

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

MINUTES

Monday, July 6, 2009
North Middlesex Regional High School

PRESENT

Chairperson	Arnold Silva	Member-Pepperell
Vice Chairperson	Sue Fitzgerald	Member-Pepperell
	Ken Brown	Member-Ashby (arrived @ 7:10 PM)
	Tamara Leclerc	Member-At-Large
	Kathy Low	Member-Pepperell
	Michael Morgan	Member-At-Large
	Susan Robbins	Member-Townsend
	Robert Templeton	Member-Townsend

ALSO PRESENT

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

ABSENT

Anne Buchholz	Member-At-Large
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1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm
2. The next meeting of the North Middlesex Regional School Committee will be held on Monday, July 27, 2009 at the North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:00 p.m.
3. A motion was made by Sue Fitzgerald and seconded by Susan Robbins to approve the executive session minutes of June 8, 2009.

The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Sue Fitzgerald and seconded by Susan Robbins to approve the minutes of June 29, 2009, as amended.

The motion passed 7-0-1. Sue Fitzgerald abstained.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Public Communications – Paul Consemi, Finance Committee Member from Townsend addressed the Committee regarding sharing of services. He agreed to speak later in the meeting when the Committee discusses this agenda item.

OLD BUSINESS

1. FY10 Budget - The Superintendent provided a progress report on the FY10 budget. She stated that the District has begun the process of calling back the teachers authorized by the Committee on June 29th. A line item budget was distributed; however, the Superintendent stated that the line item budget numbers may change due to insurance numbers, and the finalization of state aid (cherry sheet) information. The budget will be recertified in September once exact revenue and staffing patterns are certain.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Report from Subcommittee to Study Sharing Services

Arnie Silva informed the Committee that at their 1st meeting on July 2nd, the subcommittee appointed Ken Brown to serve as Chair of the Subcommittee to Study Sharing Services.

Ken Brown summarized the results of the July 2nd subcommittee meeting. He stated that the subcommittee focused on defining the process and looking at the concept of sharing services with another school district. The subcommittee talked about accountability and having a document in place before bringing it before the full committee for discussion and review. The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for July 10th at 7:00 AM at the Central Office.

A discussion ensued relative to the concept of sharing services. Committee members stressed that this is not a “done deal” and a thorough review of the proposal will take place.

Several community members addressed the Committee relative to the issue of sharing of services, particularly the sharing of the superintendent of schools.

2. Municipal Lease Purchase - Technology

A motion was made by Ken Brown and seconded by Susan Robbins to approve the following:

That the North Middlesex Regional School District (the “District”) is authorized to enter into a Master Lease Purchase Agreement between the District and a Company To Be Determined (the “Lease”) for the purpose of financing the acquisition of various items of departmental equipment as set forth in Equipment Schedule 01 thereto, in a total amount to be financed of \$259,516, and in connection therewith, the Superintendent and Business Manager are each authorized to execute and deliver the Lease and any other documents incidental and related thereto. The Lease shall provide that any payment obligations of the District thereunder shall be subject to annual appropriation by the District and contain such other provisions as the Superintendent and the Business Manager shall find to be in the best interests of the District.

Peter Balducci, Director of Technology, shared a powerpoint presentation on his three-year plan for purchasing technology utilizing a lease purchase agreement.

Ken Brown explained the merits of lease purchase agreements. He stated that this is a tax-exempt lease purchase and it is a very common practice of school districts across the country.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mike Morgan – yes; Kathy Low – yes; Ken Brown – yes; Tamara Leclerc – yes; Rob Templeton-yes; Susan Robbins - yes; Sue Fitzgerald-yes; Arnie Silva-yes.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. A motion was made Susan Robbins and seconded by Sue Fitzgerald for the North Middlesex Regional School District to join the Massachusetts Association of School Committee for the upcoming school year at a cost of \$5,003.00.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion: Telephone System at High School & Central Office

Oscar Hills, Director of Building & Grounds, updated the Committee on the condition of the communication system at the High School and Central Office. Due to a recent power outage, the communication system failed. A loaner box was provided; however, the repair company did not recommend spending any more money on the old system. The cost to replace the communication system across the District is approximately \$600,000.

A discussion ensued. The Superintendent shared her concern about the impact the malfunctioning communication system and the inefficient HVAC system might have on the accreditation of the high school by NEASC. The Administration will come back to the Committee to discuss the possibility of replacing the communication infrastructure in phases.

5. In compliance with Massachusetts General Law Ch71 Sect 67; This written notice notifies the North Middlesex Regional School District School Committee that it is the intent of the school district to employ Michael Silva, son of School Committee member Arnie Silva, as a temporary summer custodian in the North Middlesex Regional School District.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Landry, Secretary

Equipment Schedule No. 01

4 Student Carts High School	\$ 82,934.00
4 Mac Carts Middle Schools	\$118,636.00
25 Desktop PC for HS	\$ 12,500.00
30 Desktop PC for K-8	\$ 15,000.00
4 Laser Jet Printers	\$ 3,600.00
Apple Cables	\$ 900.00
Brain Pop Software	\$ 11,681.00
Turnitin Software	\$ 9,745.50
Omni Peek Software	\$ 2,121.00
Barracuda Software	\$ 2,399.00