

North Reading Public Schools
North Reading, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of the School Committee
Open Session

Date: November 19, 2020

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: Distance Learning Lab, North Reading High School

Virtual Meeting (+1 470-327-0958 / PIN: 782 497 396#) meet.google.com/tpc-coiq-wmc

School Committee Members Present

Dyana Boutwell

Scott Buckley

Janene Imbriano

Rich McGowan

Chris Pappavaselio

Staff Members Present

Patrick Daly – Superintendent of Schools

Michael Connelly – Assistant Superintendent of Finance
and Operations

Cindy Elmore –Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order Open Session

Chair Scott Buckley called the Open Session to order at 6:31 pm.

II. A. Public Input: There was no public input.

II. B. Student Report:

Ms. Gianna Naulivou, Class of 2022, shared the student report and her class work.

II. C.1. School Reopening:

Dr. Daly addressed updates on the progress of our schools in the hybrid model. Updates included communication about the COVID-19 community level data, hybrid model, extra-curricular activities, and athletics.

II. D.3. High School Schedule Updates:

Mr. AJ Loprete requested the approval of a temporary suspension of the practice of conducting mid-year examinations at the High School in the 2020-2021 school year. In lieu of conducting mid-year examinations, departments at the High School, under the leadership of respective Curriculum Coordinators, will implement common assessment methods and strategies to gain a clearer and more focused picture of student learning in identified areas.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Pappavaselio and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to suspend the mid-year exams at the High School for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Also discussed was the push back of the virtual Parent/Teacher Conference night at the High School by one week, to December 7, 2020.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Pappavaselio and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to push back the parent/teacher conference night at the High School for one week. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Pappavaselio and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to accept the changes of the parent/teacher conferences and professional development days on the school calendar as proposed by Dr. Daly. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

II. D.1. High School Extracurricular Activity:

Ms. Sophia Trischitta, North Reading High School student, presented a proposal for an American Sign Language Club at the High School.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the American Sign Language Club (ASL) at the High School starting this year after the excellent presentation. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

II. D.2. High School Winter Sports Update:

Mr. David Johnson, Athletic Director, reviewed Winter Sports 2020-2021 including the season schedule, MIAA recommendations, event protocols, fans/families, user fees and stipends, and bus transportation.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to approve the plan as described by Mr. Johnson for North Reading High School Winter Sports, 2020-2021. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

II. D.4. Student Services Presentation:

Ms. Cynthia Conant, Director of Student Services, and Ms. Gina Sacco, Assistant Director of Special Education gave a presentation of “Special Education: Provision of Service Delivery in a Hybrid Model.”

II. D5. First Reading - Policies:

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept the first reading of the Non-Discrimination and Harassment Policy formerly known as AC to be made into Policy ABBA, to replace the old ABBA Policy. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept the first reading to eliminate the following policies: GAAA, JCA and JCAD as they are redundant toward the ABBA Policy, and is noted on the ABBA Policy. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept the first reading of the Civil Rights Grievance Procedure as ABBA-R1. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept the first reading of the Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure to be named ABBA-R2. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept the first reading to eliminate the following procedures: GAAA-R, JCA-R, and JCAD-R, as they are redundant to the ABBA-R, ABBA-R1, and ABBA-R2. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept the second reading of the Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 to update the Student Handbook. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Committee agreed that based on policy the Superintendent can make minor changes to procedures without School Committee approval.

II. D6. Batchelder Principal Update:

Dr. Daly announced that Mr. Michael Maloney, currently Assistant Principal at the North Reading Middle School, will serve as Interim Principal for the L.D. Batchelder School as of December 1, 2020.

Dr. Daly is working closely with Dr. O'Connell at the Middle School in the search for an Interim Assistant Principal, to replace Mr. Maloney as he moves to the Batchelder School.

II. E.1 Minutes:

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. McGowan to approve the October 19, 2020 Open Session minutes as amended. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Amendment: Add to section II. C.1. Reopening Update – Dr. Daly presented a proposed change to the school schedule for the week of Thanksgiving.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the November 5, 2020 Open Session minutes as amended. Motion passed 4-0-1 on a roll call vote. Ms. Boutwell abstained.

Amendment: Section II. D.3. Policy Motion on Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 – change Policy to Handbook.

II. E.2. Budget Update: No budget update at this time.

II. E.3 Staffing: No staffing update at this time.

II. E.4. Bids and Donations:

Mr. McGowan made mention for the parents attending tonight's meeting how generous parents are in the North Reading Public Schools' community. He again mentioned Haibo Shang and Yan Wu Shang and their generous donation which was accepted at the November 5, 2020 meeting.

- Little School PTO: \$5,000.00 donation to fund the purchase of technology equipment.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to accept with gratitude a donation of \$5,000.00 from the E. Ethel Little School PTO to fund the purchase of technology equipment: three (3) mobile TV floor stands and three (3) Smart-board interactive display units at the Little School. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

II. F.2 Subcommittee Update:

Ms. Imbriano and Mr. Pappavaselio provided an update on the November 18, 2020 Policy Subcommittee meeting.

Ms. Boutwell provided an update on the November 18, 2020 Athletic Subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Pappavaselio, Mr. McGowan, and Dr. Daly provided an update on the November 18, 2020 Fine Arts Subcommittee meeting.

Future Subcommittee Meeting Schedule:

- Finance Planning Team December 1, 2020 8:00 AM Virtual Meeting

II. F.2 Administrative Report:

- NOTEorious, the High School a cappella group has been selected for two different competitions.
- Ms. Whitney Cleary of the Hood School was a semi-finalist for the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Teacher of the Year award for 2021. Dr. Daly recognized what a great achievement it is to be a semi-finalist.

II. F.3. Correspondence:

- Dr. Daly shared a notice from the town regarding public land near town hall. No action is needed.
- Mr. Buckley mentioned that several parents had reached out via email regarding the change in the Thanksgiving week schedule. Based on the inquiries a virtual parent forum was held.

III. Future Business:

December 10, 2020 6:30 PM Regular Meeting – Virtual

IV. Adjournment:

The Committee voted on a motion made by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. McGowan to adjourn at 8:46 pm. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Documents and Exhibits:

1. PowerPoint - High School Extracurricular Activity Proposal – “American Sign Language Club”
2. PowerPoint – Winter Sports 2020-2021
3. Memo – From Mr. Loprete, Principal NRHS – Mid-year Exams
4. PowerPoint – Special Education: Provision of Service Delivery in a Hybrid Model
5. Policy – Non-Discrimination and Harassment – ABBA
6. Policy – Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
7. Procedure – Civil Rights Grievance Procedure
8. Procedure – Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure
9. Minutes – Open Session – October 19, 2020
10. Minutes – Open Session – November 5, 2020
11. Gift Acceptance Memo – E. Ethel Little School PTO