



# Northbridge Public Schools

## Northbridge School Committee

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Michael LeBrasseur, Chairperson, [mlebrasseur@nps.org](mailto:mlebrasseur@nps.org), Joseph Strazzulla, Vice-Chairperson,  
Alicia Cannon, Brian Paulhus, Randi Zanca

### Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, November 14th, 2017 7:00 PM Northbridge High School Media Center

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK  
DOREEN A. CEDRONE

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

#### II. Attendance

Alicia Cannon	Present
Mike LeBrasseur	Present
Brian Paulhus	Present
Joe Richards	Present
Joseph Strazzulla	Present

Also in attendance were Superintendent Catherine Stickney, Business Manager Melissa Walker, and Student Representative Emilee Angell.

#### III. Pledge of Allegiance

#### IV. Statement of Audio and Video Recording

#### V. Statement of Mission

#### VI. Public Comment

Jennifer Rice and Kate Tracy from the NMS Booster Club presented a check to the committee in the amount of \$8,814.00 to reinstate winter sports.

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to accept the check from the NMS Booster Club in the amount of \$8,814.00 to reinstate winter sports. The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon	Yes
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joe Richards	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes

5 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 5-0.

Carrie Maynard presented a check in the amount of \$7,682.00 to reinstate wrestling.

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to accept the check in the amount of \$7,682.00 to reinstate Wrestling. The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon	Yes
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joe Richards	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes

5 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 5-0.

Denise Foster, NHS Swim Coach, stated that they are still working on funding for the swim team and she has a meeting with Grafton tomorrow. Denise will attend the SC meeting on 11/28.

#### VII. Recognition

Catherine Stickney recognized Emma McKeown for her community service in Pediatric Neurology at MGH.

Gregory Palmer was introduced as the new Director of Educational Technology. He introduced himself to the committee and discussed his Technology goals.

#### VIII. Student Representative's Report

Emilee reported that students are currently signing up for winter sports to get their season underway.

Football season just wrapped up this past weekend and they are looking forward to the annual Thanksgiving Day game against Uxbridge. The Cheer team is competing in States this upcoming weekend. This past month the choir, acapella, and band ensembles had their fall concert performance and they are currently working very hard for the Holiday concert taking place on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Drama has casted roles and the students are getting ready for their production of Beauty and the Beast, which will take place February 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Student Council ran a Halloween Fest; it was a great day for families to celebrate the holiday. Student Council is currently working on Thanksgiving basket donations for those in need in our community. Mr. Verdone was recognized as a semi-finalist as music and arts educator of the year. Mr. Verdone is on the list as one of the top 25 educators in the nation. The juniors vs seniors powderpuff game will take place this Friday at Lassell field at 6:30pm. The NASA Iced group presented their solar oven system at the MA STEM summit. This past weekend DECA had their trip to PA and Chloe Frabotta received an award for outstanding role play. Juniors showed appreciation at the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Veteran's Day

celebration. This past week Shannon Mortimer and Alex Lindgren from the Class of 2018 signed their National letters of intent to play Division 1 softball and swimming next school year.

IX. Consent agenda

a. Warrant 38-14s 9/28/17 \$295,206.17

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

Alicia Cannon Yes

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joe Richards Yes

Joseph Strazzulla Yes

5 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 5-0.

X. Action items

a. Approval of Surplus Items from Northbridge Middle School

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to approve the surplus items from Northbridge Middle School. A motion was seconded by Alicia Cannon. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon Yes

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joe Richards Yes

Joseph Strazzulla Yes

5 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 5-0.

XI. Presentation:

Amy McKinstry presented the 2017 MCAS results. Amy discussed the following: What is the Next-Generation MCAS, Computer-Based Training, Old "Legacy" MCAS Achievement Levels, New "Next Generation" Achievement Levels, Why did some students score Proficient on "old" MCAS but now are only Partially Meeting Expectations, Projected state wide 2017 results, 2015 Legacy results, what do the results mean, Student Growth Percentile, Northridge results, 2017 Failures/not meeting expectations, and next steps.

## XII. Discussion:

### a. Field Trip Change for Music Department to Boston

The original Field Trip destination was Hershey Park. However, due to attendance and cost they have changed the destination to an overnight trip to Boston. This will be an action item

### b. Field Trip Approval- Guidance Department to New England Institute of Technology

The Field Trip will take place on 12/7/2017 and the trip is out of state. The destination is the New England Institute of Technology in RI. This will be an action item on 11/28.

### c. SWCEC- FY18 First Quarter Report

The committee reviewed the FY18 First Quarter Report.

### d. Approval of Surplus District Technology Items

Catherine Stickney discussed the technology surplus items. This will be an action item on 11/28.

### e. Approval of Surplus- Old Maintenance Van

Melissa Walker discussed the old maintenance van surplus. This will be an action item on 11/28.

### f. School Committee Goals

Michael LeBrasseur discussed the School Committee Goals. Michael discussed Goal 3 and the impact they can make as a School committee. This will be an action item on 11/28.

### g. FY19 Budget TimeLine and Guidance Review

Michael LeBrasseur stated that they reviewed and approved the budget timeline and provided guidance review to the administrators. The committee asked to see what a level funded budget would look like and what a level services budget would look like.

### h. Cable Board of Directors Vacancy

Michael LeBrasseur stated that since there is not a member of the School Committee who wants to take the position we will post a vacancy for the position. The vacancy will be posted on the School Committee webpage and the School Webpage. The deadline to apply is November 27<sup>th</sup> and the interviews/appointment will take place on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

### i. Town Fields Ad Hoc Committee

The Town Manager sent out a memo seeking a School Committee member to join the Town Fields Ad Hoc committee. Brian Paulhus stated that he would like to join the committee. The appointment will take place on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

### j. Wellness Committee

It is the policy of the Northbridge Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, or homelessness in its educational programs, services, activities, or employment.

The Wellness Committee is seeking a SC member to join the committee. Joe Richards stated that he is interested in joining. The appointment will take place on November 28th.

k. Change in School Calendar

Catherine Stickney stated that we have a scheduled early release on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. However, Grade 10 has Math MCAS on that day. Cathy asked that we move the early release day to May 30<sup>th</sup>. This will be an action item on 11/28.

l. School Building Committee Update

Joseph Strazzulla stated that on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm there will be a Community Forum taking place at NES. We will be asking the community to assist us in narrowing the school down to four choices to the preferred option. A meeting will follow to make the final decision. Catherine Stickney stated that she was invited to present at the Board meeting for the Council of Aging. It was well received. It was a modified/brief overview of the project.

1. Potential Grade Reconfiguration

Michael LeBrasseur stated that one of the options is for us to have a combined PreK through 5. If this is the decision that is made, the SC will have to take a vote to reconfigure the grades.

XIII. School Committee Individual Comments

Emilee Angell stated that the school year was going by fast and she was excited for the rest of the year.

Brian Paulhus stated that his kids had a great first quarter. A lot of good things going on.

Alicia Cannon stated that she wanted to give a shout out to Mrs. Palmer Howes she took the DECA students to PA. She really puts her heart and Soul into the DECA program.

XIV. Adjournment (8:37 P.M.)

The motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to adjourn the meeting at 8:37pm. The motion was seconded Alicia Cannon. A vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon	Yes
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Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
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Brian Paulhus	Yes
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Joe Richards	Yes
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Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
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5 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 5-0.