



# Northbridge Public Schools Northbridge School Committee

87 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588 (508) 234-8156 FAX (508) 234-8469 [www.nps.org](http://www.nps.org)

Michael LeBrasseur, Chairperson, [mlebrasseur@nps.org](mailto:mlebrasseur@nps.org), Joseph Strazzulla, Vice-Chairperson,  
Michael Clements, Kate Tracy, Randi Zanca

## Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 9th, 2016 7:00 PM Northbridge High School Media Center

### I. Call to Order (7:00)

### II. Attendance

Michael Clements	Absent
Mike LeBrasseur	Present
Joseph Strazzulla	Present
Kate Tracy	Present
Randi Zanca	Present

Also in attendance were Superintendent Catherine Stickney and Business Manager Melissa Walker.

### III. Pledge of Allegiance

### IV. Statement of Audio and Video Recording

### V. Statement of Mission

### VI. Public Comment-

None.

### VII. Student Representative's Report

So far we've had a busy February. Last Tuesday, the senior class was fitted for their caps and gowns, and we had parent teacher conferences on Wednesday's half day.

Last week, students who took the PSAT's earlier in the year received their scores. Based upon their results, the College Board recommended Advanced Placement classes that they think the student would do well in.

This past weekend, our drama program performed its rendition of Footloose, which was very fun to watch. The drama program had put in a lot of hours of rehearsal and practice in order to perform what was a very entertaining show

This week is Spirit Week at NHS leading up to Winter Carnival on Friday. The days go as follows:

Today: Maroon and White Day

Wednesday: Character Day

Thursday: USA/American day

Friday: Class color day

Friday is our Winter Carnival where grades will compete and have fun in numerous activities throughout the day. Friday night is our Winter Ball. February break is less than a week away and students and teachers are looking forward to it. After the break, on February 23rd we will be having our World Language Culture fair. On February 25<sup>th</sup>, we will be having our Adams Scholar's breakfast.

The Student Advisory Committee is a group of students who meet with Mr. Gauthier about once a month (typically after School Council meetings) who discuss what is going on in the school and make suggestions to improve the school (things to add to the lunch menu, classes to consider adding, clubs). It is a good mix of students to get a good representation of the school.

#### VIII. Consent agenda

- a. School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes from 7:00PM on January 26, 2016
- b. Warrant 36-30s 1/21/2016 \$426,304.68

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to accept the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael Clements	Absent
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes

Kate Tracy Yes

Randi Zanca Yes

4 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 4-0.

IX. Accept the Donation of NCTV

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to accept the Donation of NCTV Equipment. The motion was seconded by Randi Zanca. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael Clements Absent

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Joseph Strazzulla Yes

Kate Tracy Yes

Randi Zanca Yes

4 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 4-0.

X. Action Items:

a. Trip Request by NHS Student Council to State Conference 3/9-3/11/16

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to approve the Trip Request by NHS Student Council to State Conference 3/9-3/11/16. The motion was seconded by Kate Tracy. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael Clements Absent

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Joseph Strazzulla Yes

Kate Tracy Yes

Randi Zanca Yes

4 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 4-0.

b. Superintendent's Formative Evaluation

A motion was made by Kate Tracy to accept the Superintendent's Formative Evaluation Report. The motion was seconded by Randi Zanca. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael Clements	Absent
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Kate Tracy	Yes
Randi Zanca	Yes

4 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 4-0.

c. Naming of NES

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to not take action on the request. The motion was seconded by Kate Tracy. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael Clements	Absent
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Kate Tracy	Yes
Randi Zanca	Yes

4 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 4-0.

d. Motion to Oppose the Lifting of the Charter Cap

A motion was made by Michael LeBrasseur that the Northbridge School Committee vote to oppose the lifting of the charter school cap in Massachusetts, and to authorize the chairman to send the following memo to our State Legislatures:

Dear Senator Moore, Senator Fattman and Representative Muradian,

I am writing to inform you that, on Tuesday, February 9th, the Northbridge School Committee voted to oppose any lifting of the Charter School cap in Massachusetts. We urge you to this into consideration should any such measure come before your legislative

bodies. The motion was seconded by Randi Zanca. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael Clements	Absent
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Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
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Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
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Kate Tracy	Yes
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Randi Zanca	Yes
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4 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 4-0.

#### XI. Discussions:

##### a. Motion for Statement Regarding Chapter 70 Foundation Review

Michael LeBrasseur discussed the Suburban Coalition's statement regarding the Chapter 70 resolution. Michael stated that the Suburban Coalition urges each town's Board of Selectman, School Committee, and Finance Committee to adopt the resolution that simply asks the Legislature and the Governor to fund the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission. This item will be on the next agenda.

##### b. School Calendar 2016-2017

Catherine Stickney discussed the school calendar and the few changes that have been made. One major change is that we will have a professional development day on Election Day. Catherine stated that this calendar is setting forth a precedent of keeping students in the classroom. There is one less early release day and that is due to a new approach we are taking. On February 1<sup>st</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup> we will be having an early release prior to lunch. We are proposing that we have parent teacher conferences at the elementary level in February and we will be able to utilize the remaining time for Professional Development for NMS and NHS. In March, the parent teacher conferences will take place for the NMS and NHS and professional development for NES and Balmer.

##### c. Net Metering Agreement

Melissa Walker discussed the Net Metering Agreement. Melissa stated that we already have a net metering agreement in place. There is a solar farm that produces credits. The credits get assigned to the school account and come off of our electricity bill and we pay a portion of that credit back to the company. We are looking at taking \$150,000.00

per year in credits and then we will have to pay 75% of that back. This reduces our bills by \$37,500.00.

d. SWCEC Second Quarter Report

Catherine Stickney stated that she has the Second Quarter Report that we are required to present to the committee. It is essentially for information only. It does not need to be approved by a vote. It just needs to be noted in the minutes that it was presented.

XII. School Committee Individual Comments

Randi Zanca- Footloose was fantastic! Thank you to the students for putting on such a great production.

Connor Nowlan- wanted to praise the Superintendent and whoever handles the NPS twitter account on how they handled communication with the students during the snow days. It was very good. Connor liked that students were able to actively talk to you or whomever runs the account to see what was actually going on.

XIII. Adjournment

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm. The motion was seconded Joseph Strazzulla. A vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded

Michael Clements	Absent
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Kate Tracy	Yes
Randi Zanca	Yes

4 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 4-0.