

**North Andover School Committee
Regular Session**

Date: September 18, 2008

Present: Members Allen, Nobile, Ormsby, and Whidden. Superintendent Marini, Assistant Superintendent Hutchinson, and Business Administrator Fortado

Location: NAHS Lecture Hall

Call to Order

At 6:30 p.m.

Call Back to Order

At 7:00 p.m. Chair Whidden called the meeting back to order. Chair Whidden stated that while in executive session the Committee talked about union contracts and agreed to pursue a one year contract with the teachers union and voted to reallocate music and drama stipends.

Chair Whidden welcome Brian Fraser, Executive Director of NACAM. She stated that the Committee would be working with Brian to look into split screen programming for meetings.

Ms. Crescitelli stated that she was unable to attend the last School Committee meeting and wanted to express her concern regarding the decision to not notify the public or the Committee on NEASC's decision to put North Andover High School on warning.

Chair Whidden stated that the issue was discussed at the last meeting and that she had stated that the information should have been brought to the full Committee. She suggested Ms. Crescitelli refer to the minutes of September 4th for further information.

Mr. Nobile stated that Sandy Gleed had also written a fairly long profile on the discussion held at the September 4th meeting and the information was posted on North Andover United's website.

Chair Whidden discussed the draft year long agenda.

Dr. Ormsby asked that the timeline for the Hall of Fame nominations and appointment be reviewed to ensure that it conformed to the approved guidelines.

It was the consensus of the Committee to tentatively move the interview date for superintendents from January 12th to two evenings in December.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Marini reviewed the cost of the bussing fee incentive program. He stated that to date the cost is approximately \$15,000.

Dr. Marini informed the Committee that Dr. Scuzzarella have been invited to travel to China as part of the China Exchange Initiative. He discussed the benefits to North Andover to have the high school principal participate in the program and noted that there would be no cost to the community for Dr. Scuzzarella's participation.

Dr. Marini updated the Committee on information from the Department of Public Health regarding West Nile Virus.

Dr. Marini reviewed the technology problems at the central office and the high school. He stated that it is a two part problem, first the fiber optic cable to the central office had been damaged during the construction at 43 High Street and second the equipment has not been maintained and is need of repair or replacement. An assessment of the technology will be performed. He thanked Mr. Kiley, Network Manager, and Mr. Killan, Town Technology Director, for their efforts to resolve the issues.

FY09 1st Quarter Budget Report

Mr. Fortado reviewed the first quarter report. He stated that due to the technical problems at central office he would be unable to provide an update on grants and revolving funds until the next meeting. *At the request of the Committee, Mr. Fortado agreed to provide with future reports a summary of trends, information on potential problem areas, and to provide the report electronically to Committee members. In addition, he agreed to look into whether or not to encumber out of district tuitions and transportation costs.*

Sponsorship Program

Mr. Nobile discussed the Sponsorship Program and the donations to date.

Mr. Nobile asked that the Committee accept this evening a \$4,000 from McDonalds, \$4,000 from an anonymous donator, \$2,500 from Jackson Kitchen, \$1,000 from Northside Carding and \$2,500 from TAC Energy.

Mr. Nobile introduced George Peters from Lancer One who also donated to the program. Mr. Peters discussed his What Now? evacuation tool which is being donated to the schools.

Mr. Nobile moved to accept the donations to the Sponsorship Program as discussed this evening: \$4,000 from McDonalds, \$4,000 from an anonymous donor, \$2,500 from Jackson Kitchen, \$1,000 from Northside Carding and \$2,500 from TAC Energy. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden voted yes.

GLEC Update

Dr. Marini stated that that the Committee had asked for a presentation regarding GLEC prior to voting on the proposed GLEC bylaw amendment. He stated that Director of Special Education Laundre and Mr. Maher from GLEC would be discussing the programmatic and financial benefits North Andover receives by belonging to GLEC.

Ms. Laundre and Mr. Maher gave the Committee an overview of GLEC. In response to a concern raised by the Committee Mr. Maher discussed the admission of other organizations to GLEC. Mr. Maher stated that although GLEC was absorbing two Coastal Collaborative programs, they were not absorbing any of the debt incurred by Coastal Collaborative or their administrative structure. He stated that absorbing Coastal Collaborative did not cost participating districts anything and provides more opportunities for our students. He noted that the Superintendents of the GLEC communities sit on the GLEC board and oversee the budget.

