

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norton, Massachusetts

NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING

Date of School Committee Meeting: Monday, February 1, 2016

Location: Norton Middle School Library

Present: Committee Members: Chairman Andrew Mackie, Vice-Chairman Deniz Savas, Mrs. Valerie Desmond, Mr. Daniel Sheedy. Absent: Mrs. Marge Werner. 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, Student Representatives Amanda Galpin and Daniel Gao.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Student Representative Update:

Student Representatives updated the Committee on current activities.

- High School Quiz Show to be televised on March 5.
- Disability Awareness presentation sponsored by Destination Imagination
- Book Drive
- DECA Fundraiser at B-Good restaurant in Mansfield

Vote on FY 2017 Budget:

Dr. Baeta said the proposed budget reflects the values and expectations of the district with students as a priority. Graduation rates are up and student drop-outs at its lowest. The district was recently rated as 87th in the entire state. Students leaving the district have decreased and the numbers for school choice and international students have increased. Meeting the goals set by the Committee will most likely require a Prop 2 ½ override now that the economy has somewhat recovered. There are no additional fees or increases. The Committee briefly discussed the budget and said it had been a decade without any significant increase.

MOTION: by Mrs. Desmond to approve the FY 2017 Budget Request of \$28,302,062

SECOND: by Mr. Savas

VOTE: Unanimous

Vote to Approve Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2016 open meeting

SECOND: by Mr. Savas

VOTE: 2-yes, 2 abstain

Vote on Articles for May 9, 2016 Annual Town Meeting:

ARTICLE: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of **\$TBD** to supplement the Fiscal Year 2017 operating budget for the Town and the Public Schools, as follows; provided, however, that the appropriation authorized hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval of the voters of the Town of a so-called Proposition 2 ½ override question pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c.59 § 21C.

The actual sum will be discussed further but the article had to be submitted as stated above to meet the February 3rd submission deadline.

MOTION: by Mr. Savas to approve the Town Meeting Warrant Article as presented

SECOND: by Mrs. Desmond

VOTE: Unanimous

Fall Sports Update – Mr. Ted Currie:

Mr. Currie read an impressive list of accomplishment by the school sports teams. The boys and girls spring track teams made school history by both becoming state champions. The boys soccer team became the undefeated state champions. All the teams achieved many state, league, and school titles, and many athletes earned individual honors. Special congratulations to Coach Greene who was named Boston Globe boys soccer coach of the year.

Other:

The next community forum on the FY'17 budget will be held at the L. G. Nourse School on Wednesday, February 3rd at 7:00 P.M.

The Central Office is publishing a newsletter, The Lancer, with updates on the activities of the individual departments. It will be posted on the district website and emailed to families.

Dr. Baeta commented on the recent community tragedy and that he was extremely pleased at how it was handled by everyone involved.

Adjourn:

MOTION: by Mrs. Desmond to adjourn the meeting

SECOND: by Mr. Sheedy

VOTE: Unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Next Meeting Date: February 8, 2016 at Norton Middle School Library

Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:

- FY'17 Budget documents

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

Andrew Mackie, Chairman

Deniz Savas, Vice-Chairman

Valerie Desmond

Daniel Sheedy

Margaret Werner