

**North Adams Public Schools
School Committee Meeting
October 29, 2019**

MINUTES

The School Committee of the North Adams Public Schools met Tuesday, October 29, 2019, in the Office of the Superintendent, 10 Main Street, Second Floor, North Adams.

Members present

Mayor Thomas Bernard, chair
Heather Boulger, vice chair
Ian Bergeron
Karen Bond
Nicholas Fahey
James Holmes
Tara Jacobs

Member not present

Also attending

Dr. Barbara Malkas, Superintendent
Francisco Alicandri, Student Representative
Carrie Burnett, Business Administrator
Timothy Callahan, Principal, Drury High School
Kimberlee Chappell, Literacy/Title 1 Coordinator
Sandra Cote, Principal, Greylock Elementary School
Nancy Rauscher, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
Thomas Simon, Director of Student Support Services
Carolyn Wallace, Principal, Brayton Elementary School

Michelle Darling, Teacher, Drury High School, North Adams Teachers Association (NATA) Co-President
John Kennedy, Consultant, New England School Development Council (NESDEC)
Karen LeDuc, Consultant, NESDEC
Lisa Tanner, Teacher, Colegrove Park Elementary School, NATA Co-President
Friends and family of Francisco Alicandri

Press

Tammy Daniels, *iBerkshires*

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bernard 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.

HEARING OF VISITORS

There were no visitors to be heard.

READING AND APPROVAL OF RECORDS

A. Minutes of October 1, 2019, School Committee meeting

The committee considered the minutes from the October 1, 2019, School Committee meeting.

It was **moved** by committee member Jacobs and **seconded** by vice chair Boulger to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2019, School Committee meeting.

Action #6249 minutes from October 1, 2019	
Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

B. Balance sheet

The school committee reviewed the balance sheet.

No action was required.

C. Personnel Report

The school committee reviewed the personnel report. Principal Cote and Principal Wallace described the role of the Safe and Supportive Schools team members.

It was **moved** by vice chair Boulger and **seconded** by committee member Jacobs to place the personnel reports on file.

Action #6250: personnel report	
Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A. Certificate of Academic Excellence

Superintendent Malkas presented the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents' *Certificate of Academic Excellence* to Francisco Alicandri, the son of Linh Brown. This singular honor is conferred annually to the highest ranking high school senior in the district; a student who has distinguished themselves in the pursuit of excellence. The committee extended their congratulations and good wishes to Francisco Alicandri.

No action was required.

RE-ORDERING AGENDA

It was **moved** by committee member Bond and **seconded** by vice chair Boulger to re-order the agenda to consider New Business at this point in the meeting.

Action #6251: re-order New Business on agenda	
Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

A. New England School Development Council (NESDEC) Facilities Usage Report

Mr. John Kennedy and Ms. Karen LeDuc, consultants from NESDEC, presented their Best Use of Facilities Study.

It was **moved** by vice chair Boulger and **seconded** by committee member Bergeron to accept the NESDEC Best Use of Facilities Study.

Action #6252: NESDEC Best Use of Facilities Study	
Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (continued)

B. Superintendent's Performance Goals for 2019-2020

Superintendent Malkas reviewed a draft of her performance goals for the 2019-2020 school year.

It was **moved** by committee member Jacobs and **seconded** by committee member Fahey to approve the superintendent's performance goals for 2019-2020.

Action #6253: Superintendent's Performance Goals	
Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

It was **moved** by committee member Bond and **seconded** by vice chair Boulger to accept the superintendent's recommendation to conduct the superintendent evaluation process over a two year cycle.

Action #6254: Two year cycle for superintendent evaluation process	
Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE

Committee member Holmes visited Brayton Elementary School and praised the project work done by the fifth and sixth graders in support of STEM week activities.

Superintendent Malkas distributed a print out of the on-line district calendar.

Chair Bernard noted the upcoming City of North Adams holiday food drive from November 12 through November 22, 2019. Donations will be delivered to the Northern Berkshire Interfaith Action Initiative’s Al Nelson Friendship Center Food Pantry on November 25, 2019.

Superintendent Malkas distributed the Drury High School athletic calendar for November, which highlighted the football team’s last game of the season scheduled for November 2, 2019.

Superintendent Malkas provided a letter from Governor Charles Baker addressed to the superintendent and President James Birge of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA) congratulating the district and MCLA on being awarded an Early College planning grant.

Superintendent Malkas shared a letter of appreciation from Attorney General Maura Healey thanking the superintendent for the district’s participation in the Start With Hello Launch Event at Drury High School and congratulating the district on a successful Start With Hello Week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Bernard announced that the committee would enter into executive session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21 to approve the minutes from the October 1, 2019, executive session and conduct a strategy session for negotiations with non-professional staff with the intent to reconvene in open session.

It was **moved** by committee member Jacobs and **seconded** by committee member Bond to enter into executive session. Chair Bernard administered the roll call:

Action #6255: Enter into Executive Session	
Ayes: Heather Boulger Ian Bergeron Karen Bond Nicholas Fahey James Holmes Tara Jacobs Chair Thomas Bernard	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

The committee entered into executive session at 8:12 p.m.
The committee exited executive session at 8:17 p.m.
The committee reconvened in open session at 8:18 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Bernard indicated that there was no more business to come before the committee.

It was **moved** by vice chair Boulger and **seconded** by committee member Bergeron to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Rauscher, Administrative Assistant