

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Thursday, March 27, 2014

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Thursday, March 27, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Ms. Courtney Rau, Chairwoman, Mr. John Badger, Mr. James Gormley, Mr. Paul Samargedlis and 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 re-approve the Budget Sub Committee Minutes of February 27, 2014 for one date correction, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the minutes of March 12, 2014 with one vote change, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Correspondence: Chairwoman Rau acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

-A note of thanks from Mr. Eysie regarding the use of the High School for the winter concerts, which were quite successful.

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

Public Forum: Chairwoman Rau informed that this is the time during the meeting that members of the public are invited to share a concern or request an item to be put on a future agenda.

Mrs. Colleen Reynolds began with a disclaimer that she is Chairwoman Rau's sister and a teacher at the Willett Early Center. She was here as a concerned parent and as a Town Meeting Member. Mrs. Reynolds said she is very concerned about the FY15 Budget. She is here to support the School Committee in any way possible. She has spoken with other concerned families and there will be support. She said she is so concerned for her children, for her students and her co-workers. She is worried about how her son will get to school next year when she and her husband both work. She is asking the School Committee to stand strong with this budget and bring these issues before Town Meeting for discussion.

Mr. Darren Reynolds wanted to follow-up with what his wife said, adding that he is disturbed when he sees all the signs around town regarding what the

name a school vacation is called (Winter Recess) when there needs to be more concern about the education of our students. He said that Norwood is better than that.

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Gormley made a motion to move **Policy: Field Trip Policy and Overnight Field Trip Medication Procedure Review** up in the agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Mrs. McDonough, nurse at the Coakley Middle School, was here to update with regards to school nurses' practice of giving medications to students when out of state on field trips. She informed that nurses are not allowed to give meds to students when out of state. She was here to share a policy that is modeled after the Brookline School System's procedures. She said that the nurses would develop individual medicine plans for each student. She presented the School Committee with the following forms:

- (1) Overnight Field Trip Medications Procedure;
- (2) Medication Administration Form for Overnight Field Trip; and
- (3) Emergency Medical Care Authorization for Overnight Field Trips.

She explained that the parents would have to put the medications in small individual envelopes labeled with the dosage and time medications are to be taken. These small envelopes will be put into one larger envelope for each student.

There was a question regarding how epi-pens would be administered. Mrs. McDonough explained that any unlicensed chaperone on the trip would be trained on how to administer an epi-pen. She said that the student would have an individualized medical plan in place and that the parents would need to sign the plan before the trip.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the Field Trip Policy and Overnight Field Trip Medication Procedure, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Announcements: None.

Appearances: Boston Globe Art Awards: Ms. Laurie Mead McGrory, Art Teacher at Norwood High School, was here this evening with student, Chelsea Gundlach, to update the Committee on the accomplishments of the Art Students. She informed that our students received 24 Awards in the Boston Globe Art Competition this year. Ms. McGrory showed photos of the students' work. She informed that the Fine Arts Festival this year will be at the Apollo on April 14th and 15th from 6-8.

The Members had an opportunity for questions and compliments.

Reports: None.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Mr. Hayden was happy to share some good news from our television students who recently attended a conference in Orlando. He congratulated Erin Crowley, Tess Maguire and Brian Curley as well as the staff of NPA-TV for all of the awards they received on their trip. He congratulated everyone on a job well-done!

Mr. Hayden informed that Student Government Day will be on Wednesday, April 9th. He invited the School Committee Members to meet with the students and himself in the morning at the High School to talk about school related issue. They will end the day with a mock School Committee Meeting that evening before the scheduled School Committee Meeting.

Budget: FY15 Budget Reductions: Chairwoman Rau and Mr. Samargedlis gave an overview of the recent Budget Balancing Sub Committee Meeting saying that there was some good discussion and, although it was an uncomfortable meeting at times, the Sub Committee Members understand the situation. Chairwoman Rau said at the end of the meeting, it was suggested that Mr. Hayden meet with the Town Manager and the Town Accountant to try to work together to solve this problem.

Mr. Hayden thanked Chairwoman Rau and Mr. Samargedlis for reaching out to the other Town Boards to work on this issue. Mr. Hayden said his meeting with Mr. Carroll and Mr. Thornton involved a fruitful discussion. Mr. Hayden said Mr. Thornton put together some suggestions that might give some relief.

