



Northbridge Public Schools

Northbridge School Committee

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Michael LeBrasseur, Chairperson, mlebrasseur@nps.org,
Brian Paulhus, Bethany Cammarano, Steven Falconer, Robert Dziekiewicz

Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 14, 2020 7:00PM

This meeting is being held remotely 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 (7:00)
- II. Statement regarding Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law
- III. Attendance

Michael LeBrasseur	Present
Bethany Cammarano	Absent
Steven Falconer	Present
Brian Paulhus	Present
Robert Dziekiewicz	Present

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

- IV. Statement of Audio and Video Recording
- V. Statement of Mission
- VI. Public Comment

No emails were received for public comment and no members of the public were on the call for public comment.

- VII. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent, Amy McKinstry shared thoughts and updates on happenings in and around the district during the COVID-19 Pandemic. MCAS has been cancelled for the year. Packet pick up and chromebooks went well with great support from the admin at the buildings. We will be doing a 2nd round of chromebook pickups for those families that are still in need. A Q&A survey has been put on the district website. Amy will be doing weekly Sunday night video's where she will be addressing questions and concerns. Amy also wanted to express her gratitude for all the hard work happening throughout the district. Food Service Grab N Go pick up days have changed starting this week to

Monday and Thursdays from 9am – 11am. We have added breakfast and lunch for Saturday and Sunday. Families who get free and reduced lunch can pick up breakfast and lunch on Monday for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Thursday's you can pick up for Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Food Pantry pickups will also be available on Monday and Thursday's between 9am-11am. Any families in need just need to email Karlene Ross or contact Central Office and we will get the boxes prepared for them. The weekly call with the commissioner indicates that we would be getting additional information regarding the closure after he meets with the Governor. We have our remote learning plan in place now.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- A. School Committee Meeting Minutes from March 10, 2020
- B. School Committee Meeting Minutes from March 24, 2020
- C. Warrant 40-36s 3/5/2020 \$177,192.45
- D. Warrant 40-38s 3/19/2020 \$479,935.83
- E. Warrant 40-40s 4/2/2020 \$210,171.93
- F. Jim Morrisette's Oil Burner Services Inc. - Donation to the Balmer Food Pantry to support families in need during the COVID19 pandemic - \$1,000
- G. Blackstone Valley Physical Therapy Services, Inc. – Donation - the proceeds from a raffle to the Balmer Food Pantry - \$281.00

A motion was made by Brian Paulhus to accept items from the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Steven Falconer. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael LeBrasseur	Yes
Bethany Cammarano	Absent
Steven Falconer	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Robert Dziekiewicz	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. Action Items

A. Athletic/Club Fee Changes

A motion was made by Steven Falconer to accept Athletic Club Fee Changes as presented. The motion was seconded by Brian Paulhus. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael LeBrasseur	Yes
Bethany Cammarano	Absent
Steven Falconer	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Robert Dziekiewicz	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.

X. Discussion

A. School Committee Self Evaluation

Michael referenced the packet in which he shared the self evaluation. Michael was looking for feedback from the committee about continuing with a self evaluation. Brian thought it was good to continue with the evaluation. Steve asked to be able to see past reports but thinks it would be good to continue. Bob asked what the timeframe would be. Michael would propose a timeline at the next meeting.

B. School Choice

Michael and Amy talked about the school choice process and shared thoughts.

C. Transportation Contract Amendment (COVID-19 Impact)

Melissa Walker provided an update regarding conversations with DESE and working with other districts that are using the same transportation provider for what the payment will look like during the closure as there is a lack of services being performed. Melissa has been talking with other area districts to negotiate with Vendetti. Melissa highlighted some of the points that were being discussed during the negotiations. There is a sample memorandum in the packet for review. All committees of other towns will be meeting this week. If the committee is comfortable with voting on it tonight that would be great it could be voted on at the next meeting. If the committee has reservations Melissa could bring that back to the others.

Michael, Bob, and Steve all asked some questions regarding the contract. Melissa was able to answer all questions the committee had.

A motion was made by Brian Paulhus to approve the Memorandum of understanding between Northbridge Public Schools and Vendetti Motors, Inc. dated April 14, 2020 as presented. The motion was seconded by Steven Falconer. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Michael LeBrasseur	Yes
Bethany Cammarano	Absent
Steven Falconer	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Robert Dziekiewicz	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.

D. Transportation Fees (COVID-19 Impact)

Melissa Walker provided various calculation examples in the packet to the committee.

Committee is starting to look at scenarios of the potential refunds due to the closures. The committee talked about waiting til the next meeting based on the assumption they would know more about the status of the closure. Potential club and athletic fee refunds were also

talked about at this time as well as preschool tuition. Everyone agreed to revisit after there is guidance to how long the closure continues.

XI. Information

- A. Approved SC Budget Subcommittee Minutes 10-7-2019
- B. Approved SC Budget Subcommittee Minutes 2-11-2020
- C. Approved SC Budget Subcommittee Minutes 3-3-2020

XII. School Committee Individual Comments

School Committee shared individual comments.

Next School Committee Meeting will be April 28, 2020

XIII. Adjournment

The motion was made by Brian Paulhus to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Steven Falconer. A vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Michael LeBrasseur	Yes
Bethany Cammarano	Absent
Steven Falconer	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Robert Dziekiewicz	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