



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

JOINT MEETING OF THE NMRSD SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND TOWN BOARDS
NOTICE OF MEETING

Date of Meeting: **March 20, 2023**

Time of Meeting: **7:00 p.m.**

Day of the Week: **Monday**

Members of the public can access the meeting remotely via Zoom. Please use URL:

<https://zoom.us/j/92819430512?pwd=TU9nNUFwN3psZExaekJXTGdmMzJGZz09>

Passcode: 521031

Or join by phone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 646 931 3860 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 305 224 1968 or +1 309 205 3325 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 507 473 4847 or +1 564 217 2000 or +1 669 444 9171 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 689 278 1000

Webinar ID: 928 1943 0512 Passcode: 521031

AGENDA

- The Chairperson hereby informs the Committee and audience members of the recording of this meeting.
- Roll Call
- The next scheduled meeting of the North Middlesex Regional School Committee will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 10, 2023, 2023.

7:00	CALL TO ORDER	
7:00-7:05	CONSENT AGENDA – VOTES MAY BE TAKEN	ACTION
	Approval of Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ March 6, 2023 Accounts Payable Warrants: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ #23-0303 \$613,321.00▪ #23-0308 \$192,126.37▪ #23-0310 \$ 14,839.24▪ #23-0310 \$185.00 Payroll Warrants: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ March 13, 2023▪ March 16, 2023 Donations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ \$355.00 to VBES from VBES PTO for the purchase of playground stencils.▪ \$594.00 to AES from Hannaford Helps Schools.	

OUR MISSION: North Middlesex Regional School District is dedicated to providing a comprehensive educational experience focused on students becoming contributing members of society.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$2,268.00 to NMS from Nissitissit PTO for helping students attending the Washington DC trip from May 23-26, 2023 ▪ \$800.00 to NMS from the Pepperell Business Association to provide financial help for students attending the Washington DC trip from May 23-26, 2023 <p><i>Suggested motion: Move that the School Committee approve the consent agenda as presented.</i></p>	
7:05-7:15	PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public Comment is welcomed and encouraged. Anyone who would like to participate in public comment, please click HERE to register or visit our website. Your registration must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 6, 2023. 	
7:15-7:20	REPORTS/INFORMATION ITEMS – VOTES MAY BE TAKEN <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chairperson’s Report – Craig Hansen 2. Superintendent’s Report – Brad Morgan 	UPDATE
7:20-8:00	NEW BUSINESS/GENERAL DISCUSSION – VOTES MAY BE TAKEN <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2023 High School Graduation Rain Dates – L. Martin <i>Suggested motion: Move that the School Committee vote for the graduation to be held on June 2, 2023, with no rain dates and in the event of dangerous weather conditions, move the graduation inside. School Calendar as presented.</i> 2. 2023-2024 School Calendar – B. Morgan <i>Suggested motion: Move that the School Committee vote to approve the 2023-2024 School Calendar as presented.</i> 3. Travel Abroad – D. Chappell High school students to travel to England and Scotland during April vacation 2024. 	ACTION
8:00-8:10	OLD BUSINESS – VOTES MAY BE TAKEN	ACTION
8:10-8:30	SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS – VOTES MAY BE TAKEN <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Accelerated Repair – L. Martin 2. AES Building Committee – J. McNeil 3. Building Committee – C. Hansen 4. Communications – T. Casey 5. Finance – L. Martin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FY24 Budget: Discussion and Budget Adoption <i>Suggested motion: Move that the School Committee adopt an operational budget for FY2024 of \$ _____, a FY2024 transportation budget of \$ _____, FY2024 debt service of \$ _____, and to use these funds to calculate FY2024 school assessments for member towns as required by statute. In addition, the committee authorized the use of \$ _____ from Excess and Deficiency Account to offset the FY2024 operational budget.</i> 6. Negotiation & Personnel (T. Casey) 7. Policy (R. Rusch) 	ACTION

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional Agreement 2. CB Regional School Superintendent <i>Suggested motion: Move that the School Committee approve policy CB Regional School Superintendent for a first reading as amended.</i> 3. CBI Evaluation of the Superintendent <i>Suggested motion: Move that the School Committee approve policy CBI Regional School Superintendent for a first reading as presented.</i> 4. JQ-E Fees, Fines, and Charges (Admission Fees) <i>Suggested motion: Move that the School Committee approve policy JQ-E Fees, Fines, and Charges (Admission Fees) for adoption.</i> 5. IJOA – Field Trips <i>Suggested motion: Move that the School Committee approve policy IJOA Field Trips for adoption.</i> 	
8:30-8:45	<p>EXECUTIVE SESSION – VOTES MAY BE TAKEN <i>Suggested motion: Move that the School Committee meets in executive session pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, sec. 21(a) for the following purpose:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Purpose (2): To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel (Director of Pupil Personnel Services and Superintendent of Schools).</i> ▪ <i>Purpose (7): To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Executive Session Minutes dated November 21, 2022</i> <p>The Committee will reconvene in an open session.</p>	
8:45-8:55	OPEN SESSION	ACTION
8:55-9:00	OTHER BUSINESS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED WITHIN 48 HOURS OF MEETING	ACTION
9:00	ADJOURNMENT	ACTION
	NOTE: The listing of matters is those reasonably anticipated by the Chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.	



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

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES – March 6, 2023

Virtual via Zoom

PRESENT

Chairperson	Craig Hansen	Member, Pepperell
Vice-Chairperson	Michael Morgan	Member, At Large ~ Absent
	Randee Rusch	Member, At Large
	Thomas Casey	Member, Pepperell
	Lisa Martin	Member, At Large
	David Carney	Member, Pepperell ~ Absent
	June McNeil	Member, Ashby
	Jessica Funaiole	Member, Townsend
	Susan Robbins	Member, Townsend ~ Arrived @ 7:06 p.m.

ALSO PRESENT

Brad Morgan	Superintendent of Schools
Gary Burboa-Reese	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Haines	Business Manager
Robin Eibye	Recording Secretary
Matthew Dawson	Athletic Director
Jason Webster	Principal, HBMS

1. Chairperson, Craig Hansen, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and announced that the meeting would be recorded.

Roll Call:			
Craig Hansen	Yes	Michael Morgan	-
June McNeil	Yes	Randee Rusch	Yes
Jessica Funaiole	Yes	Lisa Martin	Yes
Thomas Casey	Yes	Susan Robbins	-
David Carney	-		

2. Mr. Hansen informed the Committee and attendees that the North Middlesex Regional School Committee's next meeting would be at 7:00 pm on Monday, March 20, 2023, via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Following review, Lisa Martin moved, and Jessica Funaiole seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

OUR MISSION: North Middlesex Regional School District is dedicated to providing a comprehensive educational experience focused on students becoming contributing members of society.

