Fuss made a motion to adopt the 2024-2025 Draft budget as presented, seconded by G. Crémé. No discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

B. Item: Policy 4117.6 Exit Survey/Interviews – Second Reading

S. Fuss made a motion to adopt Policy 4117.6 Exit Survey/Interviews as presented, seconded by G. Crémé. No discussion.

6-0-0 (PASSED)

C. Item: BOE/BOF Joint Policy Update

S. Loudon reported that she is working with Robert to rework a draft joint policy.

9. Other Action Items – None.

10. Public Comment on Agenda Items – None.

11. Upcoming Meetings

A. Regular Board Meeting – March 13, 2024

B. Items for Next Meeting – Policy update schedule, Discussion re: liaisons' roles

12. Adjournment

**G. Cremé made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m., seconded by S. Fuss.
No discussion.**

6-0-0 (PASSED)

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