

**ANDOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ANDOVER, CT
Board of Education
Meeting Wednesday, August 13, 2025
7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting/School Library**

Members Present: Caitlin Greenhouse (Chairperson), Eric Becker, Mike Beckwith, Gerard Cremé, Brianne Lanzieri, Shannon Louden, Celeste Willard

Members Absent:

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

Others: Anne Cremé, Liz Lokiec (virtual), Kimberly Person (virtual), M. Miner (virtual)

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Opening Statement

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chairperson Greenhouse, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Comments from the Public – None.

3. Communications

Chairperson Greenhouse noted that the BOE has been meeting since 4:00 p.m. for their Annual Board Retreat, at which they crafted the 2025-2026 Board Goals.

4. Student/Other Celebrations

Supt. Bruneau noted that a gift was sent to Lois for her 100th birthday.

5. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from July 9, 2025, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

S. Louden made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2025, Regular Board of Education Meeting, seconded by G. Cremé. No discussion. B. Lanzieri abstained.

6-0-1 (PASSED)

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

7. Reports

- A. Chairperson's Oral Report** – Chairperson Greenhouse noted Executive Session later in the meeting for Annual Superintendent's Review, and all other items will be addressed in Action Items later in the meeting.
- B. Superintendent's Report** – No word on the status of the after-school grant, which funds after-school and family engagement activities. Back on track with ACH transfers, will need to go to BOF in May of each year moving forward to ensure no loss of time for ACH transfers. Met with the Town Planner as it is time to update the 10-year plan narrative. Doing quite a bit with Early Start, working with Hebron and Lebanon. Working with EastConn and the Local Governance Partnership (LGP) group, which is the new program taking the place of School Readiness. AES is in excellent shape, having already implemented many of the things that are now required; for example, we already have NAEYC accreditation and teachers are compensated at Public School Teacher pay levels. LGP Liaison reports will begin in the fall. Early Start is different from School Readiness as it covers birth through age five. Principal Parker noted the Andover, Lebanon, and Hebron LGP will be named the Early Roots Collaborative, with more focus on supporting families. CABE Convention pre-registration ends at the end of August, need to know if anyone would like to attend to secure the discounted rate. Question regarding Norton Fund (School Fund) check for a \$345 dividend that was not cashed. Town contacted Norton Commission, noted that the account this check would go into is a school account that is managed on the Town side. There is debate on how to manage this account moving forward and what the procedure is to monitor this account. Hazmat is coming on Tuesday to inspect the bathroom and make sure there are no hazardous materials in order to move to the next stages of that project. Facilities projects have continued through the summer. Annual inspections have been completed, including HVAC inspection, pest control, switched to Encore for Sprinkler & Fire Alarm inspection, outside of the windows cleaned and will be on a 2-year cycle moving forward. Will be working with T. Smith to secure cost of oil for next year.
- C. Principal's Report** – Excited to report 27 kindergarteners enrolled. 254 students currently enrolled, with a few more enrollments coming in. 68 preschoolers are enrolled. Will keep the BOE updated on the Early Roots Collaborative (LGP) as it gets up and running, unsure of funding for professional development through Early Start at this time. Starting year two of BookWorms this year and using Heggerty for our phonemic awareness program. Piloting UFLI in place of Foundations for phonics. Gathering lots of data and will continue to report. Continuing with Illustrative Math. Heading into 3 Professional Development days at the start of the school year. Looking at math training for Illustrative Math and Building Thinking Classrooms. Use Zones of Regulation for social/emotional learning. Going into year 2 of breaking down into "houses" for grouping students and staff. Special education meetings will also be held in those first three professional development days to ensure collaboration and consistency of services. Paraeducators will also be involved in the professional development days. A calendar of professional development is being created and will be put up on the school website after the professional development occurs, so people can see what teachers

have been working on. Provided a draft of the strategic improvement plan to clearly identify to staff what the goals are and the outline of the purpose of all activities. Once the end-of-year data is received, will report that in comparison to the beginning-of-year data.

- D. Financial Report** – Terri Smith reviewed the financial reports as presented which included reports of final numbers from last fiscal year and those for the first month of the current fiscal year. T. Smith answered questions from BOE Members.

E. Liaison Reports

School Readiness – Changing to LGP, will begin reporting in the fall.

PTA – Starting to make plans for coming year.

CIP – No meeting this month.

8. Items for Discussion & Actions

A. Item: Solar Project Update

Action: Discussion and Possible Action

Waiting for installation to begin: paused due to conduit placement.

B. Item: Bathroom Project Update

Action: Discussion and Possible Action

Hazmat inspection coming up; subcommittee met and spoke with team at Fuss & O'Neill to review bidding process and procedure for RFP. There will be an independent person through Fuss & O'Neill to review the RFP submissions. The plan is that demolition will be done prior to start of school for safety/mess issues if at all possible; then will work with Scott and Taylor to plan work during the school year if not completed by September.

C. Item: 2000s Policies

Action: Discussion and Possible Action

S. Loudon made all changes that were recommended at the July 9, 2025 BOE meeting. The policies, as amended, were included in Board Packets and are ready for a vote at this time unless there are additional changes required. S. Loudon and C. Greenhouse noted some additional, minor changes that were included.

S. Loudon made a motion to adopt the 2000s policies, as presented, with the changes incorporated from July 9, 2025 meeting and the subsequent minor changes, seconded by C. Willard. No further discussion.

7-0-0 (PASSED)

Supt. Bruneau recommended moving into the 9000s section of the policies, perhaps in two sections. These policies will be sent to the BOE members and hard copies can be provided by request. BOE members to review these policies prior to discussion at the September meeting.

D. Item: Updated 2025-2026 BOE Goals

Action: Discussion and Possible Action

Chairperson Greenhouse read through the 2025 – 2026 proposed BOE Goals

1. Elevate academic and social-emotional growth for all students.
2. Develop additional communication strategies to reach community members with clarity.
3. Update six policy manual series.
4. Create a process to update a 1, 5, and 10 year capital plan on annual basis.

C. Willard made a motion to adopt the 2025 – 2026 BOE Goals as presented by Chairperson Greenhouse, seconded by S. Loudon. No discussion.

7-0-0 (PASSED)

9. Comments from the Public on Agenda Items

L. Lokiec – Checking when updated approved budget will be posted to website.

K. Person – Asked for clarification if new children in preschool program are Andover residents or from out of town. Principal Parker explained they are Andover residents starting now and during the year (due to birthdates).

10. Executive Session – For the Purpose of Discussing the Annual Superintendent's Review

S. Loudon made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:11 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's review, further moved to invite Supt. Bruneau into the Executive Session, seconded by G. Cremé. No discussion.

7-0-0 (PASSED)

The Board exited Executive Session at 9:39 p.m.

11. Other Action Items

12. Upcoming Meetings

- Regular BOE Meeting – September 10, 2025
- Items for Next Meeting

13. Adjournment

C. Willard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 p.m., seconded by S. Loudon. No discussion.

7-0-0 (PASSED)

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn M. Longley, Clerk