Roll Call Vote:			
Craig Hansen	Yes	Michael Morgan	-
June McNeil	Yes	Randee Rusch	Yes
Jessica Funairole	Yes	Lisa Martin	Yes
Thomas Casey	Yes	Susan Robbins	-
David Carney	-		

Vote: The motion unanimously passed 6/0/0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Veronica Kell of 68 Meadow Road, Townsend, said she was a Townsend Selectboard member. Ms. Kell said the Town of Townsend would require an override if the 6.27% budget increase was approved. Ms. Kell invited School Committee members to attend Townsend's meeting on March 20th at 6:00 p.m.

REPORTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

- Chairperson's Report – C. Hansen
 - None
- Superintendent's Report – B. Morgan
 - None

NEW BUSINESS/GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Out-of-State Travel – M. Dawson
Matthew Dawson said the high school baseball team would travel to Cape Cod for team building and scrimmage games from Saturday, April 1st to Sunday, April 2nd, 2023.

Following a brief discussion, Lisa Martin motioned, and June McNeil seconded the School Committee to approve the NMRHS baseball team's overnight trip to Cape Code for team building and scrimmage games from Saturday, April 1st to Sunday, April 2nd, 2023.

Roll Call Vote:			
Craig Hansen	Yes	Michael Morgan	-
June McNeil	Yes	Randee Rusch	Yes
Jessica Funairole	Yes	Lisa Martin	Yes
Thomas Casey	Yes	Susan Robbins	Abstain
David Carney	-		

Vote: The motion passed 6/0/1.

1. Middle School Robotics Advisor Stipend – J. Webster

Jason Webster provided an overview of the Middle School Robotics Advisor position and a discussion ensued.

Thomas Casey motioned, and Jessica Funaiole seconded the School Committee to approve the HBMS Robotics Advisor stipend position with an annual rate of \$895.00 as presented.

Roll Call Vote:			
Craig Hansen	Yes	Michael Morgan	-
June McNeil	Yes	Randee Rusch	Yes
Jessica Funaiole	Yes	Lisa Martin	Yes
Thomas Casey	Yes	Susan Robbins	Abstain
David Carney	-		

Vote: The motion passed 6/0/1.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS – VOTES MAY BE TAKEN

1. Accelerated Repair – L. Martin

- None

2. AES Building Committee – J. McNeil

- Next meeting: March 7, 2023

3. Building Committee – C. Hansen

- None

4. Communications – T. Casey

- None

1. Finance (L. Martin)

- FY24 Budget: Discussion and Budget Adoption

Lisa Martin said the Finance Subcommittee unanimously voted to recommend the SC approve the 6.27% budget increase as presented.

*Lisa Martin moved, and Thomas Casey seconded the School Committee adopt an FY2024 operational budget of **\$56,560,939.00**, a FY2024 transportation budget of **\$4,158,363.00**, FY2024 Debt service budget of **\$4,241,313.00** and to use these funds to calculate the Fy2024 school assessments for member towns as*

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required by statute. In addition, the Committee authorizes the use of \$2,045,000.00 from the Excess and Deficiency Account to offset the FY2024 operational budget.

Andrew MacLean, Pepperell's Town Administrator asked if the 6.27% budget increase looked different than the budget presented on February 6, 2023. Superintendent Morgan and Nancy Haines confirmed the budget presented on February 6, 2023, was a 6.27% increase.

Mr. MacLean said the 6.27% budget increase would require an override in the Town of Pepperell and asked if the School Committee was in support of overrides.

Susan Robbins said the School Committee was aware an override would be required to support the 6.27% budget increase.

June McNeil asked what reduction were made to the budget and a discussion about reductions ensued. Ms. McNeil said the Town of Ashby would require an override if the 6.27% budget increase was approved.

Ms. Kell asked if the District anticipated needing another override next year, and if so, did the District think back to back overrides would pass.

Superintendent Morgan said the District faced several challenges including the five collective bargaining agreements expiring in June, the regular transportation contract expiring in June of 2024, rising healthcare costs, Special Education transportation costs, and Special Education tuition increases.

Randee Rusch said out-of-district tuition increased tremendously along with insurance costs.

Ms. Kell said services critical to the Town of Townsend would be lost if the override did not pass.

Quinton Cutler, Pepperell Finance Committee, talked about state mandates. Mr. Cutler asked what the total amount of unfunded mandates fell on the towns to fund.

A discussion ensued about transportation funding shortfalls and utility costs.

Craig Hansen asked about the District's solar projects and whether or not they had an impact on costs. Ms. Haines said the solar projects at AES, NMRHS, and VBES were all successful.

Roll Call Vote:			
Craig Hansen	Yes	Michael Morgan	-
June McNeil	No	Randee Rusch	Yes
Jessica Funaiole	Yes	Lisa Martin	Yes
Thomas Casey	Yes	Susan Robbins	Yes
David Carney	-		

Vote: The motion passed 6/1/0.

The Committee discussed the budget and override messaging and agreed the Finance and Communications Subcommittees would work to develop a unified message to the community.

Mr. Quinton requested the District compile a report that reflects the budget with unfunded mandates and how the unfunded mandates impact the District's budget.

5. Negotiation & Personnel (T. Casey)

- None

6. Policy (R. Rusch)

1. IJOA – Field Trips

Randee Rusch provided an overview of the policy and proposed changes.

Randee Rusch moved, and June McNeil seconded the School Committee approve policy IJOA Field Trips for a first reading as amended.

Roll Call Vote:			
Craig Hansen	Yes	Michael Morgan	-
June McNeil	Yes	Randee Rusch	Yes
Jessica Funaiole	Yes	Lisa Martin	Yes
Thomas Casey	Yes	Susan Robbins	Yes
David Carney	-		

Vote: The motion unanimously passed 7/0/0.

2. JQ-E Fees, Fines, and Charges (Admission Fees)

Randee Rusch provided an overview of the policy and proposed changes.

Randee Rusch moved, and June McNeil seconded the School Committee approve policy JQ-E Fees, Fines, and Charges as presented.

Roll Call Vote:			
Craig Hansen	Yes	Michael Morgan	-
June McNeil	Yes	Randee Rusch	Yes

Jessica Funaiole	Yes	Lisa Martin	Yes
Thomas Casey	Yes	Susan Robbins	Yes
David Carney	-		

Vote: The motion unanimously passed 7/0/0.

3. Regional Agreement

Ms. Rusch provided an update on the Regional Agreement and said the Policy Subcommittee was scheduled to meet tomorrow, March 7th.

ADJOURN – VOTES MAY BE TAKEN

At 8:15 a.m., Lisa Martin motioned, and Susan Robbins seconded to adjourn.

