

North Reading Public Schools
North Reading, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of the School Committee
Open Session

Date: January 9, 2023

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: Virtual Meeting (+1 475-441-4825 / PIN: 932 356 195#) meet.google.com/cxq-kauo-muy

School Committee Members Present

Dyana Boutwell

Scott Buckley

Jeff Friedman

Rich McGowan

Noelle Rudloff

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 6:30 pm.

II. A. Public Input:

There was no public input.

II. B. Student Report:

Maya Nickerson, Class of 2023 provided the student report and presented her class work.

II. D.1. North Reading High School Presentation:

Mr. AJ Loprete, North Reading High School Principal, led a student and staff showcase of student learning and updates from North Reading High School. Tonight is the first of the five school presentations to be made to the School Committee in the 2022-23 school year.

III. D.2. Student Council Overnight Trip:

The North Reading High School Student Council presented their proposal for an overnight trip to Hyannis, MA for the MASC Annual State Conference. The dates this year are March 8-10, 2023. Students would leave NRHS on Wednesday morning and return on Friday afternoon. Fifteen (15) students will be participating, and the cost is \$350.00 per student.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Friedman to approve the Student Council overnight trip to the MASC State Conference in Hyannis. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.3. North Reading High School Program of Studies & Course Proposals:

Mr. Loprete, North Reading High School Principal, presented recommendations for updates to the program of studies, including two proposed courses to be added for the 2023-24 school year.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Friedman to approve the additional courses at the high school for the 2023-24 school year. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.4. First Reading - Policy IHC-R:

Mr. Loprete, Dr. Daly, and the Policy Subcommittee presented the first reading of Policy IHC-R, Grading, Weighted Grade Point Average and Class Rank. After much discussion it was agreed that the Policy Subcommittee would review the proposed revisions and submit another version of the policy.

II. D.5. School Year 2023-24 Calendar:

Dr. Daly presented the proposed calendar for the 2023-24 school year.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Boutwell and seconded by Ms. Rudloff to approve the 2023-24 School Year calendar as presented. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.6. FY22 Annual Report: Northshore Education Consortium:

Dr. Daly reviewed the Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report for the Northshore Education Consortium, which has been adopted by the Board of Directors. Dr. Daly is providing this information to the School Committee consistent with the obligations set forth given the Superintendent's appointment as the North Reading Public Schools' district representative to the Consortium's Board of Directors.

II. D.7. FY22 Annual Report: SEEM Collaborative:

Dr. Daly reviewed the Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report for the SEEM Collaborative, which has been adopted by the Board of Directors. Dr. Daly is providing this information to the School Committee consistent with the obligations set forth given the Superintendent's appointment as the North Reading Public Schools' district representative to the Consortium's Board of Directors.

II. E.1 Minutes:

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Boutwell and seconded by Ms. Rudloff to approve the December 12, 2022 Open Session minutes as written. Motion passed 4-0-1. One abstention by Ms. Boutwell.

II. E.2. Budget Update:

Mr. Michael Connelly, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, presented a budget update reflecting activity through the month of December.

II. E.3 Staffing:

Dr. Daly provided a staffing update for the district, including the following new hires:

District		
	Diane Thibault	Payroll Specialist
	Elizabeth Steele, RN	LT Sub – Floater Nurse
	Julie Anne Kroner	LT Sub – Elementary Team Chairperson (.2)
Hood		
	Andrew Scarpa	LT Sub – Special Ed. Paraprofessional
	Amy Fleming	Academic Interventionist
	Lavanya Selvaraj	Special Ed. Paraprofessional
	Kathleen Walsh-Rizzo	Building Substitute
Middle School		
	Katie Lombardi, RN	LT Sub – School Nurse
	Melissa Grew	Extracurricular Activities Paraprofessional
	Carolyn Watts	Building Substitute
High School		
	Arif Taruz	LT Sub – Physical Education/Health
	Devyn Dyer	Building Substitute

II. E.4 Bids and Donations:

- NR Hornet Hall of Fame – Donation of \$1,000.00 for all three elementary schools and the NRMS from the Turkey Trot.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Ms. Rudloff to accept with gratitude a donation of \$1,000.00 from The North Reading Hornet Hall of Fame to benefit the physical education department at the three elementary schools and Middle School as follows: Little School \$300; Hood School \$200; Batchelder School \$200 and Middle School \$300. These funds are from the Turkey Trot Road Race. Motion passed 5-0.

