

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Norton, Massachusetts

NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

***Date of School Committee Meeting:*** Monday, March 4, 2013

***Location:*** Norton High School Cafeteria

***Attending:*** Committee Members: Chairman Andrew Mackie, Mr. Phillip Lynch, Mrs. Elizabeth McManus, and Mrs. Marge Werner. Vice-Chairman Deniz Savas was absent. Interim Superintendent of Schools Christopher H. Martes and student representatives Bryce McCarthy and Tyler McNeill were also present.

***Call to Order:*** Chairman Mackie called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

***Pledge of Allegiance:***

***J. C. Solmonese School “JCS Kids Have Heart Club” – Mrs. Riitta Bolton, Mrs. Maryan Welch and Students:***

Principal Riitta Bolton gave an overview of the before and after school enrichment programs recently offered to JCS students including activities such as games, crafts, knitting, Spanish, and community service projects. Mrs. Maryan Welch was present to briefly describe the JCS Kids Have Heart Club. The group consists of ten students in Grades 1-3. Some of the activities included baskets with goodies and “thinking of you” notes for a local nursing home and notes of appreciation sent to veterans. They also held a pet food drive and collected items for a town animal shelter. Members of the club also made bird feeders and hung them around the school grounds. Mrs. Welch introduced the students and each one commented on what they liked best about the club. The Committee praised the students for their accomplishments.

***Approval of Meeting Minutes:***

MOTION: by Mrs. Werner to approve minutes of January 28, 2013, February 2, 2013, and February 25, 2013 Open Meetings

SECOND: by Mrs. McManus

VOTE: 4-0 Motion carries

***Transfers:***

Mr. Barry Nectow recommended five transfers of unexpended salary funds to cover standard end-of-year expenses.

MOTION: by Mrs. McManus to approve the budget transfers as recommended

SECOND: by Mr. Lynch

VOTE: 4-0 Motion carries

***Norton Gold Star Committee Presentation – Mr. Robert Kimball:***

Mr. Kimball said that the committee was established to honor Master Sergeant Gregory R. Trent who was a soldier in the U. S. Army, a 1992 graduate of Norton High School, member of the high school track team, and a long-time resident of Norton. He sustained mortal wounds in Baktabad, Afghanistan and died on August 8, 2012. The committee's mission is to raise private funds to build a memorial to pay tribute to him and any future heroes who fall in service to our country. An inscription on the monument will read "A place of solemn reflection dedicated by a grateful community". The site is on town-owned land on West Main Street, next to the CVS Pharmacy. Mr. Bill Novick, a classmate and friend of Master Sergeant Trent, accompanied Mr. Kimball and explained the plans for fundraising. He distributed a pamphlet with the design for the memorial. The goal is to raise \$75,000 to complete the project, and to have the dedication on Memorial Day with plans to increase the size of the parade. The School Committee offered to work with the Gold Star Committee to make this project a reality.

***DECA Program Presentation – Mrs. Heather Albritton and Students:***

Mrs. Albritton and DECA members Bryce McCarthy and Kaitlyn Landry informed the Committee of the group's recent activities and accomplishments. Twenty-six members advanced to the state competition at the Boston Copley Marriott. Hopefully many members will advance to the international competition in June. The DECA Action Team is focusing on recruiting new members. The students mentioned the many useful skills they have learned while in DECA.

***Other:***

The Committee thanked the high school for the preparation of the cafeteria so the meeting could be held there.

Dr. Martes suggested that the Senior Class Gift could include items for the outdoor cafeteria patio area, possibly to be used by the seniors themselves in the spring.

Building project update: Phase 1 is complete, Phase 2 is the administrative area and part of downstairs and upstairs classrooms.

Mrs. McManus congratulated the wrestling team on a successful season, and thanked coaches Pat Coleman and Marc Liberatore.

***Adjourn:***

MOTION: by Mrs. McManus to adjourn

SECOND: by Mrs. Werner

VOTE: 4-0 Motion carries

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

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

- Budget transfers
- Norton Gold Star Committee brochure

***NEXT MEETING DATE:*** Monday, March 18, at Norton Middle School

Respectfully Submitted,  
Christopher H. Martes, Ph.D.  
Secretary pro tem

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