



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

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**MINUTES – July 27, 2023**

Virtual via Zoom

**PRESENT**

Chairperson	Craig Hansen	Member, Pepperell
Vice-Chairperson	June McNeil	Member, Ashby
	Randee Rusch	Member, At Large
	Thomas Casey	Member, Pepperell ~ Absent
	Lisa Martin	Member, At Large
	David Carney	Member, Pepperell
	Jessica Funaiole	Member, Townsend
	Susan Robbins	Member, Townsend ~ Arrived @ 6:17 p.m.
	Lisa Bloom	Member, At Large

**ALSO PRESENT**

Brad Morgan	Superintendent of Schools
Gary Burboa-Reese	Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Nancy Haines	Business Manager
Anne Marie Tuccirone-Mahan	Director, Human Resources

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

A discussion ensued about the AES bleachers and disposing of them.

*June McNeil moved, and Lisa Martin seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.*

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

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

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- None

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

## REPORTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Chairperson's Report – C. Hansen
  - Mr. Hansen discussed the recent audit tour, which focused on unfunded mandates, budget constraints, and transportation reimbursements.
2. Superintendent's Report – B. Morgan
  - Superintendent Morgan said discussions with State Representative Margaret Scarsdale were ongoing, and he hoped to meet soon with the town administrators to discuss the budget.
  - Mr. Morgan discussed the Bullying Prevention Intervention Plan Advisory to educate parents and students.
  - Mr. Morgan said there would be presentations on bullying at the schools' open houses.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. [North Middlesex Regional School District Handbooks](#) – B. Morgan  
Timothy McMahon provided an overview of the proposed changes, and a discussion ensued about the BPIP, handbook addendum, and the Mission and Vision statements. Superintendent Morgan said the Mission and Vision Statements would be presented at the next School Committee meeting.

*Following review, David Carney moved, and June McNeil seconded to approve the High School Handbook as amended.*

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

*Vote: The motion unanimously passed 8/0/0.*

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Chantele Olmstead presented the Middle School Handbook, and a brief discussion ensued.

*David Carney moved, and June McNeil seconded to approve the Middle School Handbook as amended.*

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

David Carney	Yes		
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*Vote: The motion unanimously passed 8/0/0.*

The Committee reviewed the Squannacook Elementary School Handbook and proposed updates.

*June McNeil moved, and David Carney seconded to approve the SECC Handbook as amended.*

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>			
Craig Hansen	Yes	Randee Rusch	Yes
June McNeil	Yes	Lisa Bloom	Yes
Jessica Funaiole	Yes	Lisa Martin	Yes
Thomas Casey	-	Susan Robbins	Yes
David Carney	Yes		

*Vote: The motion unanimously passed 8/0/0.*

The Committee reviewed the Extended Day Handbook. A discussion ensued about formatting.

*Randee Rusch moved, and June McNeil seconded to approve the SECC Handbook as amended.*

<b>Roll Call Vote:</b>			
Craig Hansen	Yes	Randee Rusch	Yes
June McNeil	Yes	Lisa Bloom	Yes
Jessica Funaiole	Yes	Lisa Martin	Yes
Thomas Casey	-	Susan Robbins	Yes
David Carney	Yes		

*Vote: The motion unanimously passed 8/0/0.*

2. [Bullying Prevention & Intervention Plan 2023-2024](#)

The Committee reviewed the Bullying Prevention & Intervention Plan and legal counsel's feedback.

3. [MCAS Update](#) – G. Burboa-Reese

Dr. Burboa-Reese provided the MCAS update to the Committee.

\*MCAS Update presentation attached.

4. [Strategic Plan Update](#) – G. Burboa-Reese

Dr. Burboa-Reese provided an overview of the Strategic Plan.

\*Strategic Plan attached

5. [FC 653 Investigating History Implementation Grant](#) – G. Burboa-Reese

Dr. Burboa-Reese provided an overview of the FC 653 Investigating History Implementation Grant.

*June McNeil moved, and Lisa Martin seconded the School Committee accept the FC 653 Investigating History Implementation Grant as presented.*

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

*Vote: The motion unanimously passed 8/0/0.*

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6. Van Pool Transportation Update – B. Brooks

Mr. Brooks said Van Pool Transportation would host in-person question and answer sessions next month to discuss parent/guardian concerns moving into the next school year.

7. School Committee Development & Goals – C. Hansen

- Randee Rusch discussed the importance of collaborating with the Central Office.
- Lisa Bloom said she contacted the MASC and talked with Dorothy Presser about hosting a School Committee workshop. Mr. Hansen said the Committee held similar workshops in the past, and having another was a good idea.
- The Committee agreed Randee Rusch and Lisa Bloom would work together to find a communication workshop.

## OLD BUSINESS

1. [Spaulding Memorial School Lease Agreement](#) – B. Morgan

- Continued from June 12, 2023, SC Meeting
- Mr. Morgan said there were still issues that needed to be resolved, so he had reached out to Townsend's Town Administrator multiple times but had not heard back.

## SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Accelerated Repair – L. Martin

- None
- 2. AES Building Committee – J. McNeil
  - June McNeil said the Committee was making progress
- 3. Communications – T. Casey
  - None
- 4. Finance – L. Martin
  - None
- 5. Negotiation & Personnel (L. Martin & D. Carney)
  - None
- 6. Policy (R. Rusch)
  - None
- 7. Liaisons to District Town Selectboards
  - Ashby: June McNeil
    - None
  - Pepperell: Dave Carney
    - None
  - Townsend: Jessica Funaiole
    - None

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION – VOTES MAY BE TAKEN

*At 7:25 p.m., Randee Rusch moved, and David Carney seconded the School Committee meet in executive session pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, sec. 21(a) for the following purpose:*

- *Purpose (3): To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares*
- *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 (Superintendent of Schools).*
- *Purpose (7): To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.*
  - *ES Minutes dated June 12, 2023*
  - *ES Minutes dated June 29, 2023*
  - *ES Minutes dated July 19, 2023*

*The Committee would not reconvene in an open session*

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

*Vote: The motion unanimously passed 8/0/0.*

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Documents Reviewed / Referred To

- 2023 07-27 Agenda
- 2023 06-12 SCMinutes
- Warrants
- Donations
- 2023 07-27 HBMS Surplus
- AES Surplus Property Form
- 2023-2024 Handbooks
- 2023-2024 BPIP
- MCAS Updates
- FC 653 Investigating History Grant
- SMS Lease Agreement

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Eibye, Secretary

**APPROVED:** August 17, 2023

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