

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norton, Massachusetts

NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING

Date of School Committee Meeting: Monday, February 6, 2017

Location: Norton Middle School Library

Present: Committee Members: Chairman Deniz Savas, Vice-Chairman Dan 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, Director of Technology Karen Winsper, Student Representative Tristan Grieve.

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Public Hearing on FY 2018 School Budget:

Dr. Baeta opened the meeting by reviewing the Superintendent's recommended FY 18 school budget. The School Committee met on Saturday, February 4th and changes were made to the original budget. The total request is for a 7.94% increase, down from the original 9.52% increase. Factoring into the request is the expectation of an increase in the Project Early enrollment over the next two years, elimination of bus fees/addition of two buses, changing from pay-to-play to a set fee for sports, priority requests for staffing, and a reduction in special education tuition fees. The total request is \$1 million less than the previous year.

Chairman Savas closed the public hearing and called the regular session to order.

Vote to Approve Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: by Mrs. Cohen, to approve the minutes of January 23, 2017 open meeting and January 12, 2017 joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen

SECOND: by Mrs. Werner

VOTE: 4 yes 1 abstain Motion Carries

Warrant Information:

Mrs. Cohen reported that she had reviewed and approved the warrant of January 23, 2017, in the amount of \$386,801.29, to be entered into the public record.

Student Representative Update:

- Science National Honor Society Career Day
- Art National Honor Society selling carnations for Valentine's Day

- Winter sports are winding down and tournaments have begun
- Impromptu Patriots rally on Monday

Recognition of NHS Student John Cacaccio – Dr. Joseph Baeta:

Dr. Baeta introduced 11th Grade student John Cacaccio and his parents. He formally recognized John for his heroic actions in aiding a motorist who crashed his car into Norton Reservoir recently.

Project 351 Day of Service – Mr. Ronnie Goldstein:

Project 351 is the largest service organization of its kind in the country. Every year each school district from the entire Commonwealth (351) sends an 8th Grade representative to participate in a day of service dedicated to the inspiring legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Ambassadors are chosen based on a variety of different factors and are given the leadership tools to go forth and spread the message of service to their home districts. Project 351 has formed partnerships with some of the most significant non-profits in the Commonwealth.

On Saturday, January 14th, NMS Assistant Principal Ronnie Goldstein and 8th Grader Esme Brennan attended Project 351. Esme reported on her activities of the day.

Discussion and Approval of MSBA Accelerated Repair Program Statement of Interest for HAY, JCS, and LGN – Dr. Joseph Baeta:

The MSBA has instituted an Accelerated Repair Program as part of its ongoing repair program. The program is primarily for the repair and/or replacement of roofs, windows/doors, and/or boilers with the potential to include additional systems as may be determined by the MSBA contingent upon available funding.

Districts that have repair needs must express interest in the Accelerated Repair Program through the MSBA's Statement of Interest ("SOI") process. The SOI closing date is Friday, February 17, 2017. Approval by the School Committee and subsequently the Board of Selectmen is needed so that an SOI can be completed for the new windows at HAY, JCS, and LGN.

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy as follows

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on February 6, 2017, prior to the closing date, the School Committee of Norton, 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 3, 2017 for the Henri A. Yelle Elementary School located at 64 West Main St., Norton, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: replacement of all windows schoolwide; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance of 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 an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 5 yes Motion Carries

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy as follows

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on February 6, 2017, prior to the closing date, the School Committee of Norton, 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 3, 2017 for the J. C. Solmonese Elementary School located at 315 West Main St., Norton, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: replacement of all windows schoolwide; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance of 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 an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 5 yes Motion Carries

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy as follows

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on February 6, 2017, prior to the closing date, the School Committee of Norton, 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 3, 2017 for the L. G. Nourse Elementary School located at 38 Plain St., Norton, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: replacement of all windows schoolwide; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance of 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 an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 5 yes Motion Carries

Educational Program Plan Discussion and Vote:

A public forum was held at NMS on January 26, 2017 to discuss the Educational Program Plan. Three options were reviewed. Taken into consideration were enrollment trends, class size, district map, SPED services, and full-day Kindergarten. Specials such as art and music were also a concern. The recommendation of the EPP Committee is that the district maintain its current structure. If enrollment decreases in the future, another look can be taken. Chairman Savas recommended that no action or vote be taken at this time. Mrs. Stern also agreed that there was no reason to take a vote. Mrs. Cohen wanted to have a dialog with the rest of the committee.

Other:

On February 15th a second presentation from LUCK will be the "Teen Brain".

The final vote on the FY 18 Budget will be held on February 27th at 6:30 pm.

Ad Hoc Committee will meet soon. More details will be discussed.

Motion to Adjourn:

MOTION: by Mrs. Werner

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

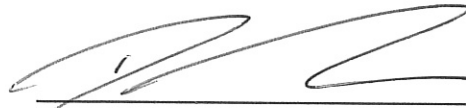
VOTE: 5 yes Motion Carries

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.

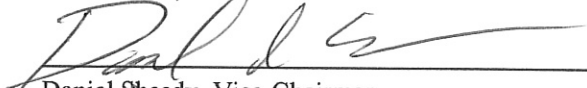
Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:

- MSBA Accelerated Repair Program Statement of Interest for HAY, JCS, LGN

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




Deniz Savas, Chairman



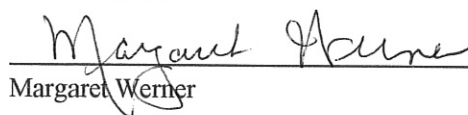
Daniel Sheedy, Vice-Chairman



Sheri Cohen



Kathleen Stern



Margaret Werner