

**NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
North Reading, Massachusetts

**Regular Meeting of the School Committee**  
*Open Session*

Date: December 12, 2016  
Time: 6:30 PM  
Place: 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  
Patrick Daly – Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
Michael Connelly – Director of Finance and Operations  
Cindy Elmore – Recording Secretary

**Visitors:** Mr. Jenson Kaithamattam (Student Representative), Mr. & Mrs. Bob Turosz (North Reading Transcript), Mr. AJ Loprete (Principal, NRHS), Mr. Michael Downs (Vice Principal, NRHS), Ms. Jessica Buckley (High School Adjustment Counselor), Mr. Matthew Oosting (Curriculum Specialist, Social Studies Department), Mr. Michael Rosa (Director of Guidance), Ms. Megan Griffin (Student, NRHS), Mr. Scott Buckley (NR Resident), Mr. Dan Tomasello (of the North Reading Transcript)

**I. Call to Order Open Session:**

Chairman Cliff Bowers called the Open Session to order at 6:30 PM.

**II. A. Public Input:**

The School Committee honored Mr. Bob Turosz of the North Reading Transcript. Mr. Turosz is retiring after 40 years with the Transcript. Several residents plus the members of the School Committee praised Mr. Turosz for his work through the years.

**II. C.1. MSBA/SSBC Update**

- a. A meeting to review the updated list of punch list items took place recently among representatives of Dore and Whittier, Gilbane, and PMA. The results of this meeting will be reviewed with representatives of the SSBC at a meeting to be held soon.
- b. Drainage system repairs have been completed for the time being and will resume either in the spring and/or summer dependent upon accommodating school operations.
- c. The next SSBC meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2016.

**II. C.2. Naming of a School Facility**

Mr. Geoffrey Simons; Ms. Catherine O'Connell (Middle School Principal); Mr. AJ Loprete (High School Principal); Mr. Jon Bernard (Superintendent of Schools); and Mr. Gerald Venezia (School Committee Vice-Chairman), have agreed to serve as members of a screening committee to consider nominations for the naming of the Distance Learning Lab at North Reading Middle/High School. As

of this date, the name of Dr. David Troughton, former Superintendent of the North Reading Public Schools, is the only nomination received. The deadline for submitting nominations was December 5, 2016.

*The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to schedule a Public Hearing on January 9, 2017 in accordance with School Committee Policy FDCA to discuss naming the North Reading Middle/High School Distance Learning Lab after Dr. David Troughton. Motion passed 5-0.*

**II. D.1. Presentation: North Reading High School Superintendent's Professional Practice Goal**

Tonight was the first of the five school presentations to be made to the School Committee in the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. AJ Loprete and members of the High School faculty made a presentation to the School Committee.

**II. D.2. Proposal: New Extra-Curricular Club at North Reading High School**

Ms. Meghan Griffin presented a proposal for a new extra-curricular club to be introduced at North Reading High School: "Students to End Alzheimer's Disease." (S.E.A.D.). The club is proposed to be a pilot for two years.

*The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Venezia to approve for a two-year pilot the extra-curricular club, Students to End Alzheimer's Disease at North Reading High School. Motion passed 5-0.*

**II. B. Student Input:**

Mr. Jenson Kaithamattam gave the student report and presented a sample of his class work.

**II. D.3. Athletic Facilities Committee Member Appointment and Reappointments**

There was a need to revise the action taken at the November 21, 2016 meeting of the School Committee regarding expanding the membership of the Athletic Facilities Committee to include a member of the North Reading Finance Committee.

Instead, the Finance Committee Chairperson will appoint a non-voting liaison to the Athletic Facilities Committee. The Finance Committee Chairperson, Ms. Abigail Hurlbut, has indicated that she will serve as the liaison to the Athletic Facilities Committee.

In addition, the following members of the Athletic Facilities Committee have a term of appointment that is set to expire January 30, 2017. The School Committee reappointed these members for a one-year term to conclude on January 31, 2018:

Mr. Marty Tilton, Parks and Recreation  
 Mr. Ed Madden, Community Representative  
 Mr. Chuck Carucci, Community Representative

*The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Venezia to rescind the motion approved on November 21, 2016 to appoint a voting member to the Athletic Facilities Committee from the Finance Committee. Motion passed 5-0.*

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Venezia to allow the Finance Committee to appoint a non-voting liaison to the Athletic Facilities Committee. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Venezia to reappoint to one-year terms ending January 31, 2018 the following members of the Athletic Facilities Committee: Mr. Marty Tilton (Parks and Recreation), Mr. Ed Madden (Community Representative), and, Mr. Chuck Carucci (Community Representative). Motion passed 5-0.

**III. E.1. Minutes:**

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to approve the November 7, 2016 Executive Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to approve the November 7, 2016 Open Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to approve the November 21, 2016 Executive Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to approve the November 21, 2016 Open Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

**III. E.2. Budget Update:**

Mr. Connelly (Director of Finance and Operations), presented a fiscal year 2017 Budget Report. He also reviewed a report noting gifts to the district to date in Fiscal Year 2017, totaling \$183,762.39.

**III. E.3. Staffing:**

There were no staffing updates.

