

*Natick Public Schools
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 3, 2017*

The School Committee held a meeting on Monday, April 3, 2017 at 7:15 p.m. in the School Committee Room, 3rd Floor Town Hall. At 7:15 p.m., Dr. Sanchioni called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Paul Laurent, Dave Mangan, Julie McDonough, Donna McKenzie, Firkins Reed, Hayley Sonneborn, Lisa Tabenkin

Others present:	Peter Sanchioni	Superintendent of Schools
	Anna Nolin	Assistant Superintendent
	Timothy Luff	Assistant Superintendent: Student Services
	Peter Gray	Director of Finance
	Sarah Friswell	Teacher Representative
	Will Cuzzo	Student Representative
	Sharon Reilly	Recording Secretary

Public Speak

Dr. Sanchioni asked if anyone wished to come forward for Public Speak. No one came forward.

Dr. Sanchioni welcomed and introduced new School Committee members, Donna McKenzie and Hayley Sonneborn.

Out of State Travel Requests - NHS Speech Team to Kentucky & Alabama

Ms. Amanda Parker came before the School Committee to request out of state travel for the Speech Team to travel to Louisville, KY to participate in the NCFL National Tournament from May 25-29, 2017 and to travel to Birmingham, AL on June 17-24, 2017 to participate in the NSDA National Tournament. Ms. Reed moved to approve both trips. Mr. Mangan seconded. They were unanimously approved.

Victoria Grafflin & Joshua Ostroff: Request School Committee Support for Referral of Town Meeting Article 31 (Sidewalk Snow & Ice Clearing for Safety)

Ms. Victoria Grafflin came before the School Committee to request that the School Committee support referral of Town Meeting Article 31 (Sidewalk Snow & Ice Clearing for Safety) which asks the Town to consider bylaw changes as part of a broader effort to improve sidewalk snow and ice conditions to the benefit of safer travel by Natick residents and visitors of all ages.

As sponsors of Article 31, they are requesting referral back to the sponsors and to the Town Administrator so that they may continue developing a series of recommendations for future consideration by Town Meeting and the Board of Selectmen. Other Boards such as the Finance Committee, the Board of Selectmen and the Commission on Disability have recommended referral.

Referral would help ensure that Town staff, committees and members of the community help develop a plan that is likely to succeed in Natick.

Ms. Reed moved to approve referral back to the sponsors of this article. Mr. Laurent seconded. It was unanimously approved.

Report on Niche Ratings

Dr. Sanchioni shared with the School Committee the Niche Ratings for Natick High School which are located on the Niche website at www.niche.com/k12/natick-high-school-natick-ma. Niche is an organization that analyzes dozens of public data sets and millions of reviews to produce comprehensive rankings, report cards, and profiles for every K-12 school, college, and neighborhood in the U.S. Dr. Sanchioni encouraged School Committee members to review the site and read the many positive comments about Natick High School where the 2017 Niche ratings shows NHS as #39 of the “Best Public High Schools in Massachusetts”.

Development Projects -Student Enrollment Impact

Dr. Sanchioni shared with the School Committee an updated spreadsheet of the multi-family units in town and those being planned and how enrollment is impacted. Communication between town departments on development projects has improved.

Kennedy Middle School Building Project Update

Dr. Sanchioni provided an update on the Kennedy Middle School Building Project. On Tuesday, March 28, 2017, the Massachusetts School Building Authority Designer Selection Panel ("DSP") reviewed and considered (8) applicants for the Kennedy Middle School. Dr. Sanchioni, Dr. Nolin and Steve Meyler, represented the Town of Natick on the DSP. Dr. Sanchioni is pleased that the DSP determined that Ai3 Architects LLC possesses the requisite skills and experience for this project, particularly in light of their extensive experience in the design and construction of schools in Massachusetts. Dr. Sanchioni reviewed the various sites in town being considered for the school. He indicated that the OPM and the Architects have recommended using the current site of the school for the new school (perhaps in front of the existing school or on the fields of Brown School). Pros and cons for each site option were included. Dr. Sanchioni hopes to bring a detailed report with a recommendation from the building committee on site selection to the next meeting on April 24, 2017.

