

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, September 10, 2014

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, September 10, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Mr. John Badger, Chairman, Mr. Paul Samargedlis, Mr. James Gormley, and Mrs. Courtney Rau-Rogers.

Committee Member Excused: Mr. Joseph Montesano

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. Gormley made a motion to approve the minutes of August 27, 2014, which was seconded by Ms. Rau-Rogers. The Committee voted in favor 4 -0.

Correspondence: None.

Warrants: Chairwoman Rau informed that there were warrants to be signed.

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: None.

Appearances: George Usevich Alumni Retirement Party: Mr. Gerry Miller, President of the Norwood Alumni Association, was at this evening's meeting along with Ms. Paula Pelaggi, Mr. Ernie Paciorkowski, and Mr. Tim McDonough to get plans going for the George Usevich Alumni Retirement Party. Mr. Miller explained that they had a very successful *Last Hurrah / Farewell to the Old Norwood High School* party a few years ago. This group has worked very hard to raise money for a concession stand at the Athletic Field behind the High School. They still need to raise more funds as the cost was higher than originally expected. Mr. Usevich has agreed to this farewell gathering as a fundraiser to keep working towards the goal needed for a new concession stand. Mr. Paciorkowski added that there would be a request to use the cafeteria for food and beverages. It is understood that no food or beverage will be allowed outside the cafeteria area.

Ms. Pelaggi said that through the Norwood Alumni Association Facebook page, she has been able to reach thousands of NHS graduates and hopes that they get a great turnout. The date they hope to have this event is May 30, 2015.

Mr. Paul Samargedlis made a motion to approve this request for discussion, which was seconded by Mrs. Rau-Rogers. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Mr. Samargedlis said it is so nice to live in this kind of a community in which everyone can come together for a great celebration for someone who has a lasting effect on the whole town. Mr. Samargedlis said he is in favor of this request.

Mr. Badger said he can't imagine a Norwood High School without Mr. Usevich at the helm and he recommends everyone approve this request.

Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to approve this request and to approve the necessary steps to get all the permits in order, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Mr. Miller then invited everyone out to Norwood Day this weekend. He said Norwood Day will begin on Friday night with fireworks behind the Coakley Middle School, along with entertainment by Radio Disney.

Norwood Day will continue the next morning with the Freshman Football Team coming out at 6:00 a.m. to help set up. The sports teams march in the parade in the morning. Then the girls and boys' soccer teams come back to help break down the event. There will be a food court area, lots of rides for the little kids, vendors and sports teams will be set up to for information sharing and fundraising. Mr. Miller said this is the greatest day in Norwood every year.

Reports: 2014-2015 School Opening Report: Mr. Hayden began by thanking the parents for having their kids all ready for opening day. He thanked the teachers and staff for all they did preparing for the first day. Mr. Hayden said the first day meeting for the whole staff was highlighted by the announcement that the Superintendent's secretary, Mrs. Tina Fitzgerald, would be retiring this October. The staff gave her a standing ovation for all her years of hard work and dedication to the Norwood School Department. Mr. Hayden and Mrs. Jody Smith presented Mrs. Fitzgerald with flowers.

Mr. Hayden continued on that the buildings were in great shape for opening day with the Buildings and Grounds crew completing many projects. He said that it was a very good opening day.

2014 DESE District Review Report: The Members received a three-page overview of the result findings which listed (1) strengths and (2) challenges and areas for growth. Mr. Hayden reviewed the report and added that it will be posted on our website and it is already on the DESE website.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Mr. Hayden said the Fine Arts groups have gotten together to create one group that supports the fine arts in the Norwood Public Schools. This new group will be called NFACT (Norwood Fine Arts

Collaborative Team, Inc.). This is the group that will be selling plaques for seats in the auditorium to raise funds for the Fine Arts Programs. The e-mail address to find out more information is: joinus@nfact.org.

Policy: Mr. Hayden said there would be a meeting with the sub committee before the next school Committee meeting.

Budget: FY15 Budget Transfers: Mr. Hayden recommended the following transfer request be approved to be able to put air conditioning in a computer closes.

<u>TRANSFER FROM</u>		<u>TRANSFER TO:</u>	
1350 15 SCH Cont. Fee – Computer	\$4,865.00	1241 15 Sch. Maint. Bldg – H&V – HS	\$4
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM	\$4,865.00	TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED TO:	\$4,865.00

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this transfer, which was seconded by Mrs. Rau-Rogers. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Mr. Hayden recommended the following transfer request be approved for the School Department’s portion towards the consultant that was voted on and approved by the Committee of 21. (\$15,000.00).

