

TOWN OF NORWOOD  
School Committee Meeting  
James R. Savage Educational Center  
Wednesday, December 12, 2013

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, December 12, 2013. 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. Montesano made a motion to approve the minutes of December 4, 2013, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

**Correspondence:** Massachusetts School Building Authority Center for District & School Accountability Review – January 21-24: Mr. Hayden informed that the District and School Accountability Review is scheduled for January 21<sup>st</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Hayden also updated regarding the Coakley Middle School HVAC Project. He informed that there are currently 117 cities and town on the list and, therefore, our application will not be considered this year. Mr. Hayden added that we can refresh this application next year and said we will be submitting an application for the Callahan boiler.

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

**Public Forum:** None.

**Announcements:** None.

**Appearances:** : Presentation of MASS Certificate of Academic Excellence Awards: Mr. Hayden introduced High School Students Samantha Baturin and Sam Harder who were here this evening to receive the MASS Certificate of Academic Excellence Award. This award is given to students who show strong academic and leadership qualities. Mr. Hayden shared the accomplishments of both students.

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to move New Business (Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip Request) up in the agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

**New Business:** Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip Request: Ms. Ann Mitchell, Principal of the Coakley Middle School, was here this evening to request permission for an Out-of-State field trip to Washington D.C. for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students.

Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to approve this request, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

**Reports:** None.

**Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda:** Mr. Hayden and Mr. Joe Kidd updated on a computer science project that was recently held at the Prescott Elementary School, with activities that included creating computer programs. Forty 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders stayed after school recently to participate in this project. Mr. Kidd said he was happy to assist Brianne Killian and Donna Miller at the Prescott. This project is related to the website Code.org and was quite successful.

**Policy:** None.

**Budget:** Presentation of the FY14 and FY15 Budget: Mr. Hayden gave an overview of the 2014 and 2015 Budgets. Mr. Hayden began by saying that the Norwood Schools were able to save \$209,000 in hire-down money this year. Additional staff added up to \$117,000.00. The cost of four paraprofessionals from grants that we did not receive were \$86,000.

With regard to out of district placements, the 2014 Budget projected \$3.2 million in out of districts. The actual cost has been over \$4 million for out-of-district costs. This is due to 11 new placements and 7 program changes for a total of \$917,847.00.

Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to send a letter to the Finance Commission informing them of the circumstances of the FY14 move-ins and program changes which are expenses over and above our operational budget regarding special education totaling approximately \$917,000.00, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Mr. Hayden welcomed some members of his Budget Team here this evening: Ms. Paula Alexander, Director of Student Services; Mr. Paul Ricciardi, Director of Buildings and Grounds; Mr. Joseph Kidd, Director of Technology; and Ms. Carole Poirier.

Mr. Hayden began by reviewing the 5 Year Budget Comparison:

FY11 Actual:	\$34,192,347
FY12 Actual:	\$34,184,607
FY13 Actual:	\$36,032,561
FY14 Budget:	\$36,174,719
FY15 Budget:	\$40,296,210

Mr. Hayden said we still have work to do on this budget. He said we will be working with the town wide budget committee and we need to appoint a couple of members to serve.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve the first round draft of the 2014-2015 Budget, which was seconded by Mr. Montesano. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

**Old Business:** Signing of the 2013-2016 Norwood School Committee and Norwood Administrators' Group (Unit B) Contract: Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to approve the 2013-2016 Administrators' Group (Unit B) Contract, which was seconded by Mr. Badger. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

**Personnel:** None.

**School Committee Addenda:** Mr. Gormley had none.

Mr. Samargedlis wanted to thank Kim Goodwin for her years of coaching as she steps down this year.

Mr. Badger wished everyone happy holidays and a safe break.

Mr. Montesano had none.

Chairwoman Rau said she hoped the students and staff enjoy a wonderful holiday season and a relaxing and safe vacation.

Mr. Hayden thanked his staff for all the work they did in assisting with this budget.

**Executive Session:** none.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Badger made a motion for adjournment at 8:25 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