

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norton, Massachusetts

NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING

Date of School Committee Meeting: Monday, March 17, 2014

Location: Norton Middle School Auditorium

Attending: Committee Members: Chairperson Deniz Savas, Vice-Chairperson Mrs. Marge Werner, Mr. Andrew Mackie and Mrs. Valerie Desmond. Mr. Phillip Lynch was absent. Also present: Superintendent of Schools Joseph F. Baeta, Director of Operations and Finance Barry Nectow, Director of Pupil Personnel Services Jeanne Sullivan, Student Representatives Cassidy McDonald and Tyler McNeill.

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: by Mr. Mackie to approve the minutes of March 3, 2014 open session

SECOND: by Mrs. Desmond

VOTE: 3-0 in favor motion carries

Student Representatives Update:

Cassidy McDonald and Tyler McNeill reported on recent activities at the high school. Evan Winfield was named "Mr. NHS". The senior class play was a great success. Course selections for underclassmen will begin soon. Chinese exchange students will be visiting Norton High School next week. The Student Council will be conducting another fundraising event.

Dr. Baeta said a reception for the 14 Chinese students, 2 adult chaperones, and the host families will be held Monday evening at the high school. During the week they will visit Wheaton, Harvard, Northeastern University, then on to New York before returning to China. Dr. Baeta spoke about the possibility of 3-5 exchange students attending NHS in the fall for a full school year.

Recognition of Winter Sports Athletes/Coaches:

Athletic Director Ted Currle thanked the coaches and athletes for the many outstanding accomplishments achieved this season. Approximately 250 athletes competed in the various sports.

Boys Basketball:

Head Coach – Marc Liberatore Captains: James Loring, Paul Schleicher

Girls Basketball:

Head Coach – Dan Langmead Captains: Megan Pestana, Samantha Lang

Boys Winter Track:

Head Coach – Kent Taylor

Captains: Max Marcotte, Billy Sullivan

Girls Winter Track:

Head Coach – Lindsay Nastri

Captains: Erin Feeney, Alison Dufault, Shannon O'Rourke

Boys/Girls Swim:

Head Coach – Ruston Eastman

Captains: Joanna Kennedy, Corina Jurzyk, Cassidy McDonald
Madison Thompson, Eric Sanford, Alex Belinsky

Ice Hockey:

Head Coach – Kyle Heagney

Captains: Connor Russell, Nate Barrette

Wrestling:

Head Coach – Pat Coleman

Captains: Myles McAlpine, Mike Travers, JT Taylor

Assistant Coaches – Jeff Francis, Rob May, Chris McCarthy

The coaches, captains and team members gave a brief summary of their season and the many accomplishments. The teams were also commended for their academic achievements and sportsmanship. The Committee praised the athletes, parents, guardians, and coaches for the outstanding season.

Norton Boy Scout Troop 12:

Eight scouts from Troop 12 are working towards the Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge. One of the requirements for this badge is to attend a meeting of their city, town or county council or school board. The troop was recognized by the Committee.

Norton High School Student Council Update – Ms. Lindsay Nastri:

Several members of the student council reported on the recent convention held in Hyannis. They were able to improve their leadership skills, communications skills, and felt it was a great opportunity. Norton was named a Council of Excellence. Those attending addressed the full council and related their experiences.

Middle School Soccer Program Presentation – Mr. Dan Sheedy and Mr. Dom Eno:

Mr. Sheedy and Mr. Eno requested permission to establish a middle school soccer program. The budget and expenses have been reviewed with school officials and the program will be self-funded. The user fee will be \$250, which is consistent with other sports fees. Both a boys and girls team is planned with about 18 students and a coach for each. Players will be selected from the three grades. It is a competitive middle school league and there will be 8 home and 8 away games. Coaches and the league will oversee the program.

MOTION: by Mrs. Desmond to approve the middle school soccer program and post the coach position

SECOND: by Mrs. Werner

VOTE: 4-0 in favor motion carries

Vote on 2014-2015 School Calendar:

Dr. Baeta explained the changes that were made since the first viewing. There was a correction to the number of days for September, 21 for teachers and 20 for students. The last day of school would be June 18th. After reviewing survey results Dr. Baeta recommended that the day before Thanksgiving be changed to an early release day. The survey also indicated that most favored classes to resume on Monday, January 5th after the Christmas vacation. Professional development days were re-worked and reduced by 2. The Superintendent will soon conduct a survey about a possible change to the February/April vacations two years from now.

MOTION: by Mrs. Werner to approve the 2014-2015 School Calendar with the changes as discussed

SECOND: by Mrs. Desmond

VOTE: 4-0 in favor motion carries

Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles:

The deadline for submission of warrant articles for the May 12th Special Town Meeting is March 18th. At this time the Superintendent has no recommendations.

Other Business:

School Committee at Finance Committee meeting, Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at 7:15 p.m. to present the budget.

Dr. Baeta commented on the recent "It Takes A Community" event. He said it was a tremendous evening and congratulated all those involved.

Personnel: None

Adjourn:

MOTION: by Mr. Mackie to adjourn

SECOND: by Mrs. Desmond

VOTE: 4-0 in favor motion carries

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 P.M.

Documents and Other Exhibits used at Meeting:

- 2014-2015 Revised School Calendar
- Winter Athletes Information
- Letter from Mr. Dan Sheedy
- Notice of Special Town Meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE: March 31, 2014, Norton Middle School Library

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

Deniz Savas, Chairperson

Marge Werner, Vice Chairperson

Valerie Desmond

Phillip Lynch

Andrew Mackie