

North Reading Public Schools
North Reading, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of the School Committee
Open Session/Budget Workshop

Date: May 4, 2020
Time: 6:30 PM
Place: Virtual Meeting (+1 559-931-2656 / PIN: 731 106 430#)

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

Visitors: Ms. Shivani Srikanth (Class Representative – 2022), Ms. Emily Kuperstein (Class President Class of 2020), Ms. Jillian String (of the North Reading Transcript)

I. Call to Order Open Session

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

Chair Scott Buckley recognized the contributions of Robert (Bob) Mauceri who recently passed away. Mr. Mauceri was an active community member having served on several boards/committees in North Reading, including the School Committee. There was a minute of silence in remembrance.

II. A. Public Input

There was no public input.

II. B. Student Report

Ms. Shivani Srikanth, Class of 2022, presented the Student Report.

II. D.1. Update: COVID-19 and North Reading Schools

Dr. Daly updated the committee on the district's continued response to COVID-19. Mr. Connelly and Dr. Daly also provided updates on other aspects of district business. The schools will be closed through June 29, 2020 following recommendation of MADESE. Custodians returned full time today, May 4, 2020.

Ms. Emily Kuperstein, Class President of the Class of 2020 gave a report on the process for graduation and senior class activities.

II. D.2. 2019-2020 School Calendar Update

Dr. Daly presented a revision of the 2019-2020 School Calendar for the remainder of the school year with the last day of school being June 19, 2020.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to accept the revised 2019-2020 School Calendar as described, having the last day of school on June 19, 2020. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

II. D.3. 2019-2020 School Committee Meeting Calendar

Dr. Daly presented recommendations for the remaining dates of the 2019-2020 School Committee meetings for the remainder of the school year.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to accept the updated 2019-2020 School Committee calendar as presented by Dr. Daly. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Chair Scott Buckley opened the Public Hearing to discuss School Choice at 7:05 p.m.

II. D.4. School Choice Public Hearing and Vote

Under the Education Reform Act of 1993 there is a need to hold an annual public hearing on School Choice. Becoming a Choice District means that North Reading will accept students from other cities and towns for enrollment in its schools. Once a student is accepted as a choice student, he or she is a student until graduation, or the student opts to withdraw. The district receives an additional \$5,000.00 from the sending district's Chapter 70 funds for each student accepted.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Ms. Boutwell that North Reading School District not participate in School Choice because the program as it is presently constructed ensures that the needs of some of the children of the Commonwealth cannot be met. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Chair Scott Buckley closed the Public Hearing to discuss School Choice at 7:09 p.m.

II. D.5. Payment of Wages

Dr. Daly and Mr. Michael Connelly, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations, discussed the payment of wages for the remainder of the school year. The discussion included school year, and full year employees. Dr. Daly proposed to continue payment of all wages through the current school year, ending June 19, 2020.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to extend the salaries for school year employees to June 19, 2020 and for full year staff to June 30, 2020. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Further discussion followed regarding compensation paid to the spring season athletic coaches. Dr. Daly and Mr. Connelly have recommended payment to the head coaches and assistant coaches at a percentage of their current wage/stipend. The head coaches would receive 25%, assistant coaches 15% of their base/stipend amount.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the Administration's plan to pay a percentage of the stipend for spring sports in the amount of 25% to head coaches and 15% to assistant coaches. Motion passed 4-1 on a roll call vote, Mr. Buckley voted no.

II. D.6. Refunds for Spring 2020

Mr. Connelly discussed refunds of fees during this current period of closure through June 30, 2020.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. McGowan to approve the refund of fees to the families that have paid for Athletic Spring Sports. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. McGowan and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the partial refund for those families that have paid the individual or family bus transportation fee in the amount of \$100.00 for individuals and \$150.00 for families. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to approve refunding 145 families 50% of their payment for services in April, May, and June for full-day kindergarten. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Ms. Boutwell to approve the refund of full and half day Pre-K with reimbursing 50% for full day in the amount of \$725.00 and half day for \$362.50 for services in April, May, and June. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

II. D.7. Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Workshop

Mr. Connelly lead the discussion of the FY2021 budget. At this time, we are not at a balanced budget and further discussion will take place.

II. D.8. Superintendent's Evaluation

Mr. Pappavaselio reviewed the feedback of the School Committee of Superintendent Daly's evaluation.

II. E.1 Minutes:

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

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Pappavaselio to approve the April 13, 2020 Open Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

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

II. E.3. Staffing: There was no staffing update.

II. E.4. Bids and Donations: No bids or donations.

II. F.1. Subcommittee Updates:

Mr. Buckley gave an update of the April 30, 2020 Finance Planning Team meeting.

Mr. Connelly gave an update of the April 29, 2020 CIPC meeting.

Subcommittee Schedule:

a) Finance Planning Team May 7, 2020 8:15 AM

II. F.2 Administrative Report:

- **Digital Literacy Grant**

Dr. Downs led the team on the Digital Literacy grant.

II. F.3 Correspondence:

No correspondence at this time.

III. Future Business: All are dependent on the current shelter in place orders.

May 5, 2020	3:30 PM	Executive Session: Negotiations Update Virtual Meeting: +1 208-572-5322 PIN 918 044 736#
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May 18, 2020	6:30 PM	School Committee Meeting: FY21 Budget Vote Virtual Meeting
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June 1, 2020	6:30 PM	School Committee Meeting: SEPAC Presentation Virtual Meeting
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IV. Adjournment:

The Committee voted on a motion made by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. McGowan to adjourn at 9:30 pm. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

Documents and Exhibits:

1. NRPS School Calendar 2019-2020
2. North Reading School Committee 2019-2020 Meeting Calendar
3. Letter from David Johnson – North Reading Athletic Director
4. NRPS School Closure – Spring User Fee/Tuition Payment Refund Recommendation
5. Superintendent's Evaluation
6. Minutes – Open Session – April 1, 2020
7. Minutes – Open Session – April 13, 2020