

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

MINUTES

Monday, November 3, 2008
North Middlesex Regional High School

PRESENT

Chairperson	Arnold Silva	Member-Pepperell
Vice Chairperson	Frederick J. Wheeler III	Member-Townsend
	Sue Fitzgerald	Member-Pepperell
	Tamara Leclerc	Member-At-Large
	Kathy Low	Member-Pepperell
	Michael Morgan	Member-At-Large
	Susan Robbins	Member-Townsend
	Christopher Pena	Student Representative

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Maureen Marshall	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Deborah Brady	Assistant Superintendent
Gerald Martin	Business Manager
Barbara Conti	Director of Human Resources
District Administrators	
District Personnel	
Press	

ABSENT

Anne Buchholz	Member-At-Large
---------------	-----------------

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm
2. The next meeting of the North Middlesex Regional School Committee will be held on Monday, November 17, 2008 at the North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:30 p.m.
3. A motion was made by Sue Fitzgerald and seconded by Tamara Leclerc to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2008 meeting as amended.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. The Chairman acknowledged the resignation of long-time School Committee Member Dennis Moore and thanked him for his many years of service on the Committee. The Chairman informs the Committee that a plaque honoring Dennis' years of service has been sent to his home as he was unable to attend this evening's meeting due to a family commitment.

Dr. Marshall echoed Mr. Silva's words of praise and thanked Mr. Moore for his 13 ½ years of service on behalf of the students and staff.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Student Representative Report – Christopher Pena presented the student representative report.
2. School Newsletters
 - a. Hawthorne Happenings – 10/9/08
 - b. Peter Fitzpatrick School – 10/24/08
 - c. Squannacook Elementary School – 10/3/08
 - d. Nissitissit Middle School – 10/20/08
 - e. Ashby Elementary School – 10/24/08
3. Fifty-seven (57) Nissitissit Middle School Grade 7 students qualified to participate in Johns Hopkins CTY Talent Search based on their MCAS performance.
4. Seventy-six (76) North Middlesex Regional High School Gr. 12 students qualified for John & Abigail Adams Scholarship based on their MCAS performance.
5. Grades 1-5 Report Card Schedule for 2008-09
6. Public Communications – No one addressed the committee

PRESENTATIONS

1. NAEYC Certification

Elementary Principals Dr. Pauline Cormier, Miss Becky Janda, and Mrs. Anne Cromwell-Gapp presented a brief review of the NAEYC certification process for the District kindergarten program.

2. Kindergarten Report Card

Kindergarten Teachers Mary Ann Hagan, Peter Fitzpatrick School and Janet Yost, Spaulding Memorial School, presented a report on the new kindergarten report card created by the Kindergarten Report Card Committee. Members include: Mary Ann Hagan, Janet Yost, Jeanne Wholey, Alice Riportella, Beth Piermarini, Amy Page and Shelley Amari.

3. Assessment Results

Dr. Deborah Brady overviewed the results of last year's standardized assessments including MCAS, GRADE, SAT and Advanced Placement.

Dr. Brady and Dr. Marshall answered various questions from committee members.

4. Report: Establishment of a Finance Subcommittee/Warrant Subcommittee and Budget Timeline for FY2010

- a. Fred Wheeler reviewed the results of the meeting held with Dr. Marshall, Mr. Martin and the Ad Hoc Subcommittee (Fred Wheeler, Sue Fitzgerald, Susan Robbins, and Tamara Leclerc) regarding the formation of a Finance Subcommittee and the creation of a budget timeline.

A discussion ensued. The consensus of the Committee was to reconsider the matter further at the next Committee meeting on November 17th.

- b. Fred Wheeler reviewed the merits of a Warrant Subcommittee.

A discussion ensued. The consensus of the Committee was to form a Warrant Subcommittee. Kathy Low, Fred Wheeler and Tamara Leclerc were appointed to the Subcommittee.

5. Update: Connect Ed

Barbara Conti briefly reviewed the new web-based communication system being implemented in the District. She explained that a test call will be made to staff and parents on November 5 & 6.

6. Update: Plant and Facilities

Dr. Marshall informed the Committee that her office is in the process of “refreshing” the Statement of Interest application with the Massachusetts School Building Authority for the High School and anticipates completing a Statement of Interest for funding of the Spaulding Memorial School roof repairs.

7. Update: Enrollment/K-12 Staffing

Dr. Marshall distributed copies of the October 1st enrollment report and provided a brief update on K-12 staffing. There were no significant changes in staffing since the last meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Out-of-State Field Trips

- a. A motion was made by Sue Fitzgerald and seconded by Tamara Leclerc to approve the Nissitissit Middle School Grade 7 trip to Palace Theatre, Manchester, NH on December 12, 2008.

The motion passed unanimously.

- b. A motion was made by Sue Fitzgerald and seconded by Kathy Low to approve the Nissitissit Middle School Grade 7 field trip to Nashua National Fish Hatchery, Nashua, NH on November 6, 2008.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Acceptance of Donation

A motion was made by Susan Robbins and seconded by Fred Wheeler to accept the \$1000 donation from Walmart to Ashby Elementary School in honor of AES Teacher Cathrine Johnson, Walmart’s local Teacher of the Year.

The Chairman congratulated Mrs. Johnson on her award.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. A motion was made by Fred Wheeler and seconded by Sue Fitzgerald to award the vending machine bid to Pepsi-Cola Bottlers for Merrimack Valley.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Mileage Reimbursement (Modification of Policy 3120)

A motion was made by Fred Wheeler and seconded by Kathy Low to set the mileage reimbursement rate at \$.585/mile (current IRS rate) effective November 3, 2008.

The motion passed unanimously.

5. Committee Reorganization: Appointment of Secretary

Due to the resignation of Committee Member and Secretary Dennis Moore, the Chair informed the Committee that a new secretary must be appointed. A discussion ensued regarding the merits of a member vs. a non-member serving as secretary.

A motion was made by Sue Fitzgerald and seconded by Fred Wheeler to appoint Nancy Landry as secretary pro tempore until the annual organizational meeting in May.

The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Sue Fitzgerald and seconded by Kathy Low to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Landry, Secretary