

**North Andover School Committee
Regular Session**

Date: July 30, 2008
Location: NAHS Library
Present: Ms. Allen, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby, and Ms. Whidden. Also present were Superintendent Marini and Assistant Superintendent Hutchinson.

Reorganization Meeting

Chairman Whidden called the meeting to order at 9:12AM and handed the gavel to Dr. Ormsby to officiate Reorganization.

Dr. Ormsby opened the floor for nominations for Committee Chairman. Chris Allen nominated Ms. Whidden and Mr. Limpert seconded the nomination. There being no discussion, a roll call vote was taken. The vote was 5-0 in favor of Ms. Whidden.

Nominations were then called for the position of Vice Chairman. Ms Allen nominated Mr. Limpert. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Nobile. There being no discussion, a roll call vote was taken. The vote was 5-0 in favor of Mr Limpert.

Dr. Ormsby then called for nominations for Secretary. Ms. Allen nominated Dr. Ormsby and was seconded by Mr. Limpert. There being no discussion, a roll call vote was taken. The vote was 5-0 in favor of Dr. Ormsby.

Dr. Ormsby then handed control of the meeting back to Chairman Whidden.

Retreat

Ms. Whidden noted that several suggestions for subcommittees had been made and that the committee should discuss these.

Mr. Limpert was recognized and suggested that a Technology Subcommittee was needed to attend to issues related to technology infrastructure. The committee discussed this need and agreed that it would be worthwhile. Dr. Hutchinson suggested that it should coordinate with the curriculum committee and Dr. Ormsby suggested it should also have as one of its objectives, the use of technology to foster distance learning opportunities for our students. Ms. Whidden appointed Mr. Limpert as chair of the subcommittee.

Dr. Marini then suggested that he form a superintendent redistricting advisory committee with representation from the School Committee, the Elementary Principals, and parent representatives from each school. The advisory committee would determine the values and criteria that should drive re-districting, coordinate proposed plans and public meetings, and target a School Committee vote in the January/February time frame. Discussion was favorable and Mr. Nobile agreed to serve on the Committee.

Dr. Marini then proposed that the School Committee form a Budget Subcommittee that would deliberate with representatives from the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen to ensure coordination of FY10 budget-related issues as they evolve during the year. A discussion ensued of the various initiatives and committees involved in the budget process (Budget communications committee, Revenue & fixed costs committee, the Town Manager 5-year revenue forecasting process, Long Range Capital planning Committee, etc.) and the consensus of the committee was that further consideration should be given to existing committees/processes with an eye towards improving them before adding another such group. This recommendation was tabled for further study and future recommendations.

Ms. Whidden noted that the current School Building Committee has several new members (Jim Lafond, Vice Chair, and Dan Ryan) and that Mr. Bill Kelly has been voted as the committee's new Chairman.

Ms. Whidden then recognized our two guest facilitators:

Dr. Bob Gass, Executive Director of North Shore Education Consortium, and
Dr. Irwin Blumer, Boston College

Discussion of the following topics then ensued without any formal action being taken:

- Superintendent review of progress over the past year and critical needs
 - Need for greater consistency in elementary curricula
 - Ensure curriculum and classroom practices target essential standards
 - Continue to improve budget and position control
 - Improve position descriptions/responsibilities
 - Document essential processes
 - Improve SpEd transitions from elementary to middle school to high school
 - Continued focus needed on improvements in Middle School
- Superintendent Goals for FY09 to be reviewed at SC's September meeting
- Teacher evaluation process being piloted in FY09
 - Each teacher evaluated on three goals ó one each from: District, School, Teacher
 - Dr. Hutchinson will provide evaluation calendar in September
- Roles & Responsibilities of School Committee Members
- Roles and Responsibility of School Committee Chairman & Vice Chairman
- SC public comment policy
- Open meeting law
- Year-long agenda setting process
- Superintendent search process
- Superintendent evaluation process

The meeting adjourned at 1:20PM. Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Limpert; seconded by Dr. Ormsby. All in favor: 5 ó Yes; 0 ó No.

NASC Approved 9/18/08