

**North Adams Public Schools
School Committee Meeting
December 3, 2019**

MINUTES

The School Committee of the North Adams Public Schools met Tuesday, December 3, 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
Amy Meehan, Principal, Colegrove Park Elementary School
Nancy Rauscher, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
Kimberly Roberts-Morandi, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
Carolyn Wallace, Principal, Brayton Elementary School

Elizabeth Whitman, Teacher, North Adams Public Schools, English Language Learners (ELL)

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 29, 2019, School Committee meeting

The committee considered the minutes from the October 29, 2019, School Committee meeting.

It was **moved** by vice chair Boulger and **seconded** by committee member Holmes to approve the minutes of the October 29, 2019, School Committee meeting.

Action #6259 minutes from October 29, 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. Committee member Bond requested that posted positions be listed in the monthly personnel report. The committee discussed challenges districts throughout the county and state are facing with regard to recruiting and retaining qualified personnel. Superintendent Malkas indicated she would present a human resources overview at an upcoming school committee meeting.

It was **moved** by vice chair Boulger and **seconded** by committee member Fahey to file the personnel report.

Action #6260: personnel report	
Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A. John and Abigail Adams Scholarships

Superintendent Malkas and Principal Tim Callahan announced the 2020 graduates who are eligible to receive John and Abigail Adams scholarships awarded by the Massachusetts Department of Secondary and Elementary Education.

No action was required.

REQUEST TO REORDER THE AGENDA

Chair Bernard requested reordering the agenda in order to take up the Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment update as the next agenda item. There were no objections.

B. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Update

English Language Learners (ELL) Program Coordinator Elizabeth Whitman provided an update on ELL programming. Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Roberts-Morandi provided an update on the content, resources, and curriculum maps available on the district website.

No action was required.

C. School Presentation: Greylock Elementary School

Principal Sandra Cote presented an informational update on Greylock Elementary School, entitled: Meeting the Needs of All Students. Principal Cote's presentation highlighted Greylock's recently introduced positive behavior interventions and supports and trauma sensitive approaches.

No action was required.

NEW BUSINESS

A. \$3,800 contribution from General Dynamics Mission Systems

Superintendent Malkas presented a corporate contribution in the amount of \$3,800 from General Dynamics Mission Systems in support of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) activities.

It was **moved** by committee member Jacobs and **seconded** by committee member Holmes to accept the corporate contribution from General Dynamics Mission Systems in the amount of \$3,800.

Action #6261: \$3,800 corporate contribution from General Dynamics Mission Systems	
Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

B. \$500 anonymous gift in support of the 21st Century After School Program

Superintendent Malkas presented a gift in the amount of \$500 from a private donor to support the 21st Century After School Program.

It was **moved** by committee member Fahey and **seconded** by committee member Bond to accept the gift in the amount of \$500.

Action #6262: \$500 anonymous gift from a private donor	
Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE

Vice chair Boulger shared news of Drury High School’s “lip dub” to be held on December 13 at 12:45 p.m.

Vice chair Boulger encouraged participation in the upcoming wreaths across America event to be held in North Adams on December 14 at 12:00 p.m.

Chair Bernard thanked the district’s facilities team for their response to the recent winter storm.

Chair Bernard reminded everyone of the importance of clearing sidewalks of snow and ice to ensure areas are safe and passable, particularly around school neighborhoods.

Chair Bernard announced the city’s tree lighting ceremony to be held on Friday, December 6, at 6:00 p.m. in Monument Square.

Superintendent Malkas distributed the district activity and athletic calendars for December 2019.

Chair Bernard thanked departing committee member Nicholas Fahey for having served on the North Adams school committee from 2016 – 2019. The committee and administration presented committee member Fahey with a card and gift.

Committee member Jacobs updated the committee on her participation in the November 2019 Massachusetts Association of School Committees and Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents join conference, noting Attorney General Healey publicly thanked the North Adams Public Schools for their role in start with hello week.

Committee member Jacobs described her attendance at a recent workshop on the recently introduced streamlined process for the evaluation of superintendents.

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 29, 2019 executive session and to conduct a strategy session for negotiations with non-professional staff with the intent to reconvene in Open Session.

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

Action #6263: Enter into Executive Session	
Ayes: Ian Bergeron Heather Boulger Karen Bond Nicholas Fahey James Holmes Tara Jacobs Chair Thomas Bernard	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

The committee entered into executive session at 7:21 p.m.

The committee exited executive session at 7:37 p.m.

The committee reconvened in open session at 7:38 p.m.

ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT

It was **moved** by committee member Fahey and **seconded** by vice chair Boulger to approve the amended settlement agreement by and between The North Adams Public Schools and The North Adams Cafeteria Managers Association.

Action #6268: Cafeteria Managers Agreement as amended	
Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

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 Fahey to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes	7
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Rauscher
Administrative Assistant
/nr