Roll Call Vote:			
Craig Hansen	Yes	Michael Morgan	-
June McNeil	Yes	Randee Rusch	Yes
Jessica Funaiole	Yes	Lisa Martin	Yes
Thomas Casey	Yes	Susan Robbins	Yes
David Carney	-		

Vote: The motion unanimously passed 7/0/0.

Documents Reviewed / Referred To

- 2023 03-06 Agenda
- FY24 Budget by Function
- FY24 Budget Summary
- 2023 02-02 Minutes
- 2023 02-06 Minutes
- Accounts Payable Warrants
- Payroll Warrants
- Donations
- FY24 Debt Service Estimate
- DESE Regional Enrollment Contributions by Town

- FY24 Budget by Function 3-6-23 6.27%
- FY24 Budget Detail 3-6-23 6.27%
- FY24 Budget Summary 3-6-23 6.27%
- FY24 Revenue Projection 3-6-23 6.27%
- Preliminary Regional School Cherry Sheet Estimates
- Policy IJOA
- Final Fees & Ticket Prices
- Policy JQ

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Eibye, Recording Secretary

APPROVED: March 20, 2023

Diane Gleason
Interim Principal
dgleason@nmrsd.org
Tel. 978-433-6722



Ami Dolan
Assistant Principal
adolan@nmrsd.org
Tel: 978-433-6722

March 9, 2023

To: North Middlesex Regional School Committee

From: Diane Gleason

Re: Donation

Please approve this donation to Varnum Brook Elementary School in the amount of \$355.00 from the Varnum Brook PTO for the purchase of playground stencils.

We appreciate this generous donation and will put it to good use.

VARNUM BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

10 Hollis Street, Pepperell, MA 01463 | Tel: 978-433-6722 | Fax: 978-433-8140 | www.nmrsd.org

The North Middlesex Regional School District does not discriminate in admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in, its services, programs, and activities, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, homelessness, or age.

VARNUM BROOK PTO
10 HOLLIS STREET
PEPPERELL, MA 01463


299

53-7075/2113
15

3.7.23

Date

☒ FRAUDARMOR⁺

Pay to the Varnum Brook
Order of Student Activity Account \$ 355.00
three hundred fifty five Dollars 



Main Street

BANK

MARLBOROUGH, MA 01752
BankMainStreet.com

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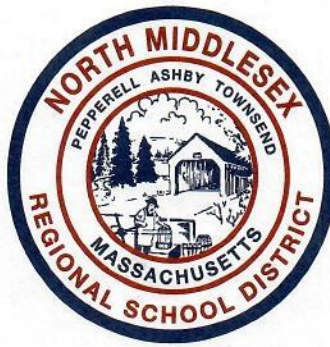
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Anne Cromwell-Gapp, M.Ed.
Principal
agapp@nmrsd.org
Tel. 978-743-1005 Ext. 5401



TO: NMRSD School Committee

FROM: Mrs. Cromwell-Gapp, M.Ed., C.A.G. S Ed. Leadership

RE: Donation from Hannaford

DATE: February 9, 2023

Please accept this letter as receipt of a donation received from Hannaford Helps Schools in the amount of \$594.00.

Cc: Mr. Brad Morgan, Superintendent

ASHBY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

911 Main Street, Ashby, MA 01431 | Tel: 978-743-1005 | Fax: 978-386-2492 | www.nmrsd.org

The North Middlesex Regional School District does not discriminate in admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in, its services, programs, and activities, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, homelessness, or age.

Lauren Young
Principal
lyoung@nmrsd.org
Tel. 978-433-0114



Evan Worth
Assistant Principal
eworth@nmrsd.org
Tel: 978-433-0114

To: Superintendent Brad Morgan
From: Lauren Young *LY*
Re: Donation to Nissitissit Middle School
Date: February 27, 2023

I am requesting that the NMRSD School Committee accept this donation in the amount of \$2,268.00 from the Nissitissit PTO. This funding is to provide financial help for students attending the Washington DC trip from May 23-26, 2023.

NISSITISSIT MIDDLE SCHOOL

33 Chace Avenue, Pepperell, MA 01463 | Tel: 978-433-0114 | Fax: 978-433-5498 | www.nmrsd.org/nms

Lauren Young
Principal
lyoung@nmrsd.org
Tel. 978-433-0114



Evan Worth
Assistant Principal
eworth@nmrsd.org
Tel: 978-433-0114

To: Superintendent Brad Morgan
From: Lauren Young *Ly*
Re: Donation to Nissitissit Middle School
Date: February 27, 2023

I am requesting that the NMRSD School Committee accept this donation in the amount of \$800.00 from the Pepperell Business Association. This funding is to provide financial help for students attending the Washington DC trip from May 23-26, 2023.

NISSITISSIT MIDDLE SCHOOL

33 Chace Avenue, Pepperell, MA 01463 | Tel: 978-433-0114 | Fax: 978-433-5498 | www.nmrsd.org/nms

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2023-2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR

2023

August 21 & 22 New Employee Orientation
 August 23 District-wide Meeting/Building-based Work
 August 24 Full Day Professional Development
 August 25 No School
 ★ August 28 1st Day for Students Grades 1-12 & Pre-K Open House
 August 29 Kindergarten Orientation
 September 1-4 Labor Day Recess: No School
 September 5 First Day for Pre-K & Kindergarten Students
 October 4 Early Release: PD No Pre-K
 October 9 Indigenous Peoples Day: No School
 November 7 Election Day-Full Day PD: No School
 November 10 Veteran's Day: No School
 November 20-21 Early Release: K-8 Caregiver Conferences
 No Pre-K & Full Day at NMRHS
 November 22-24 Thanksgiving Recess: No School
 December 6 Early Release: PD No Pre-K
 December 22 Early Release Winter Recess No Pre-K
 December 25-29 Winter Recess: No School
 December 22, 25, 29 Holidays - District Office & Buildings Closed



2024

January 1 New Year's Day Observed: No School
 January 10 2½ Hour Late Start: Professional Development
 January 15 M.L. King Jr. Day: No School
 February 7 2½ Hour Late Start: Professional Development
 February 19-23 February Recess: No School
 March 18-19 Early Release: K-8: Caregiver Conferences
 No Pre-K & Full Day: at NMRHS
 April 3 Early Release: PD No Pre-K
 April 15-19 Spring Recess: No School
 April 22-23 No Kindergarten due to screenings
 May 24 Early Release: PD No Pre-K
 May 27 Memorial Day: No School
 ★ June 7 NMRHS Graduation
 ★ June 8 & 9 NMRHS Graduation Rain Dates
 ● June 10 Early Release - 180th Day of School
 ● June 17: Early Release - 180th Day of School (5 Snow Days Used)
 June 19 Juneteenth Observed: District Office & Buildings Closed

