



Northbridge Public Schools

Northbridge School Committee

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Michael LeBrasseur, Chairperson, mlebrasseur@nps.org, Joseph Strazzulla, Vice-Chairperson,
Alicia Cannon, Brian Paulhus, Randi Zanca

Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, June 27th, 2017 7:00 PM Northbridge High School Media Center

I. Call to Order (7:00)

II. Attendance

Alicia Cannon	Absent
Mike LeBrasseur	Present
Brian Paulhus	Present
Joseph Strazzulla	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. Recognitions

Catherine Stickney recognized Pat Baker from Unibank for a \$2,500.00 Grant for the NHS Food Pantry.

Catherine recognized Mrs. Stephanie Bentley as the Northbridge 2017 Teacher of the Year.

Catherine recognized Mrs. Jennifer Siemaszko and Ms. Cortney Rosenlund for receiving the Blackstone Valley Promising Practices Award.

Catherine also recognized the Northbridge Teacher Retirees- Mrs. Mary Juges (27 years) Mrs. Kathleen Mancini (16 years), and Mr. Matthew Reilly (21 years).

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.

VIII. Superintendent's Report

Catherine began her report this evening with a recognition of the passing of our Commissioner of Ed, Dr. Mitchell Chester. He was a strong advocate for the students in MA and worked tirelessly to ensure that MA was at the top of the country and top of the world in achievement. He had a profound effect on the trajectory of education in the commonwealth and across the country. He never backed down from a debate or difficult situation. His presence will be missed.

Although school has been out for a week now, we are still as busy as ever.

Last week, Cathy held an informational session regarding a potential trip to China. The meeting was well attended, and we have 14 students registered to attend. Cathy will be working with the group to plan some activities that will help them in raising funds for the trip.

We also promoted our Grade 8 class with a lovely ceremony. It was wonderful to see a full gymnasium. Mr. Zywiec also continued the tradition of the 8th grade walk through the building to thank teachers and encourage underclassmen - prior to the ceremony.

We also completed our 2nd Community Partnership Grant project. This was an intergenerational project with grade 6 students in the enrichment ELB block and the senior citizens. The students met regularly with their senior partners to write their biographies. We culminated the project with a book signing event at the Senior Center, where we had approximately 100 family members - both students and seniors.

We are eager to welcome new administrators: Mrs. Theresa Gould, replacing Mr. Tringali; Mr. Tim McCormick, principal from Gardner Academy, replacing Mr. Lizotte; and Mr. Steven Von Barga as Director of Facilities - moving from Ohio. Maintenance and Facilities Director for Ross Local Schools.

We are announcing our Community Reading for this year. This year's book is *Hillbilly Elegy*, by J.D. Vance, which was ranked on the NY Times bestseller list. We are looking to invite anyone who is interested in joining the group on July 10 (Update - July 24) at 1PM at the Library.

Read around the Town has also kicked off last Friday at Foppema's farm. The next stop is West End Creamery on 7/7.

Cathy attended the QCC ribbon cutting - for their tech cafe at Alternatives. This space will allow students taking online classes at QCC a space to go work, connect, and receive assistance, and potentially order food items with the assistance of Alternatives staff. Following that ceremony was an announcement regarding the Chamber of Commerce working with QCC to establish a manufacturing site for students to gain hands on skills while obtaining hs and college credit. We look forward to working closely in that partnership.

Our work on the MSBA building project has moved into high gear. With a meeting last night, and conference call today, we are ready to solicit volunteers to be part of the educational visioning committee. Cathy will be sending out a connect ed, posting information to the website, contacting the town to post it to their website, while connecting personally with the Chamber of Commerce and the Senior Center. We are finishing an informational video as well to share with the community as we provide an insider's view into both buildings.

Our first transportation van has arrived. We now begin the process of obtaining insurance and registration.

MCAS preliminary data was released yesterday. The results are embargoed, but available for us to begin our curriculum revisions, which is timely as teachers are back this week working on curriculum updates. The DESE has said that they are "pleased" with the results so far.

Finally, our administrators are back tomorrow for a day of planning and professional development for the upcoming year. We've started working on next school year already! Thank you to the Chamber of Commerce for allowing us to use their conference room at the mill for a change of venue.

IX. Consent agenda

- a. School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes from 7pm on June 13, 2017
- b. Warrant 37-50s 6/8/17 \$233,811.40

A motion was made by Randi Zanca 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:

Alicia Cannon	Absent
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	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:

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.

a. Superintendent's End of Year Summative Evaluation

A motion was made by Randi Zanca to approve the Superintendent's End of Year Summative Evaluation.

A motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon Absent

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joseph Strazzulla 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.

SC Summer Meeting Date s- July 11, 2017; August 17, 2017; August 22, 2017

A motion was made by Randi Zanca to approve the SC Summer Meeting Dates- July 11, 2017 (6:30pm); August 17, 2017(6:00pm); August 22, 2017 (6:30pm). A motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon Absent

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joseph Strazzulla 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. Foundation Budget Review Commission Resolution

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to adopt the Resolution and inform legislature of our actions. A recorded:

Alicia Cannon Absent

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joseph Strazzulla 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. SCIP Program FY18

A motion was made by Randi Zanca to approve the SCIP Program Budget for FY18 in the amount of \$11,465.00. This is funded from School Choice. A motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon Absent

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joseph Strazzulla 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.

XI. Discussion:

a. School Building Committee Update

Joseph Strazzulla stated that they met Dore and Whittier last night as a full committee. They are starting the visionary planning sessions. Shortly, we will be receiving advertisements to get the community to be a part of the vision for the schools. They are currently looking at 7 different site locations.

b. Job Description Revision- Director of Technology

Dr. Stickney stated that as we prepare to post the position, we have reformatted the job description to capture the expectations of the position. This will be an action item for the July 11th meeting.

c. Capital Projects/Fall Warrant

Michael LeBrasseur discussed the timeline for the warrant. The committee discussed a few items on the capital plan. A discussion will take place in July.

d. FY19 Budget Timeline

Michael LeBrasseur stated that knowing what we are up against next year, the sooner we start talking about the timeline the better. Melissa Walker stated that we would have tangible numbers by the 2nd week of September. The first discussion will take place on 9/26/17.

e. MASC Workshop

Michael LeBrasseur stated that he spoke with Dorothy Presser; she will be coming to host a workshop on August 17th. The workshop will be in regards to PR.

XII. School Committee Individual Comments

Joseph Strazzulla- Congrats to all who were recognized this evening. The letter in the packet was especially nice to see. Congrats to all of the teachers on a great year.

Brian Paulhus- The 8th grade awards were pretty remarkable. To see so many students receive awards for academic excellence is extraordinary.

Michael LeBrasseur- Attended his final 8th grade ceremony. It's nice to have recognitions at the meetings, and thank you to everyone.

XIII. Adjournment (8:00 P.M.)

The motion was made by Randi Zanca to adjourn the meeting to meet in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A section 21 (a) for the following purpose:

Purpose (2) to Conduct Collective Bargaining with the Non-Union Personnel not to return to open session.

The motion was seconded by Brian Paulhus.

Alicia Cannon	Absent
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Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
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Brian Paulhus	Yes
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Joseph Strazzulla	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.