

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Ashby - Pepperell - Townsend, Massachusetts

MINUTES

Monday, August 11, 2014
North Middlesex Regional High School

PRESENT

Chairperson	Susan Robbins	Member, Townsend
Vice Chairperson	Jonna Clermont	Member, Pepperell
	Anne Adams	Member, Pepperell
	Brian Edmonds	Member, Pepperell (via remote participation)
	Crystal Epstein	Member, Ashby
	William Hackler	Member, At Large
	Michael Morgan	Member, At Large
	Randee Rusch	Member, At Large

ABSENT

Robert Templeton	Member, Townsend
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ALSO

PRESENT

Joan Landers	Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Haines	Business Manager
Michael Hartnett	District Treasurer
Parents/Community Members	
Press	

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.
2. The Chairperson informed the Committee and audience members of the recording of the meeting.
1. The next regular meeting of the North Middlesex Regional School Committee will be held on Monday, September 08, 2014 at North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:00 PM

CONSENT AGENDA

1. A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Anne Adams to approve the June 23, 2014 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Superintendent's Report
 - Superintendent Landers announced the appointment of Assistant Superintendent Nancy Milligan, High School Interim Principal Isaac Taylor, Varnum Brook Principal Tara Hanley, and Varnum Brook Assistant Principal Jill Jarvis.
 - NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) – The Superintendent informed the Committee that Ashby Elementary School has been selected to participate in the 2014 NAEP. A brief discussion ensued on the types of questions that will be included in the assessment.
 - HBMS/SECC Wastewater Disposal Project Update – Supt. Landers informed the Committee that the septic project is nearing completion. The Superintendent informed the Committee that at its most recent meeting the Wastewater Disposal Project Building Committee was given a recommendation to contract for the operation and monitoring of the sand filter.

- The Superintendent informed the Committee that student schedules were mailed to the students and guidance counselors have been meeting with students during the summer to resolve scheduling changes/conflicts.
2. Building Committee Report – Supt. Landers reported that the building project is progressing on schedule. The work groups have been meeting throughout the summer to discuss designs for exterior, interior, FF & E, MEP, sustainable design and site/parking. The next meeting is scheduled for August 25th at 5:00 PM to discuss the alternates.
 3. Public Communications – No one addressed the Committee.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Warrant Subcommittee
Available for Committee review are Accounts Payable Warrants: 14-0626, 14-0630 (3), 15-0702, 15-0709, 15-0711, 15-0717, & 15-0730 and payroll warrants: 07/03/14, 07/17/14, 07/31/14. The warrants have been reviewed and signed by the Warrant Subcommittee.
2. Policy Subcommittee – Randee Rusch informed the Committee that the Policy Subcommittee continues to meet during the summer to review policies. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on September 16.
3. Finance Subcommittee – Jonna Clermont informed the Committee that a tentative meeting has been scheduled for August 18th at 5:30 PM to discuss budget goals.

OLD BUSINESS

1. OPEB Update – Parker Elmore, Consultant from Odyssey Advisors summarized the actuarial valuation of the North Middlesex Regional School District OPEB plan for FY14 in accordance with Statement No. 45 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB 45). A lengthy discussion on possible options ensued. The Finance Subcommittee will discuss the scenario options.
2. School Nursing Update – Supt. Landers reviewed the nursing needs of the district due to increased acuity of the healthcare needs of students. The Superintendent is recommending nursing services at Hawthorne Brook be increased by 17.5 hours per week for the 2014-2015 school year.
A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Crystal Epstein to support the Superintendent's recommendation to hire a part-time nurse (17.5 hrs/week) at Hawthorne Brook Middle School for the 2014-15 school year. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Ashby Elementary Lease Amendment – Superintendent Landers reviewed the draft lease amendment. The Superintendent recommended the Committee invite Ashby Town representatives to the next school committee meeting to discuss the amendment of the lease for Ashby Elementary School. Committee members concurred with the Superintendent's recommendation. No action was taken by the Committee.
4. NEASC Commission Update – Superintendent Landers shared the results of the NEASC Commission Membership Survey. No action was taken by the Committee.
5. Revised Superintendent's Goals – The Superintendent distributed the revised Superintendent SMART goals for 2014-15. A brief discussion ensued.
A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Randee Rusch to approve the Superintendent's SMART goals for 2014-15 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for new position – Buildings & Grounds Administrative Secretary – Superintendent Landers summarized the request by the Director of Building & Grounds for a part-time Building and Grounds Administrative Secretary position. The Committee authorized the Superintendent to proceed with posting the position as an anticipated position.
2. School Copy Paper Bid Award – Business Manager Nancy Haines reviewed the results of the copy paper bid.
A motion was made by Will Hackler and seconded by Michael Morgan to accept the copy pay bid by WB Mason as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Will Hackler and seconded by Jonna Clermont to authorize the Superintendent to sign the school copy paper contract with WB Mason on behalf of the Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Pension liability presentation

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION - A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Crystal Epstein to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations re: non-represented personnel. The Committee will not return to open session.

A roll call vote was taken:

Jonna Clermont-yes; Crystal Epstein-yes; Anne Adams-yes; Michael Morgan-yes; William Hackler-yes; Randee Rusch-yes; Brian Edmonds-yes; Susan Robbins-yes.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Landry, Secretary