

NORTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Norton, Massachusetts

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NORTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING

2024 APR 12 AM 9:52

***Date of School Committee Meeting:*** Thursday, March 28, 2024

***Location:*** Norton Middle School Library

***Present:*** Committee Members: Vice Chairperson Mr. Deniz Savas, Mrs. Justine Callanan, Mr. Dan Sheedy, and Mr. Nick Schleicher ***Absent:*** Chairperson Mrs. Sheri Cohen ***Also present:*** Superintendent of Schools Jennifer O'Neill, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Brian Ackerman, School Business Administrator Kristine Hadfield and Student Representatives Antonio Romano and Gabriela Kenaan

***Call to Order:*** Vice Chairperson Mr. Savas called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Vice Chairperson Savas announced that the meeting was being recorded by Norton Cable and Norton Public Schools and asked if anyone was recording to let the Committee know.

***Pledge of Allegiance***

***Vote to Approve Minutes of March 14, 2024 Open Session Meeting***

MOTION: by Mr. Schleicher to approve Minutes of March 14, 2024 Open Session Meeting

SECOND: by Mr. Sheedy

VOTE: 4 - 0 Motion Carries

***Warrants:***

Mr. Sheedy reported that the following School Expense Warrants and School Payroll Warrants were reviewed and are to be entered into the public record:

School Expense Warrant:

March 14, 2024 \$ 616,440.60

School Payroll Warrant:

March 7, 2024 \$1,218,557.52

***Student Representative Update***

**HAY** – They are getting ready for ELA MCAS. Students are doing final preparations for the test in class as well as in LLT, Lancer Learning Time. On MCAS days, they will start with an early morning recess to get the blood pumping and bodies engaged for testing. There is a morning snack and then students have the rest of the morning for testing. Students will have lunch and recess, and their Specialist rescheduled to the afternoon. Most of the kids end up saying how much they love MCAS days because they feel as if the day flies by and is actually "fun."

JCS – The students took on the 4 ST Math Challenge this morning, trying to capture the national record for puzzles completed by a school in 10 minutes. 4 ST stands for STop what you're doing, SStart doing ST Math puzzles, have the STamina to keep going, and then STomp to a dance party if you capture the new high score. The goal was to beat 2,000 puzzles and they achieved 9,700 puzzles as a school. We are proud to say that JCS completed those puzzles and, to celebrate, held dance parties in each of the lunches with JiJi! Many thanks to Mrs. Berthao and Mrs. Dietz for making this event so special!

NHS - Students are excited to get to the vacation in two weeks, but even as we look ahead there have been some amazing things happening!

- Spring Sports are in full swing.
- Last week Norton High School hosted a very cool STEAM Community event with exhibitions by students, staff and the community! It was a great event.
- Prom Tickets go on sale next week.
- The Spring Musical starts next week with shows on Friday, Saturday and Sunday April 5th, 6th and 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Friday before break, the Opportunity Fair will be open to all Seniors and Juniors with over 30 area businesses and organizations coming to showcase potential career or work opportunities.

### ***Vote to Appoint Robert Kimball to Permanent Building Committee***

At the March 21, 2024 Joint Meeting with the Finance Committee and Select Board, Mr. Kimball was present to review his background and qualifications as well as to express his interest in serving on the Permanent Building Committee. The Select Board motion to approve Mr. Kimball's appointment passed unanimously. All regular members of the Permanent Building committee shall be appointed by the Select Board and School Committee.

MOTION: by Mr. Schleicher to appoint Robert Kimball to the Permanent Building Committee

SECOND: by Mrs. Callanan

VOTE: 4 - 0 Motion Carries

### ***Superintendent Evaluation Process Overview***

Dr. O'Neill provided the Committee with a brief overview for the Superintendent Evaluation Process. She provided them with Indicator Rubric, Superintendent Evaluation examples, the Summative Evaluation Report, and Superintendent Goals Update as of 3.28.24. The Committee previously agreed for the timeline of the evaluation to be before elections so all members can have input. The Committee will be provided an electronic version of the evaluation and have their input submitted by April 18, 2024. The Committee will discuss the evaluation publicly at the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### ***Review and Vote on READS Collaborative Agreement effective July 1, 2024***

Dr. O'Neill advised the Committee READS Collaborative added Whitman-Hanson Regional School District to their agreement. Therefore, the agreement needs to be re-approved. It was noted this agreement does not involve the READS agreement that rents space from Norton Public Schools.

MOTION: by Mr. Schleicher to Approve the READS Collaborative Agreement Effective July 1, 2024

SECOND: by Mrs. Callanan  
VOTE: 4 – 0 Motion Carries

***Vote to Appoint Superintendent to Board of Directors for READS Collaborative the 2024-2025 School Year***

All READS Collaborative Board Members need to be appointed annually to the Collaborative Board of Directors by the School Committee. Mr. Savas addressed the Committee to appoint Dr. Jennifer O'Neill.

MOTION: by Mr. Schleicher to Appoint Dr. Jennifer O'Neill to serve as Representative on the Board of Directors of READS Collaborative for the 2024-2025 School Year

SECOND: by Mrs. Callanan  
VOTE: 4 – 0 Motion Carries

***Other Business:***

- Mr. Schleicher advised the Committee he did a walkthrough of the new town hall. The opening is scheduled to be in September 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Committee re-visited Agenda item #7 for the sole purpose of reading the specific language for the READS appointment of Dr. O'Neill to be entered into public record. Mr. Savas read the following statement:

Pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 4E, as amended by Chapter 43 of the Acts of 2012, members of the Board of Directors at READS Collaborative are to be appointed annually. Jennifer O'Neill is appointed to serve as the Norton Public Schools representative on the Board of Directors of READS Collaborative, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 4E as amended by Chapter 43 of the Acts of 2012 for the 2024-2025 school year.

***Adjourn:***

MOTION: by Mr. Sheedy to Adjourn and Enter into Executive Session for the Purpose of Preparation for Negotiations with the Norton Teachers Association, Not to Return to Open Session

SECOND: by Mr. Schleicher

ROLL CALL: Nick Schleicher-yes; Justine Callanan-yes; Dan Sheedy-yes; Denis Savas-yes  
4 – 0 Motion Carries

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

***Next Meeting Date:***

School Committee Meeting Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the NMS Library

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

- Indicator Rubric for Superintendent Evaluation
- Superintendent Evaluation: Examples
- End-of-Cycle Summative Evaluation Report: Superintendent
- Superintendent's Goals Progress Update
- READS Collaborative Agreement

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jennifer O'Neill, Ed.D.  
Secretary Pro Tem

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Sheri Cohen, Chairperson

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Deniz Savas, Vice-Chairman

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Nick Schleicher

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Dan Sheedy

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Justine Callanan

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