

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

MINUTES

Monday, October 25, 2010
North Middlesex Regional High School

PRESENT

Chairperson	Arnold Silva	Member, Pepperell
Vice Chairperson	Susan Robbins	Member, Townsend
	Jonna Clermont	Member, Pepperell
	Sue Fitzgerald	Member, Pepperell
	Randee Rusch	Member, At Large
	Robert Templeton	Member, Townsend

ALSO

PRESENT

Maureen Marshall	Superintendent of Schools
Deborah Brady	Assistant Superintendent
Sheila Muir	Director of Curriculum
Julie Surprenant	Director of Financial Operations
Cheryl Duval	Director of Adm. Services, Quabbin
Parents/Community Members	
Press	

ABSENT

Ken Brown	Member, Ashby
Anne Buchholz	Member, At Large
Michael Morgan	Member, At Large

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM
2. The Chair informed the Committee and Audience of the recording of this meeting.
3. The next meeting of the North Middlesex Regional School Committee will be held on Monday, December 13, 2010.
4. The vote on the minutes of September 27, 2010 was passed over.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Student Representative Report – Gwen Morgan, Student Representative, presented the student report.
2. School Newsletters:

- a. Squannacook Early Childhood Center – October Newsletter
 - b. Ashby Elementary School – 10/15/10
 - c. Spaulding Memorial School – 10/8/10
 - d. Varnum Brook Elementary School – 10/8/10
3. Letter from NEASC to NMRHS – August 14, 2010
 4. The Supt. informed the Committee that the district received the draft copy of the Coordinated Program Review. The District has 10 days to review and prepare a response. The Administration will review the report at the December meeting.
 5. The Supt. informed the Committee that the Central Office Administration is working with the Principals to develop a Meal Charge Policy.
 6. Anti-Bullying Plan – Barbara Conti and Principals are developing a plan and will provide a report at the December meeting.
 7. The Supt. announced that 81 NMRHS students are eligible to receive the John & Abigail Adams Scholarship based on their advanced scores on the MCAS exam.
 8. Public Communications – Anne Adams of Pepperell addressed the Committee expressing concern over a political discussion that took place in a middle school social studies classroom. The Supt. responded that the Administration will take steps to ensure that this does not happen again. Mrs. Adams also asked for a status report on the exit surveys and suggested that the district send out surveys when a parent requests a transcript.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Warrant Subcommittee

The review of warrants was passed over.

2. Regional Expansion Subcommittee – Rob Templeton informed the Committee that he had no new information to report. The Subcommittee is waiting for information from the state.
3. Finance Subcommittee – Susan Robbins reported on the work session held earlier in the evening. The Administration presented options for budget formats to align with the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education's Chart of Accounts. The purpose of restructuring the budget format is to provide consistency and align with the DESE. The Supt. introduced Julie Surprenant and Cheryl Duval who reviewed the draft budget format for FY11 and FY12. A discussion ensued. The Chair informed the Committee that Jonna Clermont was appointed as an alternate member to the Finance Subcommittee.

A motion was made by Susan Robbins and seconded by Jonna Clermont to restructure the North Middlesex Regional School District Chart of Accounts to be in alignment with the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education Chart of Accounts.

The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. FY11 Budget

The Superintendent informed the Committee that the recertification of the Fiscal Year 2011 budget for the North Middlesex Regional School District will take place on December 13, 2010 in the new Chart of Account format. No further action was taken.

2. Superintendent Evaluation Instrument – The Committee discussed the three options for evaluating the Superintendent of Schools (old form, rubrics form, MASC form). After a lengthy discussion the Committee agreed to use the old format with the following revisions:
- Addition of new goals/objectives
 - Revise rating system: (1) Failed; (2) Not Evident/Not Demonstrated/Progressing; (3) Met Expectations; (4) Exceeded Expectations.

The format will be retooled based on the comments of the Committee and forwarded to the Committee for review.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Out-of-State Field Trip Requests

- a. A motion was made by Sue Fitzgerald and seconded by Randee Rusch to approve the out-of-state field trip by Nissitissit Middle School Gr. 7 (Red Team) to Nashua National Fishery, Nashua, NH on November 9, 2010.

The motion passed unanimously.

- b. A motion was made by Sue Fitzgerald and seconded by Randee Rusch to approve the North Middlesex Regional High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team to Bristol, CT on December 3-5, 2010.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of MASC Conference Expenses

A motion was made by Susan Robbins and seconded by Rob Templeton to approve the expenses (hotel & conference registration totaling \$2,174.28) of the three School Committee Members (S. Robbins, S. Fitzgerald, M. Morgan) attending the MASC/MASS Joint Conference on November 3-6, 2010.

The motion passed unanimously.

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Sue Fitzgerald and seconded by Jonna Clermont to enter into executive session for the following purposes: (1) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with New England Joint Board R.W.D.S.U Local 30 (Custodians); (2) to discuss potential litigation. The Committee will return to open session.

A roll call vote was taken:

Rob Templeton-yes; Sue Fitzgerald-yes; Susan Robbins-yes; Randee Rusch-yes; Jonna Clermont-yes; Arnie Silva-yes.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 9:25 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 9:55 PM

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Susan Robbins and seconded by Sue Fitzgerald to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Landry, Secretary