

School Committee
North Adams Public Schools
North Adams, Massachusetts

Regular Meeting of 06 October 2015

A regular meeting of the School Committee of the North Adams Public Schools was held on Tuesday, 06 October 2015, in the Offices of the Superintendent, 37 Main Street, Suite 200, North Adams.

Members Present: Mayor Richard Alcombright, Chairperson
David Lamarre
Mary Lou Accetta
Mark P. Moulton
John Hockridge

Missing: Heather Boulger
Larry Taft

Also Present: James E. Montepare, Superintendent
Noreen Donnelly, Administrator of Special Education
John Franzoni, Principal
Sandra Cote, Principal
Diane Ryczek, Coordinator of Mentoring and Assistive Technology
Nancy Ziter, Business Manager
Marie McCarron, Teacher
Janna Mutka, Teacher
Chris Caproni, Teacher
Donna Sadlowski, Teacher
Tammy Daniels, iBerkshires
Citizens

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Alcombright called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

HEARING OF VISITORS

There were no visitors to be heard.

READING AND APPROVAL OF RECORDS

A. Minutes of 01 September 2015 Regular Meeting

Minutes of the 01 September 2015 regular meeting were read and at the conclusion of which it was

MOVED by Hockridge, SECONDED by Moulton
to approve the minutes of 01 September 2015.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Minutes</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5892

MOTION CARRIED

B. Balance Sheet

The Superintendent reviewed the balance sheet with the Committee. No action was required.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Drury Senior Class Trip, Mary Shea and Anne Andrews

Donna Sadlowski presented a request on behalf of Mary Shea and Anne Andrews to take the senior class trip to High Meadows on June 2, 2016. There was discussion and it was

MOVED by Accetta, SECONDED by Lamarre
to approve senior class trip to High Meadows on
June 2, 2016.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Drury Senior Class Trip</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5893

MOTION CARRIED

B. Drury Band, National Independence Day Parade, Washington, DC

The Committee heard a request from Chris Caproni for the Drury Band to travel to Washington, DC from July 2-6, 2016 to perform in the National Independence Day Parade on July 4, 2016. Mark Moulton inquired about any potential issues with graduated seniors attending and Chris likened it to graduated seniors participating in athletic playoffs. It was

MOVED by Hockridge, SECONDED by Lamarre
to approve the Drury Band trip to Washington, DC
on July 2-6, 2016.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Drury Band Trip to Washington, DC</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5894

MOTION CARRIED

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

A. Personnel

Appointments

Kara Delisle, PART TIME TEACHER ASSISTANT, Greylock Elementary School, effective 02 September 2015.

Laurie Kuzia, CUSTODIAN, Drury High School, effective 31 August 2015.

Linda Tatro, DATA EVALUATION SPECIALIST, effective 01 September 2015.

Seth Shepard, LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER, Sullivan Elementary School, effective 07 September 2015.

Tyler Windover, BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONIST, effective 02 September 2015.

John Moore, LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE AUTISM SPECIALIST TEACHER, Drury High School, effective 01 September 2015.

Heidi Braman, TEACHER ASSISTANT, Greylock Elementary School, effective 02 September 2015.

Michele Casey, SUBSTITUTE KINDERGARTEN TEACHER, Sullivan Elementary School, effective 01 September 2015.

Meghan Janz, COACH, Girls' JV Soccer at Drury High School, effective 09 September 2015.

Gregory Caproni, MATH TEACHER, Drury High School, effective 01 September 2015.

Nathan VanSteemburg, TEACHER ASSISTANT, Sullivan Elementary School, effective 21 September 2015.

Darlene Lapierre, CUSTODIAN, Greylock Elementary School, effective 09 September 2015.

Stephanie Oxtan, TEACHING ASSISTANT, Brayton Elementary School, effective 21 September 2015.

Jeanne Feder, SUBSTITUTE TEACHER ASSISTANT, effective 18 September 2015.

Marie Cairns, SUBSTITUTE TEACHER ASSISTANT, effective 16 September 2015.

Robert Hall, Susan Oliveri, Lynn Hayden, Linda Johnson, Lois Hobbie-Welch, Robyn Lawson, Joyce Fruscio and Tracy Piekos, ACADEMIC LEADERS, 21st Century After School Program at Brayton Elementary School, effective 13 October 2015.

Jordan Degrenier Rennell, Ashley Riordan and Jenny Moulton, ENRICHMENT LEADERS, 21st Century After School Program at Brayton Elementary School, effective 13 October 2015.

Ella Mae Jake-Blackowl, ACTIVITY LEADER and ASSISTANT, 21 Century After School Program at Brayton Elementary School, effective 13 October 2015.

Pamela Martischnig, Tina Radlowski, Karen Cooper, Cheryl Witherell, Marcia Farinon, Tammy Dix, Addie Peckham and JoAnn Hathaway, ASSISTANTS, 21st Century After School Program at Brayton Elementary School, effective 13 October 2015.