**III. E.4. Bids and Donations:**

Superintendent Bernard requested the acceptance of the following donations:

- Friends of Hornet Productions; \$250.00 donation to the Batchelder School as a “thank you” for allowing the Batchelder Elementary Field to be used for the Haunted Hornet Halloween event.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Koepke to accept with gratitude a \$250.00 donation from the Friends of Hornet Productions to the Batchelder School as a “thank you” for allowing the Batchelder Elementary Field to be used for the Haunted Hornet Halloween event. Motion passed 5-0.

- Friends of Hornet Productions; in-kind donation of 10 two-way radios and headsets to be used during theater productions in the MS/HS Performing Arts Center; value \$389.98.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Koepke to accept with gratitude an in-kind donation of 10 two-way radios and headsets valued at \$389.98 from Friends of Hornet Productions to be used during theatrical productions. Motion passed 5-0.

- DonorChoose.org; \$479.00 for carpet in the Hood School music classroom.

The Committee voted on a motion Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Koepke to accept with gratitude a donation of a classroom carpet valued at \$479.00 from DonorChoose.org for the Hood School music classroom. Motion passed 5-0.

- Friends of Hornet Productions; in-kind donation of gold colored metal picture frames to be used to display photos of theater, choral, and music students; value \$624.80.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Koepke to accept with gratitude an in-kind donation of metal picture frames valued at \$624.80 from Friends of Hornet Productions to be used to display photos of theater, chorus and music students in the Main Street corridor. Motion passed 5-0.

- Friends of Hornet Productions; \$748.50 donation to the Middle School Drama Club to purchase the “Alice in Wonderland” performance rights.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Koepke to accept with gratitude a \$748.50 donation from Friends of Hornet Productions to the Middle School Drama Club to purchase the “Alice in Wonderland” performance rights. Motion passed 5-0.

- North Reading Hornet Hall of Fame; \$10,000.00 donation to support the irrigation and sod athletic facilities project at North Reading Middle/High School.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Koepke to accept with gratitude a donation of \$10,000.00 from the North Reading Hornet Hall of Fame to support costs associated with upgrades to the NRHS athletic facilities, including an irrigation sprinkler system. Motion passed 5-0.

### **III. F.1. Subcommittee Reports:**

Mr. Venezia and Mr. Webster gave an update from the Athletic Subcommittee meeting held on November 29, 2016.

Mr. Venezia and Mr. Webster gave an update from the Athletic Facilities Committee meeting held on November 29, 2016.

**Subcommittee Schedule:**

a)	SSBC	December 13, 2016	5:30 PM
b)	Athletic Facilities Comm.	December 13, 2016	6:15 PM
c)	NORCAM BOD	December 15, 2016	7:00 PM
d)	Finance Planning Team	December 16, 2016	8:15 AM
e)	Athletic Subcommittee	January 3, 2017	12:30 PM

**III. F.2. Administrative Report:**

- **Global Child Update**  
**Superintendent's Professional Practice Goal**  
**Superintendent's Student Learning Goal**  
**Superintendent's District Improvement Goal #1**

Mr. Bernard presented a summary of the Global Child world language classes that are currently being taught in the three elementary schools and the NR Middle School this fall. Planning will begin soon for a second session of classes to begin in February 2017.

- **North Reading High School's Accreditation Status**  
**Superintendent's Professional Practice Goal**  
**Superintendent's Student Learning Goal**  
**Superintendent's District Improvement Goal #1**

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges sent a letter which is extremely favorable and extends North Reading High School's accreditation status, meaning that the school has met rigorous standards. The letter commends North Reading High School's faculty, staff, and students as well as the community for the efforts put forth to meet the standards for continued accreditation.

- **Administrator Stipends**

Superintendent Bernard presented the list of "special project" stipends that will be paid to administrators for additional work to be completed in the 2016-2017 school year and for which a provision exists in employment contracts. The School Committee discussed reconsidering the awarding of stipends in future years and contracts.

- **Update: Elementary School Recess**

The Superintendent and the three elementary school principals for the district hosted a meeting with three parents on December 6, 2016 to discuss the parents' request of an examination of the current elementary school recess structure and associated practices. The meeting provided parents with additional insights into school operations, the academic program, and schedule logistics. The school administrators were provided an opportunity to respond to parent questions and concerns. The Superintendent recommended no changes to the elementary school recess structure or associated practices.

**III. F.3. Correspondence:**

No correspondence at this time.

**IV. Future Business:**

January 9, 2017	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting – NRMS/HS Distance Learning Lab
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

**V. Adjournment:**

The Committee voted on a motion made by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to adjourn at 8:40 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

**Documents and Exhibits:**

1. Student Representative – School Work
2. PowerPoint: North Reading High School Chapter of Students to End Alzheimer’s Disease
3. Minutes: November 7, 2016 – Executive Session
4. Minutes: November 7, 2016 – Open Session
5. Minutes: November 21, 2016 – Executive Session
6. Minutes: November 21, 2016 – Open Session
7. FY17 Budget Report
8. FY17 Gifts and Donations to Date
9. Gift Acceptance Memo – Friends of Hornet Productions
10. Gift Acceptance Memo – Friends of Hornet Productions
11. Gift Acceptance Memo – DonorsChoose.org
12. Gift Acceptance Memo – Friends of Hornet Productions
13. Gift Acceptance Memo – Friends of Hornet Productions
14. Gift Acceptance Memo – NRHS Hornet Hall of Fame
15. Administrator Special Project Stipends
16. Global Child letter to Superintendent Bernard
17. NEAS&C Accreditation letter dated November 17, 2016