

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, April 11, 2018

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, April 11, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Ms. Myev Bodenhofer. Chair, Mrs. Michele Eysie Mullen, Ms. Teresa Stewart, Ms. Maura Smith and Mr. Dave Catania

Administrators Present: Dr. Dave Thomson, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Alec Wyeth, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment; and Ms. Ann Marie Ellis, Director of Finance and Operations

Minutes: Ms. Stewart made a motion to approve the minutes of March 28, 2018, as well as the executive session minutes of March 28, 2018 and April 9, 2018, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. With regard to the minutes of March 28, 2018; the Committee voted unanimously in favor. With regard to the Executive Session Minutes, the Committee voted in favor 4-0-1 (Ms. Smith abstained).

Correspondence: Chairwoman Bodenhofer acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

-Petition received on March 29, 2018 asking to see if the Town will vote to transfer two parcels of land near the Coakley Middle School from the Recreation Department to the Norwood School Committee.

Warrants: Chairwoman Bodenhofer informed that there were warrants to be signed. She then read the totals:

Payroll Warrants:	\$1,344,704.73 \$95,250.76
Accounts Payable Warrants:	\$73,985.32 \$3,072.69 \$110,655.06
Total Expenditure of:	\$1,627,668.56

Public Forum: Chairwoman Bodenhofer informed that this was the time in the meeting for members of the public to address the School Committee with items that they would like to see on a future agenda

Ms. Grace Nelson, from the Norwood High School Drama Program was here this evening to ask permission to go to the New England Drama Festival. She said this is a once in a lifetime opportunity for Honors Drama Students.

Announcements: Norwood Historical Commission has sent a letter to Mr. Bourn informing him that the Historical Commission would like to sponsor an essay contest focusing on Norwood's history. The contest will be open to all Norwood High School students and there will be monetary awards for the first and second place winners.

NESDEC is having its annual meeting on May 10th.

Appearances: Student Government Day: Chairwoman Bodenhofer and Dr. Thomson welcomed the following Norwood High Students to this evening's Norwood School Committee Meeting.

- Emily Moran, Superintendent of Schools (Gr. 11);
- Noelle Abruzzese, School Committee (Gr. 11);
- Kayla Duffy, School Committee (Gr. 11);
- Allison Kelleher, School Committee (Gr. 11);
- Marisa Silk, School Committee (Gr. 10);
- Jennifer Ciarletto, School Committee (Gr. 9);

The students here this evening chose to discuss the topic of allowing students to leave campus during their study hall periods. The students shared their thoughts and concerns regarding this idea.

After discussing this issue, the students voted in favor of allowing open campus.

Another student brought up the idea of moving the start time for high school students from 7:45 until 8:45 a.m.

The students had an opportunity to share their thoughts in favor and against this idea. One of the students made a motion to have school start later, and to figure out the parameters before changing the start time.

There was more discussion on this matter.

The students voted in favor of this motion.

Norwood Community Media: Mr. Scott Murphy, Mr. Jack Tolman and Mr. Mark Hoover were here this evening to explain the rebranding of the former Norwood Public Access Television. They shared that the new President will be Mrs. Gerry Slater. They also explained the reasoning behind the rebranding and the new name of Norwood Community Media. They said the partnership between Norwood

Community Media and the Norwood Schools is an amazing partnership that just keeps growing.

Food Services Update: Mr. Elis Norris, Director of Food Services, Erin Long of Chartwells, and Kelsey (the registered dietician) were here this evening to provide and update to the Committee on Food Services.

Mr. Norris wanted to first share a wonderful power point presentation that was sponsored by the Norwood Public Schools and Chartwells. This power point presentation was a video put together with the help of Mr. Paul Ricciardi and Mr. Jack Tolman, which explains diversity and how we all have more in common than we think.

Mr. Norris shared some highlights (photos) from this past year, including the hydroponic garden at the Prescott, Channel 4 and Paula Ebben reporting about the food program at the Oldham, some catering events they have done and the food share tables at the Willett and the High School.

Mr. Norris updated the Committee on the financial aspect of the program and reviewed the costs of lunches and breakfasts at each level.

Kelsey, the dietician reviewed the dietary guidelines and then reviewed the Nutrislice App. She reviewed a sample meal snap shot, which shows the five food components.

The Members had an opportunity to ask questions and share their concerns.

Reports: None.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Dr. Thomson congratulated the students involved in Student Government Day today. He also thanked Ms. Jen Orlinsky for coordinating this day.

Dr. Thomson then updated that he met with the Athletic Review Committee and they are fine-tuning their recommendations.

Dr. Thomson also informed that the Social Emotional Learning Group will meet tomorrow.

Dr. Thomson asked that anyone interested in participating in the MASC Day on the Hill should let him know soon.

