

**NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL**  
**Northfield Community School, Vocal Music Room, 6:15 PM**

Meeting Called to Order by the Board of Education President, Steve Wynne at 6:17 pm.

Roll Call

Mr. Barnhart	Present
Mr. Bruno	Present
Mrs. Delcher	Absent
Mrs. Levitt	Present
Mr. Milhous	Present
Dr. Syed	Present
Mrs. White	Present
Ms. Woodhouse	Present
Mr. Wynne	Present

Superintendent  
Dr. Fipp

Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Linda Albright

Additional Administrators in Attendance  
Mrs. Vaccaro  
Mr. Robbins

Silent Moment  
A silent moment was observed.

Salute to the Flag  
A Salute to the Flag was conducted.

Announcement

This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the Minutes that in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the "Open Public Meetings Act", Northfield Board of Education at 3:00 p.m. on February 28, 2014 caused to be posted at the Office of the Board of Education located at 2000 New Road, Northfield, New Jersey and at 9:00 a.m. on February 28, 2014 mailed to The Press of Atlantic City and to The Current of Egg Harbor Township and to the Office of the Municipal Clerk of Northfield a meeting notice setting forth the time, date and location of this meeting.

**THE NORTHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION USES A "CONSENT AGENDA" PROCEDURE.**

**1. Executive Session**

Motion to adopt the following resolution – BE IT RESOLVED by the Northfield Board of Education that, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq.) it shall enter into Executive Session to discuss and review pending litigation, and other matters of attorney client privilege. The information discussed can be disclosed to the public only upon formal written request to the board secretary at the next work, special or regular meeting to determine if the time and circumstances would be appropriate to disclose the information discussed. At the conclusion of this session the Board of Education will reconvene the regular portion of the meeting and action may, or may not, be taken.

*Let the minutes reflect that the Board of Education entered into executive session at 6:20 pm.*

*Let the minutes reflect that the Board of Education returned to regular session at 7:15 pm.*

A Motion was made by Kevin Milhous, and seconded by Deborah Levitt, to approve item 1. The Motion Passed by a vote of 8 Aye and 0 Nay. Board Members voting Aye: Barnhart, Bruno, Levitt, Milhous, Syed, White, Woodhouse, Wynne. Board Member Absent: Delcher.

A Motion was made by Deborah Levitt, and seconded by Kevin Milhous, to return to open session. The Motion Passed by a vote of 8 Aye and 0 Nay. Board Members voting Aye: Barnhart, Bruno, Levitt, Milhous, Syed, White, Woodhouse, Wynne. Board Member Absent: Delcher.

**2. Open to the Public (Public Comment may be limited to three minutes per person per issue.)**

- **Peggy Robins**, 100 Cara Court, asked for a pacing guide for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Algebra I. Dr. Fipp explained that it is not yet complete, but it is being worked on and will be finished by the end of the week.

**3. Curriculum**

- A. Motion to approve the attached revised 2013-14 school calendar.

**Discussion:** Dr. Fipp reviewed changes to the calendar due to snow days; recommended as of now June 25, 2014 for Graduation, considering MRHS and Somers Point Graduations.

A Motion was made by Karyn White, and seconded by Deborah Levitt, to approve item 3.A. The Motion Passed by a vote of 8 Aye and 0 Nay. Board Members voting Aye: Barnhart, Bruno, Levitt, Milhous, Syed, White, Woodhouse, Wynne. Board Member Absent: Delcher.

**4. Finance**

- A. Motion to approve the attached resolution for submission of the 2013-14 budget submission to the County Office of Education.

**Discussion:** Dr. Syed reviewed Budget. Mr. Wynne summarized the changes in the proposed Budget; explained the budget as proposed includes 2% Tax Levy increase, the addition of Supervisor of Curriculum position, as well as the removal of one full time nurse position (the retiring nurse will not be replaced) and two part time BSI positions, added there are minor additional cuts that will help balance the budget. Mrs. Levitt added that this year we only received about \$19,000 in additional state aid.

A Motion was made by Zubair Syed, and seconded by Mark Bruno, to approve item 4.A. The Motion Passed by a vote of 8 Aye and 0 Nay. Board Members voting Aye: Barnhart, Bruno, Levitt, Milhous, Syed, White, Woodhouse, Wynne. Board Member Absent: Delcher.

