



Northbridge Public Schools

Northbridge School Committee

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

Northbridge Public Schools School Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 13th, 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. Public Comment

None.

IV. Superintendent's Report

We are moving into the second half of the year, and not paying any attention to the forecast of one groundhog. We have had 5 snow days, which will put us at June 20th for the last day of school.

We wish to extend a huge congratulations to the cast of Beauty and the Beast. I believe that it was one of the best high school shows I've ever seen. The link is now posted for all those who wish to view it again.

We are excited to report that our first 2 QCC classes have started at NHS. We have 7 students enrolled in Psys101 and CIS105.

Over vacation next week, we will be hosting Space Camp at NHS, sponsored by NASA ICED. The week will end with a dinner honoring NASA educator and astronaut Dr. Camara. We look forward to see Congressman McGovern as well. Tickets are still available. Please contact the office or see the website for information.

This Thursday will be the showcase of our student museum celebrating Black History Month. We hope you will join us on Thursday morning for this informative learning celebration.

We are interviewing individuals this week for HS principal. We'd like to thank our committee for their time. We will plan a meet and greet for the community when we get to the finalist stage.

The Northbridge Career Academy application process is open. We've had a great response to the new Nichols Honors Academy.

Save the date for the Celebration of Learning - on March 7th at 6:00PM. Our theme will be connecting to the world - through technology, service, and studies.

January 12th

STEM Day at NMS. NMS students participated in a variety activities that focused on careers that require strong STEM skills.

Presenters:

Jim Gorman and Christine Cote(along with NHS students): NHS NASA class demonstrated their NASA project.

Jennifer Switzer-MIT Student: presented STEM careers available to women.

Mac Andrews Raytheon Electrical Engineer: demonstrated engineering theories and practical applications in our everyday lives. Also, explained skills required to have a career in engineering.

January 31st

PD-NMS. Mike Silvestri presented instructional strategies that teach all students; meeting the needs of all students.

Christine Cote presented how to enhance lessons using technology. She demonstrated effective and useful instructional strategies using technology in the classroom.

Mary Stinchfield and Bob McLaughlin presented how they effectively use Socratic Circle with their students each day and how staff can utilize the strategies during Advisory.

February 12th

90 Chromebooks have arrived. They are being configured by Tech. Dept. and will be in the hands of students on Monday, 2/12

February 3

Fifteen Band and Chorus students auditioned for Central MA District. Three qualified. Names have not yet been announced.

NMS sent four teams to the Bridge Building Competition at Wentworth Institute in Boston. Feedback from judges was that our students presented very well especially since they competed against many high school students.

Balmer students celebrated the Balmer School's 50th birthday party, by dancing the night away and raising funds for their partner school in Texas. They raised nearly \$1000 for the school community.

Balmer Elementary staff and students have also opened their our Food Pantry. Open to the entire community, this service, started by the generosity of staff and students, continues to address service to others.

NHS DECA students (spearheaded by Robert Cannon, and Curtis Boglinks) raised funding to provide grade 1 students with 3 lunch assemblies in hope to instill a love for reading. These assemblies occurred in November, January and February, included a take-home craft and a copy of "The Magician's Hat" by Malcolm Mitchell.

Ms. Palmer-Howes assisted both Robert Cannon and Curtis Gogolinski throughout the project, designing assemblies, etc) James Viana and Corbin assisted with the presentations. There were several NHS volunteers who helped print, cut, and bag our crafts. Some of whom put in the most time include; Jake Gogolinski, JJ Cannon, Paige Bober, Dan Grant, and Hunter Clements. Lastly, Ms. Sapp (Read with Malcolm Executive Director) worked with Robert and Curtis hand in hand. Their partnership with Read with Malcolm was in large part to her hard work.

Kindergarten students connect 100 days of learning to support the Northbridge Food Pantry. Students worked to count, group and graph donated food items with a goal of receiving 100 items per team. Supporting the Northbridge Food Pantry is an annual activity that receives participation from families across all grade levels. Thank you families for your support!

We are continuing to infuse technology as we prepare for online testing this year. It is a comfortable feeling this year to know that we have worked so hard to include technology into our daily practices that there seems to be more comfortable regarding the experience this year.

Please check out the Hearts of Kindness on the common this week. Our students participated in this community event. Please take the opportunity to drive by and experience this "heart-warming" display.

The Innovation Pathway designation application has been submitted. It was a 30 page application with 20 uploads. We are excited for this opportunity to build our NCA program with strong community ties and business partnerships.

Next week is February Break! School is out, and we hope everyone is safe and has a chance to visit the library or community center for some exciting activities.

V. Consent agenda

- a. School Committee Minutes from January 23, 2018
- b. Warrant 38-30s 1/18/2018 \$220,624.63
- c. Warrant 38-32s 2/1/2018 \$304,164.73

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.

VI. Action items:

- a. Field Trip Approval- Student Council to Hyannis for State Student Council Conference

A motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to approve the Field Trip to Hyannis for State Student Council Conference. 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
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. School Calendar 2018-2019

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to approve the School Calendar for the 2018-2019 school year with one change to the calendar. The early release on March 20th will now take place on March 13th. 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.

c. Before and After School Care Programming

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to approve the issuance of an RFP for Before and After School Care Programming. 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.

d. Transfer of Funds to cover Chemical Waste Disposal at NHS/NMS

A motion was made by Alicia Cannon to approve the a transfer of \$9,215 from the Athletic Field Supplies line item to the Contracted Services line item. 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

VII. Presentation:

Elizabeth Wermuth and students from the Middle School Stem Program presented on their bridge building experience from BSCES.

VIII. Discussion:

a. Field Trip Approval-Senior Class Trip to Maine

Alan Finkel and Sheri Travers presented the committee with the Senior Class Trip overnight field trip to North Country Rivers in Maine.

b. Indirect Costs

Melissa Walker discussed the Indirect Costs between the Town of Northbridge and the Northbridge School Department.

c. School Choice Survey

Catherine Stickney stated that she has created a school choice survey to get a better understanding from families as to why they have decided not to stay at Northbridge.

d. School Climate Survey

The DESE conducted a pilot survey on school climate and how positive school climate supports learning and positive youth development. They shared the results of the survey with the district.

e. School Scheduling Committee

Catherine Stickney requested to put together and commission a school scheduling committee in the effort to have improvement between the schools. To make steps forward to improve and share our programs and to work collaboratively with other buildings.

f. Superintendent's Formative Evaluation

Catherine Stickney shared her formative evaluation with committee. She discussed the following goals: Professional Practice, Student Learning, and District Improvement.

g. FY 2019 Budget Report

Melissa Walker discussed the FY2019 Budget. She discussed the FY18 Operating Budget Recap, Site comparison FY18 and FY19, Category Comparison- FY18 and FY19, FY19 Anticipated Revenue Sources, Revolver Account Overview, and the Next Steps.

h. Capital Plan 2019-2023

Melissa Walker discussed the Capital Plan for 2019-2023. Melissa stated that the Town Manager recognizes the lack of funding for the Capital Projects. The Town Manager expects to obtain funding from free cash for capital projects in the amount of \$600,000 for FY19.

i. Town Meeting Warrant Article

Melissa Walker stated that the committee will need to vote to place an article on the May spring town meeting warrant to amend the vote taken in October, to add MS lockers to the list of projects that the original article covered.

j. School Building Committee Update

Joseph Strazzulla stated that Michael LeBrasseur, Catherine Stickney, Melissa Walker, and Adam Gaudette will be going to Boston to meet with the MSBA. We are speeding through the process. Be ready to vote in the fall. The next Community Forum is March 12th at the Whitinsville Social Library.

IX. School Committee Individual Comments:

Michael LeBrasseur stated that he invited three legislatures to the School Committee meeting on the 13th. All three have confirmed. The budget hearing will take place on the 13th at 6:30pm.

Joseph Strazzulla stated that the principal search committee is going on. He asks that we make sure to do a good job with the interviews. A big thing for Joe is College and Career readiness as Joe has been reading up on it so he can pass along any knowledge that he gained over the past couple weeks. He excited to see what happens with the principal search.

X. Adjournment (8:55 P.M.)

The motion was made by Joseph Strazzulla to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm. The motion was seconded Alicia Cannon. A vote was taken by roll call 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.