

**NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
North Reading, Massachusetts

**Regular Meeting of the School Committee**  
*Open Session*

Date: January 27, 2014

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Superintendents Conference Room and Middle School Library

***School Committee Members Present***

Clifford Bowers

Karen Errichetti (arrived 6:30 p.m.)

Janene Imbriano

Gerald Venezia

Mel Webster

***Staff Members Present***

Kathleen Willis – Superintendent of Schools

Michael Connelly – Director Finance and Operations

Cindy Elmore – Recording Secretary

Visitors: Mr. Zach Mullen-Bernstein (Student Representative), Mrs. Cathy O’Connell (Principal, Middle School), Mr. Jon Bernard (Principal, NRHS), Mr. Anthony Loprete (Assistant Principal, NRHS), Mr. Michael Rosa, (Guidance Counselor, NRHS), Mr. John Norton (North Reading’s RMLD Representative), Middle School students and parents, Mr. Dan Tomasello (North Reading Transcript)

**I. Call to Order Open Session:**

Chairman Webster called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

**II. NEASC Site Visit Training:**

In preparation for the NEASC site visit to the North Reading High School March 2-5, 2014, Principal Bernard, Assistant Principal Loprete and Guidance Counselor Michael Rosa facilitated training for the Superintendent and School Committee members in the Superintendent’s conference room. At 7:00 PM the meeting moved to the Middle School Library.

**III. A. Public Input:**

None at this time

**III. B. Student Report:**

Zach Mullen-Bernstein provided the student report and presented his class work.

### **III. D.1. North Reading Middle School Presentation:**

This was the third of five School Committee meetings that will take place in each of the schools. Principal Cathy O'Connell hosted the presentation as students from the Middle School presented a "Day in the Life at NRMS".

### **III. C.1. MSBA/SSBC Update:**

The last SSBC meeting was held on January 14, 2014.

#### Construction Update:

- ✓ The gym and the cafeteria are defined and the kitchen equipment will be delivered in the next few weeks.
- ✓ The overheard duct work in the auditorium is near completion, the catwalk is up, and within the next 3-4 weeks the stage lighting and equipment will be up. The control room is closed in.
- ✓ The administrative offices are taking shape with dry wall completed.
- ✓ All windows are on site and the HS Bridge curtain wall is going up.
- ✓ In the basement the boiler room and boilers are installed with one boiler now functioning to heat building A.
- ✓ Chillers will be delivered soon for the rooftop on building B.
- ✓ The electricity will be coming by mid-March and it was mentioned that work with RMLD has been a pleasure.
- ✓ Overall the project is moving forward according to schedule with a nine day delay in the auditorium. More effort will be focused on catching this area up to the schedule with a move-in date of August 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### Design Update:

- ✓ The FF&E Subcommittee has worked steadily since last spring to identify furniture, fixtures, and equipment that will go into the new building.
  - ✓ Tavaras is finishing up the bid document to be released on February 4, 2014.
  - ✓ The MSBA allowed budget for FF&E for this project is \$1,644,000 based on a \$1,200 per pupil cost.
  - ✓ The current estimated FF&E request total based on list prices is \$2,065,715 which works out to be \$1,500 per pupil cost.
  - ✓ Once the bids are received, we will have a better understanding of what the actual costs will be and then we will go through the review process to arrive at the budget total allowed for FF&E in this building project.
- The SSBC approved invoices presented by the OPM.
  - The Move Coordination Process has begun with meetings between the Principals, Dore and Whittier, and PMA. It is a lengthy and involved process, especially in a phased project.
  - Superintendent Willis addressed the SSBC about the security discussion that took place at the December SSBC meeting. All future discussions about school security will take place in executive session allowable under the Open Meeting Law.
  - The next SSBC meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2014.

**III. C.2. Draft 2014-2015 School Calendar:**

The Committee reviewed the second draft of the 2014-2015 School Calendar. The Administrative Council has reviewed the recommended start date change suggested by the School Committee at the January 13, 2014 meeting.

As a result of this review, school would start for students on Monday, September 8, 2014 and the 185<sup>th</sup> day would be Friday, June 26, 2015. The orientation day (welcome back and building meetings) would take place on Friday, September 5, 2014. The first full professional development day would take place on Thursday, September 4, 2014 and the second full day professional development would take place on Friday, October 10, 2014.

*The Committee voted on a motion by Mrs. Errichetti and seconded by Mr. Bowers to approve 2014-2015 School Calendar. Motion passed 5-0.*

**III. D.2. RMLD Rate Increase Review:**

Mr. John Norton, North Reading representative to the Reading Municipal Light Department's Board of Directors, presented information to the Committee regarding the proposed 9% rate increase to residential and commercial property. A vote by the RMLD Board of Directors will take place next week.

The School Committee was in consensus that a letter be sent to RMLD Board of Directors from the Superintendent and Director Finance and Operations regarding the School Committee's concerns of the increase to the FY14 budget.

**III. D.3. NRHS Overnight Trip Request:**

David Johnson, Athletic Director requested the approval for the Varsity Baseball team to stay overnight at South Yarmouth, MA to participate in the Ebbett Memorial Invitational March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The NR baseball team has participated in this trip for over twenty-five years.

*The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Mrs. Imbriano to approve the March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 NRHS Baseball team overnight trip to South Yarmouth, MA. Motion passed 5-0.*

**III. E.1. Minutes:**

*The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Mrs. Errichetti to approve the December 9, 2013 Open Session minutes as amended. Motion passed 5-0.*

*Amendment: Section II. C.1. c – Change OM to OPM in the second sentence.*

**III. E.2. Budget Update:**

Mr. Connelly requested a Subcommittee to work with him on the review of the facility rental fee schedule changes in preparation for the 2014-2015 school year. Mr. Bowers and Mr. Venezia will join Mr. Connelly on the Subcommittee.

**III. E.3. Staffing:**

None at this time.

**III. E.4. Bids and Donations:**

None at this time.

**III. F.1. Subcommittee Reports:**

Mr. Webster provided an update on the Athletic Subcommittee.

Mr. Bowers provided an update on the Policy Subcommittee.

**Subcommittee Schedule:**

a) Athletic Subcommittee	February 4, 2014	12:30 pm
b) Finance Planning Team	February 7, 2014	8:15 am
b) Policy Subcommittee	February 26, 2014	9:00 am
d) Communication Subcommittee	TBD	
f) Evaluation Subcommittee	TBD	

**III. F.2. Administrative Report:**

None at this time.

**III. F.3. Correspondence:** No correspondence at this time**IV. Future Business:**

Monday, February 10, 2014	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting, Town Hall
Monday, February 24, 2014	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting, Town Hall
Monday, March 10, 2014	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting, Town Hall

**V. Adjournment:**

At 8:40 p.m., the Committee voted on a motion by Mrs. Imbriano and seconded by Mr. Venezia to adjourn. Motion passed 5-0.

**Documents and Exhibits:**

1. North Reading Middle School Presentation Agenda
2. PowerPoint regarding RMLD rate increase – by John Norton
3. School Department Electricity Usage Analysis
4. 2014-2015 School Calendar
5. Letter requesting approval of NRHS Varsity Baseball team overnight trip
6. Open Session Minutes – December 9, 2013
7. Legislative Bulletin Dated January 20, 2014