



Northbridge Public Schools

Northbridge School Committee

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Michael LeBrasseur, Chairperson, mlebrasseur@nps.org, Joseph Strazzulla, Vice-Chairperson,
Brian Paulhus, Joe Richards

Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, May 22nd, 2018 7:00 PM Northbridge High School Media Center

I. Call to Order (7:00)

II. Attendance

Mike LeBrasseur	Present
Brian Paulhus	Present
Joe Richards	Present
Joseph Strazzulla	Present

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 Audio and Video Recording

V. Statement of Mission

VI. School Committee Reorganization

a. Chairperson

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to nominate Michael LeBrasseur as Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Joe Richards. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joe Richards	Yes
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. Vice-Chairperson

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.

A motion was made by Michael LeBrasseur to appoint Joe Richards as Vice-Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joe Richards	Yes
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.

c. Secretary

A motion was made by Michael LeBrasseur to appoint Brian Paulhus as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joe Richards	Yes
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.

d. Cable Corporation Board of Directors Representative

A motion was made by Michael LeBrasseur to appoint Rod Lee as Cable Corporation Board of Directors Representative. The motion was seconded by Joe Richards. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joe Richards	Yes
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. Building, Planning, and Construction Committee Representative

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to appoint Michael LeBrasseur as the Building, Planning, and Construction Committee Representative. The motion was seconded by Joe Richards. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joe Richards Yes

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. Safety Committee Representative

A motion was made by Joe Richards to appoint Joseph Strazzulla as the Safety Committee Representative. The motion was seconded by Brian Paulhus. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joe Richards Yes

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.

g. Green/Solar Committee Representative

A motion was made by Michael LeBrasseur to appoint Melissa Walker as the Green/Solar Committee Representative. The motion was seconded by Joe Richards. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joe Richards Yes

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.

h. Ad Hoc Fields Committee Representative

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to appoint Brian Paulhus as the Ad Hoc Fields Committee Representative. The motion was seconded by Joe Richards. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joe Richards Yes

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.

i. Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative Board Member

A motion was made by Michael LeBrasseur to appoint Catherine Stickney, as the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative Board Member. The motion was seconded by Joe Richards. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joe Richards Yes

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.

j. Warrants (3)

A motion was made by Michael LeBrasseur to appoint Brian Paulhus, Joe Richards, and Michael LeBrasseur as warrant signers. The motion was seconded by Joseph Strazzulla. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joe Richards Yes

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.

k. Weekly Payroll

A motion was made by Michael LeBrasseur to appoint Brian Paulhus as the committee member to sign the weekly payroll with Joseph Strazzulla as backup. The motion was seconded by Joe Richards. The vote was taken by roll call and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur Yes

Brian Paulhus Yes

Joe Richards Yes

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.

VII. Public Comment

Kerrie Hendee, Northbridge parent, expressed her concerns with the Special Ed Department regarding her grandchild and the IEP process

Sarah Guerra, a Northbridge parent, shared her concerns in regards to ESY and the Special Ed Department with the committee.

Michael Alden and Danielle Keane, Northbridge parents, shared their concerns with communication within the district and their ideas to enhance the communication.

Wendy Timmons, a Northbridge Parent, voiced her concerns with the secretarial cuts.

VIII. Student Representative's Report

- Last Friday was the last day of classes for seniors and the conclusion of AP testing.
- The senior finals are being held this week.
- Baccalaureate will kick off senior week this Thursday.
- The senior trip will begin this Friday.
- As far as spring sports, Baseball and Softball qualify for districts, and tonight's game will be the deciding factor for Girls' Lacrosse.
- Sally Price and Marcus Babiy made states for Track. Boys and Girls Tennis along with Boys' Lacrosse had a great season, but did not make districts
- The Tri-M Music Honor Society and the National Art Honor Society held their inductions this month.
- Last night, the Student Council held their end of year banquet, and the Executive Board for the 2018-2019 school year was selected.
- Tomorrow, the high school will be hosting the Credit for Life Fair to educate students on banking, credit, etc.

IX. Consent agenda

- a. School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes from May 8, 2018
- b. School Committee Regular Meeting Minutes from May 11, 2018
- c. Warrant 38-44s 4/26/18 \$164,133.48
- b. Warrant 37-46s 5/10/18 \$30,609.14

A motion was made by Joe Richards 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:

Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes

Joe Richards Yes

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.

X. Discussion:

a. Trip to Washington, DC, April 2020

Katie Cote presented a trip to Washington DC in 2020. This will be an action item for the June 16th meeting.

b. Puerto Rico USVI Hurricane Relief

Melissa Walker shared with the committee that the Department of Education has sent hurricane relief payments to districts. We have just received one payment and we will be receiving another in June.

c. School Lunch Price

Melissa Walker stated that the USDA has issued a one year exemption for the 18-19 school year. School lunch prices will remain the same.

d. Job Description Technology Director

Greg Palmer shared an updated description in draft format. This will be an action item on the 6/12/18 agenda.

e. Job Description Network Administrator

Greg Palmer shared an updated description in draft format. This will be an action item on the 6/12/18 agenda.

f. Job Description Information Systems Manager

Greg Palmer shared an updated description in draft format. This will be an action item on the 6/12/18 agenda.

g. Job Description Technology Support Specialist

Greg Palmer shared an updated description in draft format. This will be an action item on the 6/12/18 agenda.

h. Subcommittee (Budget, Policy, Negotiations, PR/Communication)

Michael LeBrasseur requested insight from the other members in regards to going forth with these committees or not. Catherine Stickney stated that she would prefer to have the subcommittees as it helps provide more input, and it is easier to go through the policies.

i. Independent Review of the Special Education Department

Catherine Stickney stated that we have been in contact with the evaluators, and they have already spent an entire day in the district. They have confirmed to additional dates for forums and individual interviews.

Catherine Stickney stated that the District posted for the position of Director of PPS, beginning July 1st, 2018. This is a board appointment. The committee discussed the process. This will be a discussion item for the 6/12 meeting.

k. Vacancy Appointment/Joint Meeting with Board of Selectmen

Michael LeBrasseur confirmed the meeting date of June 12th to interview/appoint a candidate. The Talent Bank form and resume are due to Kristen Ferrante by June 8th at 2pm.

l. Safety and Security

Michael LeBrasseur stated that we will need to pin down how we will use the money received from Town Meeting. Mike stated that we should hold a public hearing or a forum to get input from the community. It would be beneficial to have various representatives from the town and school to talk about what we are doing and what we have done.

m. School Building Committee Update

Joseph Strazzulla stated that the committee met yesterday. Things are moving along. There was a neighborhood meeting for all properties that touched the Balmer site. There will be a neighborhood meeting for June 16th. The next community forum is August 20th. There is a lot of work to do; the budget side has been submitted to the MSBA.

XI. School Committee Individual Comments

Joseph Strazzulla- We have a position opening. He encourages anyone who is considering becoming a member of the School Committee to apply. There have been a lot of active and engaged members of the community, and that is what we are looking for.

Brian Paulhus will not be able to attend graduation next Friday, as junior parents help with OpGrad setup. People are still need to help out. Reach out to Brian or Julie Cray if interested. The landscaping club started a few weeks ago had some students come out last week to help out. The club is growing and more interest has been shown. It is a self-funded program.

Joe Richards stated that there is a great 11 minute video online about the China trip. It was great to see how much everyone enjoyed it, and it's great to see those types of opportunities being offered at NPS.

Wesley Mawn- What are the qualifications for the open position? You must be a registered voter.

Michael LeBrasseur- In addition to Joe's comment about the vacant seat, the Superintendent shared a communication earlier this week with a lot of opportunities for the community to get involved and engaged with the school district to provide input. Reminder to the committee, you are welcome to add to the agenda at any time just let me know.

XII. Adjournment (8:50 P.M.)

The motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to enter into executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A section 219(a) for the following purposes:

- A. Purpose (3) to Discuss Strategy with Respect to Collective Bargaining with Union Personnel
- B. Purpose (6) to Consider the Purchase, Exchange, Taking, Lease, or Value of Real property not to Return to Open Session.

The motion was seconded by Joe richards. The vote was taken by roll call vote and the following votes were recorded:

Mike LeBrasseur	Yes
Brian Paulhus	Yes
Joe Richards	Yes
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.