In response to a request by the Committee, Dr. Marini stated that future GLEC financial statements would be provided to the Committee.

Coordinated Program Review

Dr. Hutchinson reviewed the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Coordinated Program Review report on Special Education, Civil Rights and English Language Learners. He stated that a majority of the findings were in the area of English Language Learner. He stated that the district must put in place a corrective action plan and that a committee has been formed to address the findings and bring a corrective action plan back to the School Committee for approval.

In response to questions from the Committee Dr. Hutchinson stated that currently the district has approximately 70 ELL students and that not addressing the issues in the CPR report would put the 94-142 grant and Chapter 70 funding at risk. He noted that a large problem is having communications translated into the required languages. He discussed the testing of ELL students and the average time students remain in ELL.

Superintendent's Office Space

Mr. Fortado stated that the current lease expires in July 2009. He made the following recommendations regarding the lease of space for the superintendent's office.

- That the Committee agree to open the lease to all areas of North Andover with no restrictions
- That the RFP solicit proposals for space from 5,600-7,000 square feet.
- That the lease be for a period of three years per Town Meeting restrictions.

- That the move date by June 1st because of the significant changes in administration and staff vacations during July.
- That if the Committee is ready to move forward he present an RFP for approval at the School Committee meeting

The Committee agreed that Mr. Fortado should move forward with the RFP process.

Chair Whidden asked the Committee to forward to her the name of anyone interested in serving on the Capital Planning Committee.

Redistricting Process Overview

Dr. Marini reviewed the process he would be using for redistricting. He stated that the first meeting of the Redistricting Committee is September 23rd.

Evaluation of Superintendent

Chair Whidden read into the record the evaluation of Dr. Marini. The Committee agreed that in March rather than do an evaluation of Dr. Marini that a public exit interview would be conducted.

Dr. Ormsby moved to accept the evaluation of Dr. Marini and place the evaluation in Dr. Marini's personnel file. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 Ms. Allen, Dr. Ormsby, Mr. Nobile and Ms. Whidden.

Goals & Budget Directives

Dr. Marini and the Committee discussed the FY09 Goals and FY10 Budget Directives. Dr. Marini stated that he would be adding a goal regarding energy conservation. In response to concerns raised by the Committee, Dr. Marini stated that he would provide the Committee at the next meeting with the goals and budget directives in separate documents.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Allen moved to approve the minutes of July 30, 2008 with the change as noted. Mr. Nobile seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Ms. Allen moved to approve the minutes of August 19, 2008. Mr. Nobile seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Ms. Allen moved to approve the minutes of August 27, 2008. Mr. Nobile seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 Ms. Allen, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby and Ms. Whidden.

Subcommittee Reports

Subcommittee Reports

Personnel ó Chair Whidden stated that a meeting is scheduled for October 6th.

Facilities Usage Fee ó Ms. Allen stated that the subcommittee will move forward with the review of auditorium usage and fees when Mr. Limpert returns.

School Committee Policy ó Ms. Allen stated that a meeting will be schedule with Mr. Gilbert of MASC.

Athletics - Mr. Nobile stated that the subcommittee is finalizing the raffle component of the program and will report back at the next School Committee meeting.

Curriculum ó Chair Whidden stated that the subcommittee is reviewing the curriculum renewal plan adopted by the School Committee several years ago.

Superintendent Search ó Dr. Ormsby stated that the brochure has been printed and is being sent to Massachusetts Superintendents. He thanked Eagle East for the providing the aerial photos of the high school for the brochure at a dramatically reduced cost.

School Building Committee ó Chair Whidden stated that the Committee had selected Pat Saitti as the Project Manager for the preschool. She stated that a group has been formed to look at design and a second group to work with conservation commission on the wetland issues.

After discussion it was agreed that the Committee would pursue getting the Finance Committee to appoint a member to serve as liaison to the School Committee.

Adjourn

At 9:35 p.m. Mr. Nobile moved to adjourn. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 Ms Allen, Mr. Nobile, Dr. Ormsby, and Ms. Whidden.

NASC approved 10/16/08