

RE: Northbridge Public Schools
Date: July 14, 2009
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Northbridge High School Media Center

MINUTES

Present: Susan Brouwer, Mary Contino, Rich Deluca (arrived 7:25 pm) Julie Gawlak, Karen Kittredge, Mike LeBrasseur, Selena Livingston, Mike McGrath and Assistant Superintendent Nancy Spitulnik and Superintendent Gorky. Fred Beauregard was absent.

Call to Order: Mike McGrath called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Moment of Silence: Paul Stockhause, a math teacher in the middle and high school level for the past 33 years, passed away last week after retiring in 2007 due to an illness.

Motion made to change the agenda by Mike LeBrasseur: Mike LeBrasseur would like to add schedule 19 under the approval of action items. All approved this change with a voice vote.

Mike McGrath would like to publicly thank everyone who has been working on subcommittee this past month. There have been numerous meeting since the last school committee meeting.

Approval of Minutes: A Motion made by Karen Kittredge to accept the June 9th minutes as amended without objection and seconded by Susan Brouwer. Minutes were approved with a voice vote.

Approval of Executive Minutes: Susan Brouwer made a motion to accept the June 9th executive minutes. Karen Kittredge Seconded. Not to be released until the matter in the minutes is resolved.

Public Comment: None

Discussion: Response to Citizen/Parent Questions:

In the light of a recent email sent by a citizen and parent to the entire committee, the committee had a discussion as to how to handle questions outside of meeting times. It was decided that this would be put up as an action item in the future.

Superintendent's Report:

New Therapeutic and Autism Programs at Northbridge Public School. The overview is posted on NPS.org. We are trying to bring "out placed" students back to our district. This is a significant financial strain to have student "out placed" at other schools.

Michael Gauthier has been appointed Interim Northbridge High School Principal. Mike will assume his new position on July 27th, 2009. Mrs. Johnson will be working with Mr. Gauthier through Augusts 14th to ensure a smooth transition for our students and staff.

Jill Carroll has been appointed our new Interim Middle School Principal to start immediately pending contract negotiations. She will be working with Mr. Gauthier for a smooth transition.

Michelle Hazelwood, grade 6 Social Studies Teacher has been selected by the NH Council for Social Studies to present a fall workshop titled, ***Hands on Activities for East Asia.***

James Gorman, a High School teacher has been accepted by Massachusetts School Superintendent Association to give a workshop on concept mapping strategies. Being a presenter at this conference is highly competitive.

Northbridge Police Department Contest Winners from Balmer School, students Tony Demerritt and Jacob Bliss. They received a plaque presented by Chief Warchol.

Action Items:

Mary Contino made a motion to appoint School MS Nurse ~Cynthia W. Janik, BSN, RN, NCSN. Mike McGrath seconded the motion. ***The motion carried 7-0 on a voice vote.*** Fred Beauregard and Rich Deluca absent. Mrs. Lori Johnson spoke to the committee on Ms. Janik's background. She is a replacement for Mrs. Rokes at the middle school.

Susan Brouwer made a motion to Accept Gift to Balmer PTO. The NPTA donated a \$1,000 check to B.A.S.E to support the program. Mary Contino seconded. ***The motion carried 8-0 on a voice vote.*** Fred Beauregard, absent. Rich Deluca arrived for vote.

Susan Brouwer made a motion to accept NMS Blackstone Valley Chamber Education Foundation Grants. Mary Contino Seconded. ***The Motion carried 8-0.*** Fred Beauregard absent. The Northbridge Middle School has received two grants from the BVT Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation for the 2009-2010 Academic year. Grade 7 Science /Going green NMS \$500 and Grade 8 Mathematics /Math Trail \$540.

Mary Contino made a motion to accept the Northbridge Middle Schools grants. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0. Fred Beauregard absent. Africa Comes to NMS \$500 - Birds of Prey \$600 - Physics Olympics \$437.94.

Susan Brouwer made a motion to reschedule the School Committee Meeting from August 25, 2009 to August 11, 2009 at 6:00 pm Rich DeLuca stated he couldn't make the 11th meeting. The August 25th meeting is now tentative. Mary Contino seconded. Motion carried 8-0 on a voice vote. Fred Beauregard absent.

Approve Warrants:

Mary Contino made a motion to approve warrant number 29-50s dated 6/11/2009 for \$271,581.91. Sue Brouwer seconded.

Mary Contino made a motion to approve warrant number 29-52s dated 6/26/2009 for \$330,476.57. Mike LeBrasseur seconded.

Mary Contino made a motion to approve warrant number 29-53s dated 7/2/2009 for \$92,667.51. Susan Brouwer seconded.

All three warrants motion carried on a roll call vote of 8-0. Fred Beauregard absent.

