

Natick Public Schools
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
February 10, 2015

The School Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 7:15 p.m. in the Training Room, 3rd Floor, Town Hall. Chair Mistrot called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Members Present: Tom Campbell, Dirk Coburn, David Margil, Amy Mistrot

Members Absent: Anne Blanchard, Paul Laurent Firkins Reed

Others present:	Peter Sanchioni	Superintendent of Schools
	Liam Hurley	Director of Finance
	Timothy Luff	Director of Student Services
	Brandon Thornhill	Student Representative
	Sharon Reilly	Recording Secretary for the School Committee

Approval of Out of State Travel – NHS Choir

Dr. Sanchioni requested the School Committee's approval of out of state travel for the Natick High School Advanced Choir group to participate in the Hartt High School Choral Festival in Hartford, CT on Monday, March 16, 2015. Mr. Coburn moved to approve this trip. Mr. Margil seconded. It was unanimously approved.

Public Speak

Chair Mistrot asked if anyone wished to come forward for Public Speak. No one came forward.

Continued Discussion of FY'16 Natick Public Schools Budget

Capital Request

Mr. Liam Hurley reviewed the FY'16 Capital Request as follows:

• Repair Wet Roof at Wilson	\$10,000
• Repair HVAC Units at Ben Hem	\$13,000
• Replace Carpeting at Ben Hem (Library)	\$20,000
• Replace Carpeting at Wilson (Office)	\$20,000
• Modular Classrooms F/F (6) - Location TBD	\$1,097,800
• Replace Hot Water Heater at Wilson	\$10,000
• Purchase Portable Radios & Equip	\$162,000
• Purchase 15 Passenger Van	<u>\$65,000</u>
Total	\$1,397,800

A discussion continued and questions were asked and responded to. Dr. Sanchioni explained that most of the cost for the modular classrooms is with the installation, wiring, HVAC, etc. He stated that the life expectancy of the modulars is approximately 20+ years. Mr. Margil asked that given most of the cost is in the installation, would it be prudent to purchase 8 vs. 6 to provide more flexibility? Dr. Sanchioni will follow up.

Mr. Coburn may have a source for a donation of industrial carpeting free of charge excluding installation costs. Mr. Hurley will follow up with Mr. Coburn.

Student Services FY'16 Budget Presentation

Mr. Timothy Luff, Director of Student Services, provided a extensive presentation of the FY'16 student services budget. He reviewed the

- Staffing Requests
- Reduction in Out of District Costs
- Circuit Breaker Offset Sustainability
- Operating Costs
- Overall direct special education costs which have been reduced in FY'16

Mr. Luff provided an explanation of the reasons for each staffing request, all of which are mandated. He responded to questions from Committee members. The School Committee would like to see a caseload analysis to determine staffing needs for nursing rather than student to nurse ratio.

Update from Ad Hoc Group Requesting Naming of Softball Field

Mr. Andy Meyer on behalf of the Natick Men's Softball League came before the School Committee to provide additional information on their request to name the Memorial Elementary School Field Number 1 in memory of James Lavezzo, dear friend and cherished member of the men's softball league and former school employee for many years. He requested that the School Committee accept the following field name change: "The James L. Lavezzo Memorial Field". He talked a little about the type of memorial they are looking at – something in the way of a stone marker which would last for years. They will be getting a copy of the site plan to figure out where to place the memorial. There will be no cost to the district – funding for the monument and landscaping will be provided by fundraising and through the league. They will come back later in the spring with plans on what it will look like and where it will be placed. Mr. Coburn moved to approve the renaming of the Memorial Elementary School Field Number 1 as the "James L. Lavezzo Memorial Field", and to allow for any public comment up to the meeting of March 9, 2015. Mr. Margil seconded. It was unanimously approved. The public may reach out to the School Committee with any comments to schoolcommittee@natickps.org or mail to School Committee, 13 East Central Street. Natick, MA 01760.

Student Concerns

Brandon Thornhill, Student Representative, reported on student council events. They hosted a hypnotist show, with hypnotist Tommy Vee on January 30th which was very successful. There is currently a Valentines Day flower drive going on at the high school and in March a blood drive and prom fashion show.

Members Concerns

Mr. Campbell reported that the Boys' Track 4x400 relay team recently set a school record with a time of 3:25.71, which is the second best time in the state this season. The team will be running against Amherst-Pelham at the All-State meet next Saturday the 21st.

This year's 4x400 relay team (in order) is Lucas Holt (JR), Brandon Thornhill (SR), Brian Dunlap (SR), and Myles Holt (JR). The same students have also set a school (and Bay State Conference) record in the 4x200 relay with a time of 1:33.32. Boys Track athletes also set school records this year in the 300 (Myles Holt) and the 4x800 relay, with a time of 8:23.61 (Myles Holt, Graham King (SR), Conor Eliot (JR), Dylan Jones (SR)). Brandon Thornhill is .06 seconds off the school record in the 55 hurdles this winter and also holds the school record in the 110 Hurdles in the Spring (14.64). Members of the School Committee and Administration congratulated Brandon Thornhill and his teammates on their accomplishments.

Mid-Year Update on District Goals

Dr. Sanchioni, Mr. Liam Hurley and Mr. Timothy Luff presented a mid-year status of their 2014-2015 goals.

Dr. Sanchioni provided the School Committee with copies of the District Determined Measures and the forms to be used for the mid-cycle formative educator report which is due at the end of the school year.

Approval of School Committee Meeting Minutes, Approval of Donations and the update on the Strategic Planning Process will be rescheduled to a future meeting.

Members Concerns

Mr. Margil, as the School Committee's liaison to the Natick Education Foundation (NEF), provided an update from a meeting he recently attended. The Natick Education Foundation raised a concern that they are seeing a decrease in the amount of grant applications from the teacher population. In addition, NEF is in the process of looking into holding a local TED event in Natick next January. Mr. Margil hopes to attend NEF's next meeting in March.

Mr. Coburn will be drafting a policy for a future meeting to share with the Administration, Committee members and EAN members which pertains to the privilege of high school students arriving late to school which he would like to see extended to all students regardless of academic performance for flexibility and planning among other things such as sleep cycles – with disciplinary parameters.

Mr. Coburn indicated that given the sense that funding will be very tight, the town and schools have to think creatively and work together to close the FY'16 budget gap, get through this year and plan and project what needs to be done for future years. There is a need to very clearly articulate what this means for the schools budget – what gets cut, layoffs, etc.

At 10:25 p.m., Mr. Campbell moved to adjourn. Ms. Margil seconded. It was unanimously approved.

Attest: _____

Peter Sanchioni, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Secretary to the School Committee

Sharon Reilly
Recording Secretary

Documents provided via Novus Agenda

Request for out of state travel – NHS Choral Group

Request to approve donations

School Committee minutes – January 5, January 12 and Executive Session Minutes for January 29

Update from ad hoc group to name softball field

Student Services –FY'16 Budget PowerPoint

FY'16 Capital Budget

Mid-Year Status Updates on Goals PowerPoint presentations

Correspondence/Information:

2014-2015 Enrollment Update