

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

**MINUTES**

Monday, January 25, 2010  
North Middlesex Regional High School

**PRESENT**

Chairperson	Arnold Silva	Member-Pepperell (arrived at 7:05 PM)
Vice Chairperson	Sue Fitzgerald	Member-Pepperell
	Anne Buchholz	Member-At Large
	Kathy Low	Member-Pepperell
	Michael Morgan	Member-At Large
	Susan Robbins	Member-Townsend
	Randee Rusch	Member-At Large
	Grace Rowse	Student Representative

**ALSO PRESENT**

Dr. Maureen Marshall	Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Deborah Brady	Assistant Superintendent
Gerald Martin	Business Manager
Sheila Muir	Director of Curriculum & Instruction
District Administrators	
Town Officials	
Parents	
Press	

**ABSENT**

Ken Brown	Member- Ashby
Robert Templeton	Member-Townsend

1. Vice Chair Sue Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
2. The next meeting of the North Middlesex Regional School Committee will be held on Monday, February 22, 2010 at the North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Finance Subcommittee will be held on Monday, February 8, 2010 at the North Middlesex Regional High School at 6:00 PM.

3. A motion was made by Anne Buchholz and seconded by Kathy Low to approve the minutes of December 14, 2009.

The motion passed by a vote of 5-0-1. Mike Morgan abstained.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. Student Representative Report – Grace Rowse presented the Student Representative Report.
2. Cafeteria Finance Report – November & December 2009
3. Newsletters

- a. Title I Newsletter, Vol. 1, Issue 4
  - b. Ashby Elementary Newsletter – 01/08/10
  - c. Spaulding Memorial School Newsletter – 12/18/09
4. NMRHS Giving Tree Totals – Kathy Low commended the Service Learning Club, Mr. Kane and the community for their efforts.
  5. Ashby Grade 3 Class - Update
  6. Public Communications – No one addressed the Committee.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

1. Special Education Parent Advisory Council – Update

Linda Rakiey introduced the Co Chairs of the Special Education PAC, Dr. Constance Menice and Sally Greig.

Dr. Menice shared a PowerPoint presentation on the mission and focus of the Special Education Parent Advisory Council.

Committee members thanked Dr. Menice and Mrs. Greig for their thorough presentation.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Warrant Subcommittee

The review of warrants was passed over.

2. Subcommittee to Explore District Consolidation and/or Partnerships

Susan Robbins provided an update on the subcommittee's progress and their most recent meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup>. She informed the members that the subcommittee continues to share information with Lunenburg. The Lunenburg School Committee is scheduled to meet on Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss whether or not to continue talks with North Middlesex regarding regional expansion.

3. Finance Subcommittee

Anne Buchholz provided an update on the subcommittee meeting held earlier this evening. The subcommittee recommends that the administration prepare two budget scenarios for review: a level funded budget and a 2.5 % increase.

A motion was made by Anne Buchholz and seconded by Mike Morgan to direct the Superintendent to prepare two budgets: a level funded budget (\$ 2 million reduction) and a 2.5% increase (\$1 million reduction).

A discussion ensued.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mike Morgan-yes; Anne Buchholz-yes; Kathy Low-yes; Susan Robbins-yes; Randee Rusch-yes; Arnie Silva-yes; Sue Fitzgerald-yes.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Evaluation of Superintendent of Schools – This item was passed over.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Preschool Rates for 2010-11

A motion was made by Kathy Low and seconded by Anne Buchholz to set the 2010-2011 preschool tuition rates as follows:

3-Day	\$240/month
5-Day	\$350/month

(This represents an increase of \$20/month over 2009-10 rates. These rates will continue to fund 1 FT Teacher and 2 FT paraprofessionals.)

A discussion ensued.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. A motion was made by Anne Buchholz and seconded by Kathy Low to approve the Nissitissit Middle School Jazz Band out-of-state field trip to University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH on March 13, 2010.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. A motion was made by Anne Buchholz and seconded by Susan Robbins to accept a \$25.00 donation from Hannaford to Ashby Elementary School.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Appointment of Subcommittee for Cafeteria Workers Negotiations

Kathy Low, Randee Rusch volunteered to serve on the Cafeteria Workers Negotiations Subcommittee. Arnie Silva indicated that he would serve as the third member of the Subcommittee if other members were not able to serve.

5. A motion was made by Anne Buchholz and seconded by Kathy Low to appoint an additional Gr. 3 teacher at Ashby Elementary School for the remainder of the school year and take funds necessary to support from the \$350,000 previously allocated by the School Committee.

A discussion ensued.

The motion passed unanimously.

## 6. Review of New Phone System

Peter Balducci and Jerry Martin presented a proposal for the lease/purchase of a telephone system for the High School and Central Office.

A discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Susan Robbins and seconded by Anne Buchholz to move forward with the lease/purchase contract with Central Communications for the Central Office and High School as presented by Mr. Balducci and Mr. Martin.

A roll call vote was taken:

A roll call vote was taken:

Mike Morgan-yes; Anne Buchholz-yes; Kathy Low-yes; Susan Robbins-yes; Randee Rusch-yes; Arnie Silva-yes; Sue Fitzgerald-yes.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Kathy Low and seconded by Anne Buchholz to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Landry