

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norton, Massachusetts

NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING

Date of School Committee Meeting: Monday, April 27, 2015

Location: Norton Middle School Library

Present: Committee Members: Chairman Deniz Savas, Vice-Chairman Phillip Lynch, Mrs. Valerie Desmond, Andrew Mackie, Mrs. Marge Werner and Student Representatives Amanda Galpin and Daniel Gao. Also present: Superintendent of Schools Joseph F. Baeta, School Business Manager Lincoln Lynch, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Jennifer O'Neill, Director of Pupil Personnel Services Jeanne Sullivan, Director of Technology Karen Winsper.

Call to Order: Chairman Savas called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: by Mr. Lynch to approve the minutes of March 16, 2015 open meeting

SECOND: by Mr. Mackie

VOTE: 4 yes 1 abstain motion carries

MOTION: by Mr. Mackie to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2015 executive session

SECOND: by Mr. Lynch

VOTE: 5 yes motion carries

Student Representatives Update:

The student representatives reviewed a list of recent activities at NHS.

- Six Flags field trip for calculus and pre-calculus classes
- First AP tests on May 4th
- Junior/Senior Prom on May 8th
- Tri-M Coffee House recently held on April 7th
- Student Council Talent Show on March 26th
- National Honor Society Bike-A-Thon
- DECA Nationals in Orlando
- NHS and NMS Jazz Concert

Recognition of Winter Athletes and Coaches – Mr. Ted Currle, Athletes and Coaches:

Athletic Director Ted Currle reviewed the winter sports activities and said it was an outstanding season for all teams. He commended the coaches and athletes for their accomplishments.

Boys Basketball: Head Coach - Marc Liberatore
Captains - Jason O'Neil, Bret Murphy

Girls Basketball: Head Coach - Dan Langmead
Captains - Ashley Pelletier, Chloe Gill, Marisa Amato

Boys Winter Track: Head Coach - Kent Taylor
Captains - Mike Tierney, Adam Winiarz, Sean Eykel, Cam Stalters

Girls Winter Track: Head Coach - Lindsay Nastri
Captains - Kassidy Campbell, Kylie Barrows, Kayla Sicard, Melanie Morris

Boys/Girls Swim: Head Coach - Ruston Eastman
Captains - Alex Belinsky, Eric Sanford, Jenn Berard, Caroline Golota, Cassie Phillips

Ice Hockey: Head Coach - Kyle Heagney
Captains - Troy Parker, Cassandra Goyette, Mavrick DosReis

Wrestling: Head Coach - Pat Coleman
Captains - Russell Hansen, Elliott Johnson, Alec Donovan, Adam Marcon

Cheerleading: Head Coach - Dianne Hines
Captains - Taryn Hines, Julie Maia, Dianne Rich, Rebecca Masse

The Committee congratulated the teams for their accomplishments this year.

Vote to Reconsider School Choice Seats Available in Grades K-10 – Dr. Joseph Baeta:

Dr. Baeta reviewed current Kindergarten enrollment figures and discussed his recommendations. Originally the vote on School Choice seats did not include Kindergarten, but the Committee agreed to review it after the Kindergarten enrollment closing date. There are 117 registrations, to a possible 126. This current year there are 169 enrolled. Further enrollments are anticipated but the full-day program has space. Dr. Baeta recommended a total of 5 available seats between JCS and LGN. Class size would be under 20.

MOTION: by Mrs. Werner to approve the addition of 5 full-day Kindergarten spots as recommended by Dr. Baeta

SECOND: by Mr. Mackie

VOTE: 5 yes motion carries

Vote to Appoint the Superintendent to Board of Directors of READS Collaborative:

All READS board members need to be appointed annually to the Collaborative Board of Directors by the School Committee.

Pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 4E, as amended by Chapter 43 of the Acts of 2012, members of the Board of Directors at READS Collaborative are to be appointed annually.

MOTION: by Mr. Lynch to appoint Dr. Joseph Baeta to the Board of Directors of the READS Collaborative as the representative from Norton Public Schools in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 4E as amended by Chapter 43 of the Acts of 2012 for the 2015/2016 school year

SECOND: by Mrs. Desmond

VOTE: 5 yes motion carries

Vote to Waive READS Collaborative Presentation of Budget and Annual Report:

The Committee reviewed the required form to be signed by the chairman waiving the right to have the Director of READS Collaborative make a presentation of the READS annual report and budget. The budget has been provided to the Committee and the 58 page annual report is available upon request.

MOTION: by Mr. Lynch to waive the READS Collaborative presentation of budget and annual report

SECOND: by Mr. Mackie

VOTE: 5 yes motion carries

Ratification of District Determined Measures Language – Dr. Joseph Baeta:

District Determined Measures are part of the new evaluation process. Norton has been collecting data on a regular basis and this is not new to the way it has been done in the past. On March 3, 2015, the Norton Teachers Association voted to ratify the agreed upon language for establishment and implementation of District Determined Measures.

MOTION: by Mrs. Desmond to ratify District Determined Measures Language

SECOND: by Mr. Lynch

VOTE: 5 yes motion carries

Ratification of Paraprofessionals Contract – Dr. Joseph Baeta:

Details of the contract have been discussed with the Committee in closed session. This is a three year agreement to begin on July 1, 2015. Dr. Baeta discussed some of the changes. The complete contract is being updated to incorporate the changes.

MOTION: by Mr. Mackie to ratify the Paraprofessional Contract as discussed

SECOND: by Mrs. Desmond

VOTE: 5 yes motion carries

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Joseph Baeta:

Dr. Baeta reviewed his Mid-Cycle Goals Progress Report. He initially stated three core issues that needed attention in order for the district to move forward:

1. Establishing a new Strategic Plan
2. Reviewing programs and instructional practices
3. Restructuring the District to support student achievement

School Improvement Plans are being finalized by the School Site Councils and will be presented to the School Committee in June.

Dr. Baeta recently attended the New England School Safety Conference in Norwood. The keynote speaker was a survivor of the Virginia Tech campus shooting in 2007. She gave a powerful presentation and he wished that it could be done for the entire community.

Other:

Dr. Baeta and the Committee stated their appreciation and best wishes to Mr. Lynch for his service during the last three years and presented him with a token of appreciation.

Adjourn:

The chairman announced that the meeting would adjourn, not to return to open session, for the purpose of entering executive session to hold contract discussions. Roll call vote: Mrs. Werner-yes; Mr. Mackie-yes; Mrs. Desmond-yes; Mr. Lynch-yes, Mr. Savas-yes.

The open session adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, May 11, 2015 prior to Town Meeting

Documents and Other Exhibits used at Meeting:

- READS Collaborative Document
- READS Collaborative Budget
- Norton Teachers Association Memorandum of Agreement
- Superintendent's Mid-Cycle Goals Progress Report

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

Deniz Savas, Chairperson

Valerie Desmond

Andrew Mackie

Margaret Werner