- Haibo Shang – Donation of \$1000.00 to be used for Middle School.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to accept with gratitude a donation of \$1,000.00 from parent Haibo Shang to be used for the Middle School. Motion passed 5-0.

- Haibo Shang – Donation of \$1000.00 to be used for the High School.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to accept with gratitude a donation of \$1,000.00 from parent Haibo Shang to be used for the High School. Motion passed 5-0.

II. F.1. Subcommittee Reports:

Mr. McGowan gave an update of the January 6, 2023 Finance Planning Team meeting.

Ms. Rudloff gave an update of the January 5, 2023 Policy Subcommittee meeting.

Future Subcommittee Schedule

• Athletic Subcommittee	January 18, 2023	12:00 PM
• Fine Arts Subcommittee	January 18, 2023	3:15 PM
• Finance Planning Team	February 3, 2023	8:15 AM

II. F.2 Administrative Report:

• K-12 Action Committee Update

This year the K-12 Action Team met on December 13, 2022 at 3:15 pm.

- Recent incidents at the High School were discussed
- Updates were provided from all subcommittees (Health/Wellness; Bullying Prevention and Intervention; and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging).
- Upcoming meetings 2/7 (6:30 pm) and 5/16 (3:35 pm).

• Recent Changes to Procurement Regulations

Following updates to state regulations, the district has started the process for updating its policies related to budget and procurement. At this time we are considering additional recommended language and will be bringing these revised policies forward soon.

• International Travel Club Destination Change

A recent travel advisory from the State Department that addresses the current civil unrest in Peru has led our International Travel Club to update the itinerary for the 2024 trip with EF. They are now planning to visit Germany, Italy, and Switzerland instead. The trip is the same length of time, covers similar experiential themes, and is essentially the same cost. Students who have previously registered are able to transfer automatically to the new trip and those who do not want to travel with the updated itinerary can receive a refund of credit in alignment with EF's policies.

The advisors thank us for our continued support and hope to plan a trip to South America again in 2025.

• Financial Literacy and Diversification Grants

The district recently received grants for \$16,000 for Financial Literacy and \$19,808 for the Teaches Diversification Pilot Program. Letters of the awards of these grants opportunities have been included as attachments.

II. F.3. Correspondence: None at this time.

III. Future Business:

Monday	January 23, 2023	6:30 PM	NRPS 2025 Updates
Monday	February 13, 2023	6:30 PM	Goals Update
Monday	February 27, 2023	6:30 PM	Digital Learning Update

IV. Adjournment:

The Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Ms. Rudloff to adjourn the Open Session at 8:53 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

Documents and Exhibits:

1. North Reading High School Committee Presentation Agenda and PowerPoints
2. North Reading High School New Course Proposals 2023-2024
3. Policy IHC-R – Grading, Weighted Grade Point Average and Class Rank
4. NRPS School Calendar 2023-2024
5. Northshore Education Consortium 2021-2022 Annual Report
6. SEEM Collaborative 2021-2022 Annual Report
7. Minutes – Open Session – December 12, 2022
8. FY23 December Budget Report
9. NRPS Staffing Report
10. Gift Acceptance Memo – North Reading Hall of Fame
11. Gift Acceptance Memo – Haibo Shang
12. Gift Acceptance Memo – Haibo Shang
13. Superintendent’s Supplemental Administrative Report
14. PowerPoint on International Travel Club change of itinerary for 2024 trip
15. Letter from Office of the Governor – Awarding NRSD a FC104: Financial Literacy Planning and Implementation Grant of \$16,000.
16. Letter from Office of the Governor – Awarding NRSD a FY23 Teacher Diversification Pilot Program Grant of \$19,808.