MINUTES

TOWN OF NORTON

Board / Committee: <u>NORTON HIGH SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL</u>

Meeting Date: <u> Wednesday, December 19, 2018</u>   Time: <u>   2:15pm</u>

Meeting Location: <u>Norton High School Administrative Conference Room</u>

Members & Staff Present: <u>Lisa Giuliano, Jill Berkovitch-Blake, Lauren Bukowski, Mary Taylor, Vinny Cerce, Cooper Smith, Abby Eng, Kerri Murphy, Matt Knippel, & Rebekah Marchilena.</u>

Members Missing: _____

The meeting was called to order at <u>2:15pm</u>.

Meeting Motions / Actions and Summary of Discussions:

School Report:

   Mrs. Giuliano forewent the school report due to time restraints with all the new course approval discussions.

Program of Studies - Changes

   Please see the attached summaries of courses that were presented to the members for approval.
   Mr. Cerce suggested adding an add/drop section (actual verbiage attached).
   There currently is nothing in the program regarding this subject.

Motion for changes of all presented courses and changes were approved by a unanimous vote.

   Will be brought to the School Committee next for approval.

Other

A request was made to clarify the letter that students are given when they receive the Abigail Adams scholarship to include this is not a tuition waiver and to add a link to the letter for the Office of Financial Assistance (OSFA).

Another request was for clarification on Science MCAS testing. The parent representative said there was confusion among parents and students regarding the Biology and Intro to Physics MCAS test requirements. Although the students take both courses they are only required to pass one test as taken in their Freshman year.

Member Concerns/ Parent Feedback: Discussion and decisions/votes

Safety of students on dismissal. A parent recommended that students should be picked up only in the junior lot until after 2:15. There are signs posted for the student pickup area.
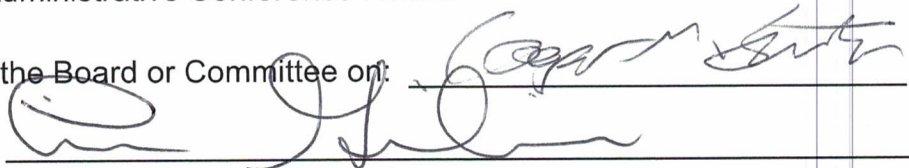
List of Documents and Other Exhibits used at Meeting:

See attached

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM until the next meeting on January 24 at 3:30pm at the Norton High School Administrative Conference Room.

Minutes approved by the Board or Committee on: _____

Chairman Signature: _____

Summary of New Course Proposals at NHS

Course Name: Yearbook/ Proposed by Kate Rego current

Course Length: 1 Semester. (2.5 credits)

Subject: Business

Course Objectives
In order to capture and record the current school year for enjoyment and reference in the future, students will:
- design a professional, attractive theme-based yearbook
- write copy and captions in appropriate journalistic style for yearbook
- use good photojournalism techniques
- write effective headlines and captions
- edit, proofread and evaluate their own and others' work
- work cooperatively within deadlines and budget limitations
- learn and use effective sales and promotional techniques

Benefits to Students- The journalistic approach of yearbook will teach students skills in business, graphic design, visual communication, writing, photography and collaboration; all which will serve them in whatever field you decide to pursue in the future.

Course Name: AP CSP (Computer Science Principles)/ Proposed by Kerri Murphy

Course Length: Full-year course: 5 Credits

Subject: Computer Science

Course Description:
Computer Science Principles is a new AP course (this is its 3rd year). Leading computer scientists and educators, supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF), agreed that such a course is needed to increase the number of students interested in and prepared for success in computer science and other STEM fields.

AP CSP introduces students to the essential ideas of computer science with a focus on how computing can impact the world. Along with the fundamentals of computing, students will learn to analyze data, information, or knowledge represented for computational use; create technology that has a practical impact; and gain a broader understanding of how computer science impacts people and society.

This course is designed to be the equivalent to a first-semester introductory college computing course. Students are encouraged to apply creative processes when developing their thoughts and ideas and to explore questions that interest them. AP Computer Science Principles course will focus on the fundamentals of computing, including problem-solving, large-scale data, the Internet, and cybersecurity.

Course: Intro to Band Instruments/ Proposed by Matt Knippel

Course Length: 1 Semester (2.5 Credits)

Subject: Music

Intention: Currently there is no way to join the band unless you already studied an instrument in Middle School. Even joining private lessons may not teach the rehearsal skills necessary to feel successful in an ensemble setting. Intro to Band Instruments is designed as an onramp for students to join Band the year after they complete this semester course, even if they have not studied an instrument previously. They will learn rehearsal technique, skills specific to their selected instrument, and also hopefully find the joy and personal insights that come from studying an instrument.
this course can only run with the addition of another HS Music teacher.

