

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, September 9, 2015

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, September 9, 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: Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve the minutes of August 26, 2015, which was seconded by Mr. McDonough. The Committee voted in favor 4-0-1 (Mr. Badger abstained).

Correspondence: Chairman Gormley acknowledged receipt of an e-mail correspondence dated August 31, 2015 from Judith Howard regarding the electronic sign in front of Norwood High School.

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

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

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: None.

Appearances: Student Exchange Program from Malaga, Spain: Mr. Hayden welcomed Olivia Haglund and Daniela Jurardo, Norwood High School Hosts and visiting student, Leyre Garayoa, from Spain to this evening's meeting. Mrs. Derrane, Department Chair, could not be here this evening due to family commitments. Leyre said the area in Spain she is from is very beautiful. She said she has enjoyed her time here so far. Olivia and Daniela shared with the Members some of the events on their itinerary, including a trip to Spot, Bubbling Brook, a trip to the Plymouth area to see the Mayflower and Plymouth Rock, a soccer practice, a pasta dinner, etc.

The Members had an opportunity for questions and comments. Mr. Hayden thanked the students for coming in and he thanked the hosts for opening up their homes for such a great program.

Reports: In-service Activities Report for September 1st: Dr. Wyeth gave an overview of the in-service activities for September 1st. At the Elementary Level, a representative was here from Pearson to spend time with the teachers making sure they are ready to go with the new Math Program. The other part of the day was spent working on DDM's. The middle school teachers also spent part of their day working on their new math program, and the other part of the day the staff was able to spend time doing department based work and "getting to know our learners". The High School spent part of the day on Department work as well as a NHS meeting with new Principal, Mr. Jonathan Bourn.

October 7th will be the next professional development day.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Opening of School Report: Mr. Hayden began by saying that we currently have 3,484 students in the Norwood Public Schools. He said we are off to a very good start.

Mr. Hayden said he and Mr. Bourn taped the Tom Cummings show this afternoon.

Mr. Hayden said he had one more late agenda item that he would like to share. He informed that they had a very large group that tried out for volleyball this year, and they would like to add one more coach.

He also said there is a need for a Grad Point Manager to assist students.

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

Policy: None.

Budget: FY16 Budget (Completing Personnel Projections): Our Budget is moving along smoothly at this point, but Mr. Hayden said we still need to hire two more paraprofessionals at the elementary level as two staff members finalized their teaching requirements and took teaching positions at the last minutes.

Old Business: School Transportation Van Purchase Update: Mr. Hayden updated that we have received one of our two new 7 passenger vans. The other 7 passenger van and two mini vans are on order or being painted yellow which is the new registry regulation for school transportation vehicles beginning July 1, 2017.

Date for School Committee Retreat: The Members were give a blank September/October calendar and Mr. Hayden asked the Members to write in dates and times of when they could be available to get together for a retreat and return them to him at their earliest convenience.

New Business: Subcommittee Assignments: Chairman Gormley asked the Members to see him after the meeting to let him know what Committees they can serve on.

Consent Agenda:

Acceptance of Five Donations:

- James Hines (\$75.00 donation to cover Art Instructional Fees – Cleveland);
- Norwood Hospital (50 backpacks and school supplies);
- FM Global (27 Backpacks and school supplies);
- Orient Lodge Angel Fund (\$208 was paid to cover a student's tuition at NPS Summer Academy);
- Bay State Textiles (donation/rebate from bins at all the schools).

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to accept these donations, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Personnel: Staffing Update: Mr. Hayden said that even though he is still looking for two paraprofessionals, we are in good shape and ready for the new year.

With regard to this item, Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to postpone this evening's Executive Session regarding negotiations, until our staffing needs are in order, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. Badger welcomed everyone back and ended with "go Pats"!!!

Ms. Igoe welcomed everyone back, saying we are off to a warm start, but hopefully everyone is getting settled. Ms. Igoe wished the best of luck to our sports teams and to those who will be performing in the upcoming presentation of *Into the Woods*.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers reminded that the presentation of *Into the Woods* will be performed on September 17th, 18th, and 19th and that tickets can be purchased at the Backstage Boosters Booth at Norwood Day.

Chairman Gormley welcomed staff and students back for the new school year and reminded that "it's not a sprint, but a marathon up until June".

Mr. McDonough wished everyone good luck as the new year begins. He said he looks forward to seeing his cousin perform in *Into the Woods*.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Mr. McDonough made a motion for adjournment at 8:30 p.m., which was seconded by Mrs. Rau-Rogers. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee