

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, October 8, 2014

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, October 8, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Committee Member Excused: Mr. Badger was excused this evening due to a death in the family.

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.

Election of Vice-Chair: Mr. Hayden began the meeting by informing that we need to vote on a Vice-Chair due to Mr. Samargedlis' resignation.

Mr. Hayden asked for nominations.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to nominate Mrs. Courtney Rau-Rogers as Vice-Chair, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Minutes: Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the minutes of October 8, 2014, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Correspondence: Vice-Chair Rau-Rogers acknowledged receipt of Mr. Paul Samargedlis' letter of resignation from the School Committee. There was some discussion regarding the procedure for filling the vacancy.

Also, a letter has been received regarding the operations and management of the Skating Rink from Mr. John Carroll.

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

Public Forum: None.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to move Appearances up in the agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Appearances: Mrs. Diane Ferreira, Principal of the Willett Early Childhood Center: Mrs. Ferreira was here this evening to update with regard to the Willett Early

Childhood Center. Mrs. Ferreira began by saying that the Willett had a great start to the new school year. She said that the Willett currently has 374 students (100 Preschoolers and 274 Kindergarteners). She thanked the School Committee for approving the trailer last year, which is now the library, so that they could have room for the Developmental Learning Center (DLC). This program allows for smaller classes and more attention for those students who need it. She also thanked the PTO for all they do, saying that they have already hosted a wonderful ice-cream social.

Mrs. Ferreira reviewed the goals of the Willett:

- Fully implement the new Evaluation System;
- Begin using the new Common Planning Time;
- Begin the piloting of three new math programs;
- Continue working towards NAYCE accreditation;
- And keep working on safety procedures.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this report, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Executive Session: Mr. Gormley made a motion, at this time, for Executive Session at 7:25 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Open Session: Open Session resumed at 7:40 p.m.

Vice-Chair Rau-Rogers said that the School Committee would be voting on a legal settlement and two memorandums of agreements.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve a legal settlement in the amount of \$154,000, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve a contract with the Building Custodians for three years in the amount of 2.5%, 2.5%, 2.5%, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Mr. Montesano made a motion to approve a contract with the School Secretaries for three years in the amount of 2.5%, 2.5%, 2.5%, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Announcements: Class of 2015 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients: Mr. Hayden was pleased to announce the Class of 2015 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients. Mr. Hayden was pleased to announce that 29% of our students received this award.

Reports: 2014 District MCAS Report: Dr. Wyeth gave an overview of the District MCAS Report grade by grade. He informed that 6 schools were at Level II and 2 schools were at Level I. He added that this is no cause for alarm as state-wide there are more schools that have ended up Level II as it's getting more challenging to close gaps between non-high needs and high-needs students.

Dr. Wyeth reminded that the MCAS is just one small test in the overall accomplishments of our teachers, students and schools.

Superintendent's Performance Review: Mr. Hayden provided the School Committee Members with updated goals, which he informed, will be put on *TeachPoint*. He added that the information shared by Dr. Wyeth this evening really tied in with many of the goals.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Mr. Hayden thanked the parents and families who hosted the students from Spain recently. The students were able to participate in Norwood Day and some of the sports events. He thanked Cindy Derraine for this program.

Mr. Hayden also said that Norwood High School T.V. Program student, Erin Crowley, is doing an informal student exchange with a student from a High School California.

Policy: None.

Budget: Approval of FY15 Budget Transfer: Mr. Hayden recommended the following transfer:

<u>TRANSFER FROM:</u>	<u>TRANSFER TO:</u>
0679 15 Sch Inst. Sal-Clubs & Adv. HS \$1,500.00	0630 15 Sch. Inst Sal-High Sch \$1,500.00
TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM \$1,500.00	TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED TO \$1,500.00

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this transfer, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

FY15 Budget Update: Ms. Ellis said that, after our first full month of school, compared to last year at this time, there are no anomalies.

Approval of FY14 Unpaid Bills Warrant Article & Callahan Boiler Funds Warrant Article for the November 17, 2014 :

At this point, there are no unpaid bills from FY2014.

Mr. Hayden said he anticipates all deadlines will be met for the Callahan Boilers. He is hoping that by the time Town Meeting comes around, the designer

will be able to give us the final numbers. He said we will be reimbursed at 50%, which is a great deal for the town.

ARTICLE To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of the Norwood Board of Selectmen for the Callahan School Boiler Replacement Project at 64 Garfield Avenue, Norwood, MA, at a cost no to exceed \$500,000 which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program and for which the Town may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (“MSBA”). The Town acknowledges that the MABA’s grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town. Any grant that the Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty and fifty-eight hundreds percent (50.58%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount, determined by the MSBA.

OR TAKE ANY OTHER ACTION RELATIVE THERETO.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the language for the Warrant Article for the November 17, 2014 Special Town Meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Approval of Unit A Memorandum of Agreement for Middle School & High School Stipends: Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Mr. Hayden recommended approving a lunch stipend for the Cleveland Elementary School.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this stipend, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Acceptance of Donations: Mr. Hayden recommended accepting a donation in the amount of \$400.00 from Shaw’s and Star Market “Making Change” Program.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Mr. Hayden recommended accepting a donation of 20 \$50 gift cards to Walmart from Walmart Teachers Reward Program.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 3-0.

Personnel: None.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. Montesano had none.

Mr. Gormley reminded that this Friday would be Friday Night Lights at Norwood High School. The Norwood Mustang Football will host Wellesley at 7:00 p.m. and encouraged everyone to come out and support the Mustangs. He then invited the public to come out again on Saturday night to cheer on the Lady Mustangs as our Field Hockey team hosts rival Dedham, in another night game at 7:00 p.m. This game will promote Breast Cancer Awareness as both teams will be wearing pink and black.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers reminded the Class of 1989 that there was still time to get tickets to the Class Reunion this Saturday night.

Adjournment: Mr. Gormley made a motion for adjournment at 9:15 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee