

TOWN OF NORWOOD  
School Committee Meeting  
Savage Educational Center  
Wednesday, June 5, 2019

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, June 5, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Ms. Myev Bodenhofer, Chairman, Ms. Teresa Stewart, Ms. Maura Smith, Mr. Dave Catania and Ms. Joan Giblin

**Administrators Present:** Dr. Dave Thomson, Superintendent of Schools and Dr. Alec Wyeth, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Curriculum

**Minutes:** Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of May 22, 2019, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes of May 8, 2019, which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

**Correspondence:** Chairwoman Bodenhofer acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

-A letter from Stephen Merritt dated June 5, 2019, regarding naming the Village Center at 82 Roosevelt Avenue in honor of Carole Poirier, who passed away this month. Mrs. Poirier was the driving force for the creation of the Village Center.

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

|                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Payroll Warrants:           | \$1,414,659.04        |
|                             | \$ 98,168.92          |
| Accounts Payable:           | \$ 8,576.89           |
|                             | \$ 36,399.74          |
|                             | \$ 227,473.20         |
| Interdepartmental Invoices: | \$ 245.28             |
| <b>Total Expenditure:</b>   | <b>\$1,785,523.07</b> |

**Public Forum:** None.

**Announcements:** None

**Appearances: Spring Athletics:** Mr. Jon Longley was here to updated regarding Spring Athletics. He began by thanking the community for their support of Norwood Athletics and the students of Norwood by voting in favor of the Operational Override.

He then announced the TVL All-Stars and Honorable Mentions.

|                                      |  |                              |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Baseball                             | Jay Wladkowski   | Defensive Player of the Year |
|                                      | Jason Denehy   | All-Star                     |
|                                      | Robbie Wladkowski  | All-Star                     |
|                                      | David Hayes  | Honorable Mention            |
| Softball                             | Bryn Garczynski  | All-Star                     |
|                                      | Amanda Olbrys  | All-Star                     |
|                                      | Caeli Reed   | Honorable Mention            |
| Boys' Lacrosse                       | Jake Smelstor  | Honorable Mention            |
| Girls' Lacrosse                      | Erinn Wagner   | Honorable Mention            |
| Boys' Tennis                         | Thom Fehm  | All-Star                     |
|                                      | Finn Kelley  | All-Star                     |
|                                      | Sai Nedunchezian   | All-Star                     |
|                                      | Will Fehm  | Honorable Mention            |
|                                      | Mary Panetta   | Honorable Mention            |
| Girls' Tennis                        | Mary Panetta   | Honorable Mention            |
| Girls Track/Field                    | Catherine Hurley   | All-Star                     |
|                                      | Olivia Beaudet   | Honorable Mention            |
|                                      | Solomon King   | All-Star                     |
| Boys' Track/Field                    | Aidan Mulligan   | All-Star                     |
|                                      | Paul Forrest   | Honorable Mention            |
|                                      | Brian Terrell  | All-Star                     |
| Boys' Volleyball                     | Sean Pugatch   | Honorable Mention            |
|                                      | Boys' Track/Field 4x400 Relay Division 3 Sate Champions: |                              |
|                                      | Liam Fogarty   |                              |
|                                      | Paul Forrest   |                              |
|                                      | Aidan Mulligan   |                              |
|                                      | Kenny Oboour-Bekoe                                       |                              |
| TVL Large School Softball Champions: |  |                              |
|                                      | Coach: Carol Savino                                      |                              |
|                                      | Asst. Coach: Caitlin Nottebart                           |                              |
|                                      | Bryn Garczynski  |                              |
|                                      | Amanda Olbrys  |                              |
|                                      | Katie Welch  |                              |

Mr. Longley informed that they had their spring awards night last night and they honored our athletic trainer, Gillian Richards, who has been with Norwood Athletics for the past 6 years. Mrs. Richards has chosen a new career as an elementary school teacher. Mr. Longley said he hopes she can continue as Norwood's trainer part-time.

Mr. Longley then shared the spring season financials:

|           |         |             |
|-----------|---------|-------------|
| 2017-2018 | Spring: | \$32,273.98 |
| 2018-2019 | Spring: | \$33,645.26 |

Chairwoman Bodenhofer announced that, because the override passed, the deadline of June 15<sup>th</sup> for signing up for sports for next year no longer applies.

Mr. Longley said there is an information night scheduled at the High School on June 18<sup>th</sup> for any 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students and parents who are interested in playing sports at Norwood High School next year.

The Chair reminded that the fee for Athletics next year will be the same as this year: \$200 per athlete per season with an \$800 family cap.

Recognition of Retirees: Dr. Thomson announced the following staff that will be retiring at the end of this school:

- Richard Simon – NHS Math Teacher;
- Charlene Saad – Paraprofessional - Norwood High School and the LEAD Program. Mrs. Saad will be retiring from the Little Mustangs Preschool Academy;
- Tom Dugan – Music Teacher at all levels K-12 throughout his 30 years in the Norwood Public Schools;
- Judy Bowman – Food Services;
- Paula Olsen – Food Services;
- Ted Thomas – Senior Custodian at the Savage Education Center;
- Paula Alexander – Director of Student Services who came to Norwood 6 years ago;
- Dr. Wes Manaday – Principal at the Oldham Elementary School for the past 12 years who has established a warm and nurturing school environment for students and staff.

Dr. Manaday, Ms. Alexander and Mr. Thomas were in attendance at this evening's meeting. Dr. Thomson introduced them and thanked by for their years of dedication to the Norwood Schools.

At this point in the meeting, the Chair suggested moving ***Old Business: Out of State/Overnight Field Trip Request – High School Foreign Language Students – April 16-26, 2020:*** up in the agenda:

Mrs. Derrane and Ms. Holmes, from Norwood High School, were here this evening to request an overnight field trip to Italy. Ms. Holmes reviewed the information in the packet and the itinerary.

The Committee Members had an opportunity for questions and comments.

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

2019-2020 High School Handbook: Dr. Galligan and Mrs. Derrane were here this evening to update the Committee on the changes and updates to the 2019-2020 Student Handbook. Dr. Galligan and Mrs. Derrane reviewed the 14 minor changes.

The Members had an opportunity for questions and comments.

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

There was some discussion as to the process for updating and approving handbooks.

**Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda:** Dr. Thomson updated that NHS student Jason Annis was awarded Massachusetts State Honors at the Library of Congress (2018-2019 Literacy Contest) for his letter on Malcolm X.

Dr. Thomson then updated the Committee on plans to find a replacement for the position of Director of Finance, as Ms. Ellis will be resigning in July. Dr. Thomson said that the position has been advertised and advertising will close tomorrow and interviews will be held Tuesday and Wednesday of next week. Dr. Thomson said a Committee has been put together consisting of the School Committee Chair and Vice-Chair, Alan Slater of the Finance Commission, Tom McQuaid, Town Accountant, Dr. Frascsek, Ms. Robbins and himself. His plan is to have a recommendation to bring to the Committee at the meeting of June 19<sup>th</sup>. He added that due to the timing of this, there could be a lag time between the approval and when the new Director may be able to start. He said we might need to hire an interim person (a bridge person) to bridge the gap until the new person can start. Dr. Thomson spoke with Ms. Ellis about staying on for an extra two weeks to help close out the year and he has also spoke with MASBO to possibly hire a retiree to be interim. Dr. Thomson said that so far there are four qualified candidates.

The Chair asked for a written list of items Dr. Thomson would like Ms. Ellis to accomplish before she leaves the Norwood Schools.

Friday Dr. Thomson will be attending the State House for the School Recognition Ceremony at 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Thomson then thanked the Town of Norwood for supporting the Operational Override, adding Tuesday was a good day. He thanked the OneNorwood Group, especially Sarah Quinn, Julie Babour-Issa, and Katie Neil-Rizzo for their hard work and respectful campaign.

**Budget:** Budget Update: The Chair said that the big Budget update was that the Operational Override vote passed.

**Old Business:** Long Term Agenda: The Chair reviewed the remaining meetings for this school year. She said that over the summer we will begin putting the Long Term Agenda together for next year.

**Policy:** Social Media & Donation Policy: Ms. Stewart was happy that we will not have to work on a *Pay to Play Policy*, but she did review the Social Media Policy, saying that she did not receive any feedback from Members. She updated the Members regarding one item that school council suggested rewording regarding staff using personal accounts for school business (which they should then copy said correspondence to their school account).

Ms. Stewart and Ms. Giblin will be meeting as a sub-committee on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:** Out of State Overnight Field Trip Request – High School, Foreign Language Students, Tour Italy – April 16-36, 2020: (Moved up in the agenda).

School Committee Summer Meeting Schedule/Summer Warrant Signing: Mr. Catania volunteered to sign warrants on behalf of the Committee during the summer.

Ms. Stewart made a motion to authorize Mr. Catania to sign warrants on behalf of the Committee over the summer, which was seconded by Ms. Smith. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Superintendent Evaluation Timeline: The Chair asked the Committee their thoughts on the Superintendent Evaluation Timeline. After some discussion and coordinating calendars, the Committee agreed to the following time-line:

- Evidence from criteria document will be due on July 30<sup>th</sup>;
- Question period through August 15<sup>th</sup>;
- Individual Evaluations - August 15<sup>th</sup> – September 4<sup>th</sup>;
- Draft will be available at the School Committee Meeting of September 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Consent Agenda:**

Acceptance of Three (3) Donations:

- Bay State Textiles – April Rebate- \$658.25;
- Oldham Elementary PTO - \$463.83;
- Cleveland PTA - \$49.59 – MCAS Tutoring Stipend.

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

**Personnel: none.**

**School Committee Addenda:** Ms. Giblin thanked the town for voting for the override. She wanted to especially thank the OneNorwood group for their hard work.

Ms. Stewart thanked the Town for supporting the override, adding that there is still a lot of work to do.

Ms. Smith echoed the other members with her thanks to the OneNorwood group and those who supported the override, which passed by an overwhelming 3-1 vote. She added that this election had a record turnout. She said the School Committee's job will be easier, but added that there is a lot still to do and now we can start a new chapter of very hard work.

Mr. Catania read a prepared statement regarding the wisdom of the town to support the operational override.

The Chair echoed everyone's comments and added how appreciative she was of the large turnout from the town to support the override. She challenged the town to continue asking questions and stay involved. She then congratulated the Class of 2019 on graduating this passed weekend.

**Executive Session:** None.

**Adjournment:** Ms. Smith made a motion for adjournment at 9:10 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk  
Norwood School Committee