

**TOWN OF NORWOOD
School Committee Meeting
Remote (On-Line)
Wednesday, May 13, 2020**

A remote (on-line) meeting of the Norwood School Committee was held on Wednesday, May 13, 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, Ms. Lori Cimeno, Director of Student Services

An Executive Session was held at 6:30 p.m. prior to this evening's meeting.

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 29, 2020, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes of April 29, 2020, (part #1), which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The Committee voted in favor 5-0.

Mr. Catania made a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes of April 29, 2020, (part #2), which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted in favor 4-0-1 (Ms. Smith abstained).

Mr. Catania made a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes of May 11, 2020, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee voted in favor 4-0-1 (Ms. Smith abstained).

Correspondence: Chairwoman Stewart acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence:

- A letter from Mr. Mazzucco dated May 12, 2020, with his recommendations to pay Extended Day employees until the end of the school year along with the reasons for his recommendation.

Warrants: Chairwoman Stewart asked Mr. Catania to share a report on the warrants he signed on behalf of the Committee last week.

Mr. Catania shared the information from last week's warrants:

Accounts Payable:	\$ 49,491.33
	\$ 1,255.54
	\$ 45,389.26
	\$ 31,040.11
	\$ 7,126.42
	\$ 64,549.95
	\$ 28,373.70
	<u>\$126,069.43</u>

Total Expenditure: **\$353,295.14**

Public Forum: None.

Announcements: None.

2020-2021 School Choice Public Hearing: Dr. Thomson recommended not participating in School Choice for the 2020-2021 School Year. He outlined his reasons why he did not think School Choice would be a good decision for the Norwood Public Schools.

Mrs. Bodenhofer made a motion to not participate in School Choice, which was seconded by Ms. Smith. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Appearances: Food Services Updated on Programming and Budget: Mr. Eli Norris, Ms. Kelsey Massis and Ms. Erin Long were here this evening to give an update on Food Services.

Mr. Norris shared an informative power point presentation.

Mr. Norris was very excited to share that they will be presenting their first annual Food Service Scholarship to a deserving senior who will be furthering their education in the hospitality field.

Some of the other exciting programs were:
-Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner;

- Discovery Kitchen Mobile Teaching Cart;
- Tower Gardens at the Callahan;
- Student Choice – High School;
- CMS – Cooking Elective;
- Waste Reduction;
- Mood Boost.

Mr. Norris shared what the Food Service Department has been doing since the schools have closed due to the Covid-19 virus. He said that the schools closed on a Friday in March and his department was up and running with “grab and go” meals the following Monday. The first week these meals were handed out from the Callahan and Balch Elementary Schools to anyone 18 years of age or under, no matter where they went to school. The following week, the “grab and go” meals were being handed out from all the elementary schools. He added that all sites are currently open from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. each weekday. On the last day of the week, breakfast and lunches will be included for the weekend. Mr. Norris then updated that Mr. Mazzucco from Town Hall reached out and asked them to look into making dinners for families that needed help. They are now using the kitchen at Norwood High School to prepare family style meals. He said none of these programs would be possible without the hard work and commitment from everyone in the Food Service Department. He thanked them publicly for staying on the front lines to feed so many children and families in Norwood.

Mr. Norris updated on the meals given out since March:

- 10,828 meals in March – 12 days – 902 meals per service day;
- 44,160 meals in April – 20 days – 2,208 meals per service day;
- 17,142 meals given out as of May 8th – 6 days – 2,857 meals per service day;

72,130 total school meals served as of 5/8/2020 (36,065 each of breakfast and lunch).

Family Style Dinners:

1328 served as of 5/6

8-10 servings per pan – Total of 11,925 servings

Ms. Long shared the financials to date:

- Bottom line \$55,500 as of the end of February;
- March (-\$23,059) due to Covid-19 shutdown;
- April (-\$2,999);
- May Forecast \$5,588;
- June Forecast \$3,412;
- Account End of the Year YTD Forecast \$38,442.

Mrs. Long shared that they received a generous donation from Norwood Bank to help with the costs. She also shared her thoughts on what the Food Service

Department will need to be able to function in the fall under the new normal, whatever that will be.

