

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
James R. Savage Educational Center
Wednesday, October 19, 2016

A meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, October 19, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Mr. James Gormley, Chairman, Ms. Lisa Igoe; Mr. Patrick McDonough, Mrs. Michelle Eysie Mullen and Ms. Myev Bodenhofer.

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. McDonough made a motion to approve the minutes of October 12, 2016, which was seconded by Ms. Igoe. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Correspondence: Mr. Hayden informed that the Members are receiving this evening an update from the Finance Commission (pink sheet) regarding the position of the Finance Commission on the money articles for Special Town Meeting on Monday, October 24, 2016.

Warrants: Chairman Gormley informed that there were warrants to be signed.

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: "Keeping Kids Safe" at Balch (Nov. 9, 2016 - 6:30 PM – 8:00PM): Mr. Hayden welcomed the public to a presentation entitled "Keeping Kids Safe" at the Balch Elementary School on November 9th from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Appearances: 2016 Summer School: Due to Parent Conferences at the High School this evening, Dr. Crowley's updated on Summer School will be added to a future meeting.

Reports: None.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: There was one agenda item that was not added to this evening's meeting schedule regarding future agenda items. Mrs. Bodenhofer brought this topic up at the last meeting.

Mrs. Bodenhofer wanted to know how the Committee felt about some sort of a budget review that may possibly need a Sub Committee.

Mr. Hayden said in the month of November, the Administrators, Principals and Department Heads would be building the new budget. He wondered if this possible review would affect this planned timeline.

There was some discussion regarding delving deeper into the budget and also using the *Tentative Agenda Plan* as a working document. Ms. Igoe requested that a conversation about later school start times should be added. The Committee will add this item to a February agenda. The Committee requested a more detailed report after the December 14th meeting.

Policy: School Admission Policy (JEC): Mr. McDonough requested that this policy be referred to the Policy Sub Committee for review of procedures.

After some discussion, the Policy Sub Committee agreed to meet to discuss the School Admission Policy and the Meal Policy, which was discussed this past summer.

Budget: None.

Old Business: Superintendent Search: Chairman Gormley asked the Committee Members their thoughts on using a Consultant vs. not using a Consultant for the Superintendent Search process.

Mr. Hayden informed that the Committee Members have received a copy of a packet of paperwork from the *Superintendent Search – Spring 2010*.

Mrs. Bodenhofer said that she has had time to think about this and truly feels that the \$9,500 fee is well worth the expense in order to give ourselves the best and most professional search possible.

Ms. Igoe said she really believes we can do this ourselves and added that we have the consultant as an option going down the line if necessary.

Chairman Gormley feels that this undertaking may be a lot for people who have full-time jobs and many family commitments.

Mrs. Mullen says at this point she feels that using a Consultant is not necessary as people who have lots going on in their careers and family lives probably would not volunteer to serve on this Committee. She feels with Glen Koocher's guidance, this Committee will do very well. She added that she is amazed at the list of things MASC will do for us that will not cost a cent.

Mr. McDonough has thought this over and he said that the School System does not have this extra money available in the budget and he is not afraid to do this Search on our own. Mr. McDonough added that we do pay our dues and he feels we will be able to ask their help whenever it is needed.

Ms. Igoe made a motion to go with MASC using the tech support (which there is no fee for) going forward in the Superintendent Search, which was seconded by Mr. McDonough. The Committee voted in favor 3-2 (Mrs. Bodenhofer and Chairman Gormley opposed).

At this point in the meeting, Chairman Gormley asked Mrs. Mullen and Ms. Igoe to serve on the Superintendent Search Committee with Ms. Igoe serving as the Chair of the Committee as she is Vice-Chair of the School Committee.

Mrs. Mullen said she is honored to serve on this Committee and feels she and Ms. Igoe will work well together.

Mr. McDonough made a motion that Mrs. Mullen and Ms. Igoe serve on the Superintendent Search Committee, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Warrant Articles: Mr. Hayden reviewed ARTICLE 8 and asked the Committee to confirm that we would be going forward with this Article.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$109,877 from the Town of Norwood's F.Y. 2017 Chapter 70 distribution or other available funds and appropriate for the Norwood School Department's F.Y 2017 Budget appropriation, or take any other action in the matter.

