

NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
North Reading, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of the School Committee
Open Session

Date: January 9, 2017

Time: 5:35 p.m.

Place: North Reading Middle/High School Distance Learning Lab

School Committee Members Present

Clifford Bowers

Julie Koepke

Janene Imbriano

Gerald Venezia

Mel Webster

Staff Members Present

Jon Bernard – Superintendent of Schools

Michael Connelly – Director of Finance and Operations

Cindy Elmore – Recording Secretary

Visitors: Mr. Daniel Madden (Student Representative), Ms. Judy Dymont (North Reading Representative to the Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational High School), Mr. David DiBarri (Superintendent-Director, Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational High School), Ms. Carla Scuzzarella (Principal-Deputy Director, Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational High School), Mr. Evan Noce (Faculty Advisor to the International Travel Club at NRHS), Mr. Anthony Loprete (Principal, NRHS), Mr. Scott Buckley (NR Resident), Mr. Dan Tomasello (of the North Reading Transcript).

I. Call to Order Open Session:

Chairman Bowers called the Open Session to order at 5:35 p.m.

Executive Session:

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Venezia pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21, to go into Executive Session to discuss strategies with respect to collective bargaining, and to reconvene in Open Session. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

At 6:22 p.m., the Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Webster to return to Open Session. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Open Session:

Chairman Bowers called the Open Session back to order at 6:34 PM.

II. A. Public Input:

No public input at this time.

III. B. Student Input:

Mr. Daniel Madden gave the student report and presented a sample of his class work.

III. D.1. Presentation: Representatives of the Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational High School

Ms. Judy Dymont, North Reading's Representative to the Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational High School, Mr. David DiBarri, Superintendent Director, and Ms. Carla Scuzzarella, Principal, gave a presentation on the programs and initiatives taking place at the Northeast Metro Tech, where students from North Reading are eligible to attend high school vocational education programs. Mr. DiBarri also gave a brief mention to the upcoming plans of a high school building project. The request will be submitted to the MSBA in 2017.

III. C.1. MSBA/SSBC Update

- a. A new projector has been installed in the Distance Learning Lab at no cost.
- b. Punchlist items continue to be addressed.
- c. The next SSBC meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2017.

III. C.2. Naming of a School Facility

Previously it has been formally requested that the School Committee consider naming the Distance Learning Lab at North Reading Middle School/High School in honor of former Superintendent of Schools Dr. David S. Troughton. The School Committee has followed the procedures thus far as delineated in Policy FDCA.

Public Hearing 7:06 p.m. to 7:12 p.m.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to request the Selectman to place an article on the June Town Warrant to name the North Reading Middle School/High School Distance Learning Lab in honor of former Superintendent Dr. David S. Troughton. Motion passed 5-0.

III. D.2. School Trip: North Reading High School International Travel Club

Mr. Evan Noce, a teacher, English Department Curriculum Specialist, and faculty advisor to the International Travel Club at North Reading High School, proposed a trip for North Reading High School students to China in April 2018.

After much discussion and concerns on the need and/or authority of the School Committee to vote on a trip that is being organized by a third party, Mr. Webster recommended to table a vote on this trip until the January 23, 2017 School Committee meeting. Superintendent Bernard will consult with the school department's attorney as to what action needs to be taken.

III. D.3. Proposal: North Reading High School New Academic Courses

Mr. Anthony Loprete, Principal of North Reading High School proposed four new courses for the High School; Robotics Academy: Academic; Modern History Through Film: Academic; Genetics & Bioethics: Honors; Comparative Anatomy & Physiology; Honors.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Venezia and seconded by Ms. Koepke to approve the four new course offerings (Robotics Academy, Modern History Through Film, Genetics & Bioethics, and Comparative Anatomy & Physiology) proposed by the High School Principal. Motion passed 5-0.

III. D.4. Presentation: End of Fiscal Year Report; Town/School Department Agreement

Mr. Michael Connelly, Director of Finance and Operations, gave a presentation on an agreement that the Town and School Department have reached with respect to the end of the fiscal year reporting procedures.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to endorse the End of Fiscal Year report as presented by Mr. Connelly. Motion passed 5-0.

III. E.1. Minutes:

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to approve the December 12, 2016 Open Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

III. E.2. Budget Update:

No budget update at this time.

III. E.3. Staffing:

There were no staffing updates.

III. E.4. Bids and Donations:

Superintendent Bernard requested the acceptance of the following donations:

- North Reading High School Hall of Fame Association; \$300.00 donation to benefit the North Reading High School boys' soccer program.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Mr. Webster to accept with gratitude a \$300.00 donation from the North Reading High School Hall of Fame Association to benefit the North Reading High School boys' soccer program. Motion passed 5-0.

- Anonymous Donor; in-kind donation of an artificial Christmas tree valued at \$350.00 to support the Middle School/High School choral and theater arts program.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Mr. Webster to accept with gratitude an artificial Christmas tree valued at \$350.00 from an anonymous donor to the theater programs at North Reading Middle School/High School. Motion passed 5-0.

- The Meaney Family; \$800.00 donation in memory of Mr. Larry Meaney to support the sod and irrigation/athletic field project at North Reading Middle School/High School.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Mr. Webster to accept with gratitude a \$800.00 donation from the Meaney Family, in memory of Larry Meaney, a long time North Reading resident who attended many North Reading athletic events, to support costs associated with upgrades to North Reading High School's athletic fields including the sod and irrigation project. Motion passed 5-0.

- North Reading High School Hall of Fame Association; \$800.00 donation to support the purchase of new fitness equipment at the three elementary schools and the Middle School.