Ms. Smith thanked Mr. Norris and his department for all their hard work on the front lines feeding the Norwood families. She added that they are the true heroes in these scary times.

The Chair said that Kelsey did a great webinar for Impact Norwood last week that was taped for Norwood Community Media. She suggested everyone check it out.

Superintendent's Report and/or Late Agenda: Dr. Thomson shared that a new Principal has been chosen for the Oldham Elementary School. Mr. Steve Olsen will begin as the new Principal on July 1, 2020.

-Dr. Thomson updated that he will do another Facebook Live event on Wednesday, May 20th at 4:00 p.m. and he will send out another reminder.

-This Friday Dr. Thomson will be the last meeting of the TEC Board.

-Dr. Thomson updated that due to the Covid-19 Pandemic; Norwood will be receiving \$345,607 from the Cares Act, adding that there will be a lot of flexibility in how we used it;

-Dr. Thomson ended by saying that it does not look like we will be getting any guidance from the Governor on May 18th when he discusses Phase I of opening up the state, and it will affect our ability to plan for the summer at this point.

Budget: FY20 Budget Update: Ms. Sheridan updated that she is making progress with the errors in the payroll and the expenditures to date. She is also making progress with moving the FY20 Budget to align with the DESE Function Codes with the FY21 Budget.

Ms. Sheridan gave a update on the FY20 Budget, including revolving funds and the Covid-19 Expenditures.

Dr. Thomson updated that we are going to need supplies so that we can open in the fall (cleaning supplies, etc., due to the Covid-19 virus). These supplies will need to be ordered now to ensure that we will have them in time for the start of school in the fall.

Old Business: 2020-2021 School Year Calendar: Dr. Thomson reminded that the Patriot's Day holiday and the Boston Marathon have been postponed due to the Covid-19 virus. This state holiday was postponed until September 14th. Dr. Thomson informed that we need to vote to change the school calendar at this point.

Mr. Catania made a motion to not have school on September 14, 2020, as it has become a state holiday, which was seconded by Dr. Giblin. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

The Chair reminded that at this point, we have to finish the discussion regarding Extended Day.

Ms. Smith made a motion to pay Extended Day Employees through the end of the School Year, as recommended by Mr. Mazzucco in his letter dated May 12, 2020, which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Policy: None.

New Business: SOA Plan Vote: Dr. Thomson shared a power point presentation sharing Norwood's Plan for the Student Opportunity Act.

Mrs. Bodenhofer made a motion to approve the SOA Plan, which was seconded by Dr. Giblin. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

Consent Agenda: Acceptance of One Donation:

-Teacher of the Year Donation - \$1,000 High School (Teresa Drummey)

Ms. Smith made a motion to accept this donation (and congratulation to Teresa Drummey), which was seconded by Mr. Catania. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 5-0.

School Committee Addenda: Ms. Smith reminded that anyone with school aged children can stop by the elementary schools from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m. Monday-Friday for grab and go breakfasts and lunches. (She added that if anyone cannot get there in time, they can call the schools and the van drivers can drop them off to families). She thanked the Food Service Department and Buildings and Grounds staff, along with Mr. Riccardi, for all they have done to help people out during these difficult times.

Dr. Giblin seconded everything Ms. Smith said.

Mr. Catania had none but agreed with everything Ms. Smith said.

Mrs. Bodenhofer sent a shout-out to the seniors who are transitioning from high school to their new programs/schools. She said she is thinking of them all as this Friday should have been the prom. She acknowledged the grief some students feel at this time and commended the High School for all they are doing to recognize this year's graduating class.

The Chair suggested everyone check out Impact Norwood's website. She updated on some of the webinars hosted by Impact Norwood. She said she is so grateful to be on this Committee with this great group of Members.

Executive Session: Chairwoman Stewart informed that there would be an Executive Session for negotiations.

Mr. Catania made a motion for Executive Session at 8:42 p.m., which was seconded by Mrs. Bodenhofer. The Committee Members were polled and voted in favor 5-0.

Adjournment: Mrs. Bodenhofer made a motion for adjournment at 10:22 p.m., which was seconded by Dr. Giblin. The Committee voted unanimously in favor 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Donna G. Doliner, Clerk
Norwood School Committee