

**North Adams Public Schools
School Committee Meeting
March 5, 2019**

MINUTES

The School Committee of the North Adams Public Schools met Tuesday, March 5, 2019, in the Office of the Superintendent, 37 Main Street, Suite 200, North Adams.

Members present

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

Member not present

Ian Bergeron

Also attending

Dr. Barbara Malkas, Superintendent
Carrie Burnett, Business Administrator
Andrew Callahan, Student Representative
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
Thomas Simon, Director of Student Support Services
Carolyn Wallace, Principal, Brayton Elementary School

Lisa Tanner, Co-President, NATA

Press

Tammy Daniels, iBerkshires

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bernard called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

HEARING OF VISITORS

There were no visitors to be heard.

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.

READING AND APPROVAL OF RECORDS

A. Minutes of February 5, 2019, School Committee meeting

The committee considered the minutes from the February 5, 2019 School Committee meeting.

It was **moved** by vice chair Boulger and **seconded** by committee member Holmes to approve the minutes of February 5, 2019, with two revisions including adding Andrew Callahan as an attendee and correcting a typo to indicate Action #6157, rather than Action #615.

Action #6158: minutes with revisions as noted	
Ayes	6
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

B. Balance sheet

Business Administrator Burnett explained that the overall spending to-date is consistent with the FY19 appropriated budget. Vice chair Boulger requested an update on grant spending at a future school committee meeting. Superintendent Malkas indicated that a draft budget for FY20 would be presented at the upcoming school committee meeting on April 2, 2019, and the draft budget would include an overview of grant revenue and expenditures.

No action was required.

C. Personnel Report

Superintendent Malkas reviewed the personnel report. Chair Bernard asked if there were any open teaching positions. Superintendent Malkas noted that there are postings for substitute teachers. Additionally, several positions currently are filled by staff teaching under DESE waivers. In the coming months, NAPS will post a PreK teaching position, as well as postings to address waivers, retirements, and anticipated vacancies for the 2019-2020 school year.

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

Action #6159: personnel report	
Ayes	5
Nays	0
Abstain	1
Result	Motion carried

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A. Greylock Elementary School SOI

Superintendent Malkas reviewed the proposed Statement of Interest (SOI) for Greylock Elementary School. The Superintendent explained that in order to be eligible for the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) funding the district must submit an SOI approved by the North Adams School Committee and North Adams City Council. Following the discussion, the committee voted to approve the following SOI resolution:

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on March 5, 2019, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the School Committee of North Adams, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated April 6, 2019, for the Greylock Elementary School located at 100 Phelps Avenue, North Adams, MA, which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future, including replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility; and replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City of North Adams to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

It was moved by vice chair Boulger and seconded by committee member Holmes to approve the submission of the Statement of Interest Form to the MSBA as presented.

Action #6160: Approval of Greylock Elementary School SOI	
Ayes	6
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

B. FY20 Budget Update

Superintendent Malkas, along with Business Administrator Burnett, noted that the draft budget for fiscal year 2020 is still being developed, based on the Governor's budget submissions. The House and Senate have yet to present their budget recommendations.

Superintendent Malkas and Business Administrator Burnett indicated they continue to work closely with the district leadership team on budget priorities. Superintendent Malkas noted that a Finance and Facilities Sub-Committee meeting was being scheduled in March to review a preliminary draft of the FY20 budget, in advance of the April school committee meeting when a draft budget will be presented.

No action was required.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Superintendent's Evaluation

Superintendent Malkas reviewed progress toward her formative evaluation goals, including student learning, performance practice, district improvement, and the completion of the district self-assessment and DESE district review. Superintendent Malkas indicated that the annual evaluation materials will include links to evidence of progress against these goals.

It was **moved** by committee member Jacobs and **seconded** by committee member Holmes to approve the Superintendent's progress toward goals for her formative evaluation.

Action #6161: Superintendent's progress toward goals	
Ayes	6
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2019 – 2020 School Calendar

Superintendent Malkas presented the calendar for the 2019-2020 school year as voted by the North Adams Teachers Association.

It was **moved** by committee member Jacobs and **seconded** by committee member Fahey to accept the proposed 2019 – 2020 school calendar.

Action #6162: 2019-2020 School Calendar	
Ayes	6
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

B. Policy Sub-committee

Superintendent Malkas updated the committee on the policy sub-committee meeting held on February 20, 2019. The agenda included discussion of the development of a policy focused on bicycle transportation to school and consideration of revisions to social media policies.

No action was required.

C. Resolution in Support of Updating the Commonwealth's Foundation Budget

Chair Bernard and Superintendent Malkas presented a resolution in support of updating the Commonwealth's public education foundation budget. The resolution was developed in support of the Massachusetts Teachers Association's (MTA) public "Fund Our Future" campaign.

It was **moved** by vice chair Boulger and **seconded** by committee member Holmes to approve the resolution in support of updating the Commonwealth’s public education foundation budget.

Action #6163: Resolution in Support of Updating Foundation Budget	
Ayes	6
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

D. Greylock Elementary School Field Trip Request

The committee reviewed and discussed the request for Greylock Elementary School fifth graders to visit the Mystic Aquarium in June, 2019. Principal Cote reviewed the logistics and educational benefits of the trip. Principal Cote noted that the trip will be funded through Greylock Elementary School’s Parent Teacher Group.

It was **moved** by vice chair Boulger and **seconded** by committee member Jacobs to approve the Greylock Elementary School field trip request as presented by Principal Cote.

Action #6164: Greylock Elementary School Field Trip Request to Mystic Aquarium	
Ayes	6
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE

Committee member Holmes thanked teachers from Brayton Elementary School, Greylock Elementary School, and Colegrove Park Elementary School for inviting him to visit the schools and read to students as part of the “Read Across America” program. Chair Bernard and vice chair Boulger also expressed their appreciation for the schools’ participation in the “Read Across America” program.

Superintendent Malkas commented on the choral concert she had attended on the evening of March 4th. Participants included students from all three elementary schools, grades 7 and 8, as well as the high school.

Vice chair Boulger highlighted the upcoming March dates for PreK screening.

Vice chair Boulger congratulated Dr. Kim Roberts-Morandi on having recently been the first recipient of the Peter Pink mentoring award from the YMCA.

Vice chair Boulger congratulated Drury varsity basketball players Brooke DiGennaro, Scott McGuire, and Reece Racette on having passed the 1,000 point career scoring milestone, and Reece Racette on scoring the schools’ basketball scoring record. The committee congratulated

the boys varsity basketball team as they prepared for their upcoming semi-final championship game and the girls varsity basketball team on having advanced to the Western Massachusetts quarter finals this year.

Chair Bernard thanked everyone who participated in the recent Kids4Harmony performance at Chapin Hall at Williams College.

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 Holmes to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes	6
Nays	0
Result	Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Rauscher
Administrative Assistant
/nr