

Town of Norwood
Emergency School Committee Meeting (Public)
Remote
Monday, January 29, 2024

A remote emergency meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Monday, January 29, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:15 p.m.

Norwood Community Media was not available to tape the meeting this evening but will broadcast later in the week.

Committee Members Present: Ms. Anne Marie Mazzola, Chair; Ms. Teresa Stewart, Dr. Joan Giblin, Mr. David Hiltz and Ms. Kate Sibbing-Dunn

Attending: Mr. James Hardy, MASC Representative (Assisting with Superintendent Search)

Chair Mazzola welcomed everyone to this evening's meeting and explained that when we need to meet for an urgent matter and can't give 48 hours notice it is considered an emergency meeting.

Chair Mazzola said that some information came to the Committee's attention over the weekend that needed to be discussed quickly so the Committee could continue on with the Superintendent Search.

Ms. Sibbing-Dunn informed that one of the finalists for the Superintendent Search, Dr. John Buckey, is withdrawing his name from search. Mr. Hiltz and Ms. Sibbing-Dunn have been working to figure out some options so that there are still three candidates coming forward for visits and interviews.

Mr. Hardy reached out to another top candidate and they are still interested. If the Committee agrees to keep three, Ms. Sibbing-Dunn will share the info on that candidate this evening.

There was some discussion around keeping two candidates or continue on with three candidates.

Ms. Stewart said that the Committee never actually voted on a certain number of candidates,. The Committee talked about 3 being the minimum the Committee should have, adding that if there were 4 or 5 strong candidates, they could move them forward as well. Ms. Stewart said she would support hearing about the next candidate.

Chair Mazzola said there was a great pool of candidates and this person that the Committee is talking about moving forward was right up at the top and it was

very hard to choose. The Chair said this person would be a good addition to the group of finalists.

Mr. Hardy clarified that the Search Committee voted to move three names forward and agreeing on 3 candidates would be in keeping with the will of the Search Committee.

Dr. Giblin said it was important to say that Dr. Buckey chose to withdraw after we contacted him to request a conversation after other things came up.

Dr. Giblin made a motion to expand the finalist list to three active finalists, and using the criteria from the Search Committee in regards to ranking, the candidate that was in the 4th position should be moved to the final 3, which was seconded by Ms. Stewart. The Members were individually polled and voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Ms. Sibbing-Dunn said that the finalist moving forward will be Dr. Meg Dussault of Sharon. The postings will be updated to reflect her information and resume'.

Ms. Sibbing-Dunn said she received feedback from the community that many people from the community who would like to attend the "Meet-and-Greet" would not be able to make the original time due to work schedules. The community "Meet-and-Greet" has been changed to 6:00 p.m., but the student and staff "Meet-and-Greets" will be at the original time:

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Each Candidate will visit 3 schools where they will engage with students and staff during the day

Meet-the-Candidate Sessions @ NHS:

-4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Students and Staff

Students - will be in Room 106; and

Staff - will be in the GSU Lecture Hall

-6:00 - 7:30 p.m. - Community Members

Community Members -will be in the Library

Saturday, February 3, 2024

Snow Date:

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Starting @ 6 p.m.

Finalist Interviews at the Savage

Educational Center

School Committee Room

10:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m. Ms. Priya Tahiliani

11:40 a.m. -12:40 p.m. Mr. Timothy Luff

12:50 p.m. -1:50 p.m. Dr. Meg Dussault

The interviews will be accessible in person at the Savage Center or they can be watched on NCM by Monday, February 5, 2024 (Video On-Demand as well as airing in the evening).

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

Those who participate in the visits, “Meet-the-Candidates”, or watch the interviews can participate in a feedback survey which will be shared with the School Committee. The survey will close on Tuesday at 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

School Committee Business Meeting -
Finalist - deliberation and vote

Mr. Hardy spoke with Dr. Dussault and she will be able to attend. He shared the upcoming timeline with her.

Adjournment: Ms. Stewart made a motion for adjournment at 9:33 p.m., which was seconded by Ms. Sibbing-Dunn. The Members were polled and voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee