

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norton, Massachusetts

NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING

Date of School Committee Meeting: Monday, January 26, 2015

Location: Norton Middle School Library

Attending: Committee Members: Chairman Deniz Savas, Vice-Chairman Phillip Lynch, Mr. Andrew Mackie. Also present: Superintendent of Schools Joseph F. Baeta, School Business Manager Lincoln Lynch.

Call to Order: Chairman Savas called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and announced that it would be an abbreviated agenda due to weather conditions.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: by Mr. Lynch to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2015 open meeting

SECOND: by Mr. Mackie

VOTE: 3-0 in favor motion carries

Vote on MSBA Statement of Interest for NMS Roof – Dr. Joseph Baeta:

The School Department requests approval to submit a Statement of Interest (SOI) to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) for the Norton Middle School Roof Repair Project. The SOI is the first step in applying for partial funding from the MSBA, and requires approval by the School Committee and Board of Selectmen. If accepted by the MSBA, the next step would be to prepare and submit a detailed feasibility study. Funds for the study were approved as a Town Meeting Article.

Chairman Savas made a motion to vote the following:

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on January 26, 2015, prior to the closing date, the School Committee of the Town of Norton, Massachusetts, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 11, 2015 for the Norton Middle School located at 215 West Main Street, Norton, MA which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: Priority 5 – roof deficiency and failure causing water leaks and periphery damage, at times disrupting the delivery of programming to students, and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Mr. Lynch seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0 in favor, motion carries.

2015-2016 School Calendar Discussion and Vote – Dr. Joseph Baeta:

Dr. Baeta reported that over 600 responses were received, and reviewed the results of the survey. He recommended *Option 2*, which has staff returning on September 1st and 2nd, and students returning on September 8th, the Tuesday after Labor Day.

MOTION: by Mr. Lynch to approve Calendar Option 2, as recommended by the Superintendent

SECOND: by Mr. Mackie

VOTE: 3-0 in favor motion carries

FY '16 Budget Discussion and Vote – Mr. Lincoln Lynch and Dr. Joseph Baeta:

The Committee met on Saturday, January 24th to finalize the budget request. The budget covers the following categories:

• Mandated Obligations	\$1,262,415
• Mandates/Reorganization	293,791
• Mandates-Facilities	0
• Classroom Priorities	502,800
• Full-Day Kindergarten	250,000
• Elimination of Fees	0
• District-Wide Positions	70,000

This budget proposal represents an increase of \$2,379,006, which is 9.86% over last year and does not provide funds for elimination of fees or preventative maintenance for the facilities. Mr. Lynch wished to amend the figure to include preventative maintenance for the five school buildings. Mr. Mackie commented on some of the maintenance issues over the past years. Preventative maintenance actually saves money in the long run. After adding in \$69,147 for preventive maintenance, the total budget figure is \$26,585,737, an increase of \$2,448,153, or 10.14% over the FY '15 budget.

MOTION: by Mr. Lynch to amend the budget to include preventative maintenance. The amended figure for the FY '16 budget request is \$26,585,737

SECOND: by Mr. Mackie

VOTE: 3-0 in favor motion carries

Adjourn:

MOTION: by Mr. Lynch

SECOND: by Mr. Mackie

VOTE: 3-0 in favor motion carries

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM

Next Meeting Date: Monday, February 9, 2015

Documents and Other Exhibits used at Meeting:

- MSBA Statement of Interest Format
- Calendar Drafts
- FY '16 Budget

Respectfully Submitted,
Joseph F. Baeta, Ed.D.
Secretary Pro Tem

Deniz Savas, Chairperson

Phillip Lynch, Vice Chairperson

Valerie Desmond

Andrew Mackie

Margaret Werner