

NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
North Reading, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of the School Committee
Open Session

Date: September 14, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Distance Learning Lab at North Reading Middle/High School

School Committee Members Present

Clifford Bowers

Julie Koepke

Janene Imbriano

Gerald Venezia

Mel Webster (arrived 7:01 pm)

Staff Members Present

Jon Bernard – Superintendent of Schools

Michael Connelly – Director of Finance and Operations

Cindy Elmore – Recording Secretary

Visitors: Dr. Patrick Daly (Assistant Superintendent), Mr. Dan Tomasello (of the North Reading Transcript)

I. Call to Order Open Session:

Chair Janene Imbriano called the Open Session to order at 7:00 PM.

II. A. Public Input:

No public input at this time.

II. B.1. MSBA/SSBC Update:

- a. Paving repair along the main access road has taken place
- b. Striping in west, northwest, and lower parking lots (portion of parking area adjacent to the former high school) has been completed
- c. Fall plantings in the main plaza area and area north of the campus have been installed
- d. Initial top coating (the coat just prior to the actual “painting”) of the tennis court has been completed; final work is scheduled to be completed following a check for leveling and drainage
- e. Demolition/abatement of the former High School is ongoing; estimated completion is late October
- f. Punchlist work throughout the Middle School and High School continues
- g. The next SSBC meeting is September 15, 2015.

II. B.2. 2015-2016 School Committee Goals

The School Committee reviewed the results from their 2014-2015 Self-Evaluation and further reviewed their performance on the 2014-2015 School Committee Goals at the Goal Workshops held on July 27th and August 24th. The 2015-2016 School Committee Goals drafted at the workshops were reviewed and adopted by the Committee.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Mr. Webster to adopt the 2015-2016 School Committee Goals, with a mid-year review of said goals. Motion passed 5-0.

II. B.3. Naming of School Facilities

Mr. Venezia revisited the interest in hosting an opportunity for public input on the naming of a school facility pursuant to community interest expressed in honoring Mr. Charles Jones. It was agreed that at the September 28, 2015 School Committee meeting there will be an agenda item giving the public the opportunity to present their request to the School Committee.

II. C.1. Report: Opening Day

Superintendent Bernard provided a brief report on the return of students, faculty, and staff. Preliminary numbers show a total enrollment of 2,537.

II. C.2. Policy JGI: Physical Restraint of Students

The first reading of Policy JGI: Physical Restraint of Students was presented by Mr. Bowers and Ms. Koepke of the Policy Subcommittee.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Ms. Koepke to approve the first reading of Policy JGI: Physical Restraint of Students. Motion passed 5-0.

II. C.3. Fiscal Year 2017 NRPS Capital Improvements Plan Presentation

Mr. Connelly (Director of Finance and Operations) reviewed the large capital improvement project list for the school district, reviewed the five-year plan, provided the rationale for fiscal year 2017, and shared the history of the funded capital improvement projects over the last five years.

Priority proposals from each department must be submitted to the Capital Improvements Planning Committee (CIPC) by October 1, 2015.

II. D.1. Minutes:

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Koepke to approve the July 27, 2015 Goals Workshop minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Mr. Webster to approve the August 24, 2015 Goals Workshop minutes as written. Motion passed 4-0-1, Mr. Venezia abstained.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Koepke to approve the August 24, 2015 Executive Session minutes as written. Motion passed 4-0-1, Mr. Venezia abstained.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Mr. Bowers to approve the August 24, 2015 Open Session minutes as written. Motion passed 4-0-1, Mr. Venezia abstained.

II. D.2. Budget Update:

No budget update at this time.

II. D.3. Staffing:

Superintendent Bernard reviewed the list of new hires for the 2015-2016 school year. The list is included in the Documents and Exhibits section.

II. D.4. Bids and Donations:

Superintendent Bernard requested the acceptance of the following donation:

- Hornet Hall of Fame donation of \$300.00 to help fund the cost of boys' soccer T-shirts.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Venezia to accept with gratitude a \$300.00 donation from the Hornet Hall of Fame to help support the cost of boys' T-shirts. Motion passed 5-0.

II. E.1. Subcommittee Reports:

Mr. Webster gave a report on the August 4, 2015 Athletic Subcommittee meeting.

Subcommittee Schedule:

a) SSBC	September 15, 2015	5:30 PM
b) Evaluation Subcommittee	September 21, 2015	3:15 PM
c) Athletic Subcommittee	September 22, 2015	12:30 PM
d) Finance Planning Team	September 22, 2015	8:15 AM
e) NORCAM BOAD	September 24, 2015	7:00 PM
f) Policy Subcommittee	TBD	3:00 PM

II. E.2. Administrative Report:

- Update: Little School Roof Restoration Project/MSBA Reimbursement: Contract negotiations have been initiated with the project manager (Compass Project Management, Inc., of Medfield) and the firm to conduct the feasibility study (HAKS Engineers of Boston). School officials are working to obtain an estimated project cost for the October 5, 2015 Town Meeting. Preliminary work could begin as early as this week.
- North Reading Middle School Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House: The Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to commemorate the opening of the new North Reading Middle School will be held on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center. There will be a speaking program, musical performances by students, a ceremonial ribbon cutting, and opportunities for self-guided tours of the campus.
- North Reading Public Schools Listed in Boston Magazine's Top 50 Public School Districts: Congratulations to the faculty, staff, students, and the community at large on being named one of the top 50 public school districts in Massachusetts (September 2015).

II. E.3. Correspondence:

- Letter sent to the Commissioner of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Dr. Mitchell Chester, by the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent regarding the PARCC test.

III. Future Business:

September 28, 2015	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting, NRHS DLL
October 5, 2015	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting prior to Town Meeting
October 19 2015	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting, NRHS DLL

Prior to adjournment Ms. Koepke thanked Superintendent Bernard for an outstanding welcome back presentation for staff. Superintendent Bernard also thanked the North Reading Police Department for their involvement in the success of the traffic flow at the new Middle School/High School drop off area.

V. Adjournment:

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Venezia and seconded by Ms. Koepke to adjourn at 8:48 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

Documents and Exhibits:

1. North Reading School Committee Goals 2015-2016 (Draft)
2. NRPS Preliminary In-District Enrollment – Opening Day
3. Policy: Students: JGI: Physical Restraint of Students
4. NRPS Large Capital 5 Year Request – PowerPoint, Priority List
5. Minutes: Goals Workshop – July 27, 2015
6. Minutes: Goals Workshop – August 24, 2015
7. Minutes: Executive Session – August 24, 2015
8. Minutes: Open Session – August 24, 2015
9. Gift Acceptance memo: Hornet Hall of Fame
10. NRPS New Staff 2015-16
11. Letter sent to the Commissioner of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Dr. Mitchell Chester, by the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent regarding the PARCC test.