

School Committee
North Adams Public Schools
North Adams, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of 06 December 2016

A regular meeting of the School Committee of the North Adams Public Schools was held on Tuesday, 06 December 2016, in the Offices of the Superintendent, 37 Main Street, Suite 200, North Adams.

Members Present: Tara Jacobs
Nicholas Fahey
Mark P. Moulton
John Hockridge
Mayor Richard Alcombright, Chairperson

Members Missing: Heather Boulger
Karen Bond

Also Present: Dr. Barbara Malkas, Superintendent
Ellen Sutherland, Assistant to the Superintendent
Amy Meehan, Principal
John Franzoni, Principal
Sandra Cote, Principal
Timothy Callahan, Interim Principal
Molly Meczywor, Interim Assistant Principal
Thomas Simon, Director of Student Support Services
Dr. Kimberly Roberts-Morandi, Director of Curriculum Instruction & Assessment
Kimberlee Chappell
Donna Sadlowski
Noella Carlow
Rebecca Sawyer
Joyce Fruscio
Lois Hobbie-Welch
Marie McCarron
Jaana Mutka
Citizens

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Alcombright called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

HEARING OF VISITORS

There were no visitors to be heard.

READING AND APPROVAL OF RECORDS

A. Minutes of 01 November 2016 regular meeting

Minutes of the 01 November 2016 regular meeting were read and at the conclusion of which it was

MOVED by Moulton, SECONDED by Fahey
to approve the minutes of 01 November 2016 regular meeting.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes 5	<u>Minutes</u>
	Nays 0	Action No.
		5988

MOTION CARRIED

B. Balance Sheet

Superintendent Malkas reported that the budget was on schedule for this time of year. No action was required.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Mary Shea and Anne Andrews Senior Class Trip

On behalf of Mary Shea and Anne Andrews, Donna Sadlowski presented a request for a senior class trip to High Meadow Resort in North Granby, Connecticut. It was

MOVED by Hockridge, SECONDED by Fahey
to approve the senior class trip to High Meadow
in Granby, CT.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes 5	<u>Senior Class Trip</u>
	Nays 0	Action No.
		5989

MOTION CARRIED

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A. Personnel

Dr. Malkas gave background information on Kimberlee Chappell and introduced her to the Committee. Ms. Chappell briefly addressed the Committee.

Appointments

Kimberlee Chappell, LITERACY/TITLE I COORDINATOR, effective November 28, 2016.

Jack Racette, VARSITY BOYS' BASKETBALL COACH, effective 01 November 2016.

Brian Flagg, VARSITY GIRLS' BASKETBALL COACH, effective 01 November 2016.

Robert Jutras, JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS' BASKETBALL COACH, effective 01 November 2016.

Alon Willing, JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS' BASKETBALL COACH, effective 01 November 2016.

Meagan McCarthy, TEACHER ASSISTANT, Brayton Elementary School, effective 31 October 2016.

Angela Ellsworth, TEACHER ASSISTANT, Brayton Elementary School, effective 09 November 2016.

Cory Chartier, TEACHER ASSISTANT, Johnson School, effective 11 November 2016.

Jeanne Feder, SUBSTITUTE TEACHER ASSISTANT, effective 26 October 2016.

Jessica Cramer, SUBSTITUTE TEACHER ASSISTANT, effective 31 October 2016.

Meghan O'Grady, SUBSTITUTE NURSE, effective 02 November 2016.

Erinn Rayno, SUBSTITUTE TEACHER, effective 18 November 2016.

Sophia Drobot, CASE MANAGER, McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Grant program, effective 28 November 2016.

Transfers

Jacqueline Betti, GRADE ONE TEACHER ASSISTANT, Greylock Elementary School, effective 27 October 2016.

Kristen Ciampa, CASTLES TEACHER ASSISTANT, prekindergarten, Johnson School, effective 24 October 2016.

Resignations

Stephanie Shoffstall, PERMANENT DAILY SUBSTITUTE, at Brayton Elementary School, effective 16 December 2016.

MOVED by Moulton, SECONDED by Hockridge
to place the personnel information on file.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Personnel</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5990

MOTION CARRIED

B. American Heart Association Fundraiser, School Committee Policy KHA

Superintendent Malkas reviewed a request from the American Heart Association to implement an educational program with a fundraising component in the district. It was

MOVED by Jacobs, SECONDED by Fahey
to approve

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>American Heart Association</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5991

MOTION CARRIED

C. Berkshire County Education Task Force Presentation

Dr. Cynthia Brown addressed the Committee regarding the work of the Berkshire County Education Task Force, a collaborative group of 27 school committee chairs, current and former school superintendents, educators, local business leaders, and municipal government representatives. The overall goal is to make actionable recommendations with a singular importance on high quality public education with financial sustainability.

Specific Goals include

- Restore/improve educational program quality
- Create economies of scale
- Improve educational services
- Maintain and honor unique identity of each Berkshire community

Dr. Brown stressed that the BCETF is not a decision-making body but rather an advisory group doing the work they believe is needed in order for our county districts to make informed decisions about their futures.

Dr. Brown informed the Committee that thus far the Task Force has learned that enrollment is declining, operational costs are rising, and revenues are flat resulting in a reduction in diversity and range of educational programs and things will only get worse.

Phase II was outlined and Dr. Brown gave an overview of upcoming activities and a timeline which included a completion target date, June 30, 2017, with anticipated actionable recommendations for consideration by municipalities and school districts.

All key documents, including Task Force White Paper, meeting minutes, press releases, and the Phase I final report can be found online at www.berkshireeducation.org .

No action was required.

D. School Improvement Plans

Dr. Malkas gave an overview of the process of the District Improvement Plan and the School Improvement Plans. Each principal presented their school’s School Improvement Plan and addressed any questions the Committee had. After a period of comments, it was

MOVED by Moulton, SECONDED by Hockridge
to approve the School Improvement Plans

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>School Improvement Plans</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5992

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no matters to be considered.

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE

Ellen Sutherland informed the Committee that the North Adams Public Schools is now utilizing Twitter.

Chairperson Alcombright acknowledged the late Eleanor Taft, a retired North Adams Public Schools teacher who taught for 35 years and recently passed away.

Chairperson Alcombright thanked all involved with “Copacabana”.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairperson Alcombright stated that the Committee would enter into Executive Session to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with the Cafeteria Managers and the Cafeteria Workers and would reconvene in Open Session.

MOVED by Moulton, SECONDED by Fahey
to enter into executive session to discuss
collective bargaining.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Executive Session</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5993
Tara Jacobs	Yes		
Nicholas Fahey	Yes		
Mark Moulton	Yes		
John Hockridge	Yes		

Chairperson Alcombright Yes

MOTION CARRIED

Executive Session started – 7:25 p.m.

Executive Session ended – 7: 45 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

It was

MOVED by Fahey, SECONDED by Jacobs
to approve the cafeteria workers collective
bargaining agreement.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Cafeteria Workers</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5994

MOTION CARRIED

It was

MOVED by Jacobs, SECONDED by Hockridge
to approve the cafeteria managers collective
bargaining agreement.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	4	<u>Cafeteria Managers</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
	Abstention 1*	5995	

*Mark Moulton

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Alcombright indicated that there was no more business to come before the committee and it was

MOVED by Hockridge, SECONDED by Fahey
that the meeting be adjourned

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Adjournment</u>
	Nays	0	

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:50

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Bond, Secretary

/es