



Northbridge Public Schools

Northbridge School Committee

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Michael LeBrasseur, Chairperson, mlebrasseur@nps.org, Joseph Strazzulla, Vice-Chairperson,
Michael Clements, Kate Tracy, Randi Zanca

Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 26th, 2016 5:30 PM Northbridge High School Media Center

I. Call to Order (5:30)

II. Executive Session: Hearing of Grievance from Northbridge Teachers' Association To Reconvene in Open Session.

III. Attendance

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

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

IV. Statement of Audio and Video Recording

V. Reconvene in Open Session (6:00)

VI. Presentation: School Building Project Informational Session

Catherine Stickney and Melissa Walker presented on the MSBA Project and Feasibility Study. Catherine shared a background of the Balmer School, Eligibility Period, Eligibility Phase Deadlines, Overall Process, MSBA building Partnership Process, Request to

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
DORCELY J. CEDRONE

16 MAY 31 AM 8:58

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Approve Funding from Town, The feasibility Study and Schematic Design, Additional Information, Why Balmer was Chosen, and they provided pictures of Balmer School.

VII. Public Questions on School Building Project

Jeff Tubbs- 244-Brookway Drive- Question in regards to the \$775,000.00. Is the loan going to be reimbursed by the MSBA? Catherine Stickney stated that the Town Manager has the access to the \$350,000.00 in free cash. Costs that could be incurred over that are what he would look to borrow, not to exceed the \$425,000.00.

Tim Doiron- Moon Hill Road- Stated that we need to look at the end game and find ways to get people to vote. Make sure that the numbers are out there for people to see.

Diane Corey- Kerry Lane- Have we talked to other towns or the state in regards putting PK to 5th grade all in one building? Joseph Strazzulla stated that this is what the feasibility study will help us figure out as they will assess all of the buildings.

Caryn Gagner- 22 Piedmont Street- Updated the committee on the current kitchen issues at Balmer school.

VIII. Pledge of Allegiance

IX. Reminder of Audio and Video Recording

X. Statement of Mission

XI. Public Comment

None

XII. Superintendent's Report

Today was the "Day on the Hill" in Boston, sponsored by MASC. Catherine attended this event with Connor Nowlan. Not only did they participate in legislative informational sessions, they enjoyed a private tour with Rep. Muradian and Sen. Moore as well. The Football Team was also honored simultaneously at the State House.

The end of the year is upon us as we have reached the final 40 days, with only 20 days for our seniors. The High School is preparing for AP exams, while other students are preparing for Math MCAS assessments in the upcoming weeks.

The High School was very proud to be named to The Washington Post's list of America's Most Challenging High Schools for the fourth consecutive year.

This week includes the unveiling of the mural in the lobby of the high school as well as National Art Honor Society Inductions.

Administrators are preparing for summer curriculum work, and we are beginning our hiring for next year. We are also continuing our transition planning and class placements. A field trip to the Career Academies for grade 8 students will take place in two weeks.

Mrs. Ross is presenting Balmer's PBIS program at a state conference next week, and Dr. Stickney is presenting our work on Inclusive practices at the DESE Spring Convening for 2 days in May. We are excited to share our work and accomplishments with our colleagues across the Commonwealth.

XIII. Executive Session-

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to add Executive Session to the end of the agenda related to a grievance from the Northbridge Teachers Association and to conduct strategy related to the contract negotiations with AFSCME Council 93, Local 1709, Union A- Cafeteria. 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.

XIV. Consent agenda

- a. School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes from 7:00PM on April 12, 2016
- b. Warrant 36-40s 3/31/16 \$276,191.35

The motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to accept the consent agenda as presented. 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.

XV. Action Items:

- a. Appointment to Middle School Principal Search Committee

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to appoint Michael LeBrasseur to the Middle School Search Committee. 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.

- b. School Choice 2016-2017

The motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to approve the District to accept School Choice Students for the 2016-2017 School Year. 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.

c. Contract with AFSCME Council 93, Local 1709 Unit A-Cafeteria

The motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to approve the Memorandum of Agreement and Authorize the Chair to sign the contract with AFSCME Council 93, Local 1709 Unit A-Cafeteria for the year 2015-2016. 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.

II. Discussions:

a. MSBA- Initial Compliance Certification

Catherine Stickney stated the first step for us in the eligibility period is to have the Initial Compliance Certificate signed by the CEO (Town Manager- Board of Selectman voted last night to approve Mr. Kozak signing), School Committee Chairman, and the Superintendent.

Action Item:

The motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to authorize the Superintendent and the School Committee Chair to sign the Initial Compliance Certificate. The motion was seconded by Kate Tracy. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael Clements	Absent
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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. Last Day of School

Catherine Stickney stated that the last day of school is June 16th. However, with the two snow days we will need to amend that date to be June 20th, 2016. This will be an action item at the next meeting.

c. Final Exam Schedule

Catherine Stickney stated that the Final Exam Schedule is an item that is approved annually. This will be an action item at the next meeting

d. Extended Care Programming

Catherine Stickney stated that at the last meeting, the School Committee asked that we review and develop another plan. Catherine was able to speak with each committee member in regards to his/her opinion for the next course of action. She also met with the Administrative team, who has put in a great amount of time of going through the document of DESE requirements. She shared an internal document that they have developed as a draft working document. This document shows what we would need to do to meet the requirements. Catherine suggested posting for a position to find a program coordinator who could restructure for DESE requirements while simultaneously issuing a formal RFP to include a preschool extended care component.

XVI. School Committee Individual Comments

Connor Nowlan stated he attended Day on the Hill today and it was a great learning experience. He was able to hear a lot about funding. It was eye opening for him as a student rep to see what the SC deals with behind the scenes.

Michael LeBrasseur- May 3rd is the Town Meeting. Article 25 is the feasibility study for the new school.

XVII. Adjournment (7:45)

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to enter into executive session for a grievance from the Northbridge Teachers Association and to conduct strategy related to the contract negotiations with AFSCME Council 93, Local 1709, Union A- Cafeteria- not to reconvene in open session.

The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. 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.