TOWN OF NORWOOD

School Committee Meeting

James R. Savage Educational Center

Wednesday, January 8, 2014

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday,

January 8, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Ms. Courtney Rau, Chairwoman, Mr. John Badger, Mr. James Gormley, Mr. Paul Samargedlis and Mr. Joseph Montesano

**Administrators Present:** Mr. James Hayden, Superintendent of Schools;

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

**Minutes:** Mr. Samargedlis made a motion to approve the minutes of

December 12, 2013, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

**Correspondence:** Chairwoman Rau acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

- Board of Health Commendation of School Lunch Program;

**Warrants:** Chairwoman Rau informed that there were warrants to be signed.

**Public Forum:** None.

**Announcements:** None.

**Appearances:** High School Student Representatives Report: Saloonee Adhikari, Griffin Flaag, Kaushik Suryariarayanan and Jacobi Ware, students from Norwood High School, were here this evening to update the Committee with regards to the 4 A’s: Academics; Activities; Arts and Athletics.

**Reports:** Mr. Gormley said that there will be a coffee hour with legislatures to discuss upcoming needs for school systems at Walpole High School on Friday, February 7th from 8:30-10:00 a.m., if any of the Committee Members can attend.

**Superintendent’s Report and/or Late Agenda:** None.

**Policy:** None.

**Budget:** FY14 Budget Update: Mr. Hayden and Chairwoman Rau updated the Committee with regard to a recent meeting between Chairwoman Rau, Mr. Hayden, Mr. Maloney and Mr. Thornton to discuss the shortfall that was discussed at the last School Committee Meeting. This is still a moving target and will be monitored closely. Mr. Hayden then said that with the freezing temperatures we have been enduring this past week, pipes burst at the High School, Prescott and Callahan, which were unforeseen expenses.

Chairwoman Rau thanked Ms. Ellis for the detailed level of information she consistently gets to the Committee regarding the budgets.

FY15 Town-Wide Budget Building Committee: Mr. Hayden explained that 2 members from the Finance Commission, 2 members from School Committee and 2 members from the Selectmen will make up the Budget Balancing Committee. Chairwoman Rau and Mr. Samargedlis will serve along with Mr. Hayden and Ms. Ellis.

**Old Business:** Center for District & School Accountability Review January 21-24, 2014: The Review Committee will be here the end of the month and will be looking for information from staff, parents and School Committee Members. Mr. Hayden said that time has been set on Thursday, January 23rd form 4:30-5:30 for School Committee Members who are available to meet.

**New Business:** Acceptance of Nine Donations: Mr. Hayden recommended accepting the following donations:

$15,000.00 from Meditech to be used for the advancement of technology and technology instruction;

Mr. Gormley made a motion to accept this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

$2,000.00 from the District Attorney’s Office to purchase 2 Walkie-Talkies to increase communication between staff members in the event of a school emergency or crisis for the Coakley Middle School.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

$2,000.00 from the Frank R. and Elizabeth Simoni Foundation for the Public School Nurses;

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

$750.00 from the Verizon Foundation in recognition of Eleanor Travers volunteer hours on the School Committee to be used by Julie Treloar, English/Language Arts Teacher at the High School, for classroom projects;

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

$200.00 from the Women’s Community Committee to purchase supplies for the classrooms at the Willett Early Childhood Center;

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

$200.00 from the Women’s Community Committee to purchase supplies for the classrooms at the Prescott Elementary School;

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

$300.00 anonymous donation for educational supplies for the L.E.A.D. Program;

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

$50.00 donation from Lueders Environmental, Inc.;

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

35 teachers’ chairs sent to the Balch and Cleveland Schools, Willett Early Childhood Center and Coakley Middle School from Kluwer Health Medical Research.

Mr. Gormley made a motion to approve this donation, which was seconded by Mr. Samargedlis. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

**Personnel:** None.

**School Committee Addenda:** Mr. Gormley had none.

Mr. Samargedlis thanked Mr. Hayden for his good calls regarding the recent storms. He also said he was happy the way the town stepped up for the families who were involved in a recent fire.

Mr. Badger updated that there will be a meeting on Monday for the Town-wide Facilities Committee. He will keep the School Committee up-to-date with regard to those meetings.

Mr. Montesano had none.

Chairwoman Rau had none.

**Executive Session:** None.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Badger made a motion for adjournment at 7:45 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Gormley. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk

Norwood School Committee