

**North Adams Public Schools
School Committee Meeting
November 4, 2020**

MINUTES

The School Committee of the North Adams Public Schools met remotely, via zoom.us, on Wednesday, November 4, 2020.

Members present

Heather Boulger, vice chair
Ian Bergeron
Karen Bond
Emily Daunis
Tara Jacobs

Members not present

Mayor Tom Bernard, chair
James Holmes

Also attending

Carrie Burnett, Business Administrator
Timothy Callahan, Principal, Drury High School
Kimberlee Chappell, Literacy/Title 1 Coordinator
Sandy Cote, Principal, Greylock Elementary School
Amy Meehan, Principal, Colegrove Park Elementary School
Nancy Rauscher, Administrative Assistant
Anne-Mary Riello, Coordinator of Digital Learning and Instructional Technology
Kimberly Roberts-Morandi, Assistant Superintendent
Thomas Simon, Director of Student Support Services
Carolyn Wallace, Principal, Brayton Elementary School

David Racette, Athletic Director, Drury High School

Press

Tammy Daniels, iBerkshires

CALL TO ORDER

Vice chair Boulger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The mission of the North Adams Public Schools is to help every child learn every day and empower all students to recognize and optimize their full potential.

CHAIR STATEMENT FOR VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Vice chair Boulger stated, “Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020, Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 23 and 31, 2020, Orders imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the North Adams School Committee will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the city of North Adams’ website, at <https://www.northadams-ma.gov/calendar.php>. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so in the following manner: Zoom video conference call. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the city of North Adams website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.”

APPROVAL OF RECORDS

A. Minutes of October 6, 2020, School Committee meeting

Vice chair Boulger called for a roll call vote to approve the minutes from the October 6, 2020, School Committee meeting.

It was **moved** by committee member Bond and **seconded** by committee member Jacobs to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2020, School Committee meeting.

Action #6398: Motion to approve the minutes from October 6, 2020	
Ayes: Ian Bergeron Karen Bond Heather Boulger Emily Daunis Tara Jacobs	5
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

B. Balance sheet

The school committee reviewed the October 2020 balance sheet.

Vice chair Boulger called for a roll call vote to file the balance sheet.

It was **moved** by committee member Jacobs and **seconded** by committee member Bergeron to file the balance sheet.

Action #6399: Motion to file the balance sheet	
Ayes: Ian Bergeron Karen Bond Heather Boulger Emily Daunis Tara Jacobs	5
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

C. Personnel Report

The school committee reviewed the October 2020 personnel report.

Vice chair Boulger called for a roll call vote to file the personnel report.

It was **moved** by committee member Bond and **seconded** by committee member Jacobs to file the personnel report.

Action #6400: Motion to file the personnel report	
Ayes: Ian Bergeron Karen Bond Heather Boulger Emily Daunis Tara Jacobs	5
Nays:	0
Result	Motion carried

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A. Update on school enrollment

Assistant Superintendent Roberts-Morandi briefed the school committee on the North Adams Public Schools 2020-2021 student enrollment. Assistant Superintendent Roberts-Morandi indicated there are currently 1,291 students enrolled, which is 74 fewer students than last year.

No action was required.

B. Update on hybrid/remote learning

Assistant Superintendent Roberts-Morandi gave an update on hybrid and remote learning schedules, including the district's plan for days when there is inclement weather.

No action was required.

C. Canvas learning

Assistant Superintendent Roberts-Morandi and Coordinator of Digital Learning and Instructional Technology Riello provided an update on the implementation of the canvas learning management system and its impact on the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

No action was required.

D. Update on athletics

Athletic Director Racette gave an update on 2020-2021 athletics. Athletic Director Racette detailed the impact of COVID-19 restrictions and limitations as per input from Berkshire County athletic directors, along with guidance from the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

No action was required.

MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY (MSBA) UPDATE

Assistant Superintendent Roberts-Morandi provided an update on the MSBA eligibility phase for Greylock Elementary School, including a review of the recent meeting of the school building committee held on Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. The school building committee's next meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

No action was required.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE

Vice chair Boulger asked for a moment of silence in memory of retired, long-standing Drury High School English teacher, Mr. Francis "Frank" Merrigan.

Vice chair Boulger encouraged community members to view the "Read for the Record" video currently posted on the district website and social media.

Vice chair Boulger noted her appreciation for the North Adams Public Schools' remote learning centers. The learning centers serve as a resource for district families in need of support in addressing their remote learning challenges.

Vice chair Boulger thanked Drury High School senior class president Kevin Chen for establishing a remote tutoring program to help students of all grades. The program consists of students tutoring students and is intended to help alleviate some of the stress that students may be experiencing from not being in the school building every day.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice chair Boulger indicated that there was no more business to come before the committee.

Vice chair Boulger asked for a roll call vote to adjourn the meeting.

It was **moved** by committee member Jacobs and **seconded** by committee member Bergeron to adjourn the meeting.

Action #6401: Motion to adjourn	
Ayes: Ian Bergeron Karen Bond Heather Boulger Emily Daunis Tara Jacobs	5
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Rauscher
Administrative Assistant
/nr