

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

MINUTES

Monday, January 27, 2014
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
	Dennis Moore	Member, Ashby
	Randee Rusch	Member, At Large
	Robert Templeton	Member, Townsend

ALSO

PRESENT

Joan Landers	Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Haines	Manager of Financial Operations
District Staff	
Parents/Community Members	
Press	

ABSENT

Michael Morgan	Member, At Large
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1. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 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, February 10, 2014 at North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:00 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Randee Rusch to approve the consent agenda as presented.

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - January 13, 2014
2. Out-of-State Field Trip Request
 - NMRHS students enrolled in ASL II & ASL III to Washington, DC – March 6-9, 2014
 - Nissitissit Middle School students enrolled in jazz band to Durham, NH – Saturday, March 8, 2014
3. Acceptance of Donation
 - \$250 donation from Digital Federal Credit Union to Varnum Brook Elementary School

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Moore left the meeting at 7:20 PM.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Minuteman Nashoba Health Presentation – Carol Cormier, Vice President, Group Benefit Strategies, provided an overview of Minuteman-Nashoba Health Group and answered questions from the Committee.
2. NMRHS Proposed Bell Schedule
The NMRHS Leadership Team (C. Battye, C. Chew, and Dept. Chairs: B. Baldarelli, J. Bielik, E. Logiudice, J. McEvoy, L. Messina and L. Smith) summarized the investigation and findings of the Bell Schedule Committee. The Bell Schedule Committee is recommending the high school change to a modified block schedule (rotating 8 day 70 block schedule) effective 2014-2015 school year.

A lengthy discussion ensued. Committee members provided comments and asked questions of the leadership team. The School Committee requested additional data be provided on bell schedule change and its impact on assessment scores.

3. Capital Expenditure Plan/Maintenance Plan – This item was passed over until the February 10 meeting.

REPORTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Student Representative Report – Brian Vachon and Garrett Carmichael presented the student report.
2. Superintendent's Report - Superintendent Landers informed the Committee that the Assistant Superintendent position has been advertised effective July 1, 2014. She thanked the police departments for their assistance in the recent safety alert involving a suspicious vehicle.
3. Building Committee Update – Robert Templeton provided an update on the activities of the High School Building Committee. Representatives from the Building Committee and School District Administrators are scheduled to attend the MSBA Board meeting on January 29th. The Board is scheduled to vote on our project budget.

A motion was made by Anne Buchholz and seconded by Jonna Clermont to authorize the Superintendent to of Schools to request that the member towns schedule special town meetings on the following dates: March 10 (Pepperell); March 11 (Townsend) and March 15 (Ashby), for the purpose of considering authorization to borrow funds for the construction of a new high school to be located at 19 Main Street, Townsend, MA 01469. This authorization is contingent upon formal approval by the Massachusetts School Building Authority Board of Directors of January 29, 2014.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Communications – No one addressed the Committee

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Warrant Subcommittee - Available for Committee review are Accounts Payable Warrants: 14-0109 & 14-0116 and payroll warrant: 1/16/14
2. Policy Subcommittee – Randee Rusch reported that the Policy Subcommittee is continuing its review of fundraising and other fee related policies.
3. Finance Subcommittee – Jonna Clermont reported that the Finance Subcommittee held its most recent meeting on January 22nd. The subcommittee discussed the FY14 budget and began its review of the FY15 budget.
 - a. Budget Transfer Request – A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Robert Templeton to approve the budget transfer recommendation to transfer \$280,100 from administration and insurance/retirement program appropriation categories to instructional support, pupil services, debt and

payments to out of district appropriation categories. The motion passed 6-0-1. Brian Edmonds abstained; all others yes.

- b. FY 15 Budget Update – The Superintendent informed the Committee that the Financial Team has met with budget leaders individually. The district has received the Governor’s budget but awaits budget numbers from the House Ways & Means.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Draft Letter to DESE re: PARCC – Brian Edmonds informed the Committee that the final draft of the PARCC letter will be shared with the Committee at its February meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Business Manager

A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Anne Buchholz to appoint Nancy L. Haines as Business Manager effective January 20, 2014.

Supt. Landers and Committee Members commended Mrs. Haines for her work as Interim Manager of Financial Operations.

A roll call vote was taken:

Anne Buchholz-yes; Anne Adams-yes; Robert Templeton-yes; Jonna Clermont-yes; Randee Rusch-yes; Brian Edmonds-yes; Susan Robbins-yes.

The motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- World Language Offerings
- IMM Program

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Robert Templeton and seconded by Anne Buchholz to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Landry, Secretary