Northbridge Public Schools
Northbridge School Committee

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Steven Falconer, Chairperson, stfalconer@nps.org
Brian Paulhus, Kathryn Atchue, Allan Richards, Erin Donahue

Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting
Monday, April 4, 2022 5:00PM

Remote public attendance only via the Zoom Link in accordance with the Governor of Massachusetts' March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, Section 20

I. Call to Order (5:00)

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Attendance

Steven Falconer	Present
Brian Paulhus	Present
Allan Richards	Present
Kathryn Atchue	Present
Erin Donahue	Present

Also in attendance were Superintendent Amy McKinstry, virtually, and Director of Business and Finance Melissa Walker

IV. Statement of Audio and Video Recording

V. Statement of Mission

VI. Public Comment

VII. Discussion

  A. Addition of 4.5 FTE Instructional Assistants

Amy McKinstry advised that there have been two new students that had 1:1 IAs on their IEPS and two Pre-K students that require 1:1s and one for a half day. Will transfer one from the high school for the half day. They will look at this again next year. Out of the 4.5 they will be requesting the addition of two new IAs that they can't reorganize.

  B. Reinstatement of ELL Teacher position/Reduction of Para position

Amy McKinstry advised that the ELL numbers have increased, and they are looking to swap the para position back to an ELL teacher position. Erin Donahue asked what the hiring process would look like and Melissa Walker advised that the ELL para position is vacant, so instead of hiring for that position, they are looking to hire a teacher.

VIII. Action Items

  A. Addition of 4.5 FTE Instructional Assistants

A motion was made by Erin Donahue to support the addition of 4.5 FTE Instructional Assistants. The motion was seconded by Kathryn Atchue.

Steven Falconer	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Allan Richards	Yes
Kathryn Atchue	Yes
Erin Donahue	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. Reinstatement of ELL Teacher position/Reduction of Para position

A motion was made by Allan Richards to support the reinstatement of the ELL teacher position and reduction of Para position. The motion was seconded by Erin Donahue.

Steven Falconer	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Allan Richards	Yes
Kathryn Atchue	Yes
Erin Donahue	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.   Executive Session Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A Section 21(a) for the Following Purpose not to return to Open Session:

    A. Purpose (2) To conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel

A motion was made by Erin Donahue to move into executive session Executive Session Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A Section 21(a) for the Following Purpose not to return to Open Session:

    A. Purpose (2) To conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel

. The motion was seconded by Allan Richards.

Steven Falconer	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Allan Richards	Yes
Kathryn Atchue	Yes
Erin Donahue	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.   Adjournment (5:07)

Note: The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Also, the timeframe for each topic is a general guideline and may not be strictly adhered to.