Amount	Purpose	School
\$300.00	Fitness Equipment	Little School
\$100.00	Fitness Equipment	Hood School
\$100.00	Fitness Equipment	Batchelder School
\$300.00	Fitness Equipment	Middle School

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Mr. Webster to accept with gratitude an \$800.00 donation from the North Reading High School Hall of Fame Association to be used by each Elementary School and the Middle School to purchase new fitness equipment as noted above. Motion passed 5-0.

- Class of 2016; \$3,300.00 donation to support the purchase of a welcome sign for North Reading High School.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Mr. Webster to accept with gratitude a \$3,300.00 donation from the North Reading High School Class of 2016 for the purpose of purchasing a welcome sign for North Reading High School.

III. F.1. Subcommittee Reports:

Mr. Venezia gave an update from the December 16, 2016 and January 6, 2017 Finance Planning Team meetings.

Mr. Bowers gave an update from the December 13, 2016 Secondary School Building Committee.

Mr. Webster gave an update from the Athletic Facilities Committee meeting held on December 13, 2016.

Mr. Venezia and Mr. Webster gave an update from the Athletic Subcommittee meeting held on January 3, 2017.

Subcommittee Schedule:

a)	SSBC	January 10, 2017	5:30 PM
b)	Athletic Facilities Comm	January 12, 2017	6:30 PM
c)	NORCAM BOD	January 26, 2017	7:00 PM
d)	Finance Planning Team	January 27, 2017	8:15 AM
e)	Athletic Subcommittee	February 7, 2017	12:30 PM

III. F.2. Administrative Report:

- **Invitation to Attend the 2016 Massachusetts Commendation Schools Ceremony
Superintendent's Professional Practice Goal
Superintendent's Student Learning Goal
Superintendent's District Improvement Goal #1**

Superintendent Bernard invited the School Committee members to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's ceremony honoring the 2016 Massachusetts Commendation Schools, 2016 National Title I Distinguished Schools, and the 2016 National Blue Ribbon Schools. This ceremony will be held at the Massachusetts State House on February 1, 2017. Superintendent Bernard; Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Patrick Daly; and Batchelder School Principal Mr. Sean Killeen will attend to celebrate the Batchelder School's distinction as a 2016 "Commended for High Achievement School."

- **Community Impact Team
Superintendent's Professional Practice Goal**

Superintendent Bernard serves as both a member of the Community Impact Team's (CIT) Board of Directors and as Chairman of the CIT's K-12 Action Team. In 2017, the following events have been planned for the school district and/or community under the direction of the CIT:

- John Morello: "DIRT: A One Man Show of Substance Abuse and Choices;" Monday, February 13, 2017
- "North Reading Night Off"; Tuesday, March 4, 2017
- Dr. Ruth Potee; Thursday, May 18, 2017
- "Mock Accident"; Tuesday, May 23, 2017 (Inclement weather date; Wednesday, May 24, 2017)

- **Annual Reports
Superintendent's Professional Practice Goal**

Superintendent Bernard distributed the 2015-2016 Annual Reports for the SEEM Collaborative and the Northshore Education Collaborative, of which North Reading is a member and for which the Superintendent serves as a member of the Board of Directors. The reports were provided consistent with applicable regulations.

- **School Improvement Plan; Mid-Year Update
Superintendent's Professional Practice Goal**

Superintendent Bernard distributed the Mid-Year update on the goals of the School Improvement Plans developed by the School Councils at each of our five schools. The practice of providing a Mid-Year Update/Report was begun in 2016.

Insurance Advisory Committee: It has been recommended by the Board of Selectmen that the School Committee should have two members present at the January 19, 2017 (4:00 p.m.) Insurance Advisory Committee meeting. Along with Superintendent Bernard, Ms. Koepke and Ms. Imbriano have volunteered to go to the meeting. Mr. Bowers will be the back-up attendee if needed.

III. F.3. Correspondence:

No correspondence at this time.

IV. Future Business:

January 23, 2017	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting – Batchelder School Presentation Batchelder School Cafeteria
February 6, 2017	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting – NRMS/HS Distance Learning Lab
February 27, 2017	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting – NRMS/HS Distance Learning Lab

V. Adjournment:

The Committee voted on a motion made by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Ms. Koepke to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.

Documents and Exhibits:

1. Student Representative – School Work
2. PowerPoint: North Reading High School, School Trip Proposal
3. North Reading High School, New Course Proposals 2017-2018
4. Town of North Reading, Town Expenditures not included in School Appropriation
5. Minutes: December 12, 2016 – Open Session
6. Gift Acceptance Memo – North Reading High School Hall of Fame Association
7. Gift Acceptance Memo – Anonymous Donor
8. Gift Acceptance Memo – The Larry Meaney Family
9. Gift Acceptance Memo – North Reading High School Hall of Fame Association
10. Gift Acceptance Memo – Class of 2016
11. Letter from MADESE – December 28, 2016 Regarding L.D. Batchelder, Commended for High Achievement
12. Flyer – CIT presentation; “DIRT: A One Man Show of Substance Abuse and Choices”
13. Flyer – CIT presentation: “What Every Parent Must Know About Tween-Teen Brain Development”
14. Northshore Education Consortium – Annual Report 2015-2016
15. SEEM Collaborative – Annual Report 2015-2016
16. School Improvement Plan Mid-Year Update – L.D. Batchelder Elementary School
17. School Improvement Plan Mid-Year Update – J. Turner Hood Elementary School
18. School Improvement Plan Mid-Year Update – E. Ethel Little Elementary School
19. School Improvement Plan Mid-Year Update – North Reading Middle School
20. School Improvement Plan Mid-Year Update – North Reading High School