

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
Norwood High School (library)
Wednesday, May 9, 2018

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, May 9, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 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 April 25, 2018, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Correspondence: Chairwoman Bodenhofer acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

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

Payroll Warrants:	\$1,310,293.24
	\$ 84,776.92
Accounts Payable:	\$ 9,321.17
	\$ 13,129.85
	\$ 1,409.41
	\$ 783,519.87
	\$ 30,855.60
Interdepartmental Invoices:	\$ 5,430.03
	\$ 1,023.41
Total Expenditure of:	\$2,239,759.50

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: Dr. Thomson informed that at the next meeting, there will be a hearing on *School Choice* (May 23, 2018 at 7:05 p.m.). He then recognized Ms. Joy Huey, 2018 Teacher of the Year and asked her to come up and be recognized. Ms. Huey gave many thanks to her colleagues, students and families and then she congratulated the other nominees. The Committee Members had an opportunity to congratulate Ms. Huey.

Dr. Thomson said that he just received, today, an announcement from our visual arts department that junior, Mya Tomlinson, has won the 8th district of Massachusetts Congressional Art Contest. Only one piece of artwork from each Congressional District is chosen and her piece will hang in the US Capital Building in the rotunda for one year.

Appearances: Mr. Bourn welcomed and introduced the chaperones and students who went on the recent Italy trip. The students were excited to share with the Committee their thoughts about the trip along with some great pictures.

Mr. Bourn welcomed the students who participated in the Dominican Republic service trip, led by Ms. Jess Kaplan. She said it was an opportunity of a lifetime as it was a total immersion experience in Spanish and the students (all girls) were able to make a difference in the lives of many girls through service.

Mr. Bourn thanked Ms. Derrane for being a great Foreign Language Department Head and Global Citizen Coordinator and for encouraging these experiences for our students.

At this point in the meeting, four students from Norwood High School updated on how the 4 A's at Norwood High (Academics, Athletics, Arts and Activities) have impacted their lives.

Mr. Bourn thanked the Committee for allowing the students these wonderful travel experiences

Reports: Entry Plan Report: Dr. Thomson shared his Entry Plan Report dated May 7, 2018.

Mrs. Mullen thanked Dr. Thomson for this document and said he was spot-on with the Schools' strengths.

Dr. Thomson said he has been attending the *New Superintendent's Training Sessions* run by DESE.

Chairwoman Bodenhofer said it sounds like much of the work he is doing will mesh in nicely with the work the Budget Sub Committee and the Long-Term Strategic Planning Group will be doing.

Dr. Wyeth gave an update on the Social/Emotional Task Force saying that the group has decided to use the CASEL District Resource Center, which has new tools for how to plan for Social/Emotional Planning in the school system. They will be diving more into the 10 tools that the resource center provides. The next meeting is on May 10th at 3:30 at the Savage Educational Center

The Fuse Fellowship Program is moving along nicely and Dr. Wyeth explained that we have four teachers selected at each level to become “Early Adopters” and will become lighthouses for early learning. They will have a “Fuse Fellow” coach from out of district. Dr. Thomson added that our Fuse Fellow representatives will be trained on learning how to coach other teachers.

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Catania made a motion for a five-minute recess, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Dr. Thomson said that both Principal Search Committees have completed their work. He thanked both Committees for their hard work. He then announced the final candidates for both schools.

Dr. Thomson announced the final candidates:

High School:

- Cindy Derrane;
- Anthony Chiariello; and
- Hugh Galligan.

The Staff will have an opportunity to meet the candidates on Tuesday, May 15th in the High School Library in the afternoon. Parents and students will have an opportunity to meet the candidates on Wednesday, May 16th in the GSU Auditorium during the evening.

Prescott:

- Martha Wiley;
- Carolyn Shediak; and
- Bryan Riley.

The Staff will have an opportunity to meet the candidates on Tuesday, May 15th in the afternoon. Parents and students will have an opportunity to meet the candidates on Wednesday, May 16th during the evening.

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

Policy: Ms. Smith shared her concerns about a food policy (EFDA). The Chair asked the Policy Sub Committee if they could look into this policy.

Budget: Ms. Smith updated that they met last Friday with Dr. Thomson and Ms. Ellis to review the presentation for Town Meeting.

