

*Approval of Minutes
April 24, 2017*

*Natick Public Schools
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 20, 2017*

The School Committee held a meeting on Monday, March 20, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Training Room, 3rd floor, Town Hall. At 6:40 p.m., Chair Mistrot called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Dirk Coburn, Paul Laurent, David Mangan, Julie McDonough, Amy Mistrot, Firkins Reed, Lisa Tabenkin

Others Present: Peter Sanchioni, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Laurent moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations with non-represented personnel in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) of the Massachusetts General Laws. Ms. Reed seconded. By roll call vote, all members present were in favor of entering into Executive Session.

At 7:15 p.m. the School Committee returned to open meeting in the School Committee Room.

Others who joined at this time:

Anna Nolin
Peter Gray
Sarah Strand
Sharon Reilly

Assistant Superintendent
Director of Finance
Student Representative
Recording Secretary

Public Speak

Chair Mistrot asked if anyone wished to come forward for Public Speak. Mr. Josh Ostroff came forward and made a request to be put on the next School Committee meeting agenda where he would like to gain the Committee's support for referral of Article 31 which pertains to sidewalks - snow and ice removal.

Approval of Out of State Travel

Ms. Marge Roberson, NHS Teacher, came before the School Committee to request approval of out of state travel for Business Professionals of America (BPA) students to travel to Orlando, Florida to participate in the BPA National Competition from May 9, 2017-May14, 2017. Ms. Reed moved to approve this trip. Mr. Coburn seconded. It was unanimously approved.

Recognition of Student Representative to the School Committee, Sarah Strand

The School Committee recognized and thanked Ms. Sarah Strand for serving as Student Representative to the School Committee for the past two years. Dr. Sanchioni presented Sarah with a recognition plaque. Sarah will be attending the University of the South next year. Committee members and the administration thanked Sarah for her valued contributions at the School Committee meetings and offered her best wishes.

Recognition of School Committee Members Amy Mistrot & Dirk Coburn

The administration and School Committee recognized the many years of service that Mr. Coburn and Chair Mistrot have given as board members and Chairs of the Natick School Committee. Dirk Coburn has served on the School Committee for twelve years and Amy Mistrot has served on the School Committee for eight years. Dr. Sanchioni presented them with Natick Public Schools token gifts and Ms. Reed, on behalf of the School Committee members, presented them with books which will be donated to the Natick High School Library and Morse Institute Library in their names. Dr. Sanchioni announced that the Chorus Room at Natick High School is being named *The Dirk Coburn Chorus Room* in honor of Mr. Coburn's many years of service on the Natick School Committee. Several members of the public including former school committee members and former Board of Selectman spoke eloquently about them and extended their thanks and appreciation for all they have done. Mr. Mike Mistrot, Ms. Mistrot's husband, presented her with flowers. Several others in the audience representing various parent groups also came forward and presented Ms. Mistrot with flowers in appreciation of her service.

Present Results of the Elementary Family Surveys

Elementary Principals, Kirk Downing, Karen Ghilani, Susan Balboni, Heather Smith and Jordan Hoffman, were present to discuss the results of the Family Perception Survey they conducted this year. The mindset behind the survey's creation was to create a consistent tool to collect and analyze family perceptions related to our elementary schools. The survey was very successful and taken by several parents. The principals discussed the results and spoke on how they will put the information to use in each of their buildings. Most noticeably, 90% of the parents felt their children were safe and comfortable at school.

Update on Solar Panels - Jillian Wilson-Martin

Ms. Jillian Wilson-Martin provided an update on the solar panel projects slated for the Natick High School Parking lot and the Memorial Field parking lot. These projects have been approved by the Planning Board after several public hearings. She provided the School Committee with the design layouts. She pointed out that there will be no obstructions for the security cameras with these designs which was a concern raised. It is projected that these panels will be installed during the summer of 2018. She responded to questions from Committee members.

Discussion of Capital Projects/Priorities Planning & Project Timelines

Mr. Jim Kane, Director of Facilities, came before the School Committee and reviewed the following FY2018 Spring Capital Plan with timelines:

Brown Elementary School - \$100K

The five year capital plan published in December 2016 proposed \$250K for the Brown sidewalks. Since then it was decided that the ADA access from Hartford street to the school should be coordinated with the new Kennedy school site improvements thus eliminating \$150K from the original proposal of \$250K.

The facilities department recommends retaining \$100K of the original allocation to continue with sidewalk and roadway improvements around the school and reallocate \$150K to two other projects, the replacement of the Johnson exterior doors (Fall FY18) and the expansion of the high school irrigation system.

Timeline: April 2017, Engineering design complete
May 2017, advertise the project
June 2017, sign a contract
August 2017 project completed

High School Irrigation - \$100K

The original irrigation project proposed in 2016 in the amount of \$55K was to tie into the existing domestic water supply at the high school and provide irrigation to the immediate front of the school only. In light of the severe drought Natick experienced this past summer installing a dedicated well onsite would ensure irrigation could continue even during a water ban.

