



# Northbridge Public Schools

## Northbridge School Committee

87 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville, Massachusetts 01588 (508) 234-8156 FAX (508) 234-8469 [www.nps.org](http://www.nps.org)

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Michael LeBrasseur, Chairperson, [mlebrasseur@nps.org](mailto:mlebrasseur@nps.org), Joseph Strazzulla, Vice-Chairperson,  
Michael Clements, Kate Tracy, Randi Zanca

### Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, December 13th, 2016 7:00 PM Northbridge High School Media Center

#### I. Call to Order (7:00)

#### II. Attendance

Michael Clements	Absent
Mike LeBrasseur	Absent
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.

#### III. Pledge of Allegiance

#### IV. Statement of Audio and Video Recording

#### V. Statement of Mission

#### VI. Public Comment

Joe Pixley- Northbridge Youth Soccer Association – Shared concerns regarding the fields closing for the spring.

## VII. Recognitions:

Catherine Stickney recognized the following students:

- Ilona Regan- for receiving the MASS Superintendent's Certificate of Academic Excellence.
- Joseph Canoy- for receiving the Worcester County Superintendent's Association Scholar Award
- 31 Students received a Certificate for Perfect MCAS Scores for 2016

## VIII. Superintendent's Report

December is a very busy, very exciting time for us! From our winter concerts - showcasing the talents of our students, to the students excelling at academics, to our students who are starting their winter sporting seasons - we are still focusing on our students and their instruction.

We are so proud of our 31 students with perfect MCAS scores this evening! That is an amazing accomplishment. As these students approach high school and complete MCAS in grade 10, they become eligible for John and Abigail Adams Scholarships - which provides four years of tuition at colleges and universities affiliated with the University of MA. We have 35 seniors this year who are recipients of Adams Scholarships. Their hard work and dedication has paid off, and we congratulate them on this accomplishment.

Selected students in grade 4 at Balmer school have started an Enrichment Class. Students will be challenged with alternate activities to support their critical thinking skills. This is the type of program that we will be looking to extend into the MS in the future.

Students in grade 5-8 have been invited to enter the Bridge Building Contest sponsored by the Boston Society of Architects. Our teams will meet on Thursday to begin their planning and development.

In your packets, you will find a letter from the MIAA Sportsmanship Committee. Northbridge has been recognized on the 2016 MIAA Sportsmanship Honor Roll. We will be receiving a patch to be added to our banner in the field house. We are proud that our students have been acknowledged with this distinction.

We also want to recognize our students for their community service. Balmer students are collecting non-perishable items and hosted the Fill A Cruiser event at Walmart on Saturday.

National Art Honor Society students will venture out to purchase toys for local children with the money they have raised this year. This type of dedication reinforces the education of the whole child as a global citizen, as we outlined in our mission and strategic plan.

I would also be remiss if I did not mention the generosity of our staff members. Staff members in each school raise funds for charitable causes each month. This time of year, staff members regularly bring in food, clothing, and gifts to be shared within the community. Their generosity often goes unrecognized, and we appreciate how they go above and beyond the classroom to assist our students and families.

Please join us for our Winter Concerts - this Wed. at MS and the following Wed. at the HS, both at 7pm.

## IX. Consent Agenda

- a. School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes from 7:00PM on November 29, 2016
- b. Warrant 37-22s 11/23/16 \$250,969.60

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to accept the consent agenda as presented. 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	Absent
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Kate Tracy	Yes



c. Substitute Teacher Rates of Pay

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to adjust the Substitute Teachers Rates of Pay starting January 1<sup>st</sup> to \$90.00 for certified and \$70 for noncertified. 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	Absent
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Kate Tracy	Yes
Randi Zanca	Yes

3 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 3-0.

d. Authorize the School Building Committee (SBC) to advertise the Request for Services (RFS) for an Owner's Project Manager (OPM) and to proceed with the RFS

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to authorize SBC to advertise the RFS for an OPM and to proceed with the RFS. 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	Absent
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Kate Tracy	Yes
Randi Zanca	Yes

3 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 3-0.

X. Discussion:

a. Use of Fields

Catherine Stickney stated that she has started Conversations with Dana Cotto, James Lesiak, and Michael Proto in regards to resting at least one of the fields. Catherine wants to make sure that it is a safe environment for students and is working with Mike Proto as a liaison to other sports that use the fields in the area.

b. Student Athletic Fees

Joseph Strazzulla stated that they will wait to take action on any changes to these fees until they are further into the budget process.

c. Student Parking Fees

A discussion was had in regards to changing the fee, eliminating the fee, etc.. There will not be any changes to this fee until we are further into the budget process.

XI. School Committee Individual Comments

Connor Nowlan- When is the website going live? Catherine stated the training is complete and we are almost ready to go live.

Randi Zanca- Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

Joseph Strazzulla- Congratulations to all of the award winners and Perfect MCAS students it is fantastic to see. Happy New Year.

XII. Adjournment 8:14

The motion was made by Kate Tracy to move into Executive Session: Hearing of Grievance from AFL-CIO, STATE COUNCIL 93, LOCAL 1709, Unit C – Custodial – Not to Reconvene in Open Session. The motion was seconded Randi Zanca. A vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Michael Clements                      Absent

Mike LeBrasseur                      Absent

Joseph Strazzulla                      Yes

Kate Tracy                              Yes

Randi Zanca                              Yes

3 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 3-0.