**5. Open to the Public**

- **Megan Sher**, 224 Roosevelt Ave, asked if Summer School is included in the Budget. Mr. Wynne explained that the Summer School is in the Budget. Dr. Fipp explained that we will be looking at using some NCLB funds for the summer programs. Dr. Fipp added we are not sure what the program for summer will be exactly. Mrs. Sher asked if NCS was attending Curriculum School Improvement meetings. Dr. Fipp explained that CSI meeting are curriculum meetings, but different from the 4 districts constituency meetings. Two years ago we attended the CSI meetings at 100%, last year at 75% to 80% and this year, the meetings were attended at 40% due to the PARCC and Teacher Evaluation requirements taking significant amount of time away from the administrators. Even if not attended the CSI meeting agendas are reviewed and noted, and are reviewed and discussed at Superintendent's round tables. Mrs. Sher asked if the Board Members are attending workshops and how often. Mr. Wynne answered he has attended a

- number of workshops, some of them required, some of them optional. Mrs. Levitt said that many workshops are offered and attended at the Annual NJSBA workshop in Atlantic City.
- **Jennifer Vandyke**, 27 Henry Drive, asked what “minor” line adjustments were made to balance the Budget and are they including adjustments to the Art Programs. Mr. Wynne answered no.
  - **Christine Ruth**, 20 W. Rosedale Ave, asked if there will be only one nurse for the whole building. Mr. Wynne answered yes, the enrollment for both Elementary and Middle school has dropped, it is now below 1,000 students. Mrs. Ruth asked what the required nurse-student ratio is. Mr. Wynne added he believes we do not exceed the minimum nurse-student ratio but additional research will be made. Mrs. Ruth asked if there is a budgeted secretary for the curriculum coordinator position. Mr. Wynne answered no. Mrs. Ruth asked if there is a job description for the Curriculum Coordinator position. Mr. Wynne explained that the Curriculum Coordinator job description was discussed at the curriculum committee meeting, and will be revised and finalized. Mrs. Ruth asked if there is a possibility for teachers and parents to have an input in the decision.
  - **Shannon VandenBerg**, 1915 Sutton Ave, asked what the budgeted amount for testing is. Dr. Fipp explained that Global is not in the budget for next year and that was \$48,000. Mrs. Albright explained that both ES and MS Principals put in an amount in their budgets for testing and test prep. For the Elementary School this amount this year is \$4,000.00 and for the Middle School - \$2,000.00 but they will be supplemented additionally with other funds.
  - **Robert Randel**, 115 Julie Drive, asked if the Board has considered Shared Services with other Districts, possibly Superintendent. Mr. Wynne answered yes, we have reached out to other districts, but we have had no success at senior level administration as of yet. We do have interest in local areas for sharing, and will be looking into it. Mr. Randel asked if our online math programs, as IXL, include support for Algebra and Geometry. Mr. Wynne replied we will need to look into it.
  - **Jen VanDyke**, 27 Henry Drive, asked if Graduation for Belhaven and Somers Point is being moved. Dr. Fipp explained that with the added days due to the inclement weather Somers Point and Linwood will be adjusting their days, but nothing has been approved as of yet. Mrs. VanDyke noted that the Summer Camp starts before 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Mike Sher**, 39 E. Vernon Ave, asked if the Board is consulting NCS employees, teachers and administration in the event of a decision pertaining to position eliminations and budget cuts. Mr. Wynne answered absolutely; teachers give their input to their respective principals, the principals than bring it to the committee meetings. Mr. Sher asked with the teachers now out of contract, are their salaries and benefits taken into consideration in the next year budget. Mrs. Wynne answered yes.
  - **Lynn Martino**, 1905 Bay Drive, NCS teacher, asked the Board to please get the contract finished and settled. Teachers are working too hard. BOE is not responding to dates.
  - **Antoinette Hedrich**, 2510 Shore Road, NCS teacher, said in 16 years she has been consulted once about the budget; expressed concern about one nurse handling both Elementary and Middle Schools.
  - **Steve Wynne**, Northfield Board of Education President, informed that the BOE has attended number of meeting with the Association, added last time the BOE reached out to the Association for a meeting. The NBOE is trying very hard to settle. Dr. Fipp noted that it has been known since last summer that an additional administrator or supervisor is needed, especially with the implemented new teacher evaluation.
  - **Peggy Robins**, 100 Cara Court, informed the Board that the maximum number of students per school nurse is 750.
  - **Christine Arena**, 624 1<sup>st</sup> street, asked if all new math teachers are highly qualified. Dr. Fipp answered yes.
  - **Robert Randel**, 115 Julie Drive, asked if all math teachers are qualified to teach algebra. Dr. Fipp answered yes, they are highly qualified to teach math in the middle school which includes algebra.

**6.** Executive Session

A second Executive session is not needed at this time.

**13. Announcement**

Next Regular BOE Meeting, Monday, March 24, 2014, Vocal Music Room, 6:30 PM.

**14. Adjournment**

A Motion was made by Karyn White, and seconded by Deborah Levitt, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm. The Motion Passed by a vote of 8 Aye and 0 Nay. Board Members voting Aye: Barnhart, Bruno, Levitt, Milhous, Syed, White, Woodhouse, Wynne. Board Member Absent: Delcher.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Albright,  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary