

RE: *Northbridge School Committee*

DATE: *November 10, 2009*

TIME: *7:00 P.M.*

LOCATION: *Northbridge High School Media Center*

MINUTES

Present: *Chairman Michael McGrath, Vice Chairman Karen Kittredge, Fred Beauregard, Mary Contino, Rich DeLuca, Julie Gawlak, Selena Livingston, Superintendent Gorky and Assistant Superintendent Spitulnik. Mike LeBrasseur arrived 8:35 PM.*

Absent: *Susan Brouwer*

Call to Order: *Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.*

Chairman McGrath made a motion to add a discussion item "fee proposal" to the agenda. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

Approval of Minutes: *A Motion was made by Mike McGrath to accept the October 27, 2009 School Committee minutes. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as presented with a voice vote of 7-0.*

Public Comment: *None*

Appoint Student Advisory Member: *A motion was made by Mary Contino to appoint Jessica Donati as Student Representative. Julie Gawlak seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.*

Update:

Last week was homecoming week.

- *Administration had a football target game. Friday evening was a Homecoming dance. Homecoming games were on Saturday. Football won, Boys soccer won, Field hockey won and Girls soccer lost. Every class and club had booths at the games. There was also a Pep rally hosted by the seniors.*
- *MCAS retest was this week in Math and Language Arts*
- *Parent teacher conferences are next week*
- *Report cards go home November 17th.*

- Grade 8 info session (open house) on November 20, 2009.
- 2012 class ring ceremony is Thursday.
- 25 students went to city lab at Boston University today.
- Students took the RSAC testing program to help choose a career in the future.

Discussion:

School Committee Broadcast:

This topic was passed over at this meeting.

Caryn Gagner Boy Scout Fees:

The Boy Scouts troop in Northbridge wants to move to Group 2 on the building use fees schedule. They are having a problem finding meeting space to accommodate the larger group gatherings of 100 plus scouts. Specifically they are asking to use the school with a no fee basis for their Pinewood Derby in January and their Blue & Gold Bridging ceremony in March. In the group of fees schedule they are in now, they cannot afford the fees. They would like to move to Group 2 from Group 3. This Boy Scout Pack is one of the largest Boy Scout Pack's in central Massachusetts. This discussion will be brought up to the Fees and Fields subcommittee.

Fees and Fields Subcommittee recommendations:

Fred Beaugard presented a chart of recommendations to highlight what has been brought up at fees and fields subcommittee meetings and expected increases. Not to be voted on at this time.

Presentation:

NAEYC Accreditation Process:

Northbridge Elementary School principal Jill Healy and Tricia Martin, NAEYC consultant and Kindergarten teacher, presented the NAEYC Accreditation Process. Northbridge Elementary school received accreditation in 2005. Seeking accreditation could be a 2 year process. Programs pursuing initial accreditation and programs seeking reaccreditation follow the same four step accreditation process.

MCAS Growth Model introduction and Overview:

Superintendent Gorky started the presentation with an overview of the MCAS Growth Model. Brian L'Heureux presented a power point presentation breaking down many aspects of MCAS growth. They also presented the State report of October 2009. Superintendent Gorky thanked Brian L'Heureux for all his hard work collecting this very important MCAS data that will be very helpful to the teachers.

Reports

Superintendent Gorky

Superintendent Gorky highlighted the past few weeks and upcoming month:

- September 30, 2009, NES sing-a-long supported by the PTA
- October 23, 2009, Harlem Wizards basketball game supported by the PTA
- October 23,24, 2009 NES preschool classroom hosted "Fall Family Get Together"
- October 30, 2009 NES celebrated Fairy Tales and Fables with a parade
- Woodcock Johnson II Training for special education teachers

- *October 27, 2009 Town Meeting, Article I was approved*
- *October 28, 2009 Middle school hosted the first HINI Flu Clinic for NES students*
- *October 30, 31, 2009 High School Homecoming activities and games. The Pep Band wore uniforms for the first time in years marching on the field.*
- *Friends of Lasell. At the homecoming game, parent volunteers kicked off a fund raising campaign to collect donations to improve the field conditions at Lasell Field.*
- *November 3, 2009 Senior Citizen and Friends Luncheon at the High School. Many thanks to Deb King and the cafeteria staff, Jim Verdone for the entertainment and Wendy Riordan and Balmer third grade students for the placemats. Thanksgiving feast will be November 17, 2009 from 11:30 – 12:30, \$3.50.*
- *November 4, 2009, The Middle school held an informational meeting for the student Drama Club with auditions held over the next two weeks.*
- *November 20, 2009 will be Northbridge Middle School's Grade 8 Class of 2014 Open House and Informational Session from 12:30 – 1:45 at the High School.*
- *December 3, 2009 will be Rachel's Challenge, a program for students grade 8 – 12. Rachel Scott was the first person killed in the Columbine High Shooting in April 1999. This program focuses on creating a positive change in the school and the community by starting a chain reaction of kindness and compassion. There will be an evening presentation for the community as well.*
- *John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients: Forty-three students qualified for this scholarship by having superior MCAS scores.*

*Toni Ambrogio
Kinga Boratyn
Brianna Bouthillette
Amy Branchaud
Megan Brochu
Julie Broderick
Kelly Buurma
David Cram
Danyelle Doldoorian
Lauren Drew
Nicholas Ducey
Katie Duvernay
Lynn Ekberg
Megan Fleming
Samuel Giard*

*Andrew Guy
Gina Halabi
Mitchell Kelley
Laura Knapik
Kylie Krause
Caitlyn Labonte
David Leon
Tyler Lesco
Samantha Matte
Cassandra McGrath
Bryanna Mellen
James Menard
Andrea Monterotti
Michael O'Brien
Katherine Ohman*

*Eerin Pennell
Thomas Pouliot
Anthony Joseph Rabaioli
Talan Reckert
Kristin Roche
Genevieve Rymeski
Brendan Shaughnessy
Lisa Stefaniak
Brendan Sweck
James Tabur
Rachel Vera
Jarrett Weaner
Edward Wytenus*

Assistant Superintendent Spitulnik

- *November 6, 2009, Assistant Superintendent Spitulnik discussed Professional Development Day #3.*
- *November 9, 2009 was the meeting of the Math Task Force. The task force will look at the Math Scope and Sequence that was developed a few years ago, and align it with the state Curriculum Frameworks and our current math textbooks.*
- *DESE Literacy Grant was approved. The grant will provide consultants to provide training and modeling for regular and special education teachers.*

- *Science/Technology and Engineering Grant. We have applied for a grant in the Gateway Project through the Museum of Science.*

A motion was made by Mike McGrath to add the Budget Presentation to the agenda, Mary Contino seconded the motion: The motion carried 8-0.

Budget Subcommittee: *Mike LeBrasseur reported that they had a meeting on Saturday, the first of two meetings to review department site budgets. All four schools along with transportation and curriculum were represented. The second and final meeting will be this Saturday and will include the remaining departments.*

Goals Subcommittee: *Dr. Karen Kittredge presented the action plans for the goals regarding achievement. The subcommittee met October 26, 2009 and presented action items for the school improvement plan. The final action items will be presented at the December 22, 2009 School Committee meeting. The District wide improvement plan was also provided.*

Policy Subcommittee: *Rich Deluca presented that the Policy Subcommittee had a meeting a week ago to review what was discussed with Pat Correira. The next meeting is Dec 1, 2009 for final review of section A.*

Ongoing business: ***Sustainable Energy
Energy Savings Update – Paul Halacy***

On October 30, 2009 we had a meeting with the Department of Energy Resources. We are working with consultants and with Town's Green Committee to begin a process of collecting data of all energy use of the past years. Possible projects include, boiler replacement, lighting upgrades and window replacement. We are 27 on the list to have an energy audit and will possibly happen in February. We are working with National Grid to possibly get rebates for some of the projects. We have also looked into "Energy Conservation Inc". All the buildings are set at 68 degrees. We are replacing balusters with energy efficient ones when they go out. All lights are turned off at night that aren't required.

New Business:

Technology Job Descriptions:

A Motion was made by Mary Contino to accept the following job descriptions:

*Information Systems Manager
Network Manager
Technology Support Specialist
Systems Administrator*

Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0.

Accept:

Middle School Instruments ~ \$150.00 each

Karen Kittredge made a motion to accept the donation of 1 flute and 1 clarinet for the Northbridge Public School music program. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0.

Balmer ~ St. Patrick's ~ School Supplies ~\$350.00

Karen Kittredge made a motion to accept the donation of \$350.00 from the St. Patrick's Parish weekly fund to Balmer school. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0.

Balmer ~ Lifesong Church ~ School Supplies

Karen Kittredge made a motion to accept the donation of school supplies and clothes from the Lifesong Church in Millbury, MA. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0.

NES ~ PTA ~ Pumpernickel Puppets ~ \$375.00

Karen Kittredge made a motion to accept the donation of a gift from the PTA of \$375.00 to be used for the Pumpernickel Puppets cultural event. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0.

NES ~ BV United Methodist Church ~ Snacks

Karen Kittredge made a motion to accept the donation of snack items from the Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church for students who are in need during the school day. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0.

Approve:

Warrants:

A motion was made by Mary Contino to approve warrant number 30-16s 10-15-2009 161,725.81. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0 with a roll call vote.

A Motion was made by Mary Contino to approve warrant number 30-18s 10-29-2009 317,902.49. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0 with a roll call vote.

Information:

*Minutes July 13, 2009 Policy Subcommittee
Minutes September 15, 2009 Policy Subcommittee
Minutes July 22, 2009 Fees & Fields Subcommittee
Minutes Sept. 28, 2009 Fees & Fields Subcommittee
Minutes Sept. 28, 2009 Goals Subcommittee
Food Services ~ Certificates of Merit
Professional Development Agenda ~ Nov. 6, 2009
UMASS Medical School ~ School Worksite Weight
Management Program Study*

Adjournment:

*A motion was made by Mike McGrath to adjourn the School
Committee meeting and go into executive session at 8:50 p.m.
The motion was seconded by Karen Kittredge.*

Executive Session: *Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to contract negotiations in accordance with C39s23B of M.G.L. and not returning to open session.*

Respectfully submitted,

*Selena Livingston
Secretary to the School Committee*

SL:kab