

NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
North Reading, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of the School Committee
Open Session

Date: January 19, 2016

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: L.D. Batchelder School Cafeteria

School Committee Members Present

Clifford Bowers

Julie Koepke

Janene Imbriano

Gerald Venezia

Mel Webster

Staff Members Present

Jon Bernard – Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Patrick Daly – Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Michael Connelly – Director of Finance and Operations

Cindy Elmore – Recording Secretary (arrived 7:15 pm)

Visitors: Ms. Jerlin Kaithamattam (Student Representative – Class of 2018), Ms. Carla Lister (Performing Arts Teacher and Curriculum Specialist), Members of the Middle School Performing Arts Program, Batchelder School Faculty and Students, Residents of North Reading, Mr. Dan Tomasello (of the North Reading Transcript)

I. Call to Order Open Session:

Chair Janene Imbriano called the Open Session to order at 7:00 PM.

II. A. Public Input:

No public input at this time.

II. B. Student Input:

Jerlin Kaithamattam, Class of 2018 provided the student report and presented her class work.

II. D.1. Presentation: Middle School Performing Arts Students

Ms. Carla Lister, Performing Arts Teacher and Curriculum Specialist, and students of the Middle School Performing Arts program, entertained the School Committee and members of the audience with performances from the upcoming Middle School musical, “Bugsy Malone, Jr.”.

II. D.2. Presentation: Batchelder Elementary School

Tonight was the second of the five school presentations to be made to the School Committee in the 2015-2016 school year. Mr. Sean Killeen, Principal, and members of the Batchelder school faculty and students made a presentation to the School Committee.

II. D.3. Discussion: Creating a Safe and Supportive School Environment

A discussion was held with the School Committee and various North Reading residents regarding the subject of “Creating a Safe and Supportive School Environment” in all schools. This was prompted by a letter (dated November 16, 2015) that the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent authored and sent to State Representative Brad Jones and State Senator Bruce Tarr outlining the school district’s experience with implementing G.L. Chapter 76, Section 5 enacted in 2012 which recognizes “gender identity” as a protected class. Several community members addressed the School Committee to express their opinions on the matter.

II. C.1. MSBA/SSBC Update:

- a. Weather permitting, the following tasks are scheduled for completion
 - * Continue fencing installation at practice field
 - * Dumpster and generator gate installation
 - * Dodge Road swing gate installation
- b. Work continues to address punchlist items
- c. The next SSBC meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2016.

II. C.2. Policy IC: Curriculum Development

Policy IC: Curriculum Development was presented for second reading.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Bowers to approve the second reading of Policy IC: Curriculum Development. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.4. Bus Transportation Bid Results

Mr. Connelly, Director of Finance and Operations reviewed the results of the bids received for bus transportation. After the review, the School Committee voted to award the bid to North Reading Transportation.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Mr. Webster to award the school bus transportation contract to North Reading Transportation, Inc. for three years from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019. Motion passed 5-0.

II. D.5. Superintendent’s Contract

The School Committee reviewed the updates to the Superintendent’s contract and voted to accept the updates as follows:

- i. A 2% cost of living adjustment (retroactive to July 1, 2015) for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016;
- ii. A two-year extension of the contract. The length of the contract will extend through June 30, 2019 (the term currently expires June 30, 2017).

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Venezia and seconded by Mr. Webster to approve the updates as mentioned above to the Superintendent's contract. Motion passed 5-0.

II. E.1. Minutes:

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Koepke to approve the November 30, 2015 Open Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Bowers to approve the December 14, 2015 Executive Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Bowers to approve the December 14, 2015 Open Session minutes as written. Motion passed 5-0.

II. E.2. Budget Update:

Mr. Connelly, Director of Finance and Operations provided a Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Update.

II. E.3. Staffing:

There were no staffing updates at this time.

II. E.4. Bids and Donations:

Superintendent Bernard requested the acceptance of the following donations:

- Batchelder School Parent Organization; donation of a Handheld Geomate GPS device for a Grade 3 Geocaching unit: value \$559.93.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Ms. Koepke to accept with gratitude a donation from the Batchelder School Parent Organization of a Handheld Geomate GPS device for a Grade 3 Geocaching unit, valued at \$559.93 Motion passed 5-0.

- Middle School Parents Association; donation of \$850.00 to offset the cost of a Grade 7 field trip to "A Christmas Carol" (December 2015).

The Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Mr. Webster to accept with gratitude a donation from the Middle School Parents Association of \$850.00 to offset the cost of a Grade 7 field trip to "A Christmas Carol" in December 2015. Motion passed 5-0.

II. F.1. Subcommittee Reports:

Mr. Webster gave an update of the North Reading Middle/High School Athletic Facilities Committee meeting on January 11, 2016.

Mr. Webster gave an update of the Finance Planning Team meeting on January 15, 2016.

Subcommittee Schedule:

a) Superintendent's Goals Workshop	January 25, 2016	4:00 PM
b) Athletic Subcommittee	January 26, 2016	12:30 PM
c) NORCAM BOD	January 28, 2016	7:00 PM
d) Policy Subcommittee	February 3, 2016	2:30 PM
e) Athletic Facilities Committee	February 8, 2016	1:00 PM
f) SSBC	February 9, 2016	5:30 PM
g) Finance Planning Team	February 12, 2016	8:15 AM
h) Evaluation Subcommittee	TBD	

II. F.2. Administrative Report:

- MIIA Grant Awards: The Superintendent, in collaboration with the Assistant Superintendent and the Town Administrator, applied for and received a grant from the MIIA in the amount of \$5,000.00 to be used to enhance school safety and security protocols in the district.
- Little School Roof Replacement Project Update: The Superintendent and the Town Administrator engaged in a series of conference calls during the week of January 11, 2016, with the Massachusetts School Building Authority's (MSBA) designated liaison for the project along with our assigned project manager and architect to review one final time the budget for the project. This was done in preparation for the MSBA Board as it is scheduled to take action on the proposed project at its Board meeting on January 27, 2016. The only adjustment made to the budget is an extension of project management services from 14 weeks to 17 weeks with a shift of \$10,000 from the "soft cost contingencies" line item. There was mutual agreement that this was a prudent action.

II. F.3. Correspondence:

No correspondence at this time.

III. Future Business:

February 1, 2016	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting, NRHS DLL
February 22, 2016	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting, NRHS DLL

IV. Adjournment:

The Committee voted on a motion made by Ms. Koepke and seconded by Mr. Webster to adjourn at 9:45 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

Documents and Exhibits:

1. Student work
2. Batchelder School Presentation Agenda
3. Policy: IC – Curriculum Development
4. Bus Transportation Bid Results and Recommendations
5. Minutes: Open Session – November 30, 2015
6. Minutes: Executive Session – December 14, 2015
7. Minutes: Open Session – December 14, 2015
8. FY16 Budget Report
9. Gift Acceptance memo: Batchelder School Parent Organization
10. Gift Acceptance memo: Middle School Parents Association