

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

**MINUTES**

**Monday, December 09, 2013**  
**North Middlesex Regional High School**

**PRESENT**

Chairperson	Susan Robbins	Member, Townsend
Vice Chairperson	Jonna Clermont	Member, Pepperell
	Anne Adams	Member, Pepperell
	Anne Buchholz	Member, At-Large
	Brian Edmonds	Member, Pepperell
	Michael Morgan	Member, At Large
	Dennis Moore	Member, Ashby

**ABSENT**

Randee Rusch	Member, At Large
Robert Templeton	Member, Townsend

**ALSO**

**PRESENT**

Joan Landers	Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Haines	Manager of Financial Operations
PTO/PTG Representatives	
Parents/Community Members	
Press	

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.
2. The Chair informed the Committee and audience members of the recording of this meeting.
3. The next meeting of the North Middlesex Regional School Committee will be held on Monday, January 13, 2014 at North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:00 PM.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Anne Adams to approve the minutes of November 25, 2013.

The motion passed by a vote of 6-1. Mr. Moore voted no; all others yes.

2. Out-of-State Field Trip Requests

- A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Dennis Moore to approve a field trip request by the No. Middlesex Reg. High School Robotics Team to Augusta, ME on Saturday, December 14, 2013.

The motion passed unanimously.

- A motion was made by Anne Buchholz and seconded by Jonna Clermont to approve the field trip request by Hawthorne Brook Middle School Grade 6 to Saco, ME on June 4-6, 2014.

The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. Acceptance of Donations

A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Dennis Moore to accept the donation 11 class sets of "Sort and Store Book Organizer" bins valued at approx. \$1,200.00 donated to Varnum Brook Elementary School by an anonymous donor.

The motion passed unanimously.

- ### 4. The Chair informed the Committee that she approved on behalf of the Committee an out-of-state field trip request from the High School for students enrolled in the Achieve, Steps & Gateway programs to Nashua, NH on December 18, 2013. This request was received after the agenda was posted.

## **REPORTS/INFORMATION ITEMS**

- ### 1. Student Representative Report – Bryan Spooner and Garrett Carmichael presented the student representative report.

### 2. PTO/PTG – Introductions/Update

The Chair recognized the PTO/PTG's representatives in attendance and thanked them for their tireless work on behalf of the students and staff of the North Middlesex Regional School District.

Representatives from Ashby Elementary, Varnum Brook Elementary, Hawthorne Brook and North Middlesex Regional High School were introduced and provided a brief summary of their fundraising efforts, events, and accomplishments.

### 3. Superintendent's Report

- A moment of silence was held in observance of the anniversary of the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy.
- PARCC Field Test Update – Supt. Landers presented a power point on the PARCC field test to be administered in the spring of 2014. Randomly selected classes at Ashby Elementary (Gr. 3), Hawthorne Brook (Gr. 5) and No. Middlesex Regional High School (Grade 11 and IMMI I classes) will take the pilot tests. Scores will not be reported during the pilot period. A discussion ensued. Committee members expressed concerns about the test. Anne Adams and Jonna Clermont shared information from the MASC conference they recently attended relative to the PARCC exam. They stated that numerous school committee members from across the state expressed concern about the test. Brian Edmonds proposed sending a letter to the DESE from the Committee expressing the concerns of the Committee.

A motion was made by Brian Edmonds and seconded by Anne Buchholz to draft a letter to DESE to discuss concerns with the PARCC assessment.

The motion passed unanimously.

Anne Adams, Brian Edmonds and Jonna Clermont volunteered to prepare a draft letter for review by the full Committee at the January 13, 2014 meeting.

- ALICE Update – The Superintendent stated the District's Crisis Team continues to meet to discuss the implementation of the ALICE initiative.

4. Building Committee Update – The Superintendent reported that the schematic design package is due to the MSBA on December 12<sup>th</sup>. During a recent conference call between MSBA Representatives, the Building Committee Chair, Superintendent of Schools and the OPM, the MSBA expressed concern over including the 3<sup>rd</sup> gymnasium bay as an add alternate. The Building Committee will revoke the schematic design package and remove references to the 3<sup>rd</sup> gymnasium as an alternate at its December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.
5. Public Communications – No one addressed the Committee.

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Warrant Subcommittee  
Available for Committee review were Accounts Payable Warrants: 4-1113, 14-1121, & 14-1205 and payroll warrant: 11/21/13
2. Policy Subcommittee  
A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Anne Adams to adopt Policy JEB Entrance Age (2<sup>nd</sup> reading). The motion passed unanimously.
3. Finance Subcommittee - No report was given.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

1. Food Service Update – Scott Berry & Michelle Curran from Whitsons provided an update on the food service program. A brief discussion ensued.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Review of letter to DESE re: PARCC

### **REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Robert Templeton to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy relative to collective bargaining with Unit B (Assistant Principals). The Committee will return to open session.

A roll call vote was taken:

Brian Edmonds-yes; Susan Robbins-yes; Jonna Clermont-yes; Anne Adams-yes; Anne Buchholz-yes; Michael Morgan-yes; Dennis Moore-no.

The motion passed 6-1.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

The Committee returned to open session at 9:36 PM.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Unit B Memorandum of Understanding - Vote
  - a) A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Anne Adams to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the North Middlesex Regional School Committee and North Middlesex Regional School District Unit B for 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.

The Superintendent reviewed the details of the agreement.

A roll call vote was taken:

Brian Edmonds-yes; Susan Robbins-yes; Jonna Clermont-yes; Anne Adams-yes; Anne Buchholz-yes; Michael Morgan-yes; Dennis Moore-no.

The motion passed by a vote of 6-1.

- b) A motion was made by Dennis Moore and seconded by Brian Edmonds that the Committee will consider Unit B dissolved upon acceptance of the new contract and effective June 30, 2014.

A roll call vote was taken:

Brian Edmonds-yes; Susan Robbins-yes; Jonna Clermont-yes; Anne Adams-yes; Anne Buchholz-yes; Michael Morgan-yes; Dennis Moore-yes.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Brian Edmonds and seconded by Jonna Clermont to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Landry, Secretary