

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Norton, Massachusetts

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NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING

2016 DEC 14 A 8:33

***Date of School Committee Meeting:*** Monday, November 21, 2016

***Location:*** Norton Middle School Library

***Present:*** Committee Members: Chairman Deniz Savas, Mrs. Sheri Cohen, Mrs. Kathleen Stern, Mrs. Marge Werner. ***Absent:*** Vice-Chairman Dan Sheedy

***Also present:*** Superintendent of Schools Joseph F. Baeta, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Jennifer O'Neill, School Business Manager Lincoln Lynch, Director of Pupil Personnel Services Jeanne Sullivan, Director of Technology Karen Winsper, Norton Board of Selectmen members Tim Giblin, Mary Steele, Bob Kimball, Brad Bramwell, Student Representatives Mackenzie Dwyer and Tristan Grieve.

***Call to Order:*** Chairman Savas called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

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

MOTION: by Mrs. Stern to approve minutes of November 7, 2016 open meeting

SECOND: by Mrs. Cohen

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

***Warrant:***

***Student Representatives Update:***

- Spirit Week – theme days
- Model UN
- Tri M Coffee House
- Art and Spanish classes visit to the Museum of Fine Arts
- DECA trip to Washington, D.C.

***Student Excellence Awards – Dr. Baeta :***

Dr. Baeta presented the following students with certificates of recognition for their academic achievements:

- Academic Growth and Student Leadership Award – Annabel Diestel
- Academic Growth and Student Leadership Award – Olivia Saccocia
- Commended Student for 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program – Annabel Diestel
- Superintendent's Award for Excellence – Nancy Holmes
- MA Association of School Superintendents' Academic Excellence Award – Karoline Weber

***Discussion with Board of Selectmen Regarding Update on Adhoc Sub Committee and Vote to Appoint Building Committee Member:***

The Adhoc Subcommittee consists of two Selectmen, Mrs. Mary Steele and Mr. Bob Kimball, and two School Committee members, Mr. Savas and Mrs. Cohen, in addition to Town Manager Yunits and Superintendent Baeta. Mr. Kimball discussed the purpose of the committee and future needs of the community. An outside audit will begin soon to look at areas of concern including staffing, location of fire stations, and senior citizens facility space. All meetings of the committee will be open to the public. This information will help provide a detailed plan to move Norton forward. Mr. Savas said there was a good working relationship with the Board of Selectmen. There was no vote on the Permanent Building Committee.

***Opening of School Report and Introduction of New Faculty and Staff – Mr. Vincent Hayward:***

Principal Hayward reported that the middle school had a great start, and enrollment is at 608. He introduced several new staff members. Chrome books are assigned to each Grade 8 student. Because of the many sports and activities, he feels that students are staying in the district. The fall fundraiser was very successful. A New York City trip is being planned. The Committee thanked Principal Hayward for his report.

***Discussion and Approval of NHS Ski Club – Mr. Craig Murray:***

Because of student interest, Mr. Murray is proposing a Ski Club for the high school. They would like to run one ski trip this year to Bretton Woods Resort in New Hampshire on March 4<sup>th</sup> and possibly expand the program in the future. Student handbook rules and regulations would apply. The trip would be run through the guide/bus company New England Action Sports. Committee members discussed helmets, safety, and chaperones. Dr. Baeta said Committee approval is required for the one-day, out-of-state trip.

MOTION: by Mrs. Werner to approve the one-day ski trip to Bretton Woods, New Hampshire

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

***NHS School Improvement Plan – Mrs. Megan Lafayette:***

Mrs. Lafayette noted elements of NHS school improvement plan for this year.

Goal #1-Academic success for all students.

Goal #2-Enriching student learning experiences by expanding school programs.

Goal #3-Provide targeted quality professional development. Formalize recruiting and hiring practices in order to attract, hire, and retain exceptional candidates.

Goal #4-Continue to be a source of pride for the community by building positive school culture and strong relationships with the school community

Technology Director Karen Winsper said the students are working on TV programs.

***Other:***

Dr. Baeta explained the warrant approval procedure. Members are provided with a printout. Mrs. Cohen stated that she reviewed and approved the warrant of the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting in the total of \$350,937.33.

Two boy scouts were attending the meeting as a requirement to earn a communications merit badge.

Dr. Baeta explained that the Committee needed to vote to approve the NMS Hockey Team, which is self-funded and parent run. This would eliminate any attendance issues.

MOTION: by Mrs. Cohen to approve the NMS Hockey Team

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

A family has asked Dr. Baeta to allow their 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students to stay in Norton Schools for the remainder of the school year. He feels it is in their best educational interest. School Committee approval is required.

MOTION: by Mrs. Werner to authorize the Superintendent to honor the request

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

Dr. Baeta suggested that the Committee consolidate the December 5<sup>th</sup> and December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting into one meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

MOTION: by Mrs. Werner to alter the meeting schedule to a single meeting on December 12th

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

***Next Meeting Date:*** December 12, 2016, Norton Middle School Library at 6:30 PM

***Motion to Adjourn:***

MOTION: by Mr. Werner to adjourn the meeting

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

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

- NHS School Improvement Plan

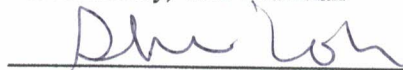


Respectfully Submitted,  
Joseph F. Baeta, Ed.D.  
Secretary Pro Tem



Deniz Savas, Chairman

Daniel Sheedy, Vice-Chairman



Sheri Cohen



Kathleen Stern

Margaret Werner