803 - Intro to Band Instruments - Unleveled

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

Academic Expectations 4, 7
This course is designed for students who want to explore band instruments and have an introduction to performance skills on an instrument. Skills introduced will be reading music, general music theory, and instrument specific techniques. Students will perform by themselves and with others, as well as the potential to perform in a concert. Students should have access to the instrument they are going to study or plan on renting one.
Prerequisite: Access to Instrument of study
Unleveled courses are not used in the calculation of grade point average, or in the determination of class rank.
this course can only run with the addition of another HS Music teacher.

Course: Guitar Ensemble 101

Course Length: 1 Semester (2.5 credits)

Subject: Music

Intention: There are many students who are interested in playing guitar. It is a contemporary and classical instrument that is foundational to our American culture, and represented in almost every music festival and song that students are listening to today. With a stock of guitars already in our inventory at the High School, it is clear that there is both the interest and the access to offer a guitar course to our students.

825- Guitar Ensemble 101 - Level 01

Grades 9,10, 11, 12

Academic Expectations 1, 2, 4

This course is designed to teach students the basics of performing guitar music, beginning on acoustic guitars. This class is for students who have not played a guitar before, or have

limited knowledge and would like to learn to play. Students will perform on the school provided guitar in class, and learn to play basic chords and melody in both strumming and fingerpicking styles. Students will develop technical abilities through daily exercises and learn to read chord sheets and tab notation. Styles will include classical, pop, rock, blues, and other contemporary styles.

Prerequisite: None

this course can only run with the addition of another HS Music teacher.

Course: Recording Arts 101

Course Length: 1 Semester (2.5 credits)

Subject: Music

Intention: 21st century music is created almost exclusively on a computer, either by recording instruments onto a computer or creating sounds using digital instruments on a computer. With the iRig computers at our disposal thanks to Norton NEED and the grant I wrote this year, students have the tools available to start exploring music recording and creation at Norton. This class reaches students who are drawn to digital music making and may not be interested in the traditional classes we offer.

826- Recording Arts 101 – Level 01

Grades 9,10, 11, 12

Academic Expectations 1, 2, 4

This course is an introduction into the fundamentals of recording arts. This class is for students who are interested in working with both recording live music, and producing their own music through DAW programs like Soundtrap, Garageband, Protools, Logic, and other common recording programs. Previous experience is not necessary, although a basic understanding of the fundamentals of music is helpful. Students will record live concert performances as project based learning opportunities, and produce their own original music.

Prerequisite: None

this course can only run with the addition of another HS Music teacher.

_____REVISED COURSE_____

Course: Concert Band 1,2,3,4

Course Length: Full- Year (5 credits)

Subject: Music

Intention: The high level of student engagement required to enroll in Concert Band is not currently being honored or reflected in the students GPA. All of the essential qualities represented in a GPA are perfectly mirrored in a Band student's studying skills, practice habits, responsibility for learning their music, ability to meet deadlines, and so much more. Band students need to commit a great deal of time and effort to learning music for the Concert Band class, and this work and dedication should be reflected in their GPA.

Challenges: At NHS, **leveled** courses may only be enrolled in one time. The current system is unleveled Band (ie, does not count toward GPA totals) so students can continue enrolling in band and pursuing music. Lisa Giuliano proposed offering Band 1, 2, 3, and 4 as a way to allow students to enroll in Band successively and also have it count toward GPA. *This solution does not change the course offering, curriculum map, or the course itself as it is currently run.*

810/811/812/813 - CONCERT BAND - Leveled Full Year (CP2)
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12
Academic Expectations 4, 7
This course is designed to help the student continue their study of music through rehearsing and performing a wide range of instrumental music. Music ranges from traditional band literature to contemporary music of various styles. During the fall, band members may participate in pep band, which provides music at home football games, as well as parades. Band meets during the school day and performs concert music for school and community concerts. The ability to play a musical instrument is mandatory.
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor
*Changes are highlighted

Course: Forensic Science/ Proposed by Rebekah Marchilena

Course Length: Full-year (5 credits)

Subject: Science

The rationale behind offering forensic science to high school students is multi-fold.

Forensic science offers a new and exciting lab-based elective for students to take when they are in need of or wish to take more science. It gives the students more choice in their schedule. It also offers science in a different light than many of the core courses, in that it integrates the sciences, rather than approaching them as silos. It truly shows how science works in the world, not as biology and chemistry and physics, but as a dynamic and interwoven multitude of topics that influence and are influenced by each other and by aspects of the non-science world. And the best part is that the students don't even realize they are learning science.

Open ADD/DROP will end one week from the first day of school. Teacher sanctioned ADD/DROP will end two weeks after the first day of school. During this time, students will be required to discuss any changes with the teachers and return a signed ADD/DROP form to Guidance. Any changes to a student's schedule after the two week period will require a meeting of the student, parent and Principal and/or Director of Guidance. A withdrawal will be noted on the transcript at that point in the process.