Old Business: TEC Update: Mrs. Mullen updated on the May 4th TEC Meeting, saying that they have increased by 22 students this year. There will be 18 students graduating from TEC this year. In our membership, there is money available for

teacher professional development. There is a no-cost cooperative purchasing program. Ms. Ellis does work very well with them and we do save a lot of money.

Town Meeting Warrant: The Chair updated on the Special Town Meeting, Warrant 13- Supplement FY18 appropriation (for SPED Prepays) - The Finance Commission recommends this.

14 – (Funds for English Lang. Learners) – requested \$60,000 – The Finance Commission has not recommended this be funded because they anticipate more funding from the State for Circuit Breaker which is right now being discussed in a Conference Committee.

The Chair said if we find out the Governor will sign this increased Circuit Breaker amount, we can withdraw this warrant.

Article 15 – Funds for Snow and Ice – asking for \$205,000 for the schools –

Mr. Catania made a motion that if the money from the State Circuit Breaker comes in, we will withdraw the \$60,000 for funds for English Language Learners, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Members had an opportunity to share their thoughts and concerns. The Committee voted in favor 4-1 (Ms. Stewart voted against because she did not believe the Committee should withdraw the request even with additional state funding).

The Chair spoke about an Article on the Warrant from a citizen asking for a certain parcel at the Coakley Middle School to be transferred to the School Committee. She added that she believes that this will probably be declared out of order since specific information needed was not included.

Long Term Agenda Document: There is a meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. before Town Meeting. She does not believe that meeting is needed and she will cancel it.

The Chair then updated the Committee on other additions/changes to the long term agenda document.

Ms. Smith made a motion to move field trips up in the agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Out of State Field Trip – Summer Extended Day – Canobie Lake, Salem, NH: and Out of State Field Trip – Summer Extended Day – Rogers Williams Park Zoo, Providence, RI: Dr. Thomson recommended approving these field trips.

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

Out of State Field Trip – High School – Dominican Republic, April 13-20, 2019: Dr. Thomson recommended approving this field trip.

Mrs. Mullen 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 – High School – Washington, DC, March 25-29, 2019: Dr. Thomson recommended approving this field trip. (He explained that this is a group of students that were not able to go in middle school, and this is a make-up trip).

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

New Business: Summer Matters – Tuition: Dr. Thomson said that for the first time in 13 years, we are asking for an increase for middle and high school students from \$208 to \$308. It is not part of the budget and it is self-funding.

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

Schedule for Summer/Next Year/Traveling School Committee: Dr. Thomson had sent out a Google poll regarding next year's meeting schedule dates and the Committee has agreed on most of the dates except one in March. Chairwoman Bodenhofer said this is a good start to the planning for next year.

Mr. Catania made a motion to continue this Traveling School Committee Meetings for all eight schools, which was seconded by Ms. Smith. The Committee voted in favor 4-1 (Mrs. Mullen voted against).

Acceptance of One Donation:

Bay State Textiles - \$335.75 – System Wide
Roche Bros. Supermarkets - \$100.00 Gift Card – Coakley Middle School

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

Personnel: Dr. Thomson updated regarding a retirement and two resignations.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. Catania was very impressed with all the High School Students that shared their travel experiences with the Committee tonight. He encouraged them to keep traveling. He said the service component was amazing and he encouraged everyone to look in their own hometown as there are many neighbors in need.

Mrs. Mullen said the students who presented tonight did such a great job. They should be very proud of themselves. She added that this is a great beginning to “project based learning”. Mrs. Mullen thanked Donna Miller for inviting her to read at the Prescott.

Ms. Stewart said May is a big month for showing appreciation. She said it does take a village and she thought the students that presented this evening showed empowerment. She thanked the teachers and the parents on this team effort.

Ms. Smith congratulated to everyone who had art and performed at the Fine Arts Festival. She thanked all the Norwood teachers, as it is Teacher Appreciation Week. She then encouraged everyone to keep up the good work during MCAS testing..

The Chair thanked Town Manager Tony Mazzucco on his Finance 101 Presentation last week.

Executive Session: Chairwoman Bodenhofer informed that there would be an Executive Session for discussion on an individual contract.

Ms. Smith made a motion for Executive Session at 10:26 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The Members were polled and voted unanimously in favor 5- 0.

Adjournment: Mr. Catania made a motion for adjournment at 10:50 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