

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, November 18, 2015

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, November 18, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Mr. James Gormley, Chairman, Mrs. Courtney Rau-Rogers, Mr. John Badger, Ms. Lisa Igoe and Mr. Patrick McDonough.

Administrators Present: Mr. James Hayden, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Alec Wyeth, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment; and Ms. Ann Marie Ellis, Director of Finance and Operations.

Minutes: Mr. McDonough made a motion to approve the minutes of November 4, 2015, which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Correspondence: Chairman Gormley acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

-A request from the Circle of Hope to distribute flyers to the families of the Norwood Public Schools inviting them to the Town Common on December 5th for *Light Up The Circle of Hope* as a night of remembrance; and

-A letter from Finance Commission Chairman Joe Greeley updating on the Town's historical and current levels of Free Cash.

Warrants: Chairman Gormley informed that there were warrants to be signed.

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: None.

Appearances: At this point in the meeting, Mr. Hayden welcomed four students from Norwood High School to this evening's meeting to receive the following awards:

Mass Association of School Superintendents Award to High School Student "Academic Excellence": This Award is given to Sally Trieu and Griffin Plaag.

Sally is a senior and is currently ranked #1 in her competitive class of 263 students. Griffin is also a senior and is ranked #2 in the class.

NESDEC Award to High School Student “Award for Growth & Achievement”: This Award is given to Hannah Doherty and Roberto Bernal Perez, both who overcame struggles early on in High School and who both have challenged themselves for academic success and

At this point in the meeting, Mrs. Rau Rogers made a motion to move **New Business: Willett Preschool Enrollment: Need for Additional Class** up in the agenda, which was seconded by Mr. McDonough. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Ms. Paula Alexander, Director of Student Services, updated the Committee that due to a 53% increase in students arriving from Early Intervention since the 2011-2012 School Year, Ms. Alexander is requesting a .7 Preschool Teacher and a .5 Para Professional beginning

Mr. Hayden explained that these positions will be paid down from the hire-down money of recent retirees.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to hire a .7 Preschool Teacher and a .5 Paraprofessional, which was seconded by Mrs. Igoe. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Reports: PARCC Presentation – District Results: Dr. Wyeth informed the Committee that it appears there will be a new test, MCAS 2.0, beginning in the 2016-2017 School Year. This year, we will continue with the MCAS and PARCC testing. The Commission said he expects that all school districts will be taking the MCAS 2.0 on-line. Dr. Wyeth said that Norwood is doing as much on-line testing as possible right now.

Dr. Wyeth also said the Members received information in their packets on how the PARCC Tests were scored.

Dr. Wyeth then reviewed the PARCC Test results grade by grade with the Committee, saying that across the board, Norwood did pretty well and actually did better on the PARCC Test than the MCAS Test.

Dr. Wyeth thanked Town Meeting for taking a bit of a leap and getting new math books for our students.

The Members had an opportunity for questions and comments.

Superintendent’s Report and/or Late Agenda: None.

Policy: Mr. Hayden said we need to schedule a meeting for a policy that we need to review.

Budget: FY16 Budget: Mr. Hayden and Ms. Ellis updated the Committee with regard to the FY16 Budget.

Transfer From:		Transfer To:	
1771 16 SCH UTIL - OIL - CAL	\$46,000.00	1785 16 SCH UTIL - Gas - Cal	\$42,000.00
		1788 16 SCH Util - Gas - Pre	\$ 4,000.00
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM	\$46,000.00	TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED TO	\$46,000.00

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve this transfer, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Transfer From:		Transfer To:	
0946 16 Sch IS/TB CMS Science Inst.	\$215.00	0867 16 SCH IS/TB CMS Scienc. Txbk	\$215.00
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM:	\$215.00	TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED TO:	\$215.00

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve this transfer, which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Transfer From:		Transfer To:	
0871 16 SCH IS/TB Callahan Text	\$2,000.00	1259 16 SCH Equip Rep - Callahan	\$2,000.00
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM	\$2,000.00	TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED TO:	\$2,000.00

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve this transfer, which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Transfer From:		Transfer To:	
1349 16 SCH Cont Fee - Comp Supp.	\$1,599.00	2315 16 Sch Main Blg-Gen Maint. Sav	\$1,599.00
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM	\$1,599.00	TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED TO:	\$1,599.00

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve this transfer, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Old Business: Special Town Meeting Article Progress: Chairman Gormley thanked Town Meeting for voting in favor of our Student Information System and for the new text books. He also thanked the parents who spoke in favor of our needs.

Bid Opening for Long Range Building Study RFP Nov. 12, 2015: Mr. Hayden said the RFP has been written, which does not cost money. This was to get a feel for what interest there was out there. Mr. Hayden said that due to this Article not being funded by Town Meeting at this time, a thank you note will be sent to those who put in bids and their names will be kept on file for future interest.

New Business: Willett Preschool Enrollment – Need for Additional Class: (moved up in agenda).

CMS Overnight Field Trip to Thompson’s Island: Mr. Hayden recommended approving this field trip.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve this field trip request, which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

One Donation: Mr. Hayden recommended accepting a donation/rebate from Bay State Textiles for October. Each school received the following:

Balch School	\$ 24.75
Callahan School	\$ 31.25
Cleveland School	\$ 58.00
Oldham School	\$ 41.25
Prescott School	\$ 33.25
Willett School	\$ 22.75
Middle School	\$ 20.50
High School	\$ 36.00
Savage Center	\$ 36.00
	\$ 304.50

Mrs. Igoe mad a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Mr. Hayden gave the Members a picture of the new display cases, which have been built and mounted around the walking track inside the High School.

Personnel: This was covered during Ms. Alexander’s presentation earlier in the evening.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. McDonough said his thoughts and prayers go out to the victims of the Paris bombings. He highly recommends everyone coming out to the Circle of Hope Night on the Common on December 5th.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers congratulated the students that were here this evening on their success at Norwood High School.

Ms. Igoe also congratulated the students that were here this evening. Ms. Igoe thanked Town Meeting for passing both the textbooks and the Student Information System. She then wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Badger also wished everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Mr. Badger made a motion for adjournment at 9:00 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. McDonough. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee