



Northbridge Public Schools

Northbridge School Committee

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~~www.nps.org~~ Michael LeBrasseur, Chairperson, mlebrasseur@nps.org, Joseph Strazzulla, Vice-Chairperson,

Alicia Cannon, Brian Paulhus, Randi Zanca

Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, August 22nd, 2017 6:30 PM Northbridge High School Media Center

I. Call to Order (6:30)

II. Attendance

Alicia Cannon	Present
Mike LeBrasseur	Present
Brian Paulhus	Present
Joseph Strazzulla	Present
Randi Zanca	Present

Also in attendance were Superintendent Catherine Stickney and Business Manager Melissa Walker

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Statement of Audio and Video Recording

V. Statement of Mission

VI. Public Comment

None.

VII. Superintendent's Report

Although the summer is coming to a close, it has not been quiet around the Northbridge Public Schools!

The School Building Committee has met numerous times over the summer to tour facilities, review existing conditions, and review information provided by the Educational Visioning Committee. We are looking forward to our second community forum next Monday at 6PM at NES.

We hosted summer school programs at NES, Middle School, and the High School. We also held our three-week SCIP program at NHS, which had 51 participants. One new component this year included a community service experience, which entailed students assisting in the Community Garden or stocking the new Food Pantry at the High School. We also hosted the Jr. Police Academy again for a second year, presented by Officer DeJordy.

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.

In the month of July, the programs at Northbridge were showcased at the state level again as we presented in two sessions at the Executive Institute for the Mass. Assoc. Of School Superintendents. The Lomonaco family joined us to discuss strategies for a successful partnership with the school and district for gender identity. Amy McKinstry and I were asked to participate on a panel with DESE staff regarding “Planning for Success” - successful action planning to address strategic goals.

Popsicle Play dates at NES brought new and old friends out to visit. Thank you to the teachers who popped in from summer vacation to greet our students. Read Around the Town and our Community Reading were well attended. We host the final session of the Community Reading for Hillbilly Elegy next Tuesday at 2PM at the Social Library. Anyone may still join for this session.

A great deal of work has been completed to update our technology and facilities this summer. The tech team shared that they upgraded anti-virus software on over 1000 machines, as well as switching out machines from building to building. We have also increased our internet speed and added more access points with our MassIT grant.

We implemented a Substitute Teacher Orientation program this summer that allowed us to provide our mandatory training for the year, while providing a handbook and answering questions. Band Camp has started their work for the new year; Link Leaders are back this week for training; Freshmen come for Orientation on Friday; Student packets are being distributed this week; the Balmer Welcome Back picnic is Thursday evening. Our student athletes have started reporting for practice.

We are ready for the new year - and look forward to greeting staff on Monday and families and students on Tuesday to say hello for School Opening hours.

VIII. Consent agenda

- a. School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes from 7pm on July 11, 2017
- b. Warrant 37-55s 6/30/17 \$175,172.77
- c. Warrant 38-02s 7/6/17 \$40,136.70
- d. Warrant 38-04s 7/20/17 \$33,915.72
- e. Warrant 38-06s 8/3/17 \$177,313.84

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to accept the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Alicia Cannon. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon	Yes
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Randi Zanca	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.

IX. Discussion:

Field Trip Approval- NHS Music Department to Hershey Park.

James Verdone proposed a field trip to Hershey Park Mr. Verdone would like to bring the Concert Band and NHarmonics to compete in the “Music in the Parks” festival. The dates of the trip are May 11-13th. This will be an action item on 9/12/17.

X. Action items

a. Donation to the Middle School Field Trip Account

A motion was made by Randi Zanca to accept the Donation to the Middle School Field Trip Account. A 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
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Randi Zanca	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. Donation of Equipment from NCTV

A motion was made by Randi Zanca to accept the Donation of Equipment from NCTV. A 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
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Randi Zanca	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.

c. Job Description Update- Dean of Students, Northbridge High School

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to approve the Job Description Update-Dean of Students, NHS. A motion was seconded by Randi Zanca. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon	Yes
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Randi Zanca	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.

d. Student/Family Handbook 2017-2018

A motion was made by Randi Zanca to approve the Student/Family Handbook 2017-2018 with edits per attorney. A motion was seconded by Alicia Cannon. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon	Yes
Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Randi Zanca	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.

e. Capital Projects/Fall Warrant

A motion was made by Randi Zanca to place an article on the Fall Town Warrant, requesting \$200,000.00 for plaster repair and auditorium upgrades. A 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
Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
Randi Zanca	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.

f. Balmer Mulch

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to replace the Balmer mulch for \$9,804.04. A 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

Joseph Strazzulla Yes

Randi Zanca 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.

g. Donation to Middle School Sports

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to accept Donation to Fund MS Fall Sports in the amount of \$19,850.00. A motion was seconded by Randi Zanca. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon Yes

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joseph Strazzulla Yes

Randi Zanca 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. Discussion:

a. Job Description- Director of Business and Finance

Catherine Stickney stated that routinely in the valley, the superintendents review organizational structures and pay scales, establishing equity across the Blackstone Valley. Additionally, we are in the process of reviewing and updating our in house job descriptions. This job description had not been revised since 2004. This will be an action item on 9/12/17.

b. School Choice Grade Closure

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Catherine Stickney advised the committee that she has closed Kindergarten due to the class size.

c. Surplus Textbooks to be Disposed

Catherine Stickney stated that Mrs. Ross would like to have the items on the list declared as surplus.

They are very loved books that are no longer in use. This will be an action item on 9/12/17.

XII. School Committee Individual Comments

Joseph Strazzulla- There is a Community Forum at NES on August 28th from 6:00pm-8:00pm. Our designer and OPM will be there. We had great attendance at the Forum on August 1st. We are looking forward to another great turnout. Joe updated the Board of Selectmen last night about where we are at and what we are doing.

Michael LeBrasseur- Wish all the teachers, students, and staff a great year, they are back next week. Hope the year gets off to a great start.

XIII. Adjournment (7:13 P.M.)

The motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to adjourn the meeting at 7:13pm. The motion was seconded Alicia Cannon. A vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Alicia Cannon	Yes
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Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
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Brian Paulhus	Yes
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Joseph Strazzulla	Yes
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Randi Zanca	Yes
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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.