TOWN OF NORWOOD

School Committee Meeting James R. Savage Educational Center Wednesday, July 12, 2017

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, July 12, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Ms. Myev Bodenhofer. Chair, Mr. Patrick McDonough, Mrs. Michele Eysie Mullen, Ms. Teresa Stewart and Ms. Maura Smith.

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

Minutes: Mrs. Mullen made a motion to approve the minutes of June 26, 2017, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Correspondence: Chairwoman Bodenhofer acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

- -NPA-TV Award Notification for L.E.A.D. Students; and
- -Building Study Committee Information.

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

Payroll Warrants in the Amount of:	\$3,504,172.91

\$ 113,900.15

Accounts Payable Warrants in the amount of: \$ 12,864.15

\$ 347.00 \$ 269,848.15 \$ 30,980.97 \$ 62,090.24

Total Expenditures of: \$3,994,203.57

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: None.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Dr. Thomson updated that he recently held an administrative retreat to review the needs and goals for the upcoming school year. Dr. Thomson then explained a book study he has started with the administrators for getting students college and career ready. He then added

that he will be sharing the book with the School Committee Members. Dr. Thomson then updated that he has been busy interviewing and hiring new staff.

Chairwoman Bodenhofer updated that we now have the School Committee packets up on Google Drive. She explained that the packets will be available on-line and paper copies will be available for the Members to pick up here at the Savage on the Friday before each meeting if they would like. She added that if anyone still wants their packets delivered, let her know.

Chairwoman Bodenhofer then updated that she has added signature lines to the protocols document that was voted on at the last meeting for the members to sign.

Budget: FY17 Budget Projections as of June 30, 2017: Ms. Ellis updated that we have already transferred into Special Education accounts the carry-over balance from FY16 of \$386,799.31. She added that we were able to do an additional three quarters (\$420,314 each quarter), so we will have used \$1,946,000 out of the circuit breaker. The carry-over that will be used for FY18 will be \$485,949.75.

The Members had an opportunity for questions and comments.

<u>FY18 Budget Transfer:</u> Mr. McDonough made a motion for the following transfer, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

TRANSFER FROM: TRANSFER TO:

6030 0873 SCH IS/TB - OLDHAM TEXTBKS \$6,805.15 6110 1261 SCH EQUIP- OLDHAM \$6,805.15

TOTAL TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM: \$6,805.15

<u>FY18 State Budget Updates:</u> Dr. Thomson updated that we are still waiting on final numbers from the State.

Chairwoman Bodenhofer said Mr. McQuaid believes that it will be about \$57,000 less than what we were counting on from Town Meeting. Ms. Ellis said that the School's portion would be \$32,680.45 (55%).

Dr. Thomson said he believes we may be getting two new families moving to Norwood with students that are out-of-district.

Old Business: <u>Willett Space:</u> Mrs. Ferreira and Mr. Riccardi were here this evening to give a report on the history of the space issues at the Willett Early Childhood Center. The report also explained how the overcrowding has been handled over the past five years. The Committee was presented with two options for solving the space issues:

Option 1: Lease/purchase double wide trailer \$58,056

(adds 1,200 sq. ft. – 3 year lease to purch.)

Option 2: Move all Pre-K to the Savage Center ground floor

In some of the Metro South West space. Six classrooms

would be vacated at the Willett.

*Security, paging system, plumbing \$38,000

maintenance, repair, etc.

*Furniture, fencing, etc. \$30,000 *Nurse & Secretary (full-year) \$98,000

Mrs. Ferreira said that a few preschool teachers met Mr. Riccardi at the Savage Educational Center last Monday to get a feel for the space that may be available.

Mr. Riccardi said that the Metro West Unemployment Center will be leaving the end of September so that work cannot begin until October 1^{st} preparing the space for a preschool program.

The Members had an opportunity for questions and comments. The Committee Members agreed that the educational aspects need to be studied There was some discussion that the School Building Study group has the Savage site as one option for the site of a new middle school.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to put a committee together to research both options for the space needs at the Willett and to come back with a recommendation for a vote early September, which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen.

Mrs. Mullen amended the motion to look at the pros and cons of the Savage Educational Center and if that is not the recommendation, to fall back to Option 1, which was seconded by Mr. McDonough. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

High School Foreign Language: Mr. Bourn and Mrs. Derrane were here this evening to update the Committee about the scheduling/space issues with foreign language classes at the High School for this coming year. Mrs. Derrane explained that state colleges now require two consecutive years of the same language. She added that there are 8 students who were not able to get into Spanish I and 20 students who were not able to get into AP Spanish. Mrs. Derrane explained that she knows that there are many departments in this school system that have needs, and she is not asking for a Band-Aid to be put on this problem. She explained that she was requested by parents to explain this problem to the School Committee. She explained that the School Committee should have this knowledge going into the 2018-2019 Budget Planning.

The Committee Members had an opportunity for questions and comments.

Ms. Smith said she is so impressed with how the staff stands by each other. She said that she would like departments to share their needs with the Budget Sub Committee so that they can get history and details and share with the whole Committee to make informed recommendations.

<u>Legislative Advocacy</u>: Ms. Stewart mentioned some programs that may be helpful to become involved with. She said there seem to be a lot of legislative programs out there that may be worth looking into.

<u>School Start Time Update:</u> The Committee Members received the responses from the recent School Start-Time Survey that had been sent out.

Budget Sub-Committee Update: Chairwoman Bodenhofer said that minutes from the last sub committee meeting were handed out this evening. She added that she and Mr. McDonough attended the recent Town Wide Budget Meeting. She recommended that our Budget Sub Committee put together information regarding fees as that is the area that the Town Committee is researching at this point. The next Town Wide Budget Meeting will be some time in September. Ann Haley will join Ms. Smith and Chairwoman Bodenhofer at next week's sub committee meeting.

<u>Policy Sub-Committee Update:</u> Mr. McDonough said he and Ms. Stewart will be meeting next week to discuss the Residency Policy. He will be finishing up the Sub Committee Minutes and will get them out to the full committee in the near future.

<u>Long Term Agenda Document:</u> Chairwoman Bodenhofer reviewed and updated that Long Term Agenda Document.

New Business:

Consent Agenda: Acceptance of One Donation: Dr. Thomson recommended accepting the following donation/rebate:

-Bay State Textiles Inc. \$480.50

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

Personnel: Willett Principal Announcement: Dr. Thomson was pleased to announce that Ms. Carolyn Boyce, of the Lenox Public Schools, will be the new Principal at the Willett Early Childhood Center. She will be finishing up in Lenox and will be joining us here in Norwood the week of July 18th.

School Committee Addenda

Ms. Smith welcomed Dr. Thomson to his first School Committee Meeting and wished Mr. John Carroll, Town Manager, well as he recently announced his retirement.

Ms. Stewart also welcomed Dr. Thomson this evening. She also mentioned that Mr. Carroll will be missed as he gets ready to retire.

Mr. McDonough welcomed Dr. Thomson. He said that Mr. John Carroll was a mentor to him as he began his term as a School Committee Member, and agreed that he will be missed.

Chairwoman Bodenhofer agreed with all the sentiments and said that she felt that this was a long meeting, but filled with good information and discussion.

Executive Session: Chairwoman Bodenhofer informed that there would be an Executive Session for the following items.

Mr. McDonough made a motion for Executive Session at 11:00 p.m., which was seconded by Mrs. Mullen. The Committee Members were polled and voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Adjournment: Mr. McDonough made a motion for adjournment at 12:05 p.m., which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk Norwood School Committee