

TOWN OF NORWOOD  
School Committee Meeting  
Savage Educational Center  
Wednesday, September 12, 2018

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, September 12, 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 and Mr. Dave Catania.

**Committee Member Excused:** Ms. Maura Smith.

**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:** Mr. Catania made a motion to approve the School Committee Minutes of August 8, 2018, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Mr. Catania made a motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes of August 8, 2018, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

**Correspondence:** None.

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

Payroll Warrants:	\$ 65,526.40
	\$ 775,705.61
	\$ 63,415.11
	\$ 739,669.20
Accounts Payable Warrants:	\$ 29,685.29
	\$ 63,958.51
	\$ 67,233.68
	\$ 13,648.54
	\$ 86,820.30
	\$ 19,438.52
	\$ 406,392.12
	\$ 71,249.52
	\$ 54,150.84
	\$ 460.00
	\$ 113,782.75
Total Expenditure:	\$2,571,136.39

**Public Forum:** None.

**Appearances:** Norwood High School Principal: Dr. Hugh Galligan, new Principal of Norwood High School, was here this evening to introduce himself and give an update on the opening week of school. Dr. Galligan comes to Norwood from the Hanover Schools where he was an Associate Principal. He shared that the first few days of school were filled with so much positivity from the staff, which is setting a great tone for the students.

Prescott Elementary School Principal: Mr. Bryan Riley introduced himself and shared that he is a former Norwood Public Schools student, having attended the Cleveland Elementary School, the Coakley Middle School, and Norwood High School. Mr. Riley said he spent the summer meeting with his teachers and staff and had great discussions about what their hopes and dreams are for the Prescott.

The Members had an opportunity for questions and comments.

**Reports:** 5-Year Projections: Dr. Thomson reviewed Budget Balancing Committee's process for putting together the 5-Year Projections:

- Assumptions;
- “Level Services” – Dr. Thomson reviewed how dire the deficit would be for the next five years if we maintain level services
- There was much discussion regarding programming priorities;
  - Increased AP offerings;
  - Mass Core Curriculum;
  - Curriculum Review and Replacement;
  - High Quality Professional Development;
  - Student Intervention Programming;
  - Social Emotional Education;
  - Increased focus on Technical Education (Math, Science, Engineering & Computer Science); and
- Reductions:
  - Challenged by previous budget reductions in that discretionary spending does not exist in our present budget;
  - A reduction of 1 million dollars is equal to approximately 16 teachers;
  - Eliminating Athletics would reduce the budget by \$664,000;
  - Eliminating Fine Arts would reduce the budget by \$211,000.

Chairwoman Bodenhofer said they would be looking at projections for Free Cash at the next meeting.

**Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda:** Dr. Thomson reviewed the System Wide Enrollment Report dated September 11, 2018, which the Members received this evening.

Dr. Thomson said that opening week went very well, adding that he did call a half-day for the first day that the students came to school due to the heat.

**Policy:** Policy Sub Committee Update: Ms. Stewart updated that there are a couple of policies the sub committee will be looking at, which include a Sub Committee Policy (as our current policy says there are no standing sub committees).

There are also five policies recommended for review by MASC.

**Budget:** FY19 Budget Discussion and Budget Sub-Committee Update: The Chair informed that there are a couple of positions that are needed that are covered by Grants, and we are still waiting to see if the grants will be coming through.

The Chair then said that the goal of the Town Wide Budget Balancing Committee would be to make a recommendation regarding an override by some time in December. If an override were to be put on the April 1<sup>st</sup> ballot, the Selectmen would first have to take a vote to put it on the ballot by February. The Chair explained that even if an override is approved, Town Meeting would still have to approve it. The Chair said we would need to do two budgets this year: (1) for a budget with an approved override; and (2) for a budget that does not have an override, in case the override gets voted down.

The Chair explained that if an override passes, the average taxpayer will pay approximately \$65 for every million dollars approved.

**Old Business:** Special Education Transportation: The Chair and Ms. Ellis reviewed the current pay for Norwood's special education bus monitors, van drivers, and CDL drivers:

- SPED Monitors - \$14.21/hour;
- SPED Van Drivers - \$15.00/hour; and
- SPED CDL drivers --- \$19.00/hour.