Carrisa Sacherski, TEACHER ASSISTANT, Brayton Elementary School, effective 15 September 2015.

Jamie Choquette, LIGHTING AND SOUND DESIGNER and PRODUCER, Drury Stage Company, effective 01 September 2015.

Phoebe Pepper, ART SET DESIGNER, Drury Stage Company, effective 01 September 2015.

Keith Davis, SET CONSTRUCTION DESIGNER, Drury Stage Company, effective 01 September 2015.

Christopher Caproni, MUSIC DIRECTOR, Drury Stage Company, effective 01 September 2015.

Nicole Carter, CHOREOGRAPHER, Drury Stage Company, effective 01 September 2015.

Carrie Diehl, ELL TUTOR, Greylock Elementary School, effective 17 September 2015.

Transfers:

Marie Kelly-Whitney, TEACHER, has been transferred to Greylock Elementary School as Grade 4 Teacher effective 01 September 2015

Resignations:

Ellen Cotler, SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER, Sullivan Elementary School, effective 11 September 2015.

Jenny Moulton, TEACHER ASSISTANT, effective 28 August 2015.

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

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Personnel</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5895

MOTION CARRIED

B. Grant Awards

The Superintendent informed the Committee that to date \$1,879,595.40 in FY16 grant awards have been received.

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

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Grant Awards</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5896

MOTION CARRIED

C. iPad Purchase in Memory of Lynn Whitney Dion Drotter for Brayton Elementary School

Superintendent Montepare announced that Stephen Drotter, uncle of Principal Franzoni and son of former Drury Principal Drotter, had made a \$25,000 donation to Brayton Elementary School in memory of his late wife. Principal Franzoni read the following statement from Stephen Drotter

"Sixty-five years ago Lynn Whitney Dion entered kindergarten at Brayton School. With the help of her teachers and her parents she learned to read and became a lifelong reader. Reading became her most prominent pastime and it knew no boundaries. She read about everything and used reading to become an expert in many areas such as nutrition, yoga, travel, family life, the history of the many countries she visited, and much more. Reading guided her through a rich and prosperous life. We are sponsoring these iPads in the hope that as many children as possible will learn to read and benefit from it as Lynn did."

Superintendent Montepare also informed the Committee that Brayton Elementary School was awarded at \$10,000 grant from BJ's Wholesale Club. This grant combined with the donation from Mr. Drotter will provide 50 iPads for Brayton as well as technical support and teacher training.

MOVED by Moulton, SECONDED by Hockridge
to acknowledge the donation and to place
the information on file.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>iPad Purchase in Memory of Lynn Drotter</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5897

MOTION CARRIED

D. Colegrove Park Elementary School Update

Chairperson Alcombright stated that October 26, 2015 is the projected substantial completion date. Much is happening right now including paving, testing of the HVAC systems, landscaping, and wall restoration at the foot of the hill.

Mark Moulton asked if substantially complete meant we could start to move in. Chairperson Alcombright stated that we cannot move in until we have a final completion and have a certificate of occupancy which should happen in November.

Mark Moulton asked the Chairperson to speak to the rumor regarding the safety of the building specifically about a rumor about a failure to apply fire-resistant coatings to the I-beams used in structurally stabilizing the building. Chairperson Alcombright, Superintendent Montepare and Business Manager Ziter all rebutted this claim stating that building and fire directors have been in regularly and that all construction meets all the required codes. Further, the contractor's inspector, state inspectors from the Massachusetts School Building Authority and the project managers have also inspected the building. Chairperson Alcombright stated that he would ask the project manager to speak to the rumors at the Wednesday construction meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to be heard

REMARKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no Remarks for the Good of the Committee

NEW BUSINESS

John Hockridge gave an update of the Berkshire County Educator's Task Force (BCETF) and discussed the white paper which outlining the mission and goals. Chairperson Alcombright commended John Hockridge referring to the BCETF as Mr. Hockridge's 'brainchild'. It was

MOVED by Accetta, SECONDED by Moulton
to support the effort of BCETF.

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Committee Support of BCETF</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5898

MOTION CARRIED

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Collective Bargaining

Chairperson Alcombright stated that the Committee would enter into Executive Session to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber,

Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union (Teacher Assistants) and would reconvene in Open Session.

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

VOTE ON THE MOTION	Ayes	5	<u>Executive Session</u>
	Nays	0	Action No.
			5899

David Lamarre	Yes
Mary Lou Accetta	Yes
Mark Moulton	Yes
John Hockridge	Yes
Chairperson Alcombright	Yes

MOTION CARRIED

Executive Session started – 6:38 p.m.
Executive Session ended – 7:32 p.m.

The Committee reconvened and open session.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Alcombright indicated that there was no further business to come before the School Committee and called for a motion to adjourn. It was

MOVED by Hockridge, SECONDED by Lamarre
that the meeting be adjourned.

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

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Lou Accetta, Secretary

/hb