

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

MINUTES

Monday, June 16, 2014
North Middlesex Regional High School

PRESENT

Chairperson	Susan Robbins	Member, Townsend
Vice Chairperson	Jonna Clermont	Member, Pepperell
	Anne Adams	Member, Pepperell
	Brian Edmonds	Member, Pepperell
	Crystal Epstein	Member, Ashby (remote participation)
	William Hackler	Member, At Large
	Michael Morgan	Member, At Large
	Randee Rusch	Member, At Large
	Robert Templeton	Member, Townsend (remote participation)

ALSO

PRESENT

Joan Landers	Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Haines	Business Manager
District Staff	
Parents/Community Members	

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.
2. The Chairperson informed the Committee and audience members of the recording of the meeting.
3. The next meeting of the North Middlesex Regional School Committee will be held on Monday, June 23, 2014 at North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:00 PM

OLD BUSINESS

1. Overview of 5 X 8 Modified Block Schedule – A clarification document reviewed by the Superintendent.

Mr. Edmonds spoke regarding the complaint of an open meeting law violation. Until issue is resolved, he Mr. Edmonds indicated that it is inappropriate to proceed. The Chair stated that she spoke with legal counsel after the June 9th meeting. Legal counsel reviewed the agenda & approved minutes and felt the Committee was in compliance with open meeting law. After, the written complaint was received. legal counsel reviewed the written complaint and again stated that the Committee was in compliance with open meeting law. The Chair informed the Committee that legal counsel is preparing written statement as the school committee has 14 days to respond to the complaint. Douglas Babineau, Pepperell resident, who filed the complaint addressed the Committee. He stated that he filed the open meeting law complaint with the Town Clerk and sent it to the Attorney's General Office. Mrs. Adams stated that she contacted MASC after the last committee meeting. An MASC representative assured her that the committee was in compliance with open meeting law. The MASC representative stated a motion could be amended at the table.

The Superintendent read from the clarification document. The document read as follows:

In the 2014-2015 North Middlesex Regional High School Program of Studies, courses are listed as "full-credit" or "half-credit". This document will clarify scheduling questions which have arisen due to the transition to the 5x8 Modified Schedule.

- For clarification purposes, when referring to the 5x8 Modified Block Schedule, the “5” refers to the number of blocks each day while the “8” refers to the number of different classes a student is registered for in a schedule cycle.
- Courses designated as full-credit in the 2014-2015 Program of Studies will occupy one of the eight periods for an entire school year. Students will receive 5 credits for successful completion of a full-credit course.
- Courses designated as half-credit in the 2014-2015 Program of Studies will occupy one of the eight periods for a semester (or half of the school year). Students will receive 2.5 credits for successful completion of a half-credit course.
- The freshmen level class, World Studies, counts as both a full-credit English course and a full-credit History course. As such, the World Studies course occupies two of the eight periods for an entire school year. Students will receive one grade and 10 credits for successful completion of the World Studies course.
- Each Integrated Mathematical Modeling course (IMM1, IMM2, and IMM3) will occupy one of the eight periods for an entire school year. Students will receive 5 credits for successful completion of each full-credit IMM course.
- A limited number of Advanced Placement (AP) courses may yield two (2) Semesters worth of college credits. These courses are AP Biology, AP Chemistry, and AP Calculus BC. Therefore, these courses only will occupy two of the eight periods for the first semester and one of the eight periods during the second semester. Students will receive 7.5 credits for successful completion of these AP courses.
- The Academic Support Center course will occupy one of the eight periods for an entire school year. Students will receive five credits for successful completion of this course. In certain instances, students may take a second ASC course in order to balance another elective choice (such as a Physical Education requirement). In this instance, students will receive an additional 2.5 credits for this.

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Randee Rusch to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy relative to collective bargaining with the teachers association. The Committee will return to open session.

A roll call vote was taken:

Jonna Clermont-yes; Anne Adams-yes; Michael Morgan-yes; William Hackler-yes; Brian Edmonds-no; Randee Rusch-yes; Robert Templeton-yes; Susan Robbin-yes.

The motion passed by a vote of 7-1.

The meeting recessed at 7:16 PM.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – The Committee returned to Open Session at 8:10 PM

The Chair informed the audience that Mrs. Epstein has joined the meeting by phone (remote participation).

NEW BUSINESS

1. Ratification of Memorandum of Agreement

A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Randee Rusch to approve the Modified Block Schedule Memorandum of Agreement.

A roll call vote was taken:

Jonna Clermont-yes; Anne Adams-yes; Michael Morgan-yes; William Hackler-yes; Brian Edmonds-no; Randee Rusch-yes; Robert Templeton-yes; Crystal Epstein-yes; Susan Robbin-yes.

The motion passed by a vote of 8-1.

The Chair informed the public the NMRSD Teachers Association voted on June 13th and voted to support the MOA.

Mr. Morgan thanked both sides for their support

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Randee Rusch to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Landry, Secretary