JULY 2023

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SEPTEMBER 2023

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JANUARY 2024

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MAY 2024

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JUNE 2024

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Budgetary Reduction Options FY2024

Option #1 (4.77% Increase)

- Reduce by 9.0 FTE
- Reduce 1.0 Bus
- GIC Retirement Insurance Savings

Overall: - \$912,664

Option #2 (3.54% Increase)

- Savings from Option #1
- Reduce by Additional 2.0 FTE
- Use \$500K in ESSER **OR** Reduce Additional 8.0 FTE
- Use \$78% of E & D **OR** Reduce Additional 6.0 FTE

Overall: - \$2,019,122

Option #3 (2.96% Increase)

- Savings from Options 1 & 2
- Use Remaining \$300K in ESSER **OR** Reduce Additional 5.0 FTE
- Use 100% of E & D **OR** Reduce Additional 11.0 FTE

Overall: - \$2,976,695

WORKING DRAFT

WORKING DRAFT

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGIONAL AGREEMENT



Ashby – Pepperell – Townsend, Massachusetts

WORKING DRAFT

WORKING DRAFT

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT AGREEMENT

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WORKING DRAFT

WORKING DRAFT

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WORKING DRAFT

WORKING DRAFT

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

AMENDED REGIONAL AGREEMENT

SECTION I

THE NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

A. Powers, Duties and Composition

The powers and duties of the North Middlesex Regional School District (“the District”) shall be vested in and exercised by the North Middlesex Regional District School Committee (the “Committee”) consisting of three members elected in at-large elections (“At-Large Members”) from the towns of Pepperell, Townsend and Ashby (“Member Towns”) and six members elected in local elections from the Member Towns (“Resident Members”). The Committee shall have all powers vested by law in a regional district school committee by G.L. c. 71, § 16 and other applicable laws and regulations, as such may be amended from time to time.

B. Resident Members

Subject to Paragraph D of this Section I, the Resident Members shall be elected as follows: two Resident Members shall reside in Townsend and be elected by its voters; three Resident Members shall reside in Pepperell and be elected by its voters; and one Resident Member shall reside in Ashby and be elected by its voters. Any Resident Member must resign if said Resident Member moves from the Member Town in which that Member was elected. Resident Members shall serve three-year terms.

C. At-Large Members

The Member Towns shall elect three At-Large Members in district-wide elections, which shall be held on the fourth Monday of April, polls to be open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Such Members shall serve three-year terms.

D. Election of School Committee Members Schedule

Elections shall be held annually on a 3-year rotating basis as follows:

Year 1: electing one (1) Resident Member from Townsend, one (1) Resident Member from Pepperell and one (1) Resident Member from Ashby;

Year 2: electing three (3) At Large Members; and

Year 3: electing one (1) Resident Member from Townsend and two (2) Resident Members from Pepperell.

E. Election of School Committee Members at District-Wide Elections

The Secretary of the Committee appointed pursuant to Paragraph G of this Section I shall be designated the District Clerk. By April 15th of each year of an at-large election, or by such other date as may be required by law, the District Clerk shall notify the state secretary that the District intends to elect members in district-wide elections and to fill any vacancies if there are any vacancies to be filled, and shall also inform the state secretary of said District Clerk's name and mailing address.

F. Weighted Voting

All votes taken by the Committee shall be calculated based on a weighted vote allocating to each member the voting value as set forth below. Such value is based on the 2020 U. S. Decennial Census for the three Member Towns. The voting values shall be reviewed, and if necessary re-calculated, based on each subsequent Decennial Census.

[TABLE OF VOTING VALUES]

F. ~~Vacancies~~

~~If a vacancy occurs in an At Large Member seat, an equal number of Select Board Members from all Member Towns and the remaining Committee Members, by majority vote in a joint session, shall appoint a successor member. Such successor shall serve the remainder of the former member's term.~~

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~~If a vacancy occurs in a Resident Member seat the Select Board from the Member Town from which the Member was elected and the remaining Resident Members from that town, if any, shall, by majority vote in joint session, appoint a successor member. Such successor shall serve the remainder of the former member's term.~~

G. Organization

Following each local election, the Committee shall organize and choose by majority ballot a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson from its own membership. At such meeting or any other meeting the Committee shall also by majority vote: appoint a Treasurer and Secretary who may be the same person but who need not be a member of the Committee, choose such other officers as it deems advisable, determine the terms of office and prescribe the powers and duties of any of its officers, fix the time and place for its regular meetings, and provide for the calling of special meetings.

H. Quorum

The quorum of the Committee for the transaction of all business shall be a majority of the Members but a lesser number may adjourn. All business shall be conducted by majority vote except where a different standard is expressly required by law or regulation. Whichever standard applies, every vote shall be calculated in accordance with Paragraph F of this Section I, above.

I. Vacancies

If a vacancy occurs in an At-Large Member seat, three Select Board Members from each Member Town and the remaining Committee Members, by majority vote in a joint session, shall appoint a successor member. Such successor shall serve the remainder of the former member's term.

If a vacancy occurs in a Resident Member seat the Select Board from the Member Town from which the Member was elected and the remaining Resident Members from that town, if any, shall, by majority vote in joint session, appoint a successor member. Such successor shall serve the remainder of the former member's term.

Commented [1]: What defines a quorum for the joint meeting? equal board members?

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SECTION II

TYPE OF REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

For purposes of attendance in accordance with G.L. c. 76, § 1, the District shall include all grades from K-12. The Committee is authorized in its discretion to establish and maintain state-aided vocational education, acting as trustees therefore, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 74 of the General Laws and acts amendatory thereof. The Committee also is authorized at its discretion to establish and operate a program for students ages 18-22, as approved by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and is authorized to operate a preschool program consistent with applicable law and regulations.

SECTION III

REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL BUILDINGS

A. Location of School Buildings

Any new school building shall be located in a location that best and most centrally accommodates the population of students that it is intended to serve.

At all times, each Member Town must maintain at least one (1) functioning school building within its borders.

The Committee has the authority to determine the grade configuration for each school building within the District in order to most efficiently balance student needs, enrollment, and budget constraints.

B. Lease of School Buildings

School buildings and associated premises may be leased from the Member Town(s) under terms and conditions that shall be expressed in lease agreements.

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The Town of Ashby is hereby authorized to lease to the District all the premises and buildings presently known as the

1. Ashby Elementary School.

The Town of Pepperell is hereby authorized to lease to the District all the premises and buildings presently known as the

1. Nissitissit Middle School.

The Town of Townsend is hereby authorized to lease to the District all the premises and buildings presently known as the

1. Spaulding Memorial School.

C. Terms of Lease

Each of said leases involving a Member Town shall be on such terms as may be determined by agreement between the Select Board of that Member Town and the Committee, which shall execute the lease for the Member Town and the District respectively.

Each of the leases shall contain a provision for the extension of the term thereof for an additional period not in excess of twenty years, renewable at any time during the term, at the option of the Committee. Each of the leases shall contain provisions authorizing the District to insure, repair, improve, alter, remodel, or modernize any leased premises or building, so long as any major repairs or any improvements, remodeling, or modernization, or other capital outlay for the leased facilities costing in excess of the limitations set forth as terms of the lease are approved by majority vote at a town meeting of the lessor Member Town. At no time may a Member Town receive any rental payment under such lease.

Limitations heretofore set forth shall not apply in an emergency situation that requires immediate action to preserve or protect the health, safety, or welfare of the children and/or employees occupying a leased facility. In such case, the Superintendent is empowered to take any action that the Superintendent deems necessary. Such action may be superseded by a two-thirds vote of the Committee and a majority vote of the Select Board of the Member Town involved. The unpaid balance on any and all outstanding bonds (i.e., school bonds authorized for the purpose of

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constructing or improving premises and buildings) at the time of leasing of said premises and buildings shall remain the obligation of the lessor Member Town.

D. District-Owned Property

The District is hereby authorized to own all premises and buildings known as the:

1. North Middlesex Regional High School
2. Squannacook Early Childhood Center
3. Hawthorne Brook Middle School
4. Varnum Brook Elementary School

E. Sale of District-Owned Property

1. The District may sell any District-owned building or premises that no longer is used for school/education purposes by using the following process. The District, pursuant to a vote of the Committee, may file legislation in the General Court through members of the General Court whose legislative districts encompass one or more of the Member Towns. The proposed legislation shall authorize the sale of such District-owned building or premises and shall specify the material terms of such authorization, including but not limited to the procedure for sale and the allowed uses and restrictions on the proceeds of the sale.

SECTION IV

APPORTIONMENT AND PAYMENT OF COSTS INCURRED BY THE DISTRICT

A. Classification of Costs

For the purpose of apportioning assessments to the Member Towns, costs shall be divided into two categories: capital costs and operating costs.

B. Capital Costs

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Capital costs shall include all expenses in the nature of capital outlay such as the cost of acquiring land, the cost of constructing, reconstructing, or adding to a school building or buildings, the costs of remodeling or making extraordinary repairs to a school building or buildings, the cost of constructing sewerage systems and sewerage treatment and disposal facilities or the cost of the purchase or use of such systems with a municipality, and any other item of capital outlay for which a regional school district may be authorized to borrow, including without limitation the cost of original equipment and furnishings for such school buildings or additions, plans, architect's and consultant's fees, grading and other costs incidental to placing school buildings and additions, sewerage systems and sewerage treatment disposal facilities, and any premises related to the foregoing in operating condition. Capital costs shall also include payment of principal of and interest on bonds, notes or other obligations issued by the District to finance capital costs. Capital costs shall not include costs which qualify under net school spending as defined in G.L. c. 70, § 2.

C. Operating Costs

Operating costs shall include all costs not included in capital costs as defined in Paragraph B of this section and shall also include interest on temporary notes issued by the District in anticipation of revenue.

D. Apportionment of Capital Costs

(1) Capital costs, including debt service on bonds or notes issued by the District or financed capital costs, in connection with any particular District school shall be apportioned on the basis of each Member Town's pupil enrollment in District programs within each such school. Each Member Town's share shall be determined by computing the ratio which its average pupil enrollment in such school on October 1 for the five years preceding the year for which the apportionment is made bears to the average total pupil enrollment from all the Member Towns in such school on that date for the preceding five years. A Member Town, or Member Towns, as the case may be, having no pupils enrolled or estimated to be enrolled in such school in accordance with the applicable date for calculation shall share no part of such capital costs.

(2) Capital costs, including debt service on bonds or notes issued by the District or finance capital costs, in connection with a facility or capital item which serves the entire District and which does not serve as a District School, including but not limited to a central administrative office, and such costs in connection with a facility or capital item which does not directly serve

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District pupils, including but not limited to leased space within the District to an outside entity, shall be apportioned on the basis of each Member Town's pupil enrollment in the District. Each Member Town's share shall be determined by computing the ratio which its average pupil enrollment in the District on October 1 for the five years preceding the year for which the apportionment is made bears to the average total pupil enrollment from all the Member Towns in the District on that date for the preceding five years.

(3) In the event that a building serves both as a District school and as a facility that is not a District school, including District administrative purposes and lease to an outside entity, capital costs shall be apportioned by first determining (a) the square footage used as a District school for the current year and (b) the square footage used for other purposes for the current year, and (c) the proportion of each to the total square footage of the facility. The percentage representing the portion used as a District school shall be apportioned to the Member Town whose pupils are enrolled in the school in accordance with the first sub-paragraph (1) of this Paragraph D, above. The portion used for other purposes shall be apportioned to the Member Towns as set forth in the second sub-paragraph of this Paragraph D, above.

In the event that there is no enrollment, emergency or temporary placement) of students in such school on October 1 of the year in question, the apportionment of debt services with respect thereto shall be made in the Committee's discretion using the apportionment formula set forth in this Paragraph D that it reasonably determines is appropriate.

E. Apportionment of Operating Costs

For each fiscal year, the assessment of operating costs for each Member Town will be the sum of the following: (a) the Member Town's required local contribution to the District as determined by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education; (b) the Member Town's share of that portion of the District's net school spending, as defined by G.L. c. 70, § 2, that exceeds the total of the required local contributions for all Member Towns; and (c) the Member Town's share of costs for transportation and all other expenditures (exclusive of capital costs as defined in Paragraph B above) that are not included in the District's net school spending. A Member Town's share of (b) and (c) above will be calculated on the basis of 'foundation enrollment' as defined in G.L. c. 70, § 2 based upon a five year rolling average, i.e., for any fiscal year a Member Town will pay the same percentage of components (b) and (c) set forth in the first sentence of this Paragraph E as the percentage of that Member Town's average foundation enrollment during the

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preceding five years of the average foundation enrollment for the entire District during those five years.

F. Times of Payment of Apportioned Costs

Each Member Town shall pay its proportionate share of the capital and operating costs to the District in each fiscal year in four equal installments no later than August 1, November 15, February 15, and May 15.

SECTION V
TRANSPORTATION

Transportation of students to and from school shall be provided by the District in accordance with the requirements of G.L. c. 71, § 16C, and the cost thereof shall be apportioned to the Member Towns as an operating cost in accordance with Section IV.

SECTION VI
EXCESS AND DEFICIENCY FUND AND STABILIZATION FUNDS

A. The District will maintain an “Excess and Deficiency Fund” which shall be administered in a manner consistent with G.L. c. 71, § 16B ½, as amended from time to time, and with directives from the Department of Revenue.

B. The District will maintain a “Stabilization Fund” which shall be operated consistent with the requirements of G.L. c. 71, § 16G ½, as amended from time to time, and with directives from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

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SECTION VII
CONSTRAINTS AND AMENDMENTS

A. Limitations

This Agreement may be amended from time to time in the manner hereinafter provided, but no such amendment shall be made which shall substantially impair the rights of the holders of any bonds or notes or other indebtedness of the District then outstanding, or the rights of the District to procure the means for payment thereof; provided that nothing in this section shall prevent the admission of a new town or towns to the District and the reapportionment accordingly of capital costs of the District represented by bonds or notes of the District then outstanding and of interest thereon. Amendments that address the admittance of another town or that address the withdrawal of a Member Town shall be governed by the provisions in Section VIII and Section IX, respectively, and not by the provisions of this Section VII.

B. Procedure

A proposal for amendment may be initiated by a majority vote of the Committee or by a signed petition bearing the signature of five percent of the registered voters of any one of the Member Towns. In the latter case, the petition shall contain at the end thereof a certification by the town clerk of such Member Town as to the number of registered voters in that town according to the most recent voting list and the number of signatures on the petition which appear to be the names of registered voters from that town. Any such proposal for amendment shall be presented to the Secretary of the Committee who shall mail or deliver a notice in writing to the Select Board of each of the Member Towns that a proposal to amend this Agreement has been received and who shall enclose a copy of such proposal (without the signatures in the case of a proposal by petition). The Select Board in each Member Town shall include in the warrant for the next annual town meeting or a special town meeting called for this purpose and/or for any other purposes an article stating the proposal and the substance thereof. Such amendment shall take effect upon its acceptance by each of the Member Towns at such an annual town meeting or special town meeting and upon final approval by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education.

SECTION VIII
ADMISSION OF ADDITIONAL TOWNS

Additional towns may apply for admittance to the District. No admittance will take effect on a date other than July 1 of a given year, and all required approvals by Member Towns and final approval by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education must have occurred no later than the preceding December 31. A town applying for admission must submit to the Committee a written analysis showing the expected educational benefits of the town's admission; the current and projected enrollments; an inventory of all educational facilities under the jurisdiction of the town; the proposed administrative structure; the fiscal ramifications of admission upon the applying town and upon the Member Towns in the District; the geographical and physical characteristics of the town; and the effect that admission will have on student transportation. If the Committee in its discretion so chooses, it may then vote to seek review of a proposed amendment by the Commissioner. The proposed amendment will set forth the terms upon which the new member town will be admitted. Such terms will include, without being limited to, "buy-in" payments by the new town to reflect capital costs that have previously been incurred by the Member Towns and will include an ongoing assessment for existing debt service. Following preliminary approval by the Commissioner, including any added or altered terms that are part of such preliminary approval, the Committee will then formulate an amendment that will be the subject of the formal approval process. No admittance of a new town will occur unless the amendment is approved by vote of the Committee; is approved by majority vote at an annual town meeting or special town meeting in the town seeking admittance and at an annual town meeting or special town meeting in each of the Member Towns; and is the subject of final approval by the Commissioner. No admittance of a new town will become effective less than one full year after the completion of these requirements.

SECTION IX
WITHDRAWAL

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In the event that a Member Town decides to seek to withdraw from the District, the following procedures and requirements will apply:

A. Vote Expressing Desire to Withdraw

Any Member Town seeking to withdraw from the District shall, by majority vote at its annual town meeting or special town meeting, request the Committee to formulate an amendment to this Agreement setting forth the terms under which the Member Town may withdraw from the District, including the requirements set forth in Paragraph D, below. No withdrawal will take effect on any date other than July 1 of a given year, provided that approval by the Member Towns other than the withdrawing Member Town and final approval by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education has occurred no later than December 31 of the preceding year. The vote of the withdrawing Member Town, as well as the notification to the District consistent with Paragraph B below and the submission of a long range education plan consistent with Paragraph C below, must all occur no less than two (2) years prior to the desired date of withdrawal.

B. Notice

The clerk of the Member Town seeking to withdraw shall, within seven (7) days of the vote in that town, notify the Committee Chairperson as well as the District's Superintendent in writing that the Member Town has voted to request the Committee to formulate an amendment to the Agreement setting forth the terms for withdrawal, including the requirements set forth in Paragraph D, below. The clerk will provide a certified copy of the vote with the notification.

C. Long Range Education Plan

No less than two (2) full years prior to the desired date of withdrawal, the Member Town seeking to withdraw, in addition to the other requirements set forth in paragraph A above, will submit to the Commissioner and to the District a "Long Range Education Plan" consistent with 603 CMR 41.02(2). The plan shall address, in addition to any other factor required by the Commissioner, the following: the expected educational benefits of reorganization; the current and projected enrollments; an inventory of all educational facilities under the jurisdiction of the District; the

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proposed administrative structure; the fiscal ramifications of withdrawal upon the withdrawing Member Town as well as upon the other Member Towns in the District; the geographical and physical characteristics of the area; and the effect that withdrawal will have on student transportation in the District.

D. Requirements

In addition to other terms and requirements which the Committee may include in the amendment, the amendment shall contain the following requirements: (1) payment of all unpaid operating costs for which the withdrawing Member Town is liable as a member of the District, including all operating costs for the year in which such withdrawal takes effect; (2) continuing payments beyond the effective date of withdrawal to the District for the Member Town's share of the indebtedness of the District which is outstanding on the effective date of withdrawal, as specified hereinafter, and for interest thereon, to the same extent and in the same manner as though the withdrawing Member Town had not withdrawn from the District; (3) payment of other liabilities incurred during all times that the withdrawing town was a member of the District, including, but not limited to, other post-employment benefits liabilities (G. L. c. 32B); and (4) payment of the costs, including legal fees, that are incurred by the District as a result of the withdrawal process. The withdrawing Member Town's annual share of any future installments of principal and interest on obligations outstanding on the effective date of its withdrawal shall be fixed at the percentage prevailing for such Member Town at the last annual apportionment made prior to the effective date of the withdrawal. The remainder of any such installment after subtracting the share of the withdrawing Member Town shall be apportioned to the remaining Member Towns in the manner set forth in Section IV, Paragraph D (2) or in the amendment providing for such withdrawal.

E. Approval of Withdrawal

A request to withdraw from the District shall become effective only if the amendment to the Agreement is approved by vote of the Committee, is approved by majority vote at an annual town meeting or special town meeting in the Member Towns other than the Member Town seeking to withdraw, and is approved by the Commissioner. The withdrawal shall become effective no less than one full year after the completion of these requirements for withdrawal.

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F. Deposit of Money Paid by Withdrawn Member Town

Money received by the District from the withdrawn Member Town for payment of funded indebtedness or interest thereon shall be used only for such purpose and until so used shall be deposited in trust in the name of the District with a Massachusetts banking institution selected in accordance with G.L. c. 44, § 53F and having adequate insurance, capitalization, and services as determined by the Committee. Money received by the District from the withdrawn Member Town for other payments required by the amendment and Paragraph D, above, shall be used for lawful purposes of the District subject to any requirements for expenditure.

SECTION X
BUDGET

Development of the District Budget

~~The Committee shall annually determine the District’s budget consistent with the timelines, terms, and requirements in G.L. c. 71, § 16B, as amended from time to time, and consistent with regulations promulgated by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The Committee will hold a public hearing on its budget consistent with G.L. c. 71, § 38N, as amended from time to time. The apportionment of the costs appearing in said budget will be calculated consistent with Section IV of this Agreement.~~

A. ~~Tentative Capital and Operating Budget~~

On or before [DATE] of each year, the Committee shall prepare a tentative capital and operating budget for the ensuing fiscal year, including therein provision for any installment of principal or interest to become due in such year on any bonds, notes or other obligations of the District and any other capital costs to be apportioned to the member towns in such year.

The budget shall be in reasonable detail and shall reflect DESE Function Code classification of expenses as outlined below:

1000 - Administration

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2000 - Instruction

3000 - Student Services

4000 - Operation and Maintenance of Plant

5000 - Fixed Charges

6000 - Community Service (if applicable)

7000 - Acquisition, Improvement and Replacement of Fixed Assets

8000 - Debt Retirement and Debt Service

9000 - Programs with Other Districts and Private Schools

Copies of the tentative budget shall be provided to the chairperson of the finance or advisory committee, to the chairperson of the board of selectmen, and to the town administrator of each Member Town on or before [DATE].

B. Final Capital and Operating Budget

Prior to adopting the final capital and operating budget for the ensuing fiscal year, the Committee shall hold a public hearing and shall give notice in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 71, § 38N. After the Committee adopts the final capital and operating budget by a two-thirds vote, said budget shall be apportioned to the Member Towns in accordance with the assessment provisions in Section IV of this Agreement. Copies of the final budget shall be delivered to the chairperson of the finance and advisory committee, to the chairperson of the board of selectmen, and to the town administrator of each Member Town on or before [DATE].

C. Certification of Apportionment

The amounts so apportioned to each Member Town shall, prior to [DATE] of each year preceding the fiscal year to which said budget relates, be certified by the District treasurer to the treasurer of each Member Town. Each Member Town shall, at its next annual town meeting, decide whether or not to appropriate the amounts so certified to it.

D. Approval of Budget by Member Towns

Approval by the Member Towns of the budget shall be in compliance with the requirements of G.L. c. 71, § 16B, as such may be amended from time to time.

SECTION XI REVIEW OF AGREEMENT

At least every five years, the Committee will undertake a review of the terms of this agreement. The first review of this agreement will occur no later than fiscal year 2028. Proposals for amendments to this Agreement will be processed consistent with Section VII.

SECTION XII INCURRING OF DEBT

The Committee may vote to incur debt by either of the following methods. The Committee's vote must specify which method is being used.

The Committee may by a two-thirds vote ~~to~~ incur debt in accordance with all ~~of~~ the requirements and the process set forth in G.L. c. 71, § 16(d), as amended from time to time. In the alternative, the Committee may by a two-thirds vote ~~to~~ incur debt in accordance with all ~~of~~ the requirements and process set forth in G.L. c. 71, § 16(n), as amended from time to time. In the event that a two-thirds vote fails in either instance, debt shall be incurred in accordance with all of the requirements and the process set forth in G.L. c. 71, § 16(d). The Committee's vote to follow one method of incurring debt for a specific purpose or on a specific occasion shall not bar it from voting to follow the other method of incurring debt for another specific purpose or on another specific occasion.

SECTION XIII TUITION STUDENTS

The Committee may accept for enrollment in the District schools pupils from towns other than the Member Towns, including but not limited to towns that are outside Massachusetts, on a tuition basis and on such terms as it may determine, all in accordance with such provisions of

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Massachusetts law as are applicable. Income received by the District from towns paying such tuition for their residents shall be deposited into a revolving account established pursuant to ~~M~~G.L. c. 71, § 16D½, to be expended by the Committee without appropriation for any purposes authorized under the statute.

SECTION XIV
DISTRICT SEAL

The District shall have a common seal, which bears the legend “North Middlesex Regional School District-1956” and shall be in such form and of such design as the Committee shall determine. The District treasurer shall have custody of the seal.

WITNESSETH our hands and seals this _____ day of _____, 202~~2~~3

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

<u>Ashby:</u>	<u>Pepperell:</u>	<u>Townsend:</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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ASHBY

ACCEPTED BY THE TOWN OF ASHBY AT TOWN MEETING HELD

_____, 202~~2~~³.

ATTEST: TOWN OF ASHBY

Town Clerk of Ashby

by: _____
Chairman of Board of Selectmen

[SEAL]

PEPPERELL

ACCEPTED BY THE TOWN OF PEPPERELL AT TOWN MEETING HELD

_____, 202~~2~~³.

ATTEST: TOWN OF PEPPERELL

Town Clerk of Pepperell

by: _____
Chairman of Board of Selectmen

[SEAL]

TOWNSEND

ACCEPTED BY THE TOWN OF TOWNSEND AT TOWN MEETING HELD

_____, 202~~2~~³.

ATTEST: TOWN OF TOWNSEND

Town Clerk of Townsend

by: _____
Chairman of Board of Selectmen

[SEAL]

REGIONAL SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

The North Middlesex Regional School Committee shall employ a Superintendent of Schools and fix their compensation. The Superintendent shall act in accordance with General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 59, and shall perform such other duties consistent with this section as the Committee may determine. They shall also prepare such reports as may be required by the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education. They shall submit materials for the District's annual report to the selectmen of the member towns in sufficient time for printing in the annual reports of the member municipalities.

SOURCE: MASC

LEGAL REFS: M.G.L. 71:59, 72:3; 71:41; 71:42

NOTE: Under the laws of the Commonwealth, the School Committee may award a contract to a Superintendent of Schools for a period not to exceed six years.

Adopted by the NMRSD School Committee:

NMRSD Adoption: September 26, 2011

Policy Committee Review: March 10, 2023

NMRSD First Vote: March 20, 2023

NMRSD Adoption:

EVALUATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Evaluation can serve the purpose of helping educators and educational leaders continually improve their practice.

