

TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
Remote (On-Line)
Wednesday, April 29, 2020

A remote (on-line) meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, April 29, 2020 (remote due to the Covid-19 virus). The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Governor Baker issued an Executive Order modifying certain requirements of the Open Meeting Law, to enable public bodies to carry out their responsibilities while adhering to public health recommendations regarding social distancing.

"In addition, all members of a public body may participate in a meeting remotely; the Open Meeting Law's requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at the meeting location is suspended.

Committee Members Present: Ms. Teresa Stewart, Chair; Ms. Myev Bodenhofer, Ms. Maura Smith, Mr. Dave Catania and Dr. Joan Giblin

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

Chairwoman Stewart welcomed everyone to this evening's meeting and reminded that we would be using the following email: npsschoolcommittee@norwood.k12.ma.us for questions and comments for Public Forum this evening.

Minutes: Mr. Catania made a motion to approve the minutes of April 22, 2020, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Mr. Catania made a motion to approve the Executive Session (part #1) minutes of April 22, 2020, which was seconded by Ms. Smith. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Mrs. Bodenhofer made a motion to approve the Executive Session (part #2) minutes of April 22, 2020, which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Correspondence: None.

Warrants: Mr. Catania informed that there were no warrants last week.

Public Forum: There were no e-mails for Public Forum, but Chair Stewart reminded the public that they can e-mail questions and comments at any time and she will read them at the next meeting.

Announcements: Dr. Thomson was proud to announce that Norwood High School teacher, Ms. Molly Uppenkamp, has been awarded the Outstanding Educator in Physics Award.

Appearances: Extended Day Presentation: Ms. Kristen Capezio, Director of Extended Day, was here this evening to update the Members on Extended Day.

Dr. Thomson reminded that Ms. Capezio began as the Director here in Norwood last August.

Ms. Capezio began her presentation by informing that there has not been an increase in fees for Extended Day in 13 years. This presentation compares Norwood Extended Day fees with the following towns: Stoughton, Brockton, Walpole, Sharon and Randolph.

Norwood Extended Day – After School Tuition

2 Days	\$96.00
3 Days	\$144.00
4 Days	\$192.00
5 Days	\$240.00

Ms. Capezio informed that there is a 10% discount for sibling enrollment.

Town After School Program Cost Comparisons:

	Stoughton	Brockton	Walpole	Sharon	Randolph
2	\$225	\$139	\$200	\$150	\$160
3	\$260	\$209	\$247	\$295	\$240
4	\$285	\$278	\$299	\$225	\$320
5	\$290	\$340	\$347	\$370	\$400

Norwood Extended Day – Before School Tuition

2 Days	\$40.00
3 Days	\$60.00
4 Days	\$80.00
5 Days	\$100.00

Town Before School Program Cost Comparisons:

	Stoughton	Brockton	Walpole	Sharon	Randolph
2	\$70	\$45	\$110	\$44	\$80
3	\$100	\$72	\$131	\$66	\$120
4	\$110	\$108	\$158	\$88	\$160
5	\$115	\$138	\$179	\$110	\$200

Proposed Extended Day 2020-2021 Increase

- Per Student Hourly Rate (currently) - \$4.00 per hour;
- Proposed increase: \$6.00 per person/ per hour.

Before discussions began, both Chair Stewart and Dr. Giblin both disclosed that they have children that attend the Norwood Extended Day Program and that they would be attending again next year.

When asked if this increase is too much of a jump for families at one time, Ms. Capezio said that most towns start at \$7.00 per hour so this increase, which is needed to keep the program running, will still be lower than all the towns that were compared.

The Members had an opportunity for questions and comments.

Dr. Giblin asked for a more modest graduated increase over a couple of years.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Dr. Thomson updated that on Friday evening @ 10:30 p.m., the Department of Elementary Education came out with revised guidelines for remote learning. They have identified essential standards that the students should know before moving on to the next grade.

There was some discussion regarding essential standards.

Dr. Thomson then updated that there will be a staff forum at 3:00 p.m. for the two final candidates for the Oldham Principal Search. The public forum will be at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow night and will be televised on NCM.

The final candidates are:

- Michael Banks – Assistant Principal – Sullivan Middle School in Lowell; and
- Steve Olson – Chief Academic Officer and Principal from Worcester Hills Charter School.

Dr. Thomson said he is looking forward to introducing them to the Community tomorrow.

Dr. Wyeth shared some updates on professional development (remote learning opportunities).

Dr. Thomson said his Facebook live update from yesterday will be posted on the school website. He added that he would be doing another Facebook live again next week.

Budget: Grant Report: Ms. Karin Sheridan updated the Committee on the FY20 Grants.

Budget Subcommittee Update: The Members received Subcommittee Minutes from the last couple of meetings.

The Chair updated that the Committee met with FinCom last week and there were a lot of questions about the budget. There was also some discussion about Capital Outlay.

Old Business: Extended Day Employee Compensation: The Chair reminded that after our meeting last week, we had an executive session to discuss employee compensation. At this time, she informed that the Committee had to vote on a motion in public session.

Mrs. Bodenhofer made a motion to continue paying Extended Day Employees through May 4th, which was seconded by Mr. Catania.

Ms. Smith asked if she would consider amending her motion to May 18th as the Governor has extended the state shut down until at least then.

Mrs. Bodenhofer said she wanted to make this motion then discuss the rest in Executive Session.

Regarding the motion on the table, the Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Food Services Employees Compensation: Mrs. Bodenhofer made a motion to continue paying Food Services Employees until the end of the school year, which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Policy: None.

New Business: Presentation Format: The Chair said the Members should have received a handout on presentation format in their Google drive. She thought this was a good time to talk about this as in May we have some meetings scheduled with the principals.

Dr. Giblin asked to add a recommended time limit to the format (15 minutes for a presentation).

Mr. Catania made a Motion to approve the format, with the addition of adding a 15-minute timeline for presenting, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

School Committee Self-Evaluation: There was some discussion regarding the timeline for doing the self-evaluation.

The Chair suggested having it done by the last day in May.

Consent Agenda:

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

-Bay State Textiles March Rebate - \$483.75

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

School Committee Addenda: Dr. Giblin had none.

Ms. Smith had none.

Mrs. Bodenhofer had none.

Mr. Catania had none.

The Chair shared some of the important webinars that are coming up from Impact Norwood.

Executive Session: Chairwoman Stewart informed that there would be an Executive Session for Extended Day Employees Compensation and Contract Negotiations.

Mr. Catania made a motion for Executive Session at 8:49 p.m., which was seconded by Ms. Smith. The Committee Members were polled and voted in favor 5-0.

Adjournment: Mrs. Bodenhofer made a motion for adjournment at 10:55 p.m., which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee