



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

Tuesday, April 26, 2022 7:00PM

Northbridge High School Media Center

- I. Call to Order (7:00)
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Attendance

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

Also in attendance was Director of Business and Finance Melissa Walker

- IV. Statement of Audio and Video Recording
- V. Public Comment
- VI. Student Representative Report

Student Representative Sarah Cowen started her report by providing a student body update. Sara Bedigian won the WCSA scholar award and was recognized at the previous School Committee meeting, but attended the WCSA luncheon with 68 other students. Samantha Billmyer was the recipient of the good citizen award. Sarah congratulated the students who were appointed to the DESE advisory council. The NHS justice academy and law classes were visited by Justice Melia and Officer Luby. For the clubs update, on Tuesday April 26th, SADD put on a safe prom program presentation which taught students about getting home from prom safely and enjoying the event in a safe manner. The science club will be hosting an international DNA day movie night including DNA trivia and a raffle for a Jurassic Park gift basket. Lastly, the music program's spring concert will take place Wednesday, April 27th at 7:00pm, and will be \$5.00 at the door.

- VII. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Amy McKinstry announced that Lorinda Allen was chosen as the new Principal of Academics at Northbridge Elementary School. She comes with building and district level administrative experience and she will be introduced at the next meeting. Amy thanked the screening committee for their work. Amy announced that the NHS principal finalist had to withdraw their commitment for personal reasons and they are still working on filling the position. On April 7th, Blackstone Valley districts participated in the first educator job fair at Milford High School. It went really well and over 120 people attended, 40 of which Northbridge received resumes from. MCAS is now in full swing as of this week and AP exams will be starting next week. On Saturday, Northbridge Middle School will be hosting their kindness carnival from 11:00-3:00pm. On Friday, April 29th, NHS will host their prom, of which Amy will chaperone. The promenade will start at 5:00pm and prom will start at 6:00pm. There was a ConnectED sent out regarding appropriate behavior on the playground at NES and parents are called to help the district ensure that kids are behaving respectfully while utilizing it. There are many cameras around that building.

- VIII. Presentation

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. District Technology Update

Director of Educational Technology, Tiago Vital, provided a technology update. The district has upgraded to 12 new projectors, 15 new smartboards that are recently installed, and are waiting on 15 more interactive projectors. The high school and middle school staff all received Chromebooks last year, and they have increased the number of Chromebooks and carts throughout the school. The department added 25 new security cameras throughout NMS and NHS to address blind spots and has plans to increase the amount. They upgraded 3 computer labs with brand new computers and will work over the summer to upgrade the rest of the labs. Tiago helped to establish a district technology website, which was created for staff, students, and families to find useful information such as how-to guides, policies, helpful links, Google related videos, and educational links. They updated the empowered use policy and added a 3 year action plan, which started last year. Network closets were re-wired for easier troubleshooting, making it easier to navigate when there are issues. The migration from IPass to Infinite Campus has begun and content filtering was adopted at the beginning of the year to satisfy the student data privacy state requirements. Lastly, they implemented the KnowBe4 cybersecurity training and added 15 additional Wi-Fi spots at NMS and NHS.

IX. Consent Agenda

A. School Committee Meeting Minutes from April 12, 2022

B. Warrant 42-42s 4/14/2022 \$324,796.04

A motion was made by Erin Donahue to approve the consent agenda. 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

X. Discussion

A. HS Mystic Aquarium Field Trip

A request was put in for students to attend a Mystic Aquarium field trip. Due to the trip being located out-of-state, it required approval from the School Committee.

XII. Action

A. HS Mystic Aquarium Field Trip

A motion was made by Allan Richards to approve the NHS Mystic Aquarium field trip. 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. Food Service RFP

A motion was made by Erin Donahue to approve the food service RFP. 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

XIII. Information

A. NPS Tiered Focused Monitoring Progress Update

XIV. School Committee Individual Comments

XV. Executive Session Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A Section 21(a) for the Following Purpose not to return to Open Session:

Purpose (2) To conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel

A motion was made by Allan Richards to move into Executive Session Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A Section 21(a) for the Following Purpose not to return to Open Session: Purpose (2) To conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. 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

XI. Adjournment (7:20)

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.