

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norton, Massachusetts

NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING

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2018 JUN -6 P 2:43

Date of School Committee Meeting: Monday, May 21, 2018

Location: Norton Middle School Library

Present: Committee Members: Chairman Sheri Cohen, Vice-Chairman Kathleen Stern, Mrs. Carolyn Gallagher, Mr. Deniz Savas. **Absent:** Mr. Daniel 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, Technology Director Karen Winsper, Student Representatives Tristan Grieve and Bobby Portway, Caroline Daly, and Cooper Smith.

Call to Order: Chairman Cohen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being video recorded by Norton Cable Access for public record.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Vote to Approve Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: by Mrs. Stern to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2018 Open Meeting

SECOND: by Mr. Savas

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

MOTION: by Mrs. Stern to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2018 Open Meeting

SECOND: by Mr. Savas

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

Warrants:

Mrs. Cohen reported that she reviewed and approved the following warrants, to be entered into the public record:

- May 7, 2018 \$531,608.58
- May 14, 2018 \$194,018.73

Prior to the student representatives update Dr. Baeta presented Tristan and Bobby with a token of appreciation for their two years of service.

Student Representatives Update:

- Science Honor Society helped students at JCS with their projects
- HS & MS Spring Concerts
- Last day for Seniors - May 21
- Seniors annual cookout
- Freshman breakfast
- Sounds of Silence program to benefit women's charities
- Introduction of new student representatives, Caroline Daly and Cooper Smith

Dr. Baeta read the letters of interest written by Caroline and Cooper.

Vote to Appoint New School Committee Student Representatives for 2018-2019 School Year:

MOTION: by Mrs. Stern to appoint Caroline Daly and Cooper Smith as student representatives to the School Committee

SECOND: by Mrs. Gallagher

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

Vote to Approve FY 19 School Budget – Mr. Lincoln Lynch:

Mr. Lynch and Dr. Baeta reviewed the budget figure that was approved at Town Meeting. The final amount for FY 19 is \$28,143,900.

MOTION: by Mrs. Cohen to approve the FY 19 budget figure of \$28,143,900.

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

Dr. Baeta mentioned that he has received some resignations. Also, 19 positions were privatized. Mr. Savas said the staff is excellent and he can understand their uncertainty. Mrs. Cohen said it is sad that this is where we are, but they will continue to fight and not give up. Mr. Savas said there is no way “to find one million dollars”. “Finding” money is cutting somewhere else.

Vote to Approve FY 19 Bus Transportation for Grades 4-8 – Mr. Lincoln Lynch:

Mr. Lynch reported that a savings of \$55,575 was achieved by combining Grades 4-8 and adding tiers to some buses. Mrs. Cohen pointed out that the bus fee only covers 16% of the actual cost per student. The Committee will look into starting times of school next year for implementation in September 2019. Mr. Savas asked if anyone has looked into de-privatizing transportation. Dr. Baeta agreed that it could be looked at.

MOTION: by Mr. Savas to Approve FY 19 Bus Transportation for Grades 4-8

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

Vote to Approve FY 19 Use of Facilities Fees – Dr. Baeta:

A facility use fee is recommended, as well as the current custodial fee. The Committee discussed the addition of facilities use fees. The greatest impact would be on the use of the gym, which will effect youth basketball the most. Mrs. Cohen said basketball is having trouble paying now. Mr. Savas was not comfortable with the proposal and not sure if it is the way to go. The Committee wished to take a vote of clarity.

MOTION: by Mr. Savas to maintain the current policy and practices on facility use fees.

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

Second Reading and Vote on Policy Manual Section I and First Reading of Section J – Dr. Baeta and Mrs. Jennifer O'Neill:

No changes or additions were needed on Section I.

MOTION: by Mr. Savas to accept Section I as presented

SECOND: by Mrs. Gallagher

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

Mr. Savas suggested changes to Section J and discussed exceptions for entrance age to first grade, which are allowed. The second reading and vote of Section J will be on the next meeting agenda, as well as the last Sections K and L.

Other:

Dr. Baeta will meet with the food service employees regarding benefits, etc.

Motion to Adjourn:

MOTION: by Mr. Savas

SECOND: by Mrs. Stern

VOTE: 4 yes Motion Carries

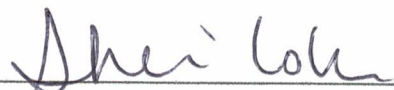
The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:

- Policy Manual
- FY 19 Use of Facility Fees

Next Meeting Date: Monday, June 4, 2018 at NMS Library, 6:30 p.m.

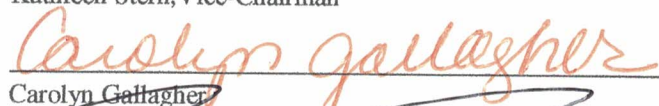
Respectfully Submitted,
Joseph F. Baeta, Ed.D.
Secretary Pro Tem




Sheri Cohen, Chairman



Kathleen Stern, Vice-Chairman



Carolyn Gallagher



Deniz Savas

Daniel Sheedy