

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, February 27, 2019

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, February 27, 2019. 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: Mrs. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of February 13, 2019, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted in favor 4-0-1 (Mr. Catania abstained).

Correspondence: None.

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

Payroll Warrants:	\$1,463,951.74
	\$ 99,982.91
Accounts Payable Warrants:	\$ 60,433.01
	\$ 31,099.96
	\$ 906.15
	\$ 467,872.77
	\$ 267,742.58
	\$ 18,179.98
Total Expenditure:	\$2,410,169.10

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: Dr. Thomson announced that due to this evening's snowstorm, school will be delayed two hours tomorrow morning, adding that there will be no morning preschool.

Budget: FY19 Budget Transfer:

TRANSFER FROM:		TRANSFER TO:	
0653-19 Sch Inst Sal-Conf/ Other	\$900.00	0931-19 Sch IS/TB – CMS Adm.	\$900.00
Total to Be Transferred From:	\$900.00	Total to Be Transferred To:	\$900.00

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

FY20 Budget: The Chair began by saying that this evening there would be some discussion regarding the budget should the override pass. She updated that we are still a little over \$950,000 away from a balanced budget. She said that we should wait on further cuts until after the next Balanced Budget Committee meets to see if there is any way to ask for some relief, either from free cash or stabilization money. The next Budget Balancing Meeting will be held on March 6th. The GIC is scheduled to vote tomorrow on increases.

Dr. Thomson did a presentation on the preferred budget (if the override is successful). He reviewed the background, goals and restorations.

Override Total Requests by Category:

Technology Administrative Assistant	\$ 63,128.00
High School AP Programming	\$272,364.00
High School MassCore Programming	\$ 78,197.00
Middle School Teacher of Health/PE	\$ 42,425.00
Callahan Elementary Teacher	\$ 57,845.00
ELL Teacher	\$117,296.00
Intervention Specialist	\$ 78,197.00
Middle School Librarian	\$ 39,098.00
Elementary Adjustment Counselors	\$119,978.00
Middle School Adjustment Counselor	\$ 59,989.00
Middle School Resource Room (TASC)	\$ 65,338.00
	993,855.00
Added in the following to expense accounts:	
Curriculum Refresh	\$300,000.00
ELL Curriculum materials/Personalized learning/ PBL training	\$112,500.00
Intervention Supplies	\$ 53,163.00
Personalized Assessment & Intervention Software	\$ 39,000.00
Expenses brought back to FY19 requested amounts	\$ 30,671.00
	\$535,334.80
Total	1,529,189.80

There was much discussion regarding these requested items. The Members shared their concerns on class sizes and staff cuts over the past few years. There was also some conversation on how the additions of these requested items will improve our schools and how the public will know that this investment is paying off.

Mr. Catania made a motion to table further discussion on this item until the next meeting, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Dr. Thomson informed that Student Government Day will be on April 10th this year. He also informed that on the evening of March 13th Andrea Vaughn will be doing a presentation at the High School on keeping students safe. He also informed that during the recent windstorm, the solar panels at the high school were damaged. He added that we are working with the insurance company at this point to get them fixed.

Policy: Field Trip: Ms. Stewart reviewed with the Committee the following field trip policies:

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|---|-------------|
| -Field Trip and Excursion Policy | File IJOA |
| -Field Trips | File IJOA-1 |
| -Student Late Night or Overnight Travel | File: JJH |
| -Student Travel Regulations | File JJH-R |

The Members shared their thoughts on these policies. There was some discussion as to rolling IJOA-1 into IJOA as well as the timeline of when requests need to be submitted to the School Committee.

Old Business: The Chair informed that the next Capital Outlay Committee Meeting will be on March 21st at 6:00 p.m.

New Business: 2019-2020 School Year Calendar: Dr. Thomson said the Members have received a draft of the *Norwood Public Schools – 2019-2020 School Year Calendar*.

Dr. Wyeth gave an overview of how the Calendar is put together each year. There was some discussion regarding when December break should start. Most of the Members thought that December 20th should be the last day of school before December break instead of asking everyone to come back for a half-day on Monday the 23rd. Dr. Thomson said he would check with the teachers union to see if that will work. He said that they will have to add a half-day in there somewhere, adding that the school year could just possibly end on June 19th instead of June 18th.

Overnight Field Trip Request:

- NAFME All-East Honor Ensemble Music Festival – High School –
Pittsburg, PA April 4-7, 2019:

Mrs. Mullen made a motion to approve this request, which was seconded by Mr. Catania.

Mr. Catania amended his motion to approve this request, adding, "pending the necessary insurance paperwork be forwarded to Dr. Thomson and meets his approval".

The Mrs. Mullen made a motion to approve the amendment, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

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

(Second Field Trip)

-Washington, DC, Coakley Middle School, May 29-June 1, 2019:

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

Consent Agenda:

Acceptance of Five (5) Donations:

- CMS Student Council- \$210.00 – Fall After School Scholarship;
- CMS Student Council - \$300.00 – Winter After School Sport Scholarship;
- CJ Prescott PTO - \$1,322.40 – Enrichment Stipends;
- Exxon Mobil Educational Alliance Program - \$500.00 – Prescott School;
- Big Y Supermarket Anonymous Donation - \$228.67 – High 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: None.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. Catania had none.

Mrs. Mullen had none.

Ms. Stewart had none.

Ms. Smith congratulated all the sports teams that made it into the postseason tournament for the winter season.

The Chair had none.

Adjournment: Mr. Catania made a motion for adjournment at 9:15 p.m., which was seconded by Ms. Smith. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee

