

RECEIVED
NORTON TOWN CLERK
2021 JUN 16 PM 1:02

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norton, Massachusetts

NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING

Date of School Committee Meeting: Thursday, May 6, 2021

Location: Norton Middle School and Remote Participation

Present: Committee Members: Chairman Mr. Deniz Savas, Vice-Chairperson Mr. Dan Sheedy, Mrs. Sheri Cohen, and Mrs. Carolyn Gallagher. ***Absent:*** Mrs. Kathleen Stern. ***Also present:*** Superintendent of Schools Joseph F. Baeta ***Present remotely:*** Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Jennifer O'Neill, School Business Manager Matthew Wells, Technology Director Karen Winsper, Director of Pupil Personnel Services Vincent Cerce, and Student Representatives Zoe Duran and Malia Savas

Call to Order: Chairman Savas called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being video recorded.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Vote to Approve Minute Meetings:

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy to Approve Minutes of April 15, 2021 Open Meeting

SECOND: by Mrs. Cohen

VOTE: 4-0 Motion Carries

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy to Approve Minutes of February 4, 2021 and April 15, 2021 Executive Session Meetings

SECOND: by Mrs. Cohen

VOTE: 4-0 Motion Carries

Chairman Savas acknowledge Teacher Appreciation Week. On behalf of the Committee, he thanked all the teachers for everything they do. The Committee appreciates everything and they could not do this without them.

Warrants:

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

School Expense Warrants:

- April 15, 2021 \$676,620.17

School Payroll Warrants:

- April 8, 2021 \$993,560.82

Student Representatives Update:

Zoe Duran and Malia Savas presented feedback from the students on how we could make things better.

JCS:

- Not having to wear masks; more mask breaks
- Soccer nets; two classes on the playground; extra playtime/recess/gym
- Able to eat lunch with friends; three lunch choices; extra lunchtime
- Art as a special (no Art this year)
- More Math and Writing should be in the afternoon

LGN:

- Pick out books from the Library
- Not having assigned seats in class and cafeteria

HAY:

- Most kids thought everything was going well but would like to be able to play at recess with other classrooms.

NMS:

- Outside lunches
- More mask breaks
- Same routine so incorporate different activities

NHS:

- Keep doing what we are doing because it seems to be working
- Take classes outside more when possible
- Late arrival for seniors has been great
- Wear masks properly

Dr. Baeta requested the student suggestions be forwarded to him so he can review the ideas. The Student Representatives shared a google document with the Committee. The Committee acknowledge how they appreciate this format and presentation from the Student Representatives.

Class of 2021 Update:

Principal Ethan Dolleman recognized the Class of 2021 Salutatorian Madeline Dolack. He acknowledged her accomplishments and achievements. Madeline and her family were virtually present. Dr. Baeta will have the communications department reach out to her and her family for a certificate presentation and a press announcement. Madeline thanked the teachers for the past four years.

Principal Ethan Dolleman recognized the Class of 2021 Valedictorian Kevin Mahoney. He acknowledged his accomplishments and achievements. Kevin and his family were virtually present. Dr. Baeta informed the Committee that Kevin is a School Choice student and thanked him for choosing Norton. The communications department will reach out to him and his family for a

certificate presentation with a press announcement. Kevin thanked the Town and School Committee for giving him this opportunity and support.

Chairman Savas congratulated them on their achievements and wished them good luck in their future.

Principal Dolleman presented to the Committee the many activities and events the Class Advisors, the Parent Board and Administration have planned for the Class of 2021. These activities and dates have been shared with families but are subject to change.

Principal Dolleman presented to the Committee the Graduation guidelines and registration requirements for the Class of 2021. Graduation will be held at the athletic field on Friday, June 4th at 5:30 pm. The first rain date will be June 5th and the second rain date will be June 6th, with times TBD. He also advised that scholarship recipients will be announced at this event.

The Committee acknowledge how excited and happy everyone is for all the activities and creativity of events. There are some great events and they are looking forward to graduation.

Vote to approve FY 2022 Budget Reductions to Meet 2.5%:

Mr. Matthew Wells presented a spreadsheet and explained how the revolving and grant accounts will be utilized to reduce the original proposed budget by \$946,624. The Committee discussed the budget reductions and the proposal to be presented at the Fall Town Meeting.

Mrs. Cohen clarified that the athletic fees and the transportation fee will be reduced by \$100 each. They discussed the tiers for the bus schedule and the target date for registering for the FY 2022 bus is June 1st.

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy to approve FY 2022 Budget Reduction as written

SECOND: by Mrs. Cohen

VOTE: 4-0 Motion Carries

Vote to Approve Declaration of Surplus Supplies-Minibuses:

Mr. Matthew Wells requested the Committee vote to meet the guidelines to declare a surplus to the 2001 Chevy and 2002 GMC, both are expected scrap value of less than \$1,000. They have been replaced with two new minibuses. The minibuses will be disposed of on Municibid, a program the Town uses to auction old equipment.

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy to Declare Surplus of Minibuses as presented

SECOND: by Mrs. Gallagher

VOTE: 4-0 Motion Carries

Other Business:

- Rain date for Town Meeting will be May 15th
- School Committee will begin their meeting at 12:30 on May 8th
- The Norton Veterans Council, along with the Norton Veterans Agent, Ms. Estelle Flett, will lead a ceremony at 10 a.m. at the Town Common on Monday, May 31st. This year they will

be showcasing five POW chairs with stanchions that will be donated to each of the five Norton Schools. Please join the Memorial Day observances as representatives of the school department in honoring our heroes. A special thank you to the Representatives and Chairman of the Norton Veterans Council, Mr. Gary Cameron. Mrs. Cohen thanked the hockey team and everyone for helping the VFW with their spring clean-up. They saw the chairs at that time and are very excited.

- Trane has supplied brochures and pamphlets to distribute at the Town Meeting with information regarding Article 11.
- Chairman Savas reminded everyone the Town Meeting is May 8th at 1:00 p.m., but residents may want to arrive at noon to register.
- Mr. Sheedy thanked the Athletic Department and Grounds Custodians for a great job they did cleaning up the tennis courts at the Middle School for the first game.

Motion to Adjourn:

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy to Adjourn Meeting

SECOND: by Mrs. Cohen

VOTE: 4-0 Motion carries

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: May 8, 2021 at 12:30 p.m. (Saturday prior to Town Meeting)
May 27, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

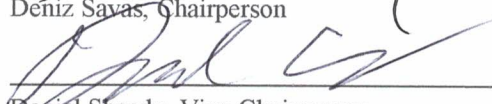
Documents and Other Exhibits Used at Meeting:

- Norton High School Memo regarding Graduation Guidelines and Registration
- Norton High School Memo regarding events and activities for the Class of 2021
- FY 2022 School Committee Budget with Reductions to meet 2.5%

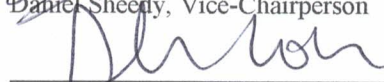
Respectfully Submitted,
Joseph F. Baeta, Ed.D.
Secretary Pro Tem



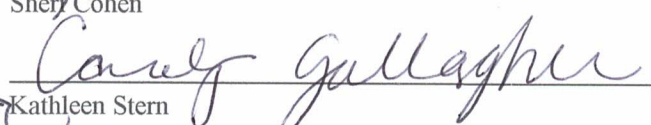
Deniz Savas, Chairperson



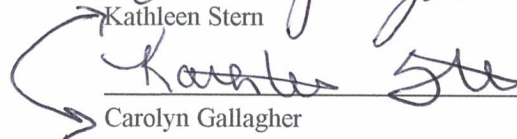
Daniel Sheedy, Vice-Chairperson



Sheri Cohen



Kathleen Stern



Carolyn Gallagher

dmk