Dr. Wyeth said there are two Principal Search Committees going on at the moment. The High School Principal Search had 30 applicants that have been narrowed down to 23 and then down to 16. The Prescott Principal Search ended up with 30 applicants and has been narrowed down to 12 applications at this point.

Dr. Wyeth then reviewed the make-up of the Committees.

Dr. Wyeth said that there would be a second Search Committee Meeting after vacation for both Committees. Interviews will happen between April 30th and May 4th. He said they are hoping to have finalists to the Superintendent around May 8th.

There was some discussion as to possibly doing a survey for the families of the schools to fill out.

Policy: Policy Sub-Committee Appointment: The Chair informed that there is now an opening on the Policy Sub Committee. Ms. Stewart is planning on remaining on this sub committee. Mr. Catania volunteered to serve.

Animal Policy (IMG), (IMGB): Ms. Stewart said the Members should have received the last draft of the Animal Policy from March 8th. School Council has had an opportunity to review it. The attorney recommended taking this policy and making into two policies: (1) for Service Animals; and (2) for Therapy Animals.

Mr. Catania made a motion to approve this policy with one word change (as discussed in the meeting), which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Budget: FY19 Budget: The Chair said the School Committee, Board of Selectmen and the Finance Commission will having a joint meeting this Saturday in the Community Room at the Police Station this Saturday at 9:00 to discussion town fiscal policies.

The Chair informed that our next meeting, April 25th will be at the Prescott. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., but there will be a Budget Hearing that will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The final Budget-Balancing Meeting was held last week and they approved the budget unanimously. Ms. Smith informed that there will be another meeting in June to begin long-range planning.

Dr. Thomson updated that recent reports have been coming in that we will be receiving 72% (not the 65% as previously estimated) for an increase of \$217,000 more in circuit breaker funding. Dr. Thomson thanked Representative Rogers who has another bill in the works that could bring that amount up to 75%.

Old Business: Long-Term Agenda: Chairwoman Bodenhofer reviewed the Long Term Agenda and updated the Committee on some adjustments to the schedule.

New Business: Out of State Field Trip: Stadium Theater, Woonsocket, RI for Cleveland School: Ms. Smith informed that this field trip will be at no cost to the students as the PTO will be paying for this.

Ms. Smith made a motion to approve this field trip, which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Out of State Field Trip – New England Drama Festival, Gilford, NH, High School:

Dr. Thomson recommended approving this field trip.

Ms. Smith made a motion to approve this field trip, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen.

There was some discussion regarding the short notice of this request. Dr. Thomson reminded that requests should come in more than 60 days prior to events.

There was some discussion as to reviewing the out of state policy to see if adjustments need to be made.

Ms. Stewart made an amendment to the motion that the field trip will be approved pending more detailed information (on hotel and cost break down) will be sent to Dr. Thomson and he will need to be comfortable with the details.. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

With regard to the motion, the Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Consent Agenda:

Acceptance of Three Donations:

- Bay State Federal Saving Charitable Foundation - \$500 – High School Scholarship;
- Norwood High School PTO - \$5,008.40 – HS SAT Prep Course; and
- Norwood Elks – Dictionaries – Balch 3rd Grade Class.

Ms. Smith made a motion to approve these donations, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Personnel: Dr. Thomson updated on one resignation. He then announced the new hires.

School Committee Addenda: Chairwoman Bodenhofer welcomed Mr. Dave Catania as the newest member on the Committee. She then thanked Mr. Patrick McDonough for his service to this Committee.

Ms. Smith echoed the Chair's sentiments. She informed that new Town Manager Tony Mazzucco will be hosting a Community Financing 101 night. She then congratulated all the new members of Town Meeting. She then wished everyone a happy vacation.

Ms. Stewart updated on the school events she has attended in the last couple of weeks. She then updated on the last IMPACT Norwood Meeting. On May 14th Ms. Stewart informed that there will be free yoga classes at the Recreation Department. On May 18th there will be a free training on youth mental health first aide. She informed that the first family substance abuse night will be at the CMS. Ms. Stewart was happy to update that the Board of Health did received the grant they applied for and it will help our families with more support.

Mrs. Mullen welcomed Mr. Catania and said she is looking forward to working with him on this Committee. She then thanked Mr. McDonough publicly saying he was passionate and very committed to this committee. She then thanked the students that were here this evening for Student Government Day. She said they were a professional and committed group of students and they did great. She ended by encouraging Norwood High School students to participate In the Norwood History essay contest, adding that it will be nice to add to college resumes.

Mr. Catania was grateful to the voters for the faith they have in him. He also thanked Mr. McDonough on all his hard work before him. He said he looks forward to working with everyone on this committee. He will be attending the training for new School Committee Members next month.

Executive Session: None.

Adjournment: Mrs. Mullen made a motion for adjournment at 9:20 p.m., which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee