

RE: Northbridge School Committee
DATE: February 23, 2010
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
LOCATION: Northbridge High School Auditorium

MINUTES

Present:

Chairman Michael McGrath, Vice Chairman Dr. Karen Kittredge, Susan Brouwer, Rich Deluca, Julie Gawlak, Selena Livingston, Superintendent Gorky, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Spitulnik, and Business Manager Melissa Walker. Fred Beauregard arrived 7:06.

Absent:

Mary Contino and Mike LeBrasseur

Call to Order:

Chairman McGrath called the meeting to order in open session at 7:02 P.M. with a roll call vote of 6-0.

Certificates of Recognition:

None

Public Comment:

None

Student Report:

Student Advisory Member – Jessica Donati

Jessica reported that The Friends of Rachel group will be having their next meeting on February 24, 2010. The World Language Club will be having a Mardi Gras. The Link Crew will be meeting with freshman on February 26, 2010. In Athletics, the girls and boys basketball will be playing their district games this week.

Consent Calendar:

Mike McGrath asked the School Committee to accept the consent calendar items including the approval of the February 9, 2010 School Committee minutes, the Collaborative Partnership for Student Success Grants: School Year Program ~ Fund Code 619 ~ \$13,519 and Summer Program ~ Fund Code 592~\$14,882. The School Committee agreed to accept the consent calendar with a roll call vote of 5-0. (Karen Kittredge briefly stepped away)

Presentations:

None

Discussions:

None

Reports:

Superintendent Gorky:

High School Field House update: Superintendent Gorky reported on the early morning activity at the High School Field House. She reported that the first walker arrived today and as he signed out, he left a note saying thank you. Fliers were passed out during the senior citizens luncheon today to give them information on using the facility on school days between the hours of 6-7 A.M. The High School Field House is open to all community members over the age of 21.

School Calendar: Next year the 2 early release days will be used for parent conferences in all schools. NES & Balmer will use one evening meeting as an open house and the other for conferences. The Middle and High school will use both evenings for conferences.

Kindergarten Registration: Registration will take place February 24, 2010 at NES from 9-3.

High School in magazine: NHS is highlighted in High School Today, a publication of the National Federation of State High School Associations. The article, "From Postgame Rituals to Pep Songs, High School Traditions Stand the Test of Time" highlights the Northbridge High School Band and Jimmy Verdone, first year music teacher and Band Director. The article is published on pages 14 & 15 of the February 2010 edition of High School Today. Congratulations Jimmy and NHS band members!

Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Spitulnik:

Grants: Dr. Spitulnik spoke on the Fiscal Year 2010 Collaborative Partnership for Students Success Plan Grants. This grant was a very competitive grant. These grants will help students who received warning or needs improvement on their MCAS math scores. The grant is broken down into two areas, one for the school year program and one for the summer program. This grant will also link us with three community partners, L & M Landscaping, Omni Control Technologies, and the Whitinsville Community Center. A spread sheet will be set up to show the School Committee how many grants have been received this year and how the money is spent.

Math Task Force: Dr. Spitulnik gave an update on the Math Task Force. The goals are: 1) to review, evaluate, and revise the current PK to grade 12 Mathematics curriculum, 2) To develop grade level benchmarks in math, 3) To develop grade level unit calendars, 4) To review and implement best practices in math instruction. The Task Force consists of Dr. Spitulnik, Don Katz, and teachers from all the schools in the district. Dr. Spitulnik also gave an update on the accomplishments, upcoming work and ongoing math initiatives. Information will be available to parents.

Ongoing Business:

None

New Business:

None

Action Items:

Purchase of John Deer Gator:

Sue Brouwer made a motion to accept the purchase of a replacement John Deer Gator Tractor for \$14,506.96. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7-0. This will be registered as a vehicle to be used at all schools.

Appoint:

Town Charter Committee Representatives:

Rich Deluca made a motion to appoint Mary Contino and Mike McGrath as the Town Charter Committee Representatives. Sue Brouwer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7-0.

Fees & Field Subcommittee Reorganization:

Sue Brouwer made a motion to reorganize and appoint Selena Livingston, Chair, along with Sue Brouwer and Julie Gawlak as members of the Fees & Field Subcommittee. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7-0.

Cable Board Representative:

Sue Brouwer made a motion to support the appointment of Mike LeBrasseur as Cable Board Representative. Julie Gawlak seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7-0.

Policy ACE Coordinator & Policy ACAB Sexual Harassment Grievance Officer:

Sue Brouwer made a motion to appoint Dr. Spitulnik as both Policy ACE Compliance Coordinator and Policy ACAB Sexual Harassment Grievance Officer. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7-0.

Policy ADF Wellness Program Coordinator:

Sue Brouwer made a motion to appoint Lori Johnson as Policy ADF Wellness Program Coordinator. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7-0.

Accept:

Approve Warrants: 30-34S, 2-18-2010, \$395,595.10:

Selena Livingston made a motion to accept Warrant #30-34S, 2-18-2010, \$395,595.10. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 6-1. Sue Brouwer voting no.

2010-2011 School Calendar:

Selena Livingston made a motion to accept the 2010-2011 School Calendar. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7-0.

Information:

Changes will be made to the November 17, 2009 Budget Subcommittee minutes and to the January 5, 2010 Policy Subcommittee minutes as discussed.

Executive Session:

Karen Kittredge made a motion to close open session and enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing collective bargaining strategy and contract negotiations with non-union personnel and not returning to open session. Sue Brouwer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 7-0.

Adjournment:

The February 23, 2010 School Committee closed at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Selena Livingston
Secretary to the School Committee*

SL:kab