

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Norton, Massachusetts

NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING

RECEIVED  
NORTON TOWN CLERK  
2016 OCT 27 P 1:56

***Date of School Committee Meeting:*** Monday, October 17, 2016

***Location:*** Norton High School Teachers' Lunch Room

***Present:*** Committee Members: Chairman Deniz Savas, Vice-Chairman Daniel Sheedy, Mrs. Sheri Cohen, Mrs. Kathleen Stern, Mrs. Marge Werner. ***Also present:*** Superintendent of Schools Joseph F. Baeta, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Jennifer O'Neill, School Business Manager Lincoln Lynch, Student Representatives Mackenzie Dwyer and Tristan Grieve.

***Call to Order:*** Chairman Savas called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

***Vote to Approve Meeting Minutes:***

MOTION: by Mrs. Werner to approve minutes of September 26, 2016 open meeting and executive session

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 4 yes, 1 abstain Motion Carries

***Student Representatives Update:***

- Breast Cancer Awareness Night at the NHS football game on October 14<sup>th</sup>
- Election of officers for the Class of 2020
- Student Council rally to raise awareness for the upcoming Town Meeting
- Fundraiser for the Photography Club to raise funds for equipment
- Math Honor Society can drive
- Science Honor Society deadline extended

***Vote to Approve DECA Trips for 2016-2017 School Year:***

Mrs. Heather Albritton and student representatives from DECA were present at the meeting. The Committee is requested to approve all planned DECA trips for the year at this time rather than having them come back for each one. Dr. Baeta has recommended approval for these trips.

- DC Power Trip – Leadership conference in Washington DC, November 18-20<sup>th</sup>
- District 1 DECA Competition, Quincy Marriott, January 5-6<sup>th</sup>
- MASS DECA State Competition for students who qualify, March 9-11<sup>th</sup>
- ICDC Conference for students who qualify in Anaheim, CA on April 26-29<sup>th</sup>

Chaperones have been assigned. The School Committee is required to approve the out-of-state competitions.

MOTION: by Mrs. Stern to approve all DECA trips as recommended by the Superintendent

SECOND: by Mr. Sheedy

VOTE: 5 yes Motion Carries

***Student Enrollment:***

Dr. Baeta reviewed the October 1<sup>st</sup> enrollment figures. Total district enrollment is 2461, out-of-district enrollment is 37, school choice enrollment is 50, and READS DHH enrolment is 47. Dr. Baeta will update the Committee monthly. Enrollment for Project Early at LGN is 81, and it is expected to increase as the school year progresses.

***Vote to Accept the Municipal Modernization Act Approval of Bills and Warrants Change:***

Gov. Baker recently signed “An Act modernizing municipal finance and government” which will amend over 250 different sections of the Massachusetts General Laws. In particular, the Act allows multi-member boards, such as boards of selectmen, to designate one of its members to review and approve bills or payment warrants, reporting on the action at the next meeting. This changes current law, which requires boards and committees to approve bills or payment warranty by majority vote at open meeting. Any member of the School Committee may still review all bills if so desired. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Cohen volunteered and Mr. Sheedy will be the back-up signer.

MOTION: by Mrs. Cohen

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 5 yes Motion Carries

***Teaching About Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs Policy – First Reading:***

Each Superintendent must file a Substance Use Prevention and Education Policy on behalf of each school in his/her district no later than 5:00 PM on October 28, 2016 and in accordance with DESE filing instructions. Dr. Baeta stated that we are in good shape

Second reading and adoption of the policy will take place at the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

***Other:***

- Dr. Baeta discussed Community Health Survey Participation. Organizations from surrounding towns, such as police, hospitals, and schools, would use the data to assist in filing for grants. The Committee reviewed some of the questions on the survey.
- Dr. Baeta discussed cross-cultural learning, language immersion, and the possibility of future foreign travel for students involved.

***Motion to Adjourn:***

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 5 yes Motion Carries

**Next Meeting Date:** October 24, 2016, HAY School Library at 6:30 PM

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

***Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:***

- Student Enrollment Data
- Municipal Modernization Act
- Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs Policy Draft
- Community Health Survey

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deniz Savas, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel Sheedy, Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherj Cohen

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Stern

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Werner