Town Analysis

		Description	Possible Reductions
26	C	Revise Out-of-Dist. Tuition Est.	\$300,000
	G	6 th Pass Dept. Receipts Increase	\$205,736
FY14	D	Special Town Meeting FY13	\$162,223
FY14	E	Special Town Meeting FY09	\$ 12,984
FY14	F	Special Town Mting FY14 surp. Int.	\$ 80,000
		TM for SPED Increased Costs	\$255,207
		Total Change	\$760,943

Mr. Hayden informed that the \$505,736 can be put towards the budget at this point and then the additional \$255,207 is an amount that we are hoping will be granted to the schools at Town Meeting in May.

Mr. Hayden then reviewed his proposals for reductions of staffing.

Elementary (4.0 FTE's)

P-Acct1 Description	Poss. Red.	Consequence	Dept. Total
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632	1.0 Balch Elementary Teacher	\$46,970	Gr. 4	\$46,970
635	1.0 Cleveland Elem. Teacher	\$46,970	Gr. 3	\$46,970
636	1.0 Oldham Elem. Teacher	\$46,970	Gr. 3	\$46,970
636	1.0 Oldham Elem. Teacher	\$53,689	New Gr. 1	\$53,689
				\$194,599

Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to approve the recommended Elementary reductions in the amount of \$194,599, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Middle School (3.0 FTE's)

631	1.0 MCAS Math Teacher	\$46,970	Elim. Class div. w/ lib. & 6 th gr. Te's	\$46,970
631	1.0 For. Lang. Tchr – Gr 6	\$46,970	Elim. Gr. 6 For. Lang.	\$46,970
608	3 Housemasters to 2 V.P.'s	\$83,459	Replace HM w/ 2 VP's	\$83,459

Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to approve the recommended Coakley Middle School reductions in the amount of \$177,399, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

High School (2.4 FTE's)

630	.4 English Teacher	\$29,261	Inc. class size	\$29,261
630	1.0 F. Lang. Teacher	\$56,076	Postpone 2 yr. lang. requirement	\$56,076
630	1.0 Social Stud. Teacher	\$51,282	Inc. class size	\$51,282

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the recommended High School reductions in the amount of \$131,619, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

System-Wide (4.5 FTE's)

Hire Down Savings (5.5 Retires)	\$120,809	\$120,809
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Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the recommended hire down savings, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

1440	Revised Circuit Breaker Estim.	\$300,000	Higher estim. w/ Town backup for lower reimb.	\$300,000
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Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to approve the recommended revised Circuit Breaker estimate, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

650	1.0 Kind.erg. Teacher	\$54,158	Enroll did not meet	\$54,158
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Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the recommended reduction of a 1.0 Kindergarten Teacher as enrollment did not meet projections, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

602	0.5 Inclusion Teacher	\$24,406	Caseloads reassigned	\$24,406
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Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the recommended reduction of a 0.5 Inclusion Teacher as caseloads can be reassigned, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

699	1.0 PLC/PAC Teacher	\$51,759	Enrollment Changes	\$51,759
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Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the recommended reduction of a 1.0 PLC/PAC Teacher due to enrollment changes, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

There was much discussion regarding what the best way is to put the buses back in.

Mr. Hayden suggested discussing this at the next Town-Wide Budget Balancing Meeting next week.

After more discussion, Mr. Samargedlis suggested putting a warrant on the Special Town Meeting for FY14 Out-of-District unexpected costs.

Mr. Hayden suggested a public hearing at the April 30th School Committee Meeting.

Mr. Gormley made a motion for a public hearing to be scheduled for the April 30th School Committee Meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Approval of 8th Grade Out-of-State Field Trip Request to Canobie Lake Park: Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this request, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Request from Union #50 to Begin Negotiations for Successor Contract: Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to respond and ask for more time, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Personnel: Mr. Hayden informed that he will begin advertising for a permanent principal for the Coakley Middle School and an Athletic Director this week.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. Gormley had none.

Mr. Samargedlis felt encouraged by the collaboration even though there are still tough decisions to be made.

Mr. Badger had none.

Mr. Montesano had none.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Mr. Badger made a motion for adjournment at 9:35 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee