



Northbridge Public Schools

Northbridge School Committee

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Michael LeBrasseur, Chairperson, mlebrasseur@nps.org, Joseph Strazzulla, Vice-Chairperson,
Michael Alden, Bethany Cammarano, Brian Paulhus

Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 26th, 2018 7:00 PM Northbridge High School Media Center

I. Call to Order (7:00)

II. Attendance

Mike LeBrasseur	Absent
Brian Paulhus	Present
Joseph Strazzulla	Present
Michael Alden	Present
Bethany Cammarano	Absent

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

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Statement of Mission

V. Public Comment

None.

VI. Recognition

Catherine Stickney and John Zywiec recognized NMS student Abby Barnatt as the Project 351 Representative.

Catherine Stickney recognized Katharine Tubbs and Walker Sengtong as the Blackstone Valley Youth Leadership Academy Representatives.

VII. Superintendent's Report

Good evening!

It's hard to believe that March is essentially here! As always, it is a very busy time in the schools.

The talented student of NHS provided wonderful entertainment with the production of *Mamma Mia* prior to vacation. Our basketball teams continue to excel into the post season.

We are approaching a strong academic stretch as we work to ensure our students are prepared for MCAS and AP testing this spring. Our District Data Team continues to work on improving attendance as an initiative to improve achievement. Students are actively demonstrating their learning in a variety of ways, from project based learning to Google Classroom. Cathy observed our first grade students using Chromebooks this morning to log into their own Google Classroom!

Our teachers continue to go above and beyond, applying for grants, setting up labs, Maker Spaces, Fab Labs, and Innovation Spaces. They are developing projects that are motivating students to take risks, just as they are taking risks to try new learning opportunities.

We hope to have a wide range of displays to share at this year's Celebration of Learning - entitled *Full STEAM Ahead*.

We have been hosting numerous opportunities for parent involvement and support - Bullying forums to parent support workshops. Please check the website for upcoming events.

Our grade 8 students will be shadowing students at NHS starting tomorrow. We are preparing to open our application process for the Northbridge Career Academies. Watch for our new website and promotional materials!

VIII. Discussion:

a. Balmer News and Notes

Karlene Ross updated the committee with news and upcoming events at Balmer.

IX. Consent Agenda

a. School Committee Budget Subcommittee Minutes from February 14, 2019

b. Warrant 39-30s 1/24/19 \$207,907.11

c. Warrant 39-32s 2/7/19 \$263,875.50

A motion was made by Michael Alden to accept all items from the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Brian Paulhus. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur Absent

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joseph Strazzulla Yes

Michael Alden Yes

Bethany Cammarano Absent

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. Presentation

Catherine Stickney and Melissa Walker present the Superintendent's Proposed FY20 Budget.

**Michael LeBrasseur arrived at 7:40pm*

XI. Action

a. Spring Town Meeting Capital Article

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to see if the town will vote to transfer from the undesignated fund balance (free cash) the following sums of money to be expended under the direction of the School Committee: \$106,400 for District-wide technology purchases; \$32,000 for heating system repairs at the Middle School; \$12,000 to install a safety hand railing on the pathway leading up to the High School upper fields; \$40,000 to replace existing stair treads at the High School; \$46,500 to abate asbestos in the Middle School boiler rooms; and \$13,100 to purchase two floor burnishers and two floor buffing machines. The motion was seconded by Brian Paulhus. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joseph Strazzulla Yes

Michael Alden Yes

Bethany Cammarano Absent

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.

XII. Discussion Cont.:

a. Policy (BEDH) Public Participation at School Committee Meeting

Brian Paulhus updated the committee on the policy and revisions.

b. School Naming Process for Building Project

Michael LeBrasseur shared a process to come up with a new name for the school. Michael also shared a timeline for this process.

c. Superintendent Evaluation Process

Catherine Stickney discussed the Superintendent Evaluation Process with the Committee.

d. Superintendent Formative Evaluation

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.

Catherine Stickney shared her Formative Evaluation.

e. Superintendent Search

Michael LeBrasseur discussed the following:

1. District Profile- Information about Northbridge to create a profile
2. Community Survey- Discussed format and questions for the survey
3. Screen Committee- Discussed the makeup of the committee and the next steps

XIII. School Committee Individual Comments

Michael Alden- Congratulated Abby, Katharine, and Walker for awards!

Michael LeBrasseur- Boys/Girls Basketball both won this week. The hockey team has a game tomorrow, and the girls' game is on Thursday.

XIV. Adjournment (8:52P.M.)

The motion was made by Michael LeBrasseur to adjourn the meeting and move into Executive Session Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A Section 21(a) for the Following Purpose and Not to Return to Open Session:

A. Purpose (3) to Discuss Strategy with Respect to Collective Bargaining with Union and Non-Union Personnel.

B. Purpose (7) to Comply with the General Provisions of Any General or Special Law or Federal Grant-In-Aid Requirements (General Privacy).

The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. A vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur	Present
Brian Paulhus	Present
Joseph Strazzulla	Present
Michael Alden	Present
Bethany Cammarano	Absent

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.