



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,
Alicia Cannon, Brian Paulhus, Joe Richards

Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 27th, 2018 7:00 PM Northbridge High School Media Center

I. Call to Order (7:00)

II. Attendance

Alicia Cannon	Present
Mike LeBrasseur	Present
Brian Paulhus	Present
Joe Richards	Absent
Joseph Strazzulla	Present

Also in attendance were Superintendent Catherine Stickney, Director of Business and Finance Melissa Walker and Student Representative Emilee Angell.

III. Recognition

Catherine Stickney and Timothy McCormick recognized Isabelle Croteau for Outstanding Leadership in Organizing National Walkout Day- 2018

IV. State Representative David Muradian

State Representative David Muradian spoke to the committee in regards to the FY19 State Budget.

V. Public Comment

- Michael LeBrasseur addressed the room with a statement in regards to Special Education
- Sara Guerra – a Special Education parent spoke to the committee in regards to her children and a post on social media. Sara offered suggestions for IEP meetings, etc..

VI. Student Representative's Report

- Baseball, softball, girls and boys tennis, outdoor track, and girls and boys lacrosse have begun their seasons with practices
- Student council won the title of being a Gold Council at the Hyannis conference

- The Mr. NHS fundraiser was hosted by the class of 2018 and had a great turnout. The night was filled with laughter and lots of fun, which you can check out on the rams tv YouTube channel
- The class of 2019 hosted their funny for funds comedy night here at the high school, which brought smiles to many faces
- The NHS concert band performed at MICCA this past Friday and earned a bronze metal
- World Down Syndrome day was celebrated at NHS where several students, teachers, and faculty wore blue, yellow, and crazy socks to show their support
- A walkout took place this month where several students chose to stand in solidarity for the victims of the Florida shooting
- Congressman Jim McGovern joined the junior and senior class in a discussion about congress and current issues in America
- Our DECA students at NHS have had great success this month. Chloe Frabotta won 5th place in the food marketing category, allowing her to move onto Atlanta. Curtis Gogolinski and Robbie Cannon were in the top 10 for their public relations campaign, and placing first in hospitality research was Jacob Gogolinski and JJ Cannon
- The annual culture fair was held where students researched shared information about countries of their interest all around the world

VII. Consent agenda

- a. Warrant 38-36s 3/1/18 \$276,137.47

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon 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	Yes
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joe Richards	Absent
Joseph Strazzulla	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.

VIII. Action items:

- a. Donation to NHS Food Pantry

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to accept the Donation from Polyfoam to NHS Food Pantry in the amount of \$300.00. The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon	Yes
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes
Joe Richards Absent
Joseph Strazzulla 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. Field Trip Approval- NASA ICED to Kennedy Space Center/Cocoa Beach FL

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to approve the NASA ICED trip to the Kennedy Space Center in Cocoa Beach, FL. The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

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

IX. Discussion

a. Field Trip to NASA Globe Student Summit

James Gorman, Christine Cote, and Elizabeth Wermuth presented a field trip to the committee. The Field Trip is to attend the NASA Globe in Buffalo, NY. The dates of the trip are May 4-5, 2018.

X. Action Items Continued

c. Transportation Contract Renewal

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to authorize the renewal of the transportation contract for the 19-20 school year. The motion was seconded by Brian Paulhus. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon No
Mike LeBrasseur Yes
Brian Paulhus Yes
Joe Richards Absent
Joseph Strazzulla Yes
3 members having voted in the affirmative
1 members having voted in the negative
The motion was accepted with a roll call vote of 3-1.

d. School Committee Legal Counsel

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to transfer our working contract to Valerio, Dominello, and Hillman, LLC as our legal counsel affective April 1st. The motion was seconded by Brian Paulhus. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

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

e. School Building Committee

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to appoint Selectman Tom Melia to the School Building Committee as the Board of Selectman Representative and the Representative of Office. The motion was seconded by Brian Paulhus. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

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

f. FY19 Budget

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to approve the Superintendent's Recommended Budget in the amount of \$27,125,322. The motion was seconded by Michael LeBrasseur. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

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

** An update and modifications (slideshow) were made to the proposed budget and shared with the committee prior to the vote.

XI. Discussion Items Continued:

a. Field Trip – Trip to China

Michael LeBrasseur stated the trip to China is during April vacation. The trip has already been authorized by the School Committee. This is a discussion item so we can take action on April 10th.

b. School Committee Evaluation

Michael LeBrasseur stated that we have done the SC self-evaluation since 2010. This has been completed to check on how things are going with the committee or things we want to focus. The evaluation has not changed since we started, which has been great as we can see historical information. Mike wanted to see if the committee wanted to continue the practice. If so, Mike will send it out to everyone. This will be a discussion item at the next SC meeting.

XII. School Committee Individual Comments:

- Emilee Angell- The Spring concert is on April 5th and Evening of the Arts is on April 11th.
- Brian Paulhus- Spring Sports are underway; the kids are waiting to get outside on the fields.
- Alicia Cannon- Thank you to all of the parents and teachers that reached out to her, it was good to hear from people and she hopes that continues. Alicia stated that we have heard a lot that we have not heard in the past and it's important for everyone in this town to realize that elected officials are here for you. They are elected by the town regardless of whether anyone runs against us or we run unopposed that's what we are here for. If we do not get the feedback, we can't do anything about it. Alicia stated that she attended the Class of 2019 funny with funs and they did a great job and raised a decent amount of money for their class.
- Joe Strazzulla- Echo's the comments made by Alicia. The first year Joe came on board was the meeting that we had to make significant cuts. That was the worst meeting he has had to sit through. The overwhelming community voice that we have heard in the last two weeks is refreshing because it is what we need in this town. Joe agrees with Mike that this is a revenue problem and it will have to be addressed in the coming years. We have the School Building project in which Joe is the chair for coming online. It is a one hundred million dollar project, with a 55 million dollar town share after eligible reimbursements. This will come before the town as well to vote on. We will have to come together as a town to support that project as well as any other revenue deficiencies.
- Catherine Stickney stated that the Celebration of Learning is also on April 11th. Cathy is also pleased to announce that we have received 65 applications for the Career/Nicholas Academy.
- Michael LeBrasseur thanked everyone, as mentioned we will be presenting our updated budget to Fincom tomorrow evening.

XIII. Adjournment (8:48 P.M.)

The motion was made by Alicia Cannon to adjourn the meeting at 8:48pm. The motion was seconded Joseph Strazzulla. A vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon	Yes
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joe Richards	No
Joseph Strazzulla	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.