District is considering the following changes:

- SPED Monitors - \$15.00/hour;
- SPED Van Drivers - \$16.00/hour; and
- SPED CDL drivers --- \$20.25/hour.

Pay 14 7D License Renewals @ \$15.00;

Pay 4 CDL Renewals @ \$65.00;

Pay 15 7D License New @ \$35.00;

Pay 15 two-hour required training for 7D New License @ \$30.00.

Insurance cost for vehicles to be parked at residence:

- No financial or rate impact;
- Would need a Vehicle Use Policy
  - View Parking area prior to assignment
  - Signed receipt of acknowledgement.

Assuming the same hours and positions from FY18, last year:

-FY19 Projected vs. FY18 Actual	\$ 33,047.76
-7D License Renewal	\$ 210.00
-CDL License Renewal	\$ 260.00
-2 Hour Train for 7D License	\$ 950.00
-7D License New	\$ 525.00
-Van Driver & Monitor Sick/ Personal Leave Benefit	\$ 6,752.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 41,744.76</b>

Mr. Catania made a motion to approve these increases, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Mr. Catania made a motion to approve that the drivers be allowed to keep the vans at their homes, only after Dr. Thomson reviews policies and follows through with any concerns, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

Facilities Committee Update: Chairwoman Bodenhofer updated regarding the Facilities Committee. She updated that a new Facilities manager would need to report to the Superintendent and the Town Manager. Mr. Dave Hajjar is very involved in this plan and would like to come to a future meeting to talk with the Committee. If we are going to move forward with this we will need to add personnel and add to the Town Wide Budget.

Long Term Agenda Document: The Committee Members received an updated Long Term Agenda Document in their packets this week.

**New Business:** FY19 Superintendent Goals & Evaluation Criteria: Mr. Catania said he and Mrs. Mullen have put together goals and criteria for the Superintendent to work on towards the next evaluation cycle. Mr. Catania read the draft goals and criteria out loud.

Mr. Catania and Mrs. Mullen said they met with Dr. Thomson yesterday and Dr. Thomson gave his recommendations. They were able to make some changes and additions.

The Committee Members had an opportunity for comments and suggestions.

They will table this item and add it to next week's agenda.

**Consent Agenda:**

**Acceptance of (3) Three Donations:**

- Bay State Textiles – July Rebate - \$369.50;
- Blue Hills Chapter of Business Networking International - \$500 for Title 1 Schools (Balch, Callahan, Oldham);
- The Michael P. Mahoney Memorial Fund, Inc. –Football Uniforms (valued at \$12,500).

Mr. Catania made a motion to accept these donations, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Committee voted in favor 4-0.

**Personnel:** Dr. Thomson updated regarding new hires.

**School Committee Addenda:** Ms. Stewart welcomed everyone back to the new year. Ms. Stewart reminded that there are so many changes going on with all our children so we should all be patient and love them through it. Ms. Stewart then invited everyone to some workshops run by CFCE. She then congratulated Progress Norwood who have been working with the DPW. There are now two fields with recycling bins.

Mrs. Mullen welcomed everyone back and encouraged everyone to see Norwood's production of *The Adams Family*. She also invited everyone to a Mom's Night Out (no kids invited) at the Norwood Space Center. Finally she thanked the Mike Mahoney Scholarship Committee for the money for new football uniforms. She thanked AJ Grant, who is part of that Committee and the driving force behind this donation.

Mr. Catania echoed the other Members in welcoming everyone back and wishing everyone the best of luck for a great year.

**Executive Session:** Chairwoman Bodenhofer informed that there would be an Executive Session for Contract Negotiations (Food Service Workers) and Individual Contract Negotiations and said we will be coming back into Open Session only for adjournment.

Mr. Catania made a motion for Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. The Committee Members were polled and voted in favor 4-0.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Catania made a motion for adjournment at 9:40 p.m., which was seconded by Mrs. Stewart. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk  
Norwood School Committee

