

UPDATE FROM THE NMRSD SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE OCTOBER 1, 2017

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the NMRSD School Committee is scheduled for Monday, October 2, 2017; at North Middlesex Regional High School at 7:00 p.m. Agenda items include the following:

PRESENTATION

1. Special Education Overview 2017-2018 ~ Brad Brooks
 - Gateway Program Transportation Vehicle ~ Tuition Revolving Funds
2. Technology Overview 2017-2018~ Jeremy Hamond

REPORTS/INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Student Representative Report ~ Hadley Beauregard and Paige Zacharakis
2. Superintendent's Report
 - NMRHS Open House for 8th-Grade Students ~ November 2, 2017
 - Ashby Well Update
 - Accelerated Repair Project ~ Update
 - North Middlesex Education Foundation
 - Superintendent's Evaluation

NEW BUSINESS

1. To approve and accept a negotiated 20-year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) contract with Solect Energy for the installation and operation of a new rooftop solar energy system at one or more of the school district's properties, and to authorize the chair of the school committee or its appropriate designee to execute and sign said agreement and all related contract documents on behalf of the school committee, and to take all other steps that may be necessary to enter into said contract.

Discussion/Vote

2. MASC Resolutions/Delegation Discussion/Vote

- Appointment of Voting Delegate(s)
- Vote on MASC Resolutions

3. The superintendent recommends that the school committee vote to declare the televisions listed on the disposal of surplus property form as surplus.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

The next meeting of the North Middlesex Regional High School Building Committee is scheduled for Monday, October 16, 2017; at the high school at 5:00 p.m. Agenda items will be included in a future update.

Please note: The NM Building and School Committee meetings will be held in room 120 at North Middlesex Regional High School on the first floor. To access the meetings, please park in the lot on Main Street (119) and follow the signs which will direct you to the location.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY TOURS

The district is pleased to announce community tours of the new North Middlesex Regional High School on Saturday, October 14th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. Student-led tours will occur on the half hour starting at 1:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY

The North Middlesex Regional School District cordially invites the community to a ribbon-cutting ceremony and celebration of the opening of the new high school on Friday, October 20th at 10:00 a.m.

INFORMATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH AND BREAKFAST

If your income is less than or equal to the State Free and Reduced guidelines, you are eligible for free or reduced-price meals. These guidelines are effective July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018. If you have children who are approved for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) formerly known as Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) they are automatically able to receive free meals. Students who are migrant, homeless or runaway are automatically eligible and do not need to fill out an application. Foster children receive free meals regardless of the income of the household in which they reside.

If your child was approved for free or reduced lunch last school year, you need to re-apply each year. If approved in a prior school year, your child will automatically receive free or reduced lunch until October 1st. This period is to allow time to process the new free and reduced lunch applications for this school year. Please remember you will receive a letter regarding your free/reduced lunch status each year.

For more information or to get an application for free or reduced-price school meals, contact Michelle Nee, 33 Chace Avenue, Pepperell, MA 01463, 978-433-0114. We cannot approve your application unless it is complete. The information you give us on your application may be checked. You may apply for free or reduced meals at any time during the school year if your situation changes. If you become unemployed, your child (ren) may be able to have free or reduced meals based on your unemployment income. If we deny your free or reduced meals application, we will give you a chance to appeal the decision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, October 5th Nissitissit Open House 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Friday, October 6th Early Release for Students/ Professional Development for Staff

NMRS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION - NMRHS

Fall Canning: Friday, Oct 13, 4:00-8:00 pm and Saturday, Oct 14, 8:00 am-12:00 noon

Canning locations will be in Pepperell, Townsend, and Ashby. To earn your point, you must fulfill a 2-hour time slot of canning. Cans will be picked up and returned to NMRHS on the day of the event.

What is a point? Participation points are a part of how scholarship awards are evaluated. Students can earn 1 point per year of high school. By senior year, the student's points are tallied/weighed as part of the rubric used by the Scholarship Selection Committee, reflecting the number and types of ways the student volunteered for the NMRS Scholarship Foundation during his/her years at NM.

In early spring of their senior year, graduating students are invited to submit an NMRS Scholarship Application. A selection committee consisting of Foundation members (excluding those with a graduating senior) and at least one NMRHS administrator reviews the applications to determine awards. Applications are presented anonymously (the guidance office removes names and applies numbers to the applications) to ensure unbiased decisions are made.

For further information, please contact the scholarship foundation at scholarship@nmrsd.org.

SUPERINTENDENT'S STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The purpose of these meetings is to engage high school students in discussions about their school community and to provide an opportunity for students to take a leadership role in the district. The meetings will be held at NMRHS at 6:00 p.m. in room 120. The first meeting will be held on October 19, 2017. Future meeting dates will be determined at the meeting.

DISTRICT PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The purpose of these meetings is for the superintendent to engage our families and community members in discussions about educational topics and to garner feedback on important issues. The meetings will be held at Peter Fitzpatrick School at 9:30 a.m. The first meeting will be held on October 19, 2017. Future meeting dates will be determined at the meeting.

NM CARES PERFORMANCE OF DIRT

The North Middlesex Regional High School administration worked