

North Reading Public Schools
North Reading, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of the School Committee
Open Session

Date: November 4, 2019

Time: 6:00 PM

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

School Committee Members Present

Dyana Boutwell

Scott Buckley

Janene Imbriano

Rich McGowan

Chris Pappavaselio

Staff Members Present

Jon Bernard – Superintendent of Schools

Patrick Daly – Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Michael Connelly – Assistant Superintendent of
Finance and Operations

Cindy Elmore –Recording Secretary (not present)

Visitors: Ms. Bridget Grew (Class of 2020), Mr. Evan Noce (Advisor to the NRHS International Travel Club), Mr. Michael Vaudo (Advisor to the NRHS Adventure Club), Mr. Matthew Connor (Student), Mr. Ethan Pelmas (Student), Mr. AJ Loprete (NRHS Principal), Ms. Jillian String (of the North Reading Transcript)

I. Call to Order Open Session:

Chair Scott Buckley called the Open Session to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's conference room.

Executive Session:

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of conducting strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

At 6:30 p.m. the Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to return to Open Session. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Open Session:

Chair Scott Buckley called the Open Session back to order at 6:37 PM.

II. A. Public Input:

There was no public input.

II. B. Student Report:

Bridget Grew, Class of 2020, presented her student report and class work to the School Committee.

II. D.1. Proposal: North Reading High School International Travel Club

Mr. Evan Noce, Social Studies teacher and faculty advisor to NRHS International Travel Club, presented a proposal for an international travel experience to Japan for the spring of 2021.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Pappavaselio and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to approve the NRHS International Travel Club's trip to Japan in the spring of 2021. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.2. Proposal: North Reading High School Adventure Club

Mr. Michael Vaudo, mathematics teachers and faculty advisor to NRHS Adventure Club, and students Mr. Matthew Connor and Mr. Ethan Pelmas presented trips to be taken in the 2019-2020 school year.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Pappavaselio and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to approve the NRHS Adventure Club proposed trips for the 2019-2020 school year. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.3. Proposal: North Reading High School Varsity Boys' Hockey Team Trip

The North Reading High School Boys' Hockey Team submitted a proposal to participate in an overnight trip to Sandwich, MA on February 17 & 18, 2020 to participate in an invitational hockey tournament.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to approve the NRHS Boys' Hockey Team trip to Sandwich, MA February 17 & 18, 2020. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.4. Proposal: Amendment to the 2019-2020 North Reading High School Handbook for Students and Parents

Mr. AJ Loprete, Principal, and students at North Reading High School proposed to institute a "Senior Final Examination Exemption" provision as an amendment to the 2019-2020 North Reading High School Handbook for Students and Parents.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Pappavaselio and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to approve the amendment in the NRHS Handbook for Students and Parents to include a pilot program for two years regarding final exam exemptions. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.5. Presentation: 2019 District and School Accountability Data

Dr. Patrick Daly, Assistant Superintendent, presented the District and School Accountability Data (MCAS testing) for the North Reading Public Schools.

II. D.6. Presentation: Superintendent-Elect Dr. Patrick C. Daly

Superintendent-Elect Dr. Patrick Daly provided a presentation regarding his transition into his upcoming new role as Superintendent of Schools.

II. D.7. School Committee Policies

Mr. McGowan and Mr. Pappavaselio, members of the Policy Subcommittee gave a brief overview of the following policies for approval for a first reading:

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the first reading of Policy GBAB – Staff Recognition. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Pappavaselio and seconded by Mr. McGowan to approve the first reading of Policy IDFA – Athletic Policy. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the first reading of revised Policy – IDFAC – Financial Management of Athletic Program. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Pappavaselio and seconded by Mr. McGowan to approve the first reading of Policy IECA - Minimum Class Size. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.8. Contract Negotiations Representatives

There are a number of collective bargaining agreements that are due to expire June 30, 2020. These include collective bargaining agreements with (1) custodians, (2) paraprofessionals, and (3) secretaries. The School Committee has one representative for each upcoming negotiation.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. McGowan to appoint Mr. Buckley as the representative to the custodians' collective bargaining contract negotiations. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to appoint Mr. McGowan as the representative to the paraprofessionals' collective bargaining contract negotiations. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Pappavaselio and seconded by Mr. McGowan to appoint Ms. Imbriano as the representative to the secretaries' collective bargaining contract negotiations. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.9. 2020-2021 Academic Calendar

Mr. Bernard brought forward a draft of the 2020-2021 school year calendar. The School Committee discussed his proposal for starting school before Labor Day, due to the lateness of the Labor Day holiday in 2020. It was a consensus to table this matter until the December 9, 2019 School Committee meeting.

II. E.1 Minutes:

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the September 9, 2019 Executive Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the September 9, 2019 Open Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the October 7, 2019 Open Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

II. E.2. Budget Update:

Mr. Michael Connelly, Director of Finance and Operations provided a status report on the FY20 budget and Student Activity – Quarter 1 Report.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the list of active student activity accounts at the High School and Middle School for the 2019-2020 school year as presented by the Administration. Further the School Committee vote to approve the following maximum accounts balances for the 2019-2020 school year and beyond. Elementary Accounts: \$10,000.00 / Middle School Account: \$25,000.00 / High School Account: \$125,000.00. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept the provision of Chapter 71, Section 47 of the Massachusetts General Laws (MGL), which govern student activity accounts. Motion passed 5-0.