Through evaluation of the Superintendent, the School Committee will strive to accomplish the following:

1. Ensure the efforts of the Superintendent are focused on district goals and the standards of professional practice established by state regulations are met by the Superintendent.
2. Ensure all Committee members and the Superintendent are in agreement and clear on the role of the Superintendent and the immediate priorities among their responsibilities.
3. Provide excellence in administrative leadership of the school district.
4. Develop a respectful and productive working relationship between the School Committee and Superintendent.

The School Committee and Superintendent will periodically develop goals based on the needs of the school district and in keeping with state regulations for the evaluation of the Superintendent. The Superintendent's performance will be reviewed in accordance with specified goals and standards according to the evaluation cycle agreed upon with the Superintendent.

School committee members may only submit an evaluation after four months of service during the current evaluation cycle. Any outgoing school committee members may submit an evaluation upon the current members' vote. All School Committee discussions and deliberation related to the Superintendent's performance evaluation shall be conducted in open session in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.

SOURCE: MASC - Updated 2022

LEGAL REF: M.G.L. [30A:18](#)-25

603CMR[35.00](#)

CROSSREF: Superintendent's contract

Adopted by the NMRSD School Committee:

Policy Committee Review: March 10, 2023

NMRSD First Vote: March 20, 2023

NMRSD Adoption:

March 6, 2023

The North Middlesex Regional School District School Committee places the following policy on the table for public review. Should you wish to comment about the policy, please email your comments to info@nmrsd.org

Thank you.

FILE: IJOA

FIELD TRIPS

FIELD TRIPS

The North Middlesex Regional School Committee encourages field trips as an integral part of the instructional programs in schools.

Specific guidelines and appropriate administrative procedures shall be developed to screen, approve, and evaluate trips and to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken for the safety of the participants. Said guidelines and procedures shall be developed by the Administration and reviewed and approved by the North Middlesex Regional School Committee.

At a minimum, the regulations shall address:

1. Having signed parental permission for all students attending the trips.
2. Specific guidelines for the appropriate number of chaperones.
3. All safety precautions to be observed.
4. Levels of approval for each type of field trip.

All trips outside of a 75-mile radius of NMRHS which are outside of Massachusetts or any extended (overnight) trips and excursions must have advance approval of the North Middlesex Regional School Committee. Fundraising activities for such trips will be subject to approval by the appropriate Administrator.

School based groups are encouraged to seek approval for any potential activities such as invitational competitions in advance of the events.

CROSS REF.: JJH, Policy Relating to Field Trips Involving Late Night or Overnight Travel

SOURCE: MASC

Adopted by the NMRSD School Committee:

NMRSD Adoption: 9/14/2015

Five-Year Review Cycle:

NMRSD Review: 2/8/2023

NMRSD First Vote: 3/6/2023

NMRSD Adoption:

STUDENT FEES, FINES, AND CHARGES

The School Committee recognizes the need for student fees to fund certain school activities. It also recognizes that some students may not be able to pay these fees. No student will be denied access into any program because of inability to pay these supplementary charges.

A school may exact a fee or charge only upon Board approval. The schools, however, may:

Charge students enrolled in certain courses for the cost of materials used in projects that will become the property of the student.

Charge for lost and damaged books, materials, supplies, and equipment.

Students who are indigent or eligible for free lunch are exempt from paying fees.* However, indigent students and/or students who qualify for free lunch are not exempt from charges for lost and damaged books, locks, materials, supplies, and equipment.

All student fees and charges, both optional and required, will be listed and described annually in each school's student handbook or in some other written form and distributed to each student. The notice will advise students that fees are to be paid and of the penalties for their failure to pay them. Permissible penalties include the withholding of report cards until payment is made or denial of participation in extra class activities while the student is enrolled in this District.

Any fee or charge due to any school in the District and not paid at the end of the school year will be carried forward to the next succeeding school year as such debts are considered to be debts of the student to the District and not to a particular school. A notice of unpaid fees and/or charges will be sent home to parent/guardian on an annual basis.

* Students who qualify for reduced lunch may be required to pay a portion of fees.

SOURCE: MASC

Adopted by the NMRSD School Committee:

Adoption: October 24, 2011

Informational review: November 2, 2022, February 6, 2023

NMRSD first vote: March 6, 2023

NMRSD adoption:

Fees & Ticket Prices

NMRSD last increased its user fees in 2015. Since that time, we have seen increases in costs for transportation (doubled), officiating, supervisory stipends, equipment, league/MIAA membership, and uniforms. To that end, after consulting with the administrative team and looking at other surrounding districts, I am recommending the following increases.

	Current Fee	2023-2024 Fee	2024-2025 Fee
High School Sports	190.00 per season	245.00	275.00
Varsity Ice-Time JV Ice-Time	200.00 200.00	355.00 200.00	TBA TBA
Unified High School Sports	100.00 per season	No Change	No Change
Online Payment Fee	5.00 per registration	10.00 (fee increased) Cost of \$7.30 to district	No Change
Marching Band	200.00	245.00	275.00
Winter Percussion	215.00	245.00	275.00
Winter Guard	215.00	245.00	275.00
*High School Dues	25.00 per year	50.00 per year	No Change
Elementary Enrichment	20.00 per session	30.00 per session	No Change
Elementary BOK	20.00 per session	30.00 per session	No Change
Middle Enrichment	30.00 per session	40.00 (materials fee may apply)	No Change
Middle Intramurals	30.00 per session	45.00 per session	No Change
Middle School Sports	100.00	No Change	No Change

Reduced Lunch: 50% off each fee
Free Lunch: 75% off each fee

***High School Dues** - The collection of high school dues are intended to create a “savings account” for each student to put towards their senior activities (i.e. cookout, prom, graduation cap/gown, etc.) These are not mandatory but will help students avoid having to pay for everything at once. Students who do not participate in dues collection will be required to pay in full in order to participate in senior activities.

In addition, the following high school and middle school fees, which do not require school committee approval have been agreed upon by the administration:

	Current Fee	Recommended Fee
High School Athletic Tickets (Night Games - Indoor Events - after 5:30 p.m. for stadium and gym)	Adult - \$5 Student/Senior Citizen - \$3	No Change
Other Athletic Events	Donation	Donation
Middle School Basketball	No Charge	Adult - \$5 Student/Senior Citizen - \$2
High School Play/Musical	Adult - \$15 Student/Senior Citizen - \$10	No Change
Middle School Play/Musical	Adult - \$8 Student/Senior Citizen - No Charge	Adult - \$10 Student/Senior Citizen - \$5
4th & 5th Grade Concert	No Charge	Donation
High School Concert	Adult - \$4 Student/Senior Citizen - No Charge	Adult - \$10 Student/Senior Citizen - \$3
Middle School Concert		Adult - \$5 Student/Senior Citizen - \$2

- Collection of gate for athletics, plays, musicals, must all concerts go into school/district-based revolving accounts. Any money that is collected by boosters is a result of their own fundraising activities.