

**NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Ashby - Pepperell - Townsend, Massachusetts
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 8, 2014**

PRESENT

Chairperson	Susan Robbins	Member, Townsend
Vice Chairperson	Jonna Clermont	Member, Pepperell
	Anne Adams	Member, Pepperell
	Brian Edmonds	Member, Pepperell
	Crystal Epstein	Member, Ashby
	Michael Morgan	Member, At Large
	Randee Rusch	Member, At Large

ABSENT

	William Hackler	Member, At Large
	Robert Templeton	Member, Townsend

ALSO PRESENT

Joan Landers Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Milligan Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Parent/Community Members
Press

December 8, 2014

1. The meeting was called order at 7:04 pm
2. Roll call
3. The Chairperson hereby informs the Committee and audience members of the recording of this meeting.
4. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the North Middlesex Regional School District will be held on Monday, January 12, 2015 at North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:00 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. A motion was made by Crystal Epstein and seconded by Randee Rusch to approve the amended minutes of November 24, 2014 as submitted. The motion passed with one abstention from Anne Adams.
2. A motion was made by Anne Adams and seconded by Brian Edmonds to accept a donation in the amount of \$262.25 to the Ashby Elementary School from O'Connor Studios. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS/INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. No student representative report at this meeting.
2. The Superintendent introduced the new Pepperell Town Administrator, Mark Andrews. The Superintendent and Michael Morgan gave an update on the School Resource Officer. They will be having a meeting on December 16, 2014 and will be inviting Chief Scott from Pepperell and Chief Alden from Ashby police departments to attend the meeting.
3. Building Committee Report – The Superintendent reported that the Building Committee will be looking to vote on the 60% document submission at their next meeting. The committee will be going

in front of the Townsend Planning Board on December 15, 2014 and the Townsend Zoning Board on December 17, 2014. The Building Committee will be looking at different options for the main entrance of the new high school. On Thursday January 15, 2014 we will be hosting a Common Core Informational Forum at Nissitissit Middle School at 7:00 pm.

4. Parliamentary Procedure - The Chairperson advised the committee on her understanding of making a motion. The motion needs specific who, what, when, where, and why within the motion. You cannot make a motion for the sole purpose of a discussion.
5. Public Communications – No Public comment

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Warrant Subcommittee has reviewed accounts payable warrant: 15-1126. The warrant has been reviewed and signed by the Warrant Subcommittee.
2. Finance Subcommittee – No update presented

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Pre-School Tuition Rate for 2015-2016 year. The Superintendent recommends that the School Committee vote to approve the recommended preschool rates for the 2015-2016 year as proposed by Linda Rakiey, Director of Special Education. A motion to approve the rates as submitted was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Randee Rusch. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.
 - 5 full day program \$600.00 a month
 - 5 half day program \$360.00 a month
 - 4 half day program \$300.00 a month
 - 3 half day program \$240.00 a month
 - 2 half day program \$180.00 a month
2. The Superintendent recommends that the School Committee establish a Facility Advisory Committee with members from the School Committee, Building Committee, Administration, municipal representatives and/or community members. This composition of the Facility Advisory Committee will be made up of both voting and non-voting members. The chairperson explained the difference between a subcommittee and advisory committee.
 - Subcommittee is made up of school committee members only.
 - Advisory committee is appointed by the school committee and includes members from the school committee as well as the community.
3. The Chairperson called for a roll call vote on the formation of the Facility Advisory Committee. A roll call vote was taken and passed unanimously. A motion was then made by Brian Edmonds and seconded by Jonna Clermont to appoint the following voting members to the facility advisory committee: Brian Edmonds, William Hackler, Michael Morgan, Joan Landers, Oscar Hills, Jeremy Hammond, and Ronald Scaltreto. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Superintendent recommends that the School Committee send a letter to the Attorney General, Division of Open Government providing documentation of the newest website address (www.nmrtd.org). A motion was made by Brian Edmonds and seconded by Jonna Clermont to send a letter to the Attorney General's office. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. The Chairperson read a motion providing information on the Ashby well status. Facilities Director Oscar Hills addressed the pumping stations. A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by

Crystal Epstein to upgrade the Ashby pump station in collaboration with the Town of Ashby. The report submitted by Weston & Sampson states that the district's pump will need a total upgrade in the next five years. The total cost to the district for pump conversion is not to exceed \$20,000.00. The motion passed unanimously.

3. The Superintendent recommends that the School Committee vote to approve the participation in a cooperative Alpine Ski Team and the wrestling team with districts in our MIAA league. James Bunnell reviewed with the committee the collaborative opportunities for both the Alpine Ski Team and the wrestling team. A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Crystal Epstein for the Alpine Ski Team and the wrestling team to participate in a collaborative opportunity with area districts. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.
4. The Superintendent recommends that the School Committee send a letter to our State Legislators regarding the 9C cuts pertaining to regional transportation. A motion was made to send a letter to our State Legislators by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Randee Rusch. The motion passed unanimously.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Program of Studies at North Middlesex Regional High School
- Superintendent updated the School Committee that Mr. Taylor did a question and answer workshop at each middle school with the 8th grade students.
- On January 14, 2015, there is an open house for incoming 8th graders at the high school. The School Committee will receive the Program of Studies by January 12, 2015.
- Anne Adams recommends doing a yearly open house at the high school at the beginning of October each year to stay competitive with other area high schools.

REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Superintendent recommends the North Middlesex Regional School committee enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the NMRSD Teachers' Association.

The Chairperson recommends the School Committee enter into executive session to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with the Superintendent of Schools.

A motion was made by Jonna Clermont and seconded by Crystal Epstein to enter into Executive Session to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with Superintendent of Schools and for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the NMRSD Teachers' Association. A roll call vote was taken: Jonna Clermont –yes; Crystal Epstein-yes; Anne Adams-yes; Michael Morgan-yes; Brian Edmonds-yes; Randee Rusch-yes; Susan Robbins-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

The School Committee will not return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned and moved to executive session at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Bilotta-Simeone, Recording Secretary