

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, January 23, 2013

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, January 23, 2013. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Ms. Courtney Rau, Chairwoman,, Mrs. Susan McQuaid, Mr. John Badger, Mr. James Gormley, Mr. Paul Samargedlis and Mrs. Eleanor Travers.

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. McQuaid made a motion to approve the minutes of January 9, 2013, which was seconded by Mrs. Travers. The Committee voted in favor 6-0.

Correspondence: Chairwoman Rau acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

- A letter from Donna Lally dated January 18, 2013; and
- A communication from Mr. Thornton and the Finance Commission inviting the School Committee to present its proposed Budget on March 5, 2013.

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

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: None.

Appearances: Department Heads from three Departments were here this evening to discuss Capital Outlay Projects.

Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to move *Budget* up in the agenda, which was seconded by Mrs. Travers. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

Budget: FY14 Capital Outlay Projects: Mr. Ricciardi was here this evening to update the Members on the most recent additions to the priority list for Capital Projects for FY14 for the Buildings and Grounds Department:

1	Intruder Door Locks for Elementary Schools	\$100,900
2	Electronic Door Lock System Upgrade 8 buildings	\$ 56,666
3	Walkie Talkie Emergency Communication System	\$ 81,294
4	Buildings & Grounds Dump Truck	\$ 75,000
5	Callahan oil-fired boiler replacement with gas	\$341,345

6	Oldham Floor Tile Replacement hallways & classroom	\$320,650
	Sub Total	\$235,523

Ms. McLucas was here to update the Members on the FY14 Capital Projects for the Food Service Department:

1	Point of Sale Program	\$ 47,500
2	Balch Central Kitchen Walk-In Refrigerator & Freezer	\$100,000
3	Balch Central Kitchen Large Equipment/Kitchen Update	\$100,000
4	Coakley Kitchen Update & Wall Repair	\$140,000
	Sub Total	\$387,500

Mr. Kidd was here to update the Members on the FY14 Capital Projects for the Technology Department:

1	Finish Network Switch Replacement for Core & District	\$116,500
2	Middle School PC Refresh cycle, 15 interactive classrooms	\$ 73,313
3	Elementary Schools Laptops & Printers, Smartboard installs	\$ 45,710
4	Administrative PC upgrade, Prof. Dev. Lab cart	\$ 10,000
	Sub Total	\$235,523

Grand Total \$1,598,878

The Members had an opportunity for questions and comments.

Mrs. McQuaid complemented Mr. Kidd on the good job he has done in the short time he has been here, saying he has gotten a good handle on the needs of the schools.

Mr. Badger made a motion to present the FY14 Capital Outlay Project List at the March 5th Meeting with the Finance Commission, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

FY14 Budget Update: Mr. Hayden said the Members received the *FY14 Budget Reductions to Meet Revenue Projection* packet which outlines the first round of possible personnel and operational reductions.

There was much discussion regarding these proposals.

After reviewing the proposed reductions, Mrs. Travers made a motion to approve the Personnel Reductions in the amount of \$277,729, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley.

Mr. Badger made an amendment to the motion to approve the personnel reductions less the two teaching positions, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted in favor 5-1 (Mrs. Travers opposed).

Mr. Badger made a motion to approve the proposed operational reductions in the amount of \$199,083, which was seconded by Mrs. Travers. The Committee voted in favor 6-0.

Approval of FY13 Budget Transfer: Mr. Ehrenworth, Principal of the Coakley Middle School, requested a transfer of funds in order to purchase additional supplies.

<u>Transfer From:</u>	<u>Transfer To:</u>
1256 13 Sch Equip Rep-CMS.....\$4,000.00	0867 13 Sch IS/TB –CMS Science Txbk \$1,405.00
	0931 13 Sch IS/TB – Admin Ins. Supply \$2,595.00
Total To Be Transferred From.....\$4,000.00	Total To Be Transferred To.....\$4,000.00

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this transfer, which was seconded by Mrs. Travers. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

Reports: None.

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

Policy: Approval of Student Activity Accounts Policy – JIF & JIF – E: Mr. Badger said that with regard to the Audit of the Student Activities Accounts, Ms. Ellis has created a Student Activities Account Handbook that the Members have had an opportunity to review.

Mr. Badger made a motion to approve the Student Activities Account Handbook, which was seconded by Mrs. Travers. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

Old Business: Change of Three-Year Vacancy to Two-Year Vacancy on April 1, 2013 Town Ballot: Mr. Gormley made a motion to notify the Selectmen of Mrs. McQuaid’s resignation and need to put the remainder of her term (2 years of a 3-year term) on the spring ballot, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

New Business: Approval of DRAFT 2013-2014 School Calendar: Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to approve the 2013-2014 School Calendar schedule, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley.

Mr. Hayden informed that due to wording in the teachers’ contract, he needs to bring a proposal to the Teachers’ Union to request Friday, December 20th be a full day of school. If they do not approve this proposal, he would come back and change the calendar so that Monday, December 23rd would be a half-day.

With regard to the motion on the table, the Committee voted in favor 5-0-1 (Mrs. Travers had to leave for a family commitment).

Mr. Hayden said he would like to propose an addendum to the calendar that would list all of the holidays of the students of Norwood so that staff can plan their lessons, activities and tests around these dates.

Chairwoman Rau said there has been a request from a group in the Community to change the *Winter Recess* to *Christmas Break*.

Mr. Samargedlis made a request to change the *Winter Recess* back to its former name *Christmas Recess*.

There was no second.

Mrs. McQuaid made a motion that *Winter Recess* is appropriate and should remain the same, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis.

Mr. Badger made an amendment to this motion to add the calendar addendum of Holidays to the School Year Calendar, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted 5-0-1.

The Members had an opportunity to share their thoughts and concerns regarding this matter.

Approval of Cal Ripkin Baseball Clinic Rental Fee Waiver: Mr. Gormley made a motion to decrease the rental fee, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted in favor 5-0-1.

Personnel: None.

School Committee Addenda:

Mr. Badger said he was displeased by a comment by a Selectmen in the Norwood Record saying our vote was arbitrary with regards to the change of wording on the School Calendar.

Mr. Samargedlis said he agreed with Mr. Badger regarding that same comment.

Mr. Gormley had none.

Mrs. McQuaid congratulated the Fine Arts Department for the invitation they received to show some of their work this weekend at Patriot Place at the Artists' Studio and Gallery. Many of our students will be showing their work.

Mr. Samargedlis congratulated Mr. Dave LaRonde as he has been appointed in charge of six Masonic Lodges in this area. Mr. LaRonde is instrumental in

coordinating the annual Teacher of the Year Award and has supported the Norwood Schools for many years.

Chairwoman Rau thanked the Community Members who brought the calendar item to our Committee and those who signed the petition. She said it was an emotional discussion but the outcome is inclusive of all our students.

Executive Session: Chairwoman Rau informed that there would be an Executive Session for Union 50 Negotiations.

Mr. Gormley made a motion for Executive Session at 8:45 p.m., which was seconded by Mrs. McQuaid. The Committee voted in favor 5-0-1.

Adjournment: Mr. Badger made a motion for adjournment at 9:20 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