

**NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Ashby - Pepperell - Townsend, Massachusetts
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 23, 2015**

PRESENT

Vice Chairperson	Jonna Clermont	Member, Pepperell
	Anne Adams	Member, Pepperell
	Brian Edmonds	Member, Pepperell
Remote Participation	Crystal Epstein	Member, Ashby
	William Hackler	Member, At Large
	Michael Morgan	Member, At Large
	Randee Rusch	Member, At Large
	Robert Templeton	Member, Townsend

ABSENT

Chairperson	Susan Robbins	Member, Townsend
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ALSO PRESENT

Joan Landers - Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Milligan - Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Haines - Business Manager
Isaac Taylor - NMRHS Principal
Jeremy Hamond – NMRSD Director of Technology
Thomas Nuttall – Attorney
Parent/Community Members
Press

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:46 p.m.
2. Roll call
3. The Chairperson hereby informs the Committee and audience members of the recording of this meeting.
4. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the North Middlesex Regional School Committee will be held on Monday, March 9, 2015 (snow date Tuesday, March 10, 2015) at North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:00 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - January 12, 2015
2. Out-of-State Field Trip Request
 - North Middlesex Regional High School Jazz Band students to the University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH - Saturday, March 14, 2015
3. Acceptance of Donations
 - \$500.00 to Hawthorne Brook Middle School from Exxon Mobil Corporation and Mr. Mike's Mobil as part of their Educational Alliance Program.
 - \$500.00 to Ashby Elementary School from Exxon Mobil Corporation and Mr. Mike's Mobil as part of their Educational Alliance Program.
 - \$6.81 donation to North Middlesex Regional High School from Ohiopyle Prints Inc. as part of their school logo clothing sales program.

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda by Brian Edmonds and seconded by Rob Templeton.

The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

Attorney Thomas Nuttall facilitated a presentation for the School Committee on the M.G.L. c. 37H ¾ new discipline law. (Report is attached)

Consultant John Ledwick of Edvocate Co., Scott Berry & Michelle Curran of Whitsons Food Services provided an update on the food service program. A brief discussion ensued on the financial position and status of the food programs. (Report is attached)

REPORTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Superintendent's Report

1. Update on School Resource Officer - The Superintendent shared that the committee is meeting and discussing roles, responsibilities, and salary of the position. The FY2016 budget does have a line item for a district-wide resource officer.
2. Facility Advisory Committee Update – William Hackler stated that the committee is meeting and looking at the operational and maintenance items needed in all district facilities. The advisory committee will be reviewing areas of need a description of scheduled and unscheduled maintenance work prioritizing the costs.
3. Squannacook ECC Roof Update – The Superintendent shared with the committee that the school will be closed February 24th and 25th, due to leaks from ice dams. The Facilities Director has over 450 man hours at the school during the February vacation break. They have been clearing snow off the roof, removing ice dams and water leaks within the building. The district has already put in a claim for the water damage and is working with the MSBA for possible emergency funding for the roof.
2. Robert Templeton shared that the next meeting of the NMRHS Building Committee is being held on March 2, 2015 at 5:00 PM at North Middlesex Regional High School. The Building Committee will vote to submit the 90% contract document cost estimates. We are having continual project review meetings with town agencies. The building is still on track; we are attending numerous meetings and making progress in getting permits and fees approved. Next steps are to go out to bid.
3. Food Service Update – above
4. Parliamentary Procedure – Brian Edmonds explained 10th edition of Roberts Rules, which explains a motion may be stated as, “I move to adopt policy GBEA” - It helps move the meeting along.
5. Public Communications - Comment – There was no public comment at the meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Warrant Subcommittee
Available for Committee review are Accounts Payable Warrants 15-0108, 15-0115, 15-0122, 15-0129, 15-0205, 15-0212, 15-0215, and 15-0219 and payroll warrant 1/15/15, 1/29/15 and 2/12/15. The warrant has been reviewed and signed by the Warrant Subcommittee.
2. Policy Subcommittee – Update/Vote

The Policy Subcommittee recommends the Committee adopt the following policies (1st reading)

- A motion was made by Brian Edmonds and seconded by Jonna Clermont to approve Policy ACF, Discrimination and Grievance Reporting for 1st reading. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Brian Edmonds to approve Policy ACF-R, North Middlesex Regional School District Discrimination and Harassment Grievance Procedures for a 1st reading. The motion passed unanimously.

- A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Robert Templeton to approve Policy GBEB, Staff Conduct for a 1st reading. Some of the committee members could not find the supporting document in their packets. The GBEB policy was provided with the February 9, 2015 packets. No action was taken.

The Policy Subcommittee recommends the Committee adopt the following policies (2nd reading)

- A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Robert Templeton to approve Policy GBEA, Staff Ethics/Conflict of Interest for a 2nd reading. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Robert Templeton to approve Policy GBEB-E, Staff Conduct for a 2nd reading. (Seven-yes) 1-Brian Edmonds abstained from the vote.
- A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Robert Templeton to approve policy GCRD, Tutoring for Pay for a 2nd reading. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Robert Templeton to approve Policy KF, Community Use of School Facilities for a 2nd reading. The motion passed unanimously.
- A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Robert Templeton to approve Policy DJE, Bidding Requirements for 2nd reading. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Finance Subcommittee Update – The next finance subcommittee meeting is being held on March 5, 2015. The committee will be looking at next steps in the FY2016 budget to identify possible cuts to the proposed budget. Discussion ensued regarding the next school committee meeting on March 9, 2015; at that meeting, the Committee is to vote on the FY2016 budget. It was suggested that we look at scheduling a full school committee meeting before the March 9th meeting instead of a finance subcommittee to come up with some options after the Governor’s House 1 budget is released on March 4, 2015.

OLD BUSINESS

1. 2015-2016 NMRHS Program of Studies

- A motion was made by Brian Edmonds and seconded by Crystal Epstein to reconsider and reevaluate the 2015-2016 NMRHS Program of Studies with a specific focus on the History Department Curriculum based on concerns put forward by parents, students, and staff.

Mr. Edmonds stated that he had heard from teachers, parents and students with concerns around the AP History Department Curriculum. Mr. Taylor addressed some of the concerns based on the history department chair feedback and the small enrollment in the AP European History class. The Superintendent recommended that Mr. Taylor review the AP and accelerated classes and come back with a recommendation at the March 9, 2015 school committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. NMRSD Strategic Planning Process – Superintendent, requested to move to March 9th meeting.
2. A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by William Hackler that the School Committee authorize the Superintendent to sign the agreement with the University of Massachusetts Medical School through its Center for Health Care Financing for Medicaid administrative activity and direct service claiming. The motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- FY2016 Budget
- Review survey results on new high school bell schedule

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Superintendent recommends the North Middlesex Regional School Committee enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the NMRSD Teachers' Association.

A motion was made by Brian Edmonds and seconded by Randee Rusch to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the NMRSD Teachers' Association. A roll call vote was taken: Jonna Clermont (Y) Crystal Epstein (Y) Anne Adams (Y) Michael Morgan (Y) Brian Edmonds (Y) Randee Rusch (Y) William Hackler (Y) Robert Templeton (Y). The motion passed unanimously.

The School Committee will not return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned and moved to executive session at 9:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Bilotta-Simeone, Recording Secretary