II. E.3 Staffing:

No staffing changes at this time.

II. E.4. Bids and Donations:

Superintendent Bernard requested the acceptance of the following donations:

- Donorschoose.org; \$386.12 donation to Janna Comeau's music class at the Hood School

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept with gratitude a donation of classroom percussion instruments from Donorschoose.org to support Janna Comeau's music class at the Hood School for \$386.12. Motion passed.

- Merrimack College; \$500.00 donation towards STEAM projects

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept with gratitude a donation of \$500.00 from Merrimack College to be used toward STEAM projects Districtwide. Motion passed 5-0.

- North Reading Touchdown Club: \$642.00 donation to be used towards replacement jerseys

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept with gratitude a donation of \$642.00 from North Reading Touchdown Club to be used towards replacement jerseys at the High School. Motion passed 5-0.

- J. Turner Hood Parents' Association: \$795.00 donation dedicated for Generation Genius Program

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept with gratitude a donation of \$795.00 dedicated funds from the J. Turner Hood Parents' Association to be used towards the Generation Genius Program at the Hood School. Motion passed 5-0.

- Salon 77: \$1,000.00 donation to the Little School

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept with gratitude a donation of \$1,000.00 from Salon 77 to be used at the Principal's discretion for the students, staff, or building needs at the Little School. Motion passed 5-0.

- J. Turner Hood Parents' Association: \$2,045.00 for five (5) Chromebooks

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to accept with gratitude a donation of \$2,045.00 from the J. Turner Hood Parent's Association to be used towards five Chromebooks at the Hood School. Motion passed 5-0.

II. F.1. Subcommittee Updates:

Mr. McGowan provided an update on the October 24, 2019 NORCAM Board of Directors meeting.

Mr. Pappavaselio provided an update on the October 31, 2019 Policy Subcommittee meeting.

Subcommittee Schedule:

a) Finance Planning Team	November 8, 2019	8:15 AM
b) Substance Use Coalition	November 19, 2019	10:00 AM
c) Fine Arts Subcommittee	November 20, 2019	2:30 PM
d) NORCAM BOD	November 21, 2019	7:00 PM
e) Policy Subcommittee	November 25, 2019	3:45 PM
f) Athletic Subcommittee	December 11, 2019	12:30 PM

II. F.2 Administrative Report:

- Mr. Bernard shared the NEC and SEEM Collaborative Executive Directors' Reports
- A very successful STEAM Night was held on Tuesday, October 22, 2019 in recognition of Governor Baker's "STEM Week" statewide initiative to boost student interest and raise awareness of STEM education. Appreciation was extended to all who helped, especially Dr. Daniel Downs, Director of Digital Learning.
- Mr. Bernard provided a brief summary of "Fright Night: The Hallowed Haunts of Edgar Allan Poe" presented by guest speaker JW Ocker.
- "SCREENAGERS: Next Chapter" will be shown on November 12, 2019, funded by the Community Impact Team.
- A National Science Teachers' Association article was shared, co-authored in part by L.D. Batchelder School teachers Sara Grimbilas, Caroline Kane and Tara Kenyon about Kindergarten.
- Update: E. Ethel Little Elementary School Blue Ribbon School Award, to be presented in Washington D.C. on November 14 & 15, 2019. An awards ceremony will be held at the Little School at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, January 27, 2020.

II. F.3. Correspondence:

No correspondence at this time.

III. Future Business:

November 18, 2019	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting Distance Learning Lab at North Reading Middle/High School
December 9, 2019	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting JT Hood Elementary School Cafeteria
January 13, 2020	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting Distance Learning Lab at North Reading Middle/High School
January 27, 2020	6:30 PM	Regular Meeting L.D. Batchelder Elementary School Cafeteria

V. Adjournment:

The Committee voted on a motion made by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. McGowan to adjourn at 8:32 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

Documents and Exhibits:

1. PowerPoint – NRHS International Travel Club Proposed Trip - Japan 2021
2. PowerPoint – NRHS Adventure Club Trip Proposals 2019-2020
3. Request for NRHS Varsity Boys' Hockey Team trip
4. NRHS Handbook for Students and Parents – proposed change
5. Policy – GBAB – Personnel, Professional – Staff Recognition
6. Policy – IDFA – Instructional Program – Athletic Policy
7. Policy – IDFAC – Instructional Program – Financial Management of Athletic Program
8. Policy – IECA – Instructional Program – Minimum Class Size
9. DRAFT – School Calendar 2020-2021
10. Minutes – Executive Session – September 9, 2019
11. Minutes – Open Session – September 9, 2019
12. Minutes – Open Session – October 7, 2019
13. FY20 Budget Report
14. Student Activity Quarter 1 Report
15. Gift Memo – Donorschoose.org
16. Gift Memo – Merrimack College
17. Gift Memo – NRHS Touchdown Club
18. Gift Memo – J. T. Hood Parents' Association
19. Gift Memo – Salon 77
20. Gift Memo – J. T. Hood Parents' Association