Reorganization of the School Committee

Dr. Sanchioni began the process for reorganizing the School Committee:

Dr. Sanchioni requested that the School Committee reappoint Ms. Sharon Reilly as the School Committee's Recording Secretary. Mr. Laurent moved to appoint Ms. Sharon Reilly as Recording Secretary. Mr. Mangan seconded. It was unanimously approved.

Dr. Sanchioni requested that the School Committee reaffirm its attorney. Mr. Laurent moved to reaffirm the appointment of the School Committee's Attorney, Andrew Waugh, from the firm Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane. Ms. Reed seconded. It was unanimously approved.

Dr. Sanchioni called for nominations for Chair of the School Committee. Mr. Laurent nominated Ms. Lisa Tabenkin as Chair of the Natick School Committee. Ms. Tabenkin accepted the nomination. Seeing no more nominations, Dr. Sanchioni called for a vote on the nomination of Ms. Tabenkin. Mr. Mangan moved to approve Ms. Tabenkin as Chair of the Natick School Committee. Mr. Laurent seconded. It was unanimously approved.

Dr. Sanchioni called for nominations for Vice Chair of the School Committee. Ms. Tabenkin moved to approve Mr. Paul Laurent as Vice Chair of the Natick School Committee. Ms. Reed seconded. Dr. Sanchioni called for a vote to appoint Mr. Paul Laurent as Vice Chair. It was unanimously approved.

Dr. Sanchioni called for nominations for Clerk of the Natick School Committee. Chair Tabenkin moved to appoint Ms. Firkins Reed as Clerk of the Natick School Committee. Ms. McDonough seconded. Ms. Reed accepted the nomination. Dr. Sanchioni called for a vote to appoint Ms. Firkins Reed as Clerk. It was unanimously approved.

Chair Tabenkin then presided over the meeting.

Enrollment Update - April 2017

Dr. Sanchioni shared the enrollment report as of April 2017. No significant changes since last month.

Subcommittee/Liaison Updates

Chair Tabenkin requested that School Committee members look at the provided list of School Committee Subcommittee/Liaisons. She is looking for representation for the positions held by Ms. Mistrot and Mr. Coburn and for any other changes members wish to make. Please contact her with any additions/changes so the list may be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.

Ms. Reed attended a recent meeting of the The Education Cooperative (TEC) Board of Director of which Natick is a member. At the meeting, the board was given a tour of the almost completed therapeutic pool which is a great asset for the students. TEC is financially stable and has gotten stronger every year. Member assessments have gone down 43% over the past three years and are going down another 25% for FY'18. There are no tuition increases in any of their programming. TEC is asking for their member districts to reach out to state legislators about the need to review Chapter 70 monies and how they are formulated. The TEC budget will be voted in May. Ms. Reed provided copies of the TEC annual report.

Report on Warrants Signed

Mr. Peter Gray, in accordance with School Committee Procedures, reviewed the following warrants signed by the School Committee Chair.

<u>Warrant Type</u>	<u>Warrant Number</u>	<u>Date Signed</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Accounts Payable	2017-40S	03/20/2017	\$ 477,346.10

If anyone wishes to review the details regarding any of this warrant, please feel to contact Mr. Gray.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Laurent moved to approve the School Committee Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2017 and March 27, 2017 and the Executive Session Minutes of March 20, 2017 and March 27, 2017. Ms. Reed seconded. They were unanimously approved.

At 7:55 p.m., Mr. Laurent moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mangan 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

Requests for Out of State Travel - NHS Speech Team

Victoria Grafflin & Joshua Ostroff: Request School Committee Support for Referall of Town Meeting Article 31 (Sidewalk Snow & Ice Clearing for Safety)

School Committee Meeting Minutes - March 16, 2017 and March 27, 2017, Executive Session Minutes of March 20, 2017 and March 27, 2017

Report on Warrants Signed

School Committee Reorganization Memorandum

Niche Ratings website link

Listing of Development Projects -Student Enrollment Impact

Kennedy Middle School Building Project Update

Correspondence/Information:

Enrollment as of April 2017

Handouts:

The Education Cooperative Annual Report