

NORTH READING PUBLIC SCHOOLS
North Reading, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of the School Committee
Open Session

Date: September 8, 2014
Time: 6:30 PM
Place: North Reading High School Library

School Committee Members Present

Clifford Bowers
Karen Errichetti
Janene Imbriano
Gerald Venezia
Mel Webster

Staff Members Present

Kathleen Willis – Superintendent of Schools
Michael Connelly – Director of Finance and Operations
Cindy Elmore – Recording Secretary

Visitors: Mr. and Mrs. Mark Favreau, Mr. Geof Simons, Mr. Wayne Hardacker (Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds), Mr. Dan Tomasello (of the North Reading Transcript)

I. Executive Session

At 6:31 p.m. the Committee voted on a motion by Ms. Imbriano and seconded by Dr. Errichetti pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, Section 21, to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and potential litigation, and to reconvene in Open Session. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

At 6:57 p.m. the Committee voted on a motion by Dr. Errichetti and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to return to Open Session. Motion passed 5-0 on a roll call vote.

II. Call to Order Open Session:

Chairman Venezia called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. A. Public Input: There was no public input.

II. B.1. MSBA/SSBC Update:

- a) The SSBC meeting was held on September 2, 2014.
- b) Today was the first day of the 2014-2015 School Year and the NEW North Reading High School was open for classes!!!
- c) Construction: The Certificate of Occupancy was issued on September 2, 2014 by the Building Inspector. The focus has been completing the punch list and the final cleaning prior to the return of students on Monday, September 8, 2014. Mechanical system trainings are taking place with the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds. The

construction fence line has been reconfigured around the old Middle School. The demolition of the Middle School is 80% complete. This week the structural steel for beams and girders will be delivered. Interior masonry walls and the roof have been removed. Installation of brick on the back of the 2 story building near the High School has begun and will continue around the exterior façade. Utility poles located along Rt. 62 and on the access road should be removed by September 15, 2014.

- d) Design: The last of the furniture, fixtures, and equipment arrived and the final moving of furniture to its final location took place. Distance Learning Lab and audio-visual system installation is underway.
- e) One invoice was approved in the amount of \$151.15.
- f) The North Reading High School Grand Opening Ceremony and Tours will take place on Saturday, September 20, 2014. The ceremony will take place in the Performing Arts Center.
- g) The next regular meeting of the SSBC is scheduled for September 16, 2014 in the HS Library/Media Center.

II. B.2. Naming of School Facilities:

The School Committee did a final discussion and then vote on supporting or not supporting the citizen's petition to rename the Middle School on the warrant for the October Town meeting. Based on the information received from North Reading Town Counsel and the views of the School Committee it was voted not to rename the Middle School at this time and to not support the renaming at the October Town Meeting when the warrant item is presented. The Committee did agree that the Policy Subcommittee would review the current policy on naming a school and present any changes to the policy at a later date.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Webster and seconded by Mr. Bowers to not recommend renaming the Middle School after Charles E. Jones. Motion passed 5-0.

II. B.3. 2014-2015 School Committee Goals Workshop:

The School Committee held a Goals Workshop on September 5, 2014. The Committee reviewed the results from their 2013-2014 Self-Evaluation and evaluated their performance on the 2013-2014 School Committee Goals. A draft of the 2014-2015 School Committee Goals were identified and presented tonight for acceptance.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to accept the 2014-2015 School Committee Goals as written. Motion passed 5-0.

II. C.1. Report Opening Day:

Superintendent Willis was excited to report that the first day of the 2014-2015 school went well, including the students going to the old and new High School. Superintendent Willis thanked Wayne Hardacker and his staff for a job well done, not only in getting the elementary schools ready for a new year but also the old High School being ready to act as

the Middle School, and of course all the work and hours involved in getting the New High School ready for opening day. It was a great day with very few hitches.

II. C.2. New Superintendent's Contract:

Chair Venezia shared the specific benefits and agreed salary amount for year 1 of Superintendent-elect Jon Bernard's contract.

The Committee voted on a motion by Dr. Errichetti and seconded by Mr. Webster to approve the contract for Superintendent Bernard as stated and to offer Mr. Bernard the position of Superintendent of Schools for North Reading. Motion passed 5-0.

II. C.3. FY16 NRPS Capital Improvement Plan:

The Director of Finance and Operations reviewed the four-year Capital Improvement Plan, provided rationale for FY16 large capital improvement projects, and shared the history of funded capital improvement projects over the last five years. The School Committee discussed the priority projects to move forward to the Town Capital Improvement Projects Committee. The Director of Finance and Operations will take the priorities set by the School Committee and develop the CIPC proposals as required. The final proposals will be shared with the Committee at the September 22nd meeting at which time a vote to approve to submit should take place.

II. C.4. Negotiation Team Representative Appointments:

This item was tabled until the September 22, 2014 School Committee meeting.

II. D.1. Minutes: None at this time.

II. D.2. Budget Update: None at this time.

II. D.3. Staffing: No report at this time.

II. D.4. Bids and Donations:

The Director of Finance and Operations requested the acceptance of the following donation:

- Fit Revolution donation of \$3,500 on behalf of the proceeds raised from this year's Hornet Hustle Road Race to be split evenly amongst all five schools with the Batchelder School receiving an additional \$250 for having the most participants.

The Committee voted on a motion by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Ms. Imbriano to accept with gratitude the donation from Fit Revolution of \$3,500. Motion passed 5-0.

II. E.1. Subcommittee Reports:

None at this time.

Subcommittee Schedule:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------|
| a) Policy Subcommittee | September 12, 2014 | 1:00 pm |
| b) Athletic Subcommittee | September 23, 2014 | 12:30 pm |
| c) Finance Planning Team | October 10, 2014 | 8:15 p.m. |
| d) Evaluation Subcommittee | TBD | |

II. E.2. Administrative Report:

- **School Resource Officer:** SRO Kevin Donle was promoted to Detective and Detective Scott Tilton has been appointed to replace Detective Donle as NRPS School Resource Officer.
- **NRHS Grand Opening:** A copy of the NRHS Grand Opening Ceremony and Tours was distributed.
- **High School Principal Search:** The window to submit an application to fill the vacant High School Principal position is closing September 9, 2014. At present, there are nine applicants. Members of the Administrative Council will review applications this week and focus group meetings are planned to take place throughout the day on September 10, 2014.

II. E.3. Correspondence:

None at this time.

III. Future Business:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---|
| September 22, 2014 | 7:00 PM | NRHS Distance Learning Lab |
| October 6, 2014 | 6:30 PM | Town Meeting, NRHS Performing Arts Center |
| October 14, 2014 (Tuesday) | 7:00 PM | NRHS Distance Learning Lab |

IV. Adjournment:

The Committee voted on a motion made by Mr. Bowers and seconded by Mr. Webster to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

Documents and Exhibits:

1. 2014-2015 School Committee Goals
2. NRPS Large Capital Plan 2014-2015 PowerPoint
3. NRPS Large Capital Plan 5 Year Request Summary
4. Gift Acceptance Memo
5. NRPS Handbooks for the Elementary School, Middle School, High School and Athletic Department