Mr. Hayden said the Finance Commission supports this article.

Ms. Igoe made a motion to go forward with Article 8 at Special Town Meeting, which was seconded by Mr. McDonough. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Mr. Hayden reviewed ARTICLE 9 and asked the Committee to postpone this Article until the spring as requested by the Finance Commission.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise by taxation or transfer from Surplus Revenue or other available funds an amount no to exceed \$300,000 for School Department out-of-district Special Education costs, or take any other action in the matter.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to indefinitely postpone Article 9, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer for discussion.

There was some discussion as to the possibility of bringing this Article back up at the spring town meeting.

Mrs. Bodenhofer said she is glad we brought it up when we did so the town knows there is an issue.

With regard to the motion on the table, the Committee Members voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

MASC Resolutions & Convention (Nov. 2-5, 2016): Mr. Hayden reminded that the resolutions will be voted on at the upcoming Convention in Hyannis. Our representative will represent this Committee's votes at the Convention.

Chairman Gormley informed that the date of the vote will be Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at 3:15 p.m. The Norwood School Committee also has a meeting scheduled for that evening.

Chairman Gormley said he would be willing to go down for a couple of sessions and for the voting, and pay his own way.

Mr. Hayden said the school system would pick up the registration fee.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to have Chairman James Gormley be the delegate at the Conference, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

There was no one available to be the alternate.

Mr. Hayden read the following resolutions to be voted on:

Resolution 1 – Foundation Budget:

Mr. Hayden recommended voting in favor of this resolution.

Mrs. Bodenhofer made a motion to authorize the delegate to vote in favor of Resolution 1, which was seconded by Mrs. McDonough. The Committee voted in favor 4-0 1 (Chair abstained).

Resolution 2 – Tax Reform Ballot Question:

Mr. Hayden recommended voting in favor of this resolution.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to authorize the delegate to vote in favor of Resolution 1, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted in favor 4-0 1 (Chair abstained).

New Business: Out-of-State Field Trip Request – Gr. 8 Washington, DC: This item was tabled to a future meeting.

2016 PARCC & MCAS Report: Dr. Wyeth reviewed the 2016 MCAS/PARCC Proficiency Rates document that was handed out this evening. Dr. Wyeth said this information will be on our website shortly and can be accessed on the DESE website.

The Committee had an opportunity for questions and comments.

Consent Agenda:

Acceptance of Two Donations:

Bay State Textiles Rebate: \$346.51

Norwood League of Women Voters: (5) Books – “E is for Election Day”

Norwood Gardens donated backpacks and school supplies.

Mr. McDonough made a motion to approve consent agenda, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Personnel: None.

School Committee Addenda: Mr. McDonough thanked Mrs. Mullen and Ms. Igoe for stepping up to the plate and volunteering to serve on the Superintendent Search Committee.

Mrs. Bodenhofer said there will be a meeting of the Building Study Committee on October 24, 2106 at the Savage Education Center. She also informed of an upcoming fundraiser for the Jimmy Fund *Putting for Patients* as well as *Fantasy Footsteps* this weekend.

Mrs. Mullen encouraged parents to see *Keeping Kids Safe* on November 9th at the Balch. She thanked the School Department for hosting this evening. Also she thanked the School Department for having Cory Polazzi come speak to our students. He is a former addict who has survived his addiction and speaks to students about his experiences.

Ms. Igoe wanted to thank Chairman Gormley and the rest of the Committee for nominating her on the Superintendent Search Committee. She also heard the speaker Cory Polazzi was terrific. She also thanked IMPACT Norwood for all the good work they do. They will be having another meeting tomorrow.

Chairman Gormley had none this evening.

Executive Session: Chairman Gormley updated that due to the last negotiation meeting being postponed, there is no need for an Executive Session this evening.

Adjournment: Mr. McDonough made a motion for adjournment at 9:20 p.m., which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk

Norwood School Committee