Karen Kittredge made a motion to accept Athletic/Extra Curricular Fee Schedule. Susan Brouwer seconded. Selena presented the fee schedule. The motion carried 8-0 on a voice vote. Fred Beauregard absent.

Mary Contino made a motion to approve meal price increase for 2009-2010 school year for lunch at the High School and Middle School from the current \$2.50 to \$2.75 They also would like an approval to increase the cost of 10-ounce milk from \$.50 to \$.75. The budget subcommittee voted to not support this request at last nights meeting. Julie Gawlak seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the request for the increase was not approved at this time. The lunch director, Debra King spoke on the proposed increase. Discussion as to what could be done instead of an increase and a comparison was made to other schools in the area. There has not been an increase in 5 years. This is a self-funded program. Subsidized children will not be affected. This decision will be looked at further after more discussion.

In favor

Mary Contino
Julie Gawlak
Karen Kittredge
Mike McGrath

Opposed

Susan Brouwer
Rich DeLuca
Mike LeBrasseur
Selena Livingston

Fred Beauregard absent

Mike LeBrasseur made a motion to accept Technology Purchases. Mary Contino seconded. **Motion carried 8-0 with a roll call vote.** Fred Beauregard absent. The purchases will be Smart boards for grade 4 – 12 math classrooms. Printers, monitors and some off lease computers. The budget subcommittee also voted for this. This is a one time purchase.

Susan Brouwer made a motion to accept the Schedule 19 Budget as recommended by the Town Manager and indirect cost agreement and adopting the per pupil methodology. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. **The motion carried 8-0 with a roll call vote.** Fred Beauregard absent. This recommendation was made of the Town Manager, Ms. Walker, and the Superintendent. The Budget Committee also voted to support this recommendation.

Karen Kittredge made a motion to accept the 1st policy reading for Purchasing Authority DJA. Mary Contino seconded the motion. **The motion carried 8-0 with a roll call vote.** Fred Beauregard absent. If an item, is not detailed in the approved budget and the single item is valued at over \$10,000, the superintendent must gain approval from the budget subcommittee who will then, if approved, recommend the expenditure to the full school committee. If the item needs to be purchased urgently and is valued under \$50,000, the superintendent may gain approval from the budget subcommittee. The budget subcommittee has recommended this change.

Karen Kittredge made a motion to accept the first reading of the Internet Safety Policy EGAA as amended. Mary Contino seconded the motion. **The motion carried 8-0 with a roll call vote.** Fred Beauregard absent. Steve DeMari the network manager of Northbridge Public Schools spoke regarding policy changes. A new net content filter is now in place to give all students' access to the Internet. With this we can allow for more research. We can now help with more curriculum based sites. We can add sites if need be.

Subcommittee Reports:

Goals: Karen Kittredge

The School Committee and Leadership will hold a workshop together, given by Dr. Tony Bent on Saturday, August 22, 2009 from 7am-1 pm. This workshop will help the district move forward with meeting goals and having a common vision in developing a relationship and creating a mutual vision for moving forward. The book "The Six Secret's of Change" will be the focus. The book "Gung Ho" should also be read. The committee should have questions ready for the next meeting on August 11th for discussion items at this workshop.

Fees & Fields: Fred Beauregard (absent)

Selena Livingston spoke. They had one meeting this month and a meeting with Parks and Recreation was scheduled.

Policy: Rich DeLuca

MASC has received all documentation and they are going forward on it. The nursing policy will be looked at. Sue Gorky will have two civil rights policies to go over at the next meeting. The attorney should also look at the discrimination policy and civil rights grievance procedure.

Budget: Mike LeBrasseur

At the last meeting the budget transfers and the transfer of funds in the line items were approved. Munis system will be looked at to try to get more detail. The budget process this summer will be to look at with a zero based budget and the entire districts budget and all the expenditures to make sure they line up with our goals to be as efficient as possible. The next meeting will be July 21.

Superintendent Evaluation: Julie Gawlak

The subcommittee met earlier this evening. They agreed on the evaluation tool. Email suggestions and comments before the next meeting.

Negotiations: Mike McGrath

No meeting. No update. The subcommittee will be meeting a couple times over the summer to get ready for negotiations with the teachers union.

Public Comment: none

Discussion: *Sue Brouwer suggested having an open items section on the agenda. MASC will give us the name for this new section.*

Mary Contino made a motion to adjourn the July 14th School Committee and meeting and go into 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. Karen Kittredge seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0 with a roll call vote. Fred Beauregard absent.

*The next scheduled School Committee meeting will be August 11, 2009 at 6:00 pm.
The July 14, 2009 School Committee adjourned at 8:45 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathleen Bradley
Secretary to the School Committee*

Approved as amended 8/11/09