TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, October 12, 2011

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on October 12, 2011. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Mr. Paul Samargedlis, Mr. Richard W. Kief, Ms. Courtney A. Rau, Mr. John Badger, Mr. James Gormley and Mrs. Eleanor Travers.

Committee Member Excused: Mr. William J. Plasko, Jr.

Administrators Present: Dr. Alec Wyeth, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment and Ms. Ann Marie Ellis, Director of Finance & Operations.

Administrators Excused: Mr. James Hayden, Superintendent of Schools.

Dr. Wyeth welcomed everyone this evening, acknowledged that there was a quorum and turned the meeting over to Mr. Samargedlis.

Mr. Samargedlis welcomed everyone to this evening's meeting and informed that the Members are in receipt of an e-mail from Mr. William Plasko, Jr. informing that he would be stepping down as Chairman of the School Committee. In the absence of a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and as one of the two Senior Members, he would be getting this evening's meeting under way.

Mrs. Travers made a motion to suspend the rules to vote on a new Chairman for this evening through the end of the term, which was seconded by Mr. Badger.

Mr. Kief said he would vote in favor of a temporary Chairman and Vice-Chairman reminding that this is not an agenda item for tonight's meeting. Mr. Kief said this should be an agenda item for another meeting in the near future.

Ms. Rau agreed with Mr. Kief.

Mr. Gormley also agreed with Mr. Kief.

With regard to this motion, the Members were polled and voted as follows:

Mr. Kief voted	NO;
Ms. Rau voted	NO;
Mr. Gormley voted	NO;
Mrs. Travers voted	YES;
Mr. Badger voted	YES;
Mr. Samargedlis voted	YES.

The Committee voted three in favor and three against.

Mr. Kief made a motion to continue along with the temporary Chairman and Vice-Chairman and to post another meeting for a vote for a permanent Chairman and Vice-Chairman, which was seconded by Ms. Rau for the purpose of discussion. With regard to the motion on the table, the Committee voted in favor 5-1 (Mrs. Travers voted against).

Dr. Wyeth then informed that nominations are now in order for a Temporary Chairman.

Mrs. Travers made a motion for Mr. Paul Samargedlis as Temporary Chairman of the Norwood School Committee, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley.

Ms. Rau made a motion to close nominations, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

With regard to the motion on the table, the Committee Members voted as follows:

Mr. Kief	YES;
Mrs. Travers	YES;
Mr. Badger	YES;
Mr. Samargedlis	YES;
Ms. Rau	NO;
Mr. Gormley	YES.

The vote was 5-1 in favor (Ms. Rau voted against).

Mr. Samargedlis, as Temporary Chairman, opened up nominations for Temporary Vice-Chairman.

Mrs. Travers made a motion for Mr. John Badger as Temporary Vice-Chairman, which was seconded by Ms. Rau. With regard to the motion on the table, the Committee Members voted as follows:

Mr. Kief	YES;
Mrs. Travers	YES;
Mr. Badger	YES;
Mr. Gormley	YES;
Ms. Rau	YES;
Mr. Samargedlis	YES.

The vote was unanimously in favor 6-0.

Minutes: Ms. Rau made a motion to approve the minutes of September 27, 2011, which was seconded by Mr. Kief. The Committee voted in favor 6-0

Correspondence: Mr. Samargedlis acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

-Memorandum regarding FY13 Budget Forms and Timeline.

Warrants: Mr. Samargedlis informed that there were warrants to be signed.

Announcements: Dr. Wyeth announced that Mr. Hayden is not here this evening as he is currently recovering from a heart attack. He added that Mr. Hayden is recovering at home and is doing much better. Mr. Hayden will be back when he has clearance from his doctor.

Public Forum: Mrs. Gerri Slater was here this evening to speak about next year's school calendar. Mrs. Slater informed the school committee that all of the Jewish Holidays fall on school days next year. Mrs. Slater asked that the School Department consider planning one of the professional development days on a Jewish Holiday. Mr. Samargedlis asked Mrs. Doliner to let Mrs. Slater know when this item comes up.

Appearances: Student Representatives: Students Representatives Michael Epstein, Amy Moynihan and Lauren Sejido were here this evening to update the School Committee on Academics, Activities, Arts and Athletics.

Norwood Public Access Presentation: Richard Kief, Scott Murphy, Marcia Nutting, Gerri Slater and Jack Tolman were here this evening to speak of the partnership with the Norwood Public Schools. Mr. Murphy gave some of the background of NPA-TV and then gave a quick overview of the brand new station at the new High School. Mr. Murphy explained that Mr. Kief had the original idea of partnering up with the Schools, adding that it was a terrific idea. Mr. Tolman informed that our younger students are now able to access this state of the art equipment that is equal to the programs found in colleges. Mr. Tolman then shared some of the success stories of students who have come through the television program and have gone on to bigger and better things.