The facilities department is proposing to reallocate \$100K of the capital budget to install a well at the high school and expand the irrigation project to cover the entire front of the school, the left side of the building where the preschool playground is located and to the right near the parking, see attached site plan and cost breakdown for details.

Timeline: April 2017, engineering design complete
May 2017, advertise the project
June 2017, sign a contract
August 2017 project completed

Drawings of the irrigation system and well location were shared with the Committee. A concern was raised about the well location as to whether it would interfere with any of plans for future expansion of the high school. Mr. Kane will look into this.

Johnson Playground Replacement - \$150K

The Johnson school playground is scheduled to be replaced this summer. This project would replace the existing playground elements, leveling of the ground and new Fibar mulch to meet all current playground standards. The existing Johnson school playground has elements for kids ages 2-12. The design and installation will be coordinated closely with the school principal and recreation department.

Timeline: April 2017, engineering design complete
May 2017, advertise the project
June 2017, sign a contract
August 2017 project completed

Update on FY'18 Budget

Dr. Sanchioni provided an update on the School Committee recommended FY'18 budget appropriation in the amount of \$61,250,150. He provided the listing of 24.8 positions which will be added as well as the 7.9 positions which will be removed from the original budget request.

Kennedy Middle School Building Project Update

Dr. Sanchioni reported that he will be attending a meeting at MSBA on Tuesday, March 28 where potential architects for the Kennedy Middle School Building Project will be reviewed. An architect may or may not be selected at this meeting. If a selection is not made at this meeting, three finalists will be interviewed in April.

Report on Warrants Signed

Mr. Gray reviewed the following warrants signed by the School Committee Chair:

| Warrant Type | Warrant Number | Date Signed | Amount |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Accounts Payable | 2017-38S | 03/06/2017 | \$ 560,961.83 |
| Payroll | 19 | 03/15/2017 | \$1,869,612.64 |

If anyone wishes more details regarding any of these warrants, they may contact Mr. Gray in the Business Office.

Approval of Patent Use Request (US20140360420A1)

Dr. Nolin reported that a former Natick student, Alex Krasa, currently attending WPI, is requesting the use of the Patent #US20140360420A1 for the multi-component robot for below ice search and rescue submersible to be used as his senior Capstone Project at WPI which is a non-profit endeavor for use by the Worcester Fire Department. He is looking to build this under ice robot using the existing specifications for the practical usage of the community of Worcester. Alex was one of the patent inventors when he attended Natick High School. Ms. Reed moved to approve this request. Mr. Laurent seconded. It was unanimously approved by a vote of six members. Mr. Coburn recused himself as his son was part of this project at NHS.

Approval of Donations

Mr. Gray requested that the School Committee accept the following donations:

| <u>Source/Donation</u> | <u>Amount/Value</u> | <u>Purpose</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mr. Michael Lueders | \$125.00 | High School Environmental Club |
| Rotary Club of Natick | \$200.00 | Intrumental Music Program |
| Ms. Michelle Goodwine | \$5.00 | Intrumental Music Program |

Mr. Laurent moved approval to accept these donations with gratitude. Ms. Reed seconded. They were unanimously approved.

Declassification of Executive Session Minutes

Chair Mistrot requested that the School Committee declassify the following Executive Session minutes as it is the School Committee's policy to declassify its Executive Session minutes, where appropriate, generally once a year in order that they become public record.

| 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| August 25, 2014 | January 29, 2015 | January 25, 2016 |
| September 29, 2014 | February 4, 2015 | February 22, 2016 |
| | March 23, 2015 | March 21, 2016 |

| | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| | May 4, 2015 | April 25, 2016 |
| | June 1, 2015 | May 23, 2016 |
| | June 15, 2015 | June 20, 2016 |
| | June 22, 2015 | July 11, 2016 |
| | July 1, 2015 | August 22, 2016 |
| | August 25, 2015 | September 11, 2016 |
| | August 31, 2015 | October 17, 2016 |
| | September 21, 2015 | November 7, 2016 |
| | October 5, 2015 | December 12, 2016 |
| | October 26, 2015 | |
| | November 16, 2015 | |
| | November 30, 2015 | |
| | December 14, 2015 | |
| | | |

Mr. Coburn moved to declassify these Executive Sessions as outlined. Mr. Laurent seconded. It was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes - Executive Session Minutes of March 6, 2017

Mr. Coburn moved to approve the Executive Session Minutes of March 6, 2017. Mr. Laurent seconded. They were unanimously approved.

At 9:45 p.m., Mr. Laurent moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. McDonough seconded. It was unanimously approved.

Attest: _____

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

Sharon Reilly
Recording Secretary

Documents provided in Novus Agenda

Out of State Travel Request - NHS Business Professionals of America to Florida
Request to Approve Donations
Listing of Executive Session Minutes to be declassified
Request to approve Patent Use Request (US20140360420A1)
Executive Session Minutes of March 6, 2017
Report of Warrants Signed
Results of the Elementary Family Surveys
Capital Projects/Priorities Planning & Project Timelines
FY'18 Budget updated budget documents

Handouts

Solar canopy drawings for NHS Parking Lot and Memorial Field Parking Lot