

**RE:** Northbridge School Committee  
**DATE:** December 8, 2009  
**TIME:** 7:00 P.M.  
**LOCATION:** Northbridge High School Media Center

### **MINUTES**

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

**Absent:** none

**Call to Order:** Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

**Public Comment:**

**Student Report:**

*Student Advisory Member – Andrea Monterotti presented us with an update at the High School. All of the teams for the fall varsity sports made it to district or state finals. There is a financial aid seminar tonight for college bound students. Rachel’s challenge was recently presented with a very powerful and moving message to keep Rachel’s message alive. To help with this, students at the High School will be starting a Friends of Rachel’s club. Leaders of this group were taught and trained by Craig Scott, the presenter and brother of Rachel. There will be a Holiday Concert at the High School on December 17, 2009. There will also be a Barnes and Noble book fair on Sunday, December 13th.*

**Consent Calendar:**

*Mike McGrath discussed how the new agenda line item “Consent Calendar” would work. All items under this section will get approved all at once. If any item needs to be discussed, it would be removed from this section and moved to another section of the agenda for discussion. This will be on a trial basis. Mike McGrath asked if any items from this section be moved. Mike LeBrasseur asked that the approval of the November 24, 2009 minutes be moved. This exception was accepted.*

*The following sections items have been adopted by the School Committee:*

- 1. Accept grant 738 Literacy Partnership in the amount of \$30,000*
- 2. Accept grant 262 Early Childhood in the amount of \$18,598*

3. Accept grant 900419 Essential School Health in the amount of \$86,100
4. Approve warrant number 30-22s in the amount of \$309,104.99 dated 11/25/2009
5. Accept NEF Grants:

- \$1,075 for NES/Liz Abbondanza – Pilgrim Trip
- \$250 for Balmer/ Sherri Reilly – Boston Field Trip
- \$250 for Balmer/Michele Shorten – Robotics Program
- \$250 for Balmer/Sarah Lanzillo – Writer’s Workshop Materials
- \$721 for MS/Jim Russo – Band Instruments
- \$1,200 for MS/Sherri Travers – Make Waves Video Camera and Equipment
- \$250 for NHS/Jennifer Goodrich – Rachel’s Challenge

**Discussion:                      *School Committee Self Evaluation***

*MASC School Committee self evaluation survey was presented to the School Committee members as a sample evaluation for possible Feb or March. This will brought up again at the January meeting for discussion.*

***Lasell Field***

*Fred Baeuregard updated us on the Friends of Lasell Field Committee. This is a community based initiative. Their first meeting was held this month at the Town Hall. The Committee’s first step was to develop a Mission statement which was adopted. This group also was made into smaller subcommittees. The next step is to meet with a few more turf companies to get appraisals for the turf field. One of the other groups will be in charge of fundraising with corporate sponsors.*

**Presentation:**

***MASS Superintendent’s Certificate of Academic Excellence***

*Caitlyn Labonte was awarded the Mass Superintendent’s Certificate of Academic Excellence. These awards are given to high school students who have distinguished themselves in the pursuit of excellence during their high school careers. Caitlyn is ranked in the top three percent of her class. She has also had many other awards and achievements. Caitlyn was in attendance along with her parents.*

***NHS Football Sportsmanship Award***

*John Perro, Matt Consigli, Nick Ducey and Casey Hippert*

*Nick Ducey spoke on the Football Sportsmanship Award. He thanked the coaching staff, Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Richards and other staff at NHS for helping the team and supporting them.*

### ***School Lunch Program Update ~ Deb King***

*Deb King, Director of Food Services in all the Northbridge schools, gave an update on the school lunch program and cost saving menu modifications as well as the Senior Citizens & Friends luncheons and the recent Board of Health Commendation. On October 9, 2009, the Northbridge Board of Health awarded the Certificate of Merit in Food Safety and Sanitation to all of our kitchens. Dr. Karen Kittredge asked that Deb King give another update in a few months. A question and answer session followed.*

*She also presented us with a profit loss statement FY 2010, Meal Participation Report FY 2010, and a Profit Loss Statement FY 2010.*

### ***Special Education Update ~ Cathy Stanton***

*Cathy Stanton, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Special Education process and the disability types, transportation cost, ages of students, out of district tuitions and out of district placement. She also discussed trends in Special Education as well as programs such as the Pathways programs and Bright Beginnings program.*

### **Reports Superintendent ~ Susan M. Gorky**

*Superintendent Gorky attended her first Thanksgiving Day football game.*

*Northbridge Rams won 10-3. Congratulations to students and coaches.*

*A recent school council training was well attended.*

*H1N1 clinics were held for NES & Balmer students. The next clinic is scheduled for Dec 9, 3:30 to all school students. Thank you to the Department of Public Health and School Nurses for all your hard work.*

*December 15<sup>th</sup> is the Holiday Senior Luncheon at the High School.*

### **Ongoing business:**

#### **New Business:**

#### **Action Items:**

#### ***2<sup>nd</sup> Reading ~ Policy BDE Subcommittees of the School Committee***

*A motion was made by Rich Deluca in adding line 7 "No subcommittee shall consist of a quorum of the full School Committee" to Policy BDE.*

*Dr. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. Roll call vote passed 8-1. Mike McGrath voted no.*

## ***2<sup>nd</sup> Reading ~ Policy JI Student Rights and Responsibilities***

*Nancy Spitulnik presented Policy JI to the subcommittee on December 1, 2009. At this meeting the last paragraph was deleted on this policy.*

*A motion was made by Dr. Karen Kittredge to delete the last paragraph of policy JI. Mary Contino seconded the motion with a roll call vote of 9-0*

### **Appoint:**

### **Accept:**

*A Motion was made by Mike McGrath to accept the November 24, 2009 School Committee minutes. Mary Contino seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as amended with a roll call vote of 9-0.*

### **Information:**

*September 22, 2009 Budget Subcommittee Minutes  
October 1, 2009 Budget Subcommittee Minutes  
October 29, 2009 Policy Subcommittee Minutes*

### **Adjournment:**

*A motion was made by Mary Contino to adjourn the School Committee meeting and go into executive session at 9:20 P.M. Executive Session is for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to contract negotiations in accordance with C39s23B of M.G.L. and not returning to open session.*

*The motion was seconded by Dr. Karen Kittredge. The motion carried 9-0 with a roll call vote.*

*The following areas were discussed:*

*Personnel Matter ~ NTA Grievance  
Negotiations ~ NTA*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Selena Livingston  
Secretary to the School Committee*

*SL:kab*

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