Mr. Tolman then announced that NPA-TV has won 7 Awards again this year for Community Access Programming. Mr. Tolman was very happy and proud to inform the School Committee that the documentary for the Norwood Public Schools called *Understanding and Preventing Bullying* won one of the awards.

Mrs. Gerri Slater then informed that NPA has established scholarships for graduating seniors and the first two recipients were Jake Colamaria and Pat Sullivan.

The Members had an opportunity to thank NPA on a successful and wonderful partnership.

Reports: 2011 District AYP & MCAS Presentation: Dr. Wyeth updated the School Committee regarding the 2011 District AYP and MCAS results. Dr. Wyeth said that this information will be added to the NPS website. Also, for more information, Dr. Wyeth

suggested the following websites for more information:
http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/search/ or http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/ .

Dr. Wyeth explained that the good news is the district moved from three to two schools in accountability status, adding that the Cleveland made AYP for ELA and no longer has an accountability status.

Dr. Wyeth said the bad news was that the Balch did not make AYP in math and moved up to Corrective Action. The Coakley did not make AYP in ELA and math and moved up to Correction Action for ELA and remains in Restructuring for math.

Dr. Wyeth said the areas of concern were that the Callahan did not make AYP in math for the aggregate this year. The Oldham did not make AYP in ELA and math this year. Norwood High School did not make AYP in math for subgroups this year. If this continues next year, they will be placed in Improvement Year 1.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: None.

Policy: None.

Budget: Discussion regarding Finance Commission's Request for Information: Ms. Ellis presented the explanations for the five requests from the Finance Commission regarding (a) Circuit Breaker Funds; (b) Pre-paid SPED Invoices; (c) Unexpended Revolving Funds; (d) Unexpended FY11 School Department Budget; and (e) Transaction Correction.

There was some discussion regarding the drafting of the response to the Finance Commission. The Members agreed that Ms. Ellis will draft the response and the Temporary Chairman will sign it.

There was also some discussion regarding the accounting systems that are used by the Town and the Schools.

FY12 Budget Summary Update: Ms. Ellis updated the Members regarding the FY12 Budget. (Members received the *Monthly Summary Report* dated September 30, 2011.)

FY12 Budget Transfer Request: Ms. Ellis asked the School Committee to approve the FY12 budget transfer request to transfer $3,225.00

Transfer From:		Transfer To:	
P 0935 12 SHS Eng. IS 0905-12	$ 950	P 0852 12 SHS Soc. Stud. TB0852 -	$3,225
P 0911 12 SHS Math S 0911-12	$1,000		
P 0916 12 SHS Soc Stud IS 0916-12	$1,275		
Total To Be Transferred From:	$3,225	Total To Be TransferredTo:	$3,225

Mr. Badger made a motion to approve request for transfers, which was seconded by Mrs. Travers. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

Old Business: Superintendent's Evaluation Update: Ms. Rau made a motion to table, which was seconded by Mr. Kief. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

Approval of Three Articles on November 14, 2011 Special Town Meeting: Mr. Kief made a motion to remove the place holders for Article 1 (additional Special Education Funding) from the warrant for the Special Town Meeting to be held on Monday, November 14, 2011, which was seconded by Mrs. Travers. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

Mrs. Travers made a motion to remove the place holder for Article 2 (additional Regular Education/Operational Expenses) from the warrant for the Special Town Meeting to be held on Monday, November 14, 2011, which was seconded by Mr. Kief. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

With regard to the last Article (construction of a new NHS concession stand and male and female toilets), the Members agreed to go forward with this.

New Business: Official Delegate Nomination for MASC/MASS Annual Business Meeting: Mr. Badger may be interested in this meeting. He will look into this further.

Mrs. Travers made a motion to table, which was seconded by Ms. Rau. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

Approval of Four Out-of-State Trip Requests: Mr. George Usevich, Principal of Norwood High School, requests approval for the following out-of-state trips:

-10th Annual Student Television Affiliate Convention in Houston, TX

Mrs. Travers made a motion to approve this out-of-state field trip, which was seconded by Ms. Rau. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

-USSBA National Marching Band Championship in Annapolis, MD
-Performance in "Gold Star" USSBA Show in Southington, CT
-Attend USSBA New England States Championship in New London, CT

Mrs. Travers made a motion to approve the above three out-of-state field trips, which was seconded by Ms. Rau. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

Personnel: None.

School Committee Addenda:

Mr. Kief had none.

Mrs. Travers had none.

Mr. Badger had none.

Mr. Gormley had none.

Ms. Rau had none.

Mr. Samargedlis had none.

Executive Session: Mr. Kief made a motion at 10:30 p.m. for Executive Session for Unit A negotiations, which was seconded by Ms. Rau. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

Adjournment: Mrs. Travers made a motion for adjournment at 10:55 p.m., which was seconded by Ms. Rau. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 6-0.

Respectfully submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee