

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, February 5, 2014

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, February 5, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Ms. Courtney Rau, Chairwoman, Mr. John Badger, Mr. Paul Samargedlis and Mr. Joseph Montesano

Committee Member Excused: Mr. James Gormley

Administrators Present: Mr. James Hayden, Superintendent of Schools.

Minutes: Mr. Montesano made a motion to approve the minutes of January 22, 2014, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Correspondence: Chairwoman Rau acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

- Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles;
- Correspondence from Liz McGonagle from TEC with Information regarding a Reserve Account which will be added to the next agenda.

Warrants: None.

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: None.

Appearances: Congratulations on 2nd place in the "We the People" Team Debate: (Ms. Molly Uppenkamp, Social Studies Teacher at Norwood High School.) This item was postponed due to today's snowstorm and the cancellation of school.

Reports: None.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Mr. Hayden reviewed the process of how the Superintendent goes about calling snow days and also updated regarding recent police activity behind the Coakley Middle School. Mr. Hayden said he will probably begin using twitter in the near future as a means of keeping families updated on issues that arise.

Policy: None.

Budget: FY15 Budget Reductions: Mr. Hayden reviewed with the Committee the proposed cuts of the 2nd pass of the FY2015 Budget with a goal of trimming \$2.4 million.

Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to approve the first set of reductions, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 4-0.

There was some discussion regarding how more cuts will be made from the budget going forward. The Committee has a goal of not cutting from classrooms, but they are hoping to get support from staff and families before they get to the point of needing to cut from Athletics, Arts and Activities.

There was some discussion regarding adding two Budget Sub Committee Meetings on Thursday, February 27th and on Saturday, March 1st.

Old Business: None.

New Business: The Education Cooperative 2013 Annual Report and Newsletter:

Mr. Hayden shared some of the benefits of being part of the TEC Community.

Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to accept the Education Cooperative Annual Report, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 4-0.

Norwood High School Mission Statement Revision: Mr. Hayden said the Accreditation Team continues to meet and they have expanded on the academic and social expectations. As a result, there has been some minor changes to the High School Mission Statement.

Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to file the new mission statement, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 4-0.

Coakley History Day Website: Mr. Hayden informed that the Coakley Middle School participated in the National History Day Competition last Friday, adding that the students did not make posters this year, but rather created websites for their presentations. Mr. Hayden showed a short clip of Jackie Robinson that some of the Middle School Students created. To see more of these great presentations, Mr. Hayden suggested going to the following website and clicking on the Norwood link: www.norwoodnhd.weebly.com.

Mr. Hayden said all this goes back to our budget presentation and what we need in this school system to help these kids learn and compete against other students across the state.

Notification from AFSMCE Local 1451 Norwood School Secretaries & Building Custodians, Groundsmen & Maintenance Craftsmen to Enter into Negotiations.

Chairwoman Rau asked for volunteers to serve on negotiation sub committees:

Mr. Badger and Ms. Rau will serve on the Secretaries Sub Committee.

Mr. Samargedlis and Mr. Montesano will serve on the Building Custodians, Groundsmen & Maintenance Craftsmen Sub Committee.

Personnel: None.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. Montesano had none.

Mr. Badger had none.

Mr. Samargedlis wished Chairwoman Rau and her fiancé, Christopher a wonderful wedding next weekend along with much love and happiness.

Chairwoman Rau said she is excited about her upcoming February 15th wedding. She thanked everyone for coming out to this evening's meeting.

Executive Session: Chairwoman Rau informed that there would be an Executive Session for the Superintendent's Contract.

Mr. Badger made a motion for Executive Session at 8:20 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Adjournment: Mr. Samargedlis made a motion for adjournment at 8:35 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee