

**NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MA**  
**March 5, 2018**  
**6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting**

The North Attleborough School Committee met on Monday, March 5, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the James M. Rice Conference Room at the Woodcock Administration Building.

Committee members present included James McKenna, Neal Gouck, Ethan Hamilton, Gary Lake, Kevin O'Donnell, Adam Scanlon, and Carol Wagner.

Chairman McKenna called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. Chairman McKenna started the meeting by thanking administration for all their hard work in the prior week regarding the storm.

**Recognition:** Superintendent Holcomb spoke about the District's partnership with North Bowl Lanes. Mr. Holcomb explained how he met the owner, Mr. Ed Kinsley, and they discussed an elementary program called "Bowler's Education". Mr. Kinsley was willing to donate the bowling lanes, eight in total, to the school department and offer free bowling when students completed the curriculum unit. PE teachers reviewed the curriculum and successfully began to implement it in early February starting at Martin School.

Superintendent Holcomb introduced Nurse Leader, Melissa Badger who explained the new Mobile Dentist program known as Big Smiles. Mrs. Badger stated it was a no cost program that brings dentists to all of our schools and children can see a dentist free of charge. The dentists come 1-2 times a year if the need is there. Nurse Badger stated statistics show that 35% of absences are dental related with an average of 2.1 days of school per year missed. Students who do not go to the dentist regularly are 4 times more likely to have poor grades. Discussion ensued.

School Committee member Carol Wagner discussed her visit to Martin School. She observed the robotics program in Grade 5 and was fascinated by the things the students made using lego sets provided by the PTO. Ms. Wagner also reported seeing the Kindergarten students' Olympic Ring project.

**Presentations:** North Attleborough High School Student Representative Mackenzie Rosenburg reported on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Student Voice Summit being held on Thursday. Discussions will include new things for the school in spring and graduation planning. Mackenzie reported the Spring Musical "The Little Mermaid" would be in April. Special Olympics are in the planning stages. Aidan reported winter sports were coming to an end. The wrestling team did really well at the New England meet and the cheerleaders qualified for States. Spring sports tryouts would be held next week. Mr. NAHS is back this year and sign-up is next week. Chairman McKenna mentioned the Music dept. would be sponsoring their 5k race in April.

Athletic Director, Kurt Kummer, Coach Erin Mitchell and Captain Catherine Brennan gave a brief description of the Unified Sports Program and NAHS Unified Track and Field Team. They explained unified Track and Field joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. The program is new to MIAA. Mr. Kummer explained that ten towns in the Hockomock have unified track. Athletes and partners compete together. Signup meeting will be held on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and practices and meets would last about 4 weeks. Special Olympics would be sponsoring the program for 2 years so there would be no user fees because of the sponsorship. Discussion ensued.

At this time Chairman McKenna moved to the discussion item, substance use and related screening tool (Chapter 71 s.97). Superintendent Holcomb introduced Nurse Leader Missy Badger and NAMS Nurse Nancy Dorrance who explained that due to the opioid epidemic, the state had mandated screenings at the middle school level and shared the district's procedures that have been in place so far. Ms. Dorrance explained the training of guidance counselors, nurses and health teachers in the spring of 2106. In the fall of 2016, screenings took place for 272 NAMS students. In the winter of 2018, 280 screenings took place at the NAMS. Moving forward the program will be expanded to screenings at the high school level. Discussion ensued. Chairman McKenna suggested the Curriculum Policy Subcommittee should discuss a policy to work in conjunction with the state mandate.

At this time, Chairman McKenna returned to the presentation portion of the agenda. Superintendent Holcomb offered an update on safety and security. Due to recent events in our nation, Mr. Holcomb has had several meetings with Police Chief Reilly, Fire Chief Brousseau and Town Administrator Gallagher to go over the safety and security of all of our public facilities. The team agreed not to make public all of the safety and security measures that have been put in place. Mr. Holcomb discussed an analysis of all of our town's buildings by The Windmill Group a few years ago. Based on their discovery, they put together a multiple phase gap analysis which was used to develop protocols. For the school system, these protocols include all school personnel are required to wear a badge at all times. All visitors are questioned before entering the schools and are required to wear a visitor's badge. An uninterrupted 2-way communication exists between schools and fire and police dispatch. All buildings have updated cameras and the district is looking into a new key fob system. Lockdown and fire drills are currently scheduled in all of the schools and the after reports will identify any gaps in the security of the buildings. NAPD has received a grant for a School Resource Officer. Discussion ensued.

Superintendent Holcomb introduced Business Administrator David Flynn to give a FY19 Budget update. Mr. Flynn stated he met with Town Administrator Gallagher. He stated that in the event of the override passing, he proposed a \$3M increase over what we have now. If the override does not pass, our proposed increase is \$716,504. Discussion ensued. Adam Scanlon made a motion to have a special school committee meeting to discuss what an override budget would look like and how the funds would be spent. Discussion ensued. The committee agreed to move forward to have an additional meeting on March 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Information from NESDEC and their recommendations will not be available for the March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Discussion ensued. The committee agreed to schedule an additional meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup> if necessary.

Superintendent Holcomb requested the District Improvement Plan Update be tabled until the April meeting to allow for a more comprehensive update. Chairman McKenna agreed.

**Action Items:** Chairman McKenna called for a motion to approve the bills dated: February 9, 16, 23 and March 2, 2018, so moved by Kevin O'Donnell, seconded by Gary Lake, so voted and passed unanimously 7-0-0.

Chairman McKenna called for a motion to approve the minutes dated February 5, 2018, so moved by Kevin O'Donnell, seconded by Gary Lake, so voted and passed 6-0-1 Carol Wagner abstained.

**Items Requiring Votes:** Assistant Superintendent Lori McEwen reviewed the changes made to the 2018-2019 school calendar and the revisions. Chairman McKenna requested a motion to vote to approve the 2018-2019 School Calendar as recommended by the Curriculum Policy Subcommittee, so moved by Gary Lake, seconded by Neal Gouck. Discussion ensued. So voted and passed unanimously 7-0-0.

**Public Comments:** Kathryn Hobbs, 62 Highland Meadow Drive, thanked the committee for adding meetings to their schedule in order to get information to the public. Mrs. Hobbs spoke of the information sessions being held at the PTO meetings at all the schools and encouraged the public to go to the Unite For North Website for dates and information on the override as a whole the impact on the town if it doesn't pass. Stacey Nassaney, 101 Lorden Drive, stated the deadline to register to vote is March 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment to Executive Session:** Chairman McKenna requested a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing negotiations with Union and Non-Union Personnel which may have a detrimental effect if held in open session, so moved by Kevin O'Donnell seconded by Adam Scanlon, and so voted by roll call:

Adam Scanlon - Yes

Gary Lake – Yes

Carol Wagner - Yes

Neal Gouck - Yes

Jim McKenna - Yes

Kevin O'Donnell - Yes

Ethan Hamilton – Yes  
Passed unanimously 7-0-0

Chairman McKenna adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m. and stated they would be returning.

The committee reconvened at 8:29 p.m. and Chairman McKenna thanked Jared Ware from North TV for recording the meeting.

Chairman McKenna stated the School Committee had an outline of a contract extension for Superintendent Holcomb through June 30, 2023 with a provision that increases in salary would be merit based and voted on by the School Committee changing it from the current 2% increase to 0% increase. Mr. McKenna called for a motion to approve the extension as outlined, so moved by Kevin O'Donnell, seconded by Gary Lake, and so voted by roll call:

Adam Scanlon - Yes  
Gary Lake – Yes  
Carol Wagner - Yes  
Neal Gouck - No  
Jim McKenna - Yes  
Kevin O'Donnell - Yes  
Ethan Hamilton – No  
Passed 5-2-0

Gary Lake requested a motion to increase the Superintendent's salary 3% for school year 2018-2019, seconded by Adam Scanlon, and so voted by roll call:

Adam Scanlon - Yes  
Gary Lake – Yes  
Carol Wagner - Yes  
Neal Gouck - No  
Jim McKenna - Yes  
Kevin O'Donnell - Yes  
Ethan Hamilton – No  
Passed 5-2-0

Adam Scanlon made a motion to reconsider the amended 5-year merit based contract, seconded by Carol Wagner. Superintendent Holcomb's contract, extended through June 30, 2023 with a provision for increases to be merit based and voted on by the School Committee changing it from 2% to 0% was so voted by roll call:

Adam Scanlon - Yes  
Gary Lake – Yes  
Carol Wagner - Yes  
Neal Gouck - Yes  
Jim McKenna - Yes  
Kevin O'Donnell - Yes  
Ethan Hamilton – Yes  
Passed 7-0-0

Chairman McKenna requested a motion to adjourn, so moved by Kevin O'Donnell, seconded by Ethan Hamilton. So voted and passed unanimously 7-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

*Submitted by: Administrative Assistant to Superintendent/Mary Chagnon*