

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, May 25, 2016

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, May 25, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Mr. James Gormley, Chairman, and Ms. Lisa Igoe; Mr. Patrick McDonough, Mrs. Michelle Eysie Mullen and Ms. Myev Bodenhofer.

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 April 27, 2016 and May 9, 2016, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Correspondence: Chairman Gormley acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

-Letter dated April 27, 2016 from Aubrey Adrianson regarding her concerns about homework.

Mr. Hayden said that he will have a group of Administrators look at the letter and discuss this matter.

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

2016-2017 SCHOOL CHOICE PUBLIC HEARING: 2016-2017 School Choice Vote: Mr. Hayden informed that the School Committee will take a vote to see if Norwood is going to participate or not in the School Choice Program during the 2016-2017 School Year.

Mr. Hayden recommended that the Norwood School Committee vote not to participate in the School Choice Program for the 2016-2017 School Year and then gave his reasons, which included budget issues and reimbursement concerns.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to NOT participate in the 2016-2017 School Choice Program, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to close the Public Hearing, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Public Forum: None.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to move *Appearances* before *Announcements*, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Appearances: French Exchange Program – Culture and Language Hosting in Norwood: Mrs. Cindy Derrane, Foreign Language Department Chair at Norwood High School, was at this evening’s meeting to share with the Committee an opportunity for Norwood Families to host students from France. This is a program sponsored by Carousel Tours and would be a similar experience to a couple of years ago when Norwood families hosted students from Spain. The dates of this exchange program will be from October 13 -27, 2016. The French students will be from a school in St. Genevieve, France.

Mr. Hayden recommended supporting this program.

Ms. Igoe made a motion to support this program, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Mrs. Derrane then updated that Committee that she and Ms. Jen Orlinski were approached back in March with an opportunity and a scholarship to attend a Global Leaders Summit on Human Rights at The Hague on June 22 – 27th. They were given a full and a partial scholarship, which totaled \$6500.00. The total cost of this Summit is \$7800.00. Mrs. Derrane notified the Committee that Dedham Savings Bank has graciously offered to donate the difference of \$1300.00 for Mrs. Derrane and Ms. Orlinski to attend this program. She added that the Global Citizenship Group will then participate in the Global Summit by trying to come up with a way to solve a Global problem, and then building a prototype. They will also work with the STEM Group at the Middle School to work on a real-life problem.

Ms. Igoe made a motion to accept \$1300.00 from Dedham Savings Bank for Mrs. Derrane and Ms. Orlinski to attend this Summit, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Announcements: Middle School STEM Event: Mr. Hayden updated that Committee about a Middle School Girls STEM Meet-Up that was held this morning. It was an opportunity for students to meet up with Engineers and other Professionals from Merrimac College and other schools at Blue Hills Regional.

Mr. Hayden shared a handout with information from the Transcript Newspaper covering the students from our LEAD Program on their monthly LEAD Update, which they film at NPA-TV. Mr. Hayden thanked Mr. LaDue on a wonderful partnership.

Reports: None.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: School Committee Open Meeting Law Training/Retreat – Draft Strategic Plan: Mr. Hayden shared with the Committee a draft *Strategic Goals 2016-2019* so the Committee Members can have a preview of what's to come. The Open Meeting Law Training/Retreat will be held on Wednesday, June 1, 2016 at the Savage Educational Center at 6:00 p.m. in Room 219.

Policy: None.

Budget: FY16 Budget Update: Ms. Ellis updated the Committee regarding the FY16 School Year to date.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Summer Reading: Dr. Wyeth updated on the Summer Reading Program, adding that it is well-documented that students need to do a lot of reading over the summer to avoid falling backwards during that time.

Dr. Wyeth thanked the Norwood Public School librarians for working closely with the Morrill Memorial Librarians to put together the best program possible for our students. Dr. Wyeth said that it is recommended that students read at least three books, over the summer, including one fiction, one non-fiction and one of their choice. They will also have to share a project with their classmates, but there are many choices of projects. The families will receive the *2016 Norwood Elementary School Summer Reading Requirements and Book Lists* which have lots of information and suggestions.

Dr. Wyeth added that the High School and Middle School students will also be required to complete summer reading assignments. The information will be available on the School's Website.

Consent Agenda: Acceptance of One Donation: Mr. Hayden recommended accepting the following donations:

-2016 Student Activity Granted Scholarships (Norwood High School Graduating Seniors) \$3,400.00

Mr. McDonough made a motion to accept this donation, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

-Massachusetts Secondary School Stipend:
-Coakley Middle School - \$600.00 Mentoring Stipend; and
-Norwood High School - \$1,200.00 Mentoring Stipend.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to accept these donations, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

After a quick update, Mr. McDonough made a motion to revise the motion to accept the 2016 Student Activity Granted Scholarships in the amount of \$3,300.00 (not \$3,400.00), which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

-The Orient Lodge (Masons) for Teacher of the Year in the amount of \$1,000 for Laura Tolman, Teacher of the Year.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to accept this donation, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Personnel: None.

School Committee Addenda: Mrs. Mullen wished all the seniors well as they get ready to graduation.

Ms. Igoe also wished the seniors well as they get ready for Class Day and Graduation. She said enjoy it all and be safe. Ms. Igoe congratulated Teacher of the Year Laura Tolman on such a deserving award.

Mrs. Bodenhofer wished the seniors well and said she looks forward to getting the new Building Study Committee together to get the process going.

Mr. McDonough said it's an emotional time, as many of his friends will be graduating on June 5th. He also congratulated Matt Brown on his graduation from Stonehill College.

Chairman Gormley congratulated former Norwood High School students Matt Brown and Hans Wang on their college graduations. He wished the Norwood High School seniors well as they prepare to graduate.

Chairman Gormley also said that the School Committee needed to choose two Committee Members to serve on the Building Study Committee.

Mrs. Bodenhofer and Mr. McDonough both volunteered.

Ms. Igoe made a motion to appoint Mrs. Bodenhofer and Mr. McDonough to serve on the Long-Range Building Study Committee, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Executive Session: Chairman Gormley informed that there would be an Executive Session for Unit A Negotiations and Superintendent's Contract. He added that the

Committee would be coming out of Executive Session for the sole purpose of Adjournment.

Mr. McDonough made a motion for Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. for Unit A Negotiations and Superintendent's Contract, which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Adjournment: Mr. McDonough made a motion for adjournment at 10:40 p.m., which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee