

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, June 3, 2015

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, June 3, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Mr. John Badger, Chairman, Mrs. Courtney Rau-Rogers, Mr. James Gormley, 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 May 20, 2015 which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Correspondence: Mr. Hayden shared information regarding the recent Track Night Event sponsored by the School Health Council.

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

Public Forum: Chairman Badger informed that this was the time in the meeting for members of the public to address the School Committee with items that they would like to see on a future agenda:

Mr. Ed Ferris was here this evening to follow up with the Committee his request for an analysis of everything that has been sacrificed over the past eight years so that everyone in the Community can understand what exactly the Schools have lost from their budgets.

Mr. Hayden said that each of the Members received, this evening, the *FY16 Budget Difference as passed by House and Senate, to be resolved by Budget Conference Committee*.

Announcements: None.

Appearances: None.

Reports: None.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Mr. Hayden discussed with the Committee the need for host families for students from Spain. He reminded that it was quite successful last year for 15 students. They are scheduled to arrive

September 3rd. Mr. Hayden said they will be in school here two days a week and the other 3 days will be reserved for exploring all the interesting sites around this area.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to support the host family program, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Policy: None.

Budget: The Budget is moving along and at this point, we are closing out purchase orders and making plans so teachers have the new math manuals before leaving for the summer.

Old Business: Abrahams Report Review: The School Committee Members received the *Operational and Efficiency Evaluation of the Norwood Public Schools for the Town of Norwood – A study Conducted by the Abrahams Group – April 2015*. Mr. Hayden reviewed this information with the Committee. The areas discussed were:

- Trends in the Norwood Public Schools;
- Special Education Services;
- Non-Classroom Information Technology;
- Revenues;
- Staffing and Compensation;
- Facilities and Grounds;
- Business and Finance; and
- Final Thoughts.

The Members had an opportunity for questions and comments.

Norwood Public Schools Strategic Plan: Mr. Hayden reviewed the following Strategic Goals (2012-2015)

Prepare all students to be college or career ready;

Literacy- Improve reading, writing, comprehension, and
Global competency skills for all students.

S.T.E.A.M. – Strengthen science, technology, engineering, art &
Math instruction at all levels.

Differentiated Instruction – strengthen ways to meet all student
Academic needs.

Technology Integration;

Social/Emotional Needs of Students;

Maximize parent and community relationships to support student Learning;

Facility Improvements & Upgrades.

New Business: Outdoor High School Eating Area for Seniors by Door #13:

The PTA has been in touch with Mr. Usevich and Mr. Riccardi to create an outdoor eating area outside the cafeteria. Mr. Riccardi has already received some picnic tables for the area (which will be fenced in). The group is seeking permission from the Committee to proceed with this idea.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve this request, which was seconded by Mr. McDonough.

The Committee had an opportunity for questions and comments. Mr. Hayden said the PTA will be funding this eating area and it will be right outside the cafeteria with an easy view of the area from the cafeteria.

With regards to this motion, the Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Approval of One (1) Out-of-State Field Trip Extended Day Summer Program:

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve the request for an out-of-state field trip, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Approval of Two (2) Donations: Mr. Hayden recommended accepting a donation from the Orient Lodge of Masons of \$1,000.00 for the Teacher of the Year Award to the Prescott School.

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

Mr. Hayden recommended accepting a donation from Bay State Textiles as follows:

Savage Center	\$ 34.00
Balch Elementary	\$ 33.00
Callahan Elementary	\$ 63.00
Cleveland Elementary	\$108.75
Oldham Elementary	\$ 73.50
Prescott Elementary	\$ 38.00
Willett Early Childhood Center	\$108.75
Coakley Middle School	\$ 54.00
Norwood High School	<u>\$ 83.50</u>
	\$596.50

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

Personnel: None.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. Gormley asked, with regard to PARCC Testing, if there would be any evaluations on the process of how the technology use went during the testing.

Mr. Hayden said the teachers and students had some training and felt comfortable with the computers. Mr. Hayden added that there were representatives from the Technology Department at the schools during testing in case of problems. Dr. Wyeth asked the teachers for feedback. For the most part, Dr. Wyeth said it went fairly well. There was some discussion regarding this test.

Ms. Igoe congratulated the Class of 2015 and Patrick McDonough, as they get ready to graduate.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers also congratulated Mr. Patrick McDonough and his classmates as they graduate on Sunday.

Mr. McDonough said he has received such a great education and the teachers he has had over the years were remarkable.

Chairman Badger also congratulated Mr. McDonough and the Class of 2015. Chairman Badger then said the next School Committee Meeting would be the Reorganization Meeting, and the Members will be voting on a new Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Mr. Gormley made a motion for adjournment at 8:40 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