

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE
NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MA
OCTOBER 7, 2019
7:00 P.M. REGULAR MEETING

The North Attleborough School Committee met on Monday, October 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the James M. Rice Conference Room at the Woodcock Administration Building.

Committee members present included: John Costello, Ethan Hamilton, Kathryn Hobbs, James McKenna, Kevin O'Donnell, Carol Wagner and Talia Yourell. Town Council designee John Simmons was absent.

Superintendent Scott Holcomb, Assistant Superintendent Michelle McKeon, Business Administrator David Flynn and Director of Facilities and Grounds Kyle Kummer represented Central Administration.

Chairman McKenna called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. A moment of silence followed in remembrance of the 10th Anniversary of the death of Marine Captain Kyle Van De Giesen and also for the death of the Emerson College student last week who is the son of one of our North Attleborough Public School administrators.

Superintendent Holcomb introduced Senior student Brady Johnson, recipient of the Certificate of Academic Excellence. Mr. Holcomb read a statement written by Brady's guidance counselor, Julie Ensign, highlighting his academic career at NAHS. Mr. Holcomb asked about his outside interests and Brady described himself as an avid New England sports fan who enjoys watching all sports in his "off" time. Superintendent Holcomb then introduced Eddy Wang, second recipient of the Certificate of Academic Excellence. Mr. Holcomb read a statement by Eddy's guidance counselor, Judd Gavan, describing her NAHS achievements. Eddy described her extra curricular activities to include music and tennis. Discussion ensued. A 3-minute recess was had for pictures.

Chairman McKenna moved the agenda forward to discussion items and introduced acting Town Manager, Michael Gallagher who was present to discuss the FY20 budget. Mr. Gallagher explained his challenge in fighting with the deficit issues in the FY20 budget and his efforts to close the \$144,000 gap. Mr. Gallagher stated the town received a check from FEMA for snow removal in 2013 in the amount \$142,000 and was waiting to hear from the assessor's office regarding the possibility of underestimated growth which would completely close the gap. Mr. Gallagher stated the School Department could move forward with the budget that was approved in June and suggested using the funds set aside for 4 new Technology Integration Specialists for one-time expenses instead. The discussion moved on to the NAHS bleachers and Superintendent Holcomb offered quotations from architectural firm Kaestle Boos for the demolition and reconstruction of the bleachers. Chairman McKenna recommended moving forward to fund the demolition using the funds previously budgeted for the new hires. Discussion ensued.

Chairman McKenna reverted back to the order of the agenda and introduced NAHS student Dylan Desrosiers who presented his Eagle Scout Project. Dylan explained the process he went through to construct 6 vegetable gardens with irrigation that have been placed on high school property and he will donate to the NAHS club Team Green. The vegetables grown in the garden will ultimately be donated to Lenore's Pantry. Discussion ensued..

Assistant Superintendent Michelle McKeon presented a curriculum update. Mrs. McKeon spoke about the Professional Development day held on September 23rd reporting the focus for NAHS and NAMS was on deeper learning and the elementary schools focuses on Science and worked together teaching strategies on National Geographic and Discovery Ed's Programs. Mrs. McKeon reported on 2 Blended and Personalized Learning cohort groups working with Discovery Education. She stated we have launched a new PD website where the staff can access PD opportunities and sign up for courses.

Director of Facilities and Grounds Kyle Kummer offered an update on projects that have been worked on or completed since our last meeting. Mr. Kummer spoke about the NAHS lobby, Room 114 Innovation Lab, roofs at Community and Amvet, carpeting in many of the schools, LED lighting and asphalt repair and replacement. Discussion ensued.

Chairman McKenna called for a motion to approve the bills dated September 13, 20, 27, October 4, 2019. So moved by Kathryn Hobbs, seconded by Carol Wagner; so voted and passed 5-0-2. Kevin O'Donnell and Ethan Hamilton abstained.

Mr. McKenna stated the meeting was being recorded by Jared Ware and will be broadcast on North TV.

Chairman McKenna called for a motion to accept the minutes dated September 9, 2019. So moved by Kathryn Hobbs, seconded by Carol Wagner; so voted and passed 5-0-2. Kevin O'Donnell and Carol Wagner abstained.

Chairman McKenna called for a motion to approve the 1st reading of the proposed amended Staff Acceptable Use Policy, proposed amended Student Acceptable Use Policy and proposed new Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy as recommended by the Curriculum Policy Subcommittee. Assistant Superintendent reported on the subcommittee meeting and invited Technology Director Gideon Gaudette to explain the amendments made to the existing policies. Discussion ensued. So moved by Talia Yourell, seconded by Carol Wagner; so voted and passed unanimously 7-0-0.

During public comments and questions, Chairman McKenna invited the High School Representatives to report on the happenings at the High School. Sam Osa-Agbontaen reported his focus is to improve communication through the Student Voice Summit and social media at the High School so more students are aware of what is available to them such as clubs, activities etc. Brody Rosenberg reported on homecoming and upcoming spirit week and the planned activities for next week.

Superintendent Holcomb and Business Administrator David Flynn reported on the Student Opportunity Act and the impact it will have in increased funding in each district throughout the Commonwealth if adopted and enacted. Discussion ensued.

Superintendent Holcomb reported on the NAHS track and current condition. Mr. Holcomb offered a quote from architectural firm Kaestle Boos for the replacement of the track with the same as we have now and with an upgraded version of what we have. He stated the town/school department needs to prioritize the high expense items we are faced with - track, roofs and bleachers. Discussion ensued.

Superintendent Holcomb stated that leaks were under control at both Amvet and Community School. The roof at Community School is at the end of its life. Mr. Holcomb stressed the importance of the town-wide facilities assessment. Discussion ensued.

Superintendent Holcomb reviewed the Senior Study Visit from MSBA at NAHS. Mr. Holcomb explained we would be notified on December 11, 2019 if we were picked for a feasibility study. Discussion ensued.

Chairman McKenna called for a motion to go into executive session to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto, so moved by Kevin O'Donnell, seconded by Carol Wagner. So voted by roll call vote:

John Costello - Yes
Talia Yourell - Yes
Kathryn Hobbs - Yes
Carol Wagner - Yes
James McKenna - Yes
Kevin O'Donnell - Yes
Ethan Hamilton - Yes

Meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Submitted by Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, Mary Chagnon