<u>TRANSFER FROM:</u>		<u>TRANSFER TO:</u>	
2010 15 SCH MAINT OF GRDS – SNOW/ICE	\$15,000.00	0815 15 ACH. ADMIN- SCH COM Exp	\$15,000.00
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM:	\$15,000.00	TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED TO:	\$15,000.00

Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to approve this transfer, which was seconded by Mrs. Rau-Rogers for discussion. The Committee voted in favor 3-1 (Mrs. Rau-Rogers opposed).

Mr. Hayden recommended the following transfer request be approved for more training that is needed for sign language.

<u>TRANSFER FROM:</u>		<u>TRANSFER FROM:</u>	
0613 15 Sch Admin. Sal – Attend. Ofc.	\$10,000.00	0707 15 Sch Admin Sal – Par. Liaison	\$10,000.00
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM:	\$10,000.00	TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED TO:	\$10,000.00

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve this transfer, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

<u>TRANSFER FROM:</u>		<u>TRANSFER FROM:</u>	
0902 15 Sch IS/TB-SHS Art Inst. Sup	\$2,000.00	0915 15 Sch IS/TB-SHS Sci. Ins Sup	\$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 Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Mr. Hayden recommended the following transfer request be approved for NAYCE Accreditation Fees and Text books for the Willett Early Childhood Educational Center:

TRANSFER FROM:		TRANSFER FROM:	
0969 15 SCH IS/TB WILLETT INS. SUP	\$1,500.00	0869 15 SCH IS/TB - WILLETT	\$ 200.00
		1334 15 SCH CONT FEE-DUES	\$1,300.00
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM:	\$1,500.00	TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED TO:	\$1,50.00

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this transfer, which was seconded by Mrs. Rau-Rogers. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Discussion of Unit A Memorandum of Agreement regarding High School Stipends: Mr. Hayden lead the discussion regarding the Unit A Memorandum of Agreement to add 3 High School Music and Fine Arts stipends to Appendix III – Club and Organizations and 2 High School Advisory Coordinator stipends to Appendix IV – Miscellaneous Teacher Stipends to the 2013-2016 Agreement between the Norwood School Committee and Norwood Teachers’ Association.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the new stipends, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted in favor 3 -0-1 (Mrs. Rau-Rogers abstained).

Acceptance of Three Donations: Mr. Hayden recommended accepting a donation of 60 backpacks filled with various school supplies to be distributed to children in the district from Sarah Sharpe, Manager of Materials Distribution at Norwood Hospital.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Mr. Hayden recommended accepting a donation of 12 backpacks filled with notebooks, file folders, markers, crayons and glue to be distributed to elementary children in the district.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Mr. Hayden recommended accepting a grant of \$8,987.75 from Blue Hills Bank Charitable Foundation for the Callahan Elementary School for the creation of a nature trail in the woods behind the School. This grant was written by 5th Grade Teacher, Mike Downs.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this grant, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Personnel: Mr. Hayden said he just hired his last staff member, an Adjustment Councilor at the Coakley Middle School.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. Gormley had none.

Mr. Samargedlis reminded everyone that the Norwood High School Varsity Football Team will be playing at home this Saturday. Mr. Samargedlis added that he thinks they look like a very talented team with lots to look forward to. The new coaching staff seems to be working hard. Mr. Samargedlis recommended checking to make sure that we have no Ray Rice posters or advertising hanging on the walls in our buildings, as he is not a good role model for our students. Mr. Samargedlis ended by saying he will finish out the month of September on the School Committee then he will be stepping down, as he and his growing family are in the process of moving and have a lot of family commitments at this time.

Mr. Gormley thanked Mr. Samargedlis for all his years of dedication and service to this Committee, adding that he is a great example of “family first”!

Mrs. Rau-Rogers informed that the League of Woman Voters will be registering new members and handing out a survey on the Town’s needs at Norwood Day. Also, the Orient Lodge of Masons will be sponsoring a blood drive on Norwood Day.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers and Mr. Badger both said they will reserve their comments on Mr. Samargedlis’ retirement from the School Committee for his last meeting on September 22nd.

Executive Session: Chairman Badger informed that there would be an Executive Session for the following items:

- Union #50 Negotiation Update.

Mr. Gormley made a motion for Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. which was seconded by Mrs. Rau-Rogers. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Adjournment: Mr. Samargedlis made a motion for adjournment at 8:50 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Gormley . The Committee voted unanimously in favor 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee

