

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, December 17, 2014

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, December 17, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

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 December 3, 2014, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Correspondence: Chairman Badger acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

- A thank-you to Mr. Mark Ryan for Thanksgiving Football Field help;
- A letter regarding Capital Building Projects from the Board of Selectmen;
- A letter from MSBA informing that the CMS HVAC Project will not be accepted for this year's program.

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

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: Mr. Hayden congratulated senior Kacie Smith on being selected as an All-Star by the National Field Hockey Association as well as being named Boston Globe All-Star this week.

Mr. Hayden also informed that he has made the Willett Parking Lot available to a large group of Christmas Carolers who will be visiting Fernando Morales a former Norwood High School student, and his family, while he continues to fight for his health.

Appearances: Mr. Bower of Norwood's NFACT (Norwood Fine Arts Collaborative Team) was here this evening to present a check of \$6,330.00 which is money raised from the sale of seating plaques in the auditorium at Norwood High School. This money should be designated for Fine Arts Programming.

Mr. Hayden recommended accepting a donation of approximately \$6,330.00 from the Norwood Fine Arts Collaborative Team (NFACT).

Mr. Gormley made a motion to accept this very generous donation, which was seconded by Mr. Bergeron. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Reports: None.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: None.

Policy: Mr. Hayden and Mrs. Rau-Rogers updated with regard to policies. Mrs. Rau-Rogers explained that as part of the Coordinated Program Review for Special Education Services, we needed to evaluate the policies to be sure that they are compliant with Civil Rights Laws. Mrs. Rau-Rogers said that, per regulations, the language of "Gender Identity" needed to be added to the following polices:

- (IJ) – Instructional Materials
- (JA-E) – Student Policies Goals
- (JB) – Equal Educational Opportunities
- (JBA)-Student-To-Student Harassment
- (JF-E-1)- School Admissions
- (JF-E-2)-School Admissions
- (JFBB)-School Choice
- (JJ-E)-Co-Curricular & Extracurricular Activities

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

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to add (IJNDD) Social Media Policy to the agenda this evening, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Mr. Hayden reviewed the Social Networking Policy and reviewed the changes.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the Social Networking Policy with the changes, which was seconded by Mr. Bergeron. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Budget: FY16 Preliminary Budget Presentation: Mr. Hayden began by thanking Ms. Ann Marie Ellis and her Department, as well as Dr. Wyeth for all their help in putting the preliminary budget together. He then presented the FY16 Preliminary Budget. Mr. Hayden began by reviewing MCAS Year to Year Progress, Academic Progress, Priorities, Additional Personnel (Prioritized), as well as a 5-Year School Budget Comparison. After reviewing the areas of needs for FY16, Mr. Hayden informed that the bottom line for the FY16 Budget (first draft) is \$41,788.91.

After some discussion, Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the first draft figure of \$41,788.91.

Mr. Bergeron made a motion to have Mr. Badger and Mrs. Rau-Rogers represent the School Committee on the Budget Balancing Committee, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Norwood High School EPA Energy Star Award: Mr. Hayden was happy to announce that Norwood High School has been awarded the EPA Energy Star Award. Norwood High School uses 35% less energy than similar buildings across the USA. Mr. Hayden thanked the Town of Norwood for having the fore sight to build this new energy efficient building. Congratulations to the Town on this award!

Acceptance of Two Donations: Mr. Hayden recommended accepting an annual donation of \$50.00 from Lueders Environmental, Inc.

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

Mr. Hayden informed that this month's total rebate from Bay State Textiles (from the textile bins at each of our schools) is a total of \$304.75.

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

Approval Field Trip – Coakley Middle School to Thompson's Island: Ms. Jackie Mann, Principal of the Coakley Middle School, requests permission for students at the Coakley Middle School to attend an over-night field trip to Thompson's Island. Each team will go on a different day and return the following morning.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers made a motion to approve this field trips, which was seconded by Mr. Bergeron. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Personnel: None.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. Montesano had none.

Mr. Gormley wished everyone Happy Holidays and a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Bergeron said he thoroughly enjoyed last week's Madrigal Concert, adding that they are a very talented group of young people. He was proud to say we are the only public high school to have a Madrigal Choir.

Friday he went with Mr. Hayden to Dr. Crowley's engineering class. They were building model bridges and performing stress tests on the bridges.

Then they had a competition to retrofit the bridges to make them stronger. There was another project going on which followed the influenza virus up the east coast. He was very inspired by these students.

Mr. Bergeron was also very impressed that Mr. George Usevich was sitting on a stool at the front entrance greeting the students first thing in the morning, adding that he will be hard to replace.

Mrs. Rau-Rogers wished everyone a Happy Chanukah and Happy Holidays.

Mr. Badger wished everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Mr. Gormley made a motion for adjournment at 8:20 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