



Northbridge Public Schools

Northbridge School Committee

87 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588 (508) 234-8156 FAX (508) 234-8469 www.nps.org

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

**Northbridge Public Schools
School Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 27th, 2016 7:00 PM
Northbridge High School Media Center**

I. Call to Order from Executive Session (7:00)

II. Attendance

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

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

*Joseph Strazzulla arrived at 7:08pm

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Statement of Audio and Video Recording

V. Statement of Mission

VI. Public Comment

None.

VII. Superintendent's Report

We are off to a flying start! This Friday marks 5 weeks into the year and halfway through the first semester for MS and HS students

Northbridge Public Schools is celebrating the anniversary of the 150th graduation. We are collecting alumni information with a survey: "I'm a Northbridge Alum, and I'm proud of it!"

Our website will be ready to go live at the beginning of December. We are currently working through our current site to determine what we will save and carry over to the new site.

Springboard is still waiting for licensure. The individual from EEC who does this work was out of the office and could not respond to Springboard until today. Our staff members have been doing a wonderful job. We are up to 175 students registered, and we expect a seamless transition.

The Wellness Committee will be meeting Oct. 3rd. We will review the food protocol, bullying prevention plan, and substance use prevention plan. Members include Emma McKeown, Steve Tringali, Sheryl Bliss, Joan Thorne, Sue Calabro, Lori Johnson, Kate Tracy, Moira Lawson, Jeannie Gnaadek, and Mary Farese-Brown.

The High School has reported that the college application process has begun. All seniors have met with Guidance to review the entire process. Athletics are in full swing. Teachers are working on MCAS data and disaggregating the results. NHS students Connor Nowlan and Emily Angell attended the Congressional Youth Meeting sponsored by Con. McGovern. The high schools students and staff have been very busy with the MDSC Buddy Walk and Homecoming.

The Middle School is excited about their new format for Curriculum Night. It will take place on Oct. 5th at 6PM. They had their first PBIS event last Friday. Students paid 5 RAMS bucks to participate in a tug of war for grades 5-7. Grade 8 students paid 5 RAMS to have "Chill" or recreation time.

We have begun the Shifting Boundaries program. Casey McQuillen, former American Idol contestant, held a concert with her positive messages. A parent information session provided additional information. The Shifting Boundaries teachers, Ariana and Melanie, will be attending Curriculum Night event to answer questions.

PBIS at Balmer is in full swing. Students have been signing the Wall of Fame, earning our new Super RAMS tickets, and tomorrow they will be earning their first school-wide event of extra recess. Hopefully, it won't rain!

This year, Balmer is implementing a new math program that involves authentic, real-world problems that get students thinking about math concepts. This approach has enhanced their work around student discourse. The teachers have been excited about the level of conversation and the wide range of strategies students have used to solve math problems.

The staff is also getting ready for our upcoming curriculum nights: Monday, October 17th will be Grade 4. Tuesday, October 18th will be Grade 3, and Thursday, October 20th will be Grade 2. The Curriculum Nights will be held from 6:00-7:30. Our Book Fair will also be open.

NES is preparing to kick off their HEARTS Curriculum. HEARTS Character Education Program is social-emotional curriculum developed by NES Teachers. They have chosen activities that integrate the arts (visual arts, music, movement, storytelling, drama, and poetry) that offer engaging activities for school and home. Student activities support the developmental readiness skills to provide each student opportunities for success. During the course of this school year, NES staff will highlight the following character traits:

Honesty (assembly this Friday)

Effort

Achievement

Respect & Responsibility

Teamwork

Safety & Self-Control

In addition to the classroom activities and whole-school assemblies, there is a home-school component that is located in the virtual back-pack on the NES website. Thank you to Mr. Joel for hosting a very successful sing along for Kindergarten and Grade 1 students and families.

We have been asked to share that there is a public meeting on Thursday evening about the Stretch Code - Building Energy Code. It is Article 6 for the Fall Town Meeting - Thursday, 9/29 at 6PM at Town Hall.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- a. School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes from 7:00PM on September 13, 2016
- b. Warrant 37-10s 09/01/2016 \$76,090.30
- c. Warrant 37-12s 09/15/2016 \$388,245.54

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

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

I. Action Items:

- a. DECA MA Competition (Boston), Conference (Washington, D.C.), and Int. Competition (Anaheim, CA)

The motion was made by Michael Clements to approve the three DECA trips: DECA MA Competition (Boston), Conference (Washington, D.C.), and Int. Competition (Anaheim, CA). The motion was seconded by Kate Tracy. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

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

b. Charter Cap Resolution

The motion was made by Randi Zanca to approve the Resolution against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools. The motion was seconded by Michael Clements.

The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

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

c. Approval of NTA Contract for 2016-2019

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to approve the NTA Contract for 2016-2019. The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

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

4 members having voted in the affirmative

1 member having abstained

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 4-0 with 1 abstention.

d. Safety Committee Reappointment

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to Appoint Catherine Stickney and Melissa Walker to the Safety Committee. The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael Clements	Yes
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes

Kate Tracy Yes
Randi Zanca 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.

II. Discussion:

a. Superintendent's Annual Goals

Catherine Stickney shared with the Committee her proposed goals for 2016-2017. The three goals are: Professional Practice Goal, District Improvement Goal, and Student Learning Goal.

b. Fuel Efficiency Policy

Melissa Walker discussed the Fuel Efficiency Policy. This policy, which will require a signature of the Superintendent, is part of the Green Community Initiative. The purpose is to reduce the Town of Northbridge's fuel consumption and energy costs and to establish a requirement that the Town of Northbridge purchase only fuel efficient vehicles for municipal/school use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.

c. MSBA- School Building Committee Update Regarding Enrollment Projection Certification

Catherine Stickney stated that a letter from MSBA was presented to the School Building Committee in regards to projected enrollment. In the event that we are approved to move forward into the feasibility stage, we needed to have SBC approval to certify the enrollment number. The SBC accepted the numbers and signed the enrollment letter.

d. Preliminary FY16 Budget Recap Continued

Melissa Walker continued the budget recap for 2016-2017. Melissa reviewed the revolver balance for 2016 and reviewed/updated the projections for 2017.

IX. School Committee Individual Comments

Kate Tracy- shared a few questions and concerns regarding Springboard.

Joseph Strazzulla- NYSA soccer night is Saturday night. Joe will be attending the PTA meeting at Balmer next Wednesday to announce/inform the community about the budget forums.

The SBC Committee is a great group of people; they are looking forward to moving ahead.

Connor Nowlan- wanted to thank all of those who attended Homecoming.

Michael LeBrasseur- The budget forum dates are 10/27 at Balmer and 11/3 at the High School.

X. Adjournment

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to adjourn the meeting at 8:04pm. The motion was seconded Joseph Strazzulla. A vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Michael Clements Yes

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Joseph Strazzulla Yes

Kate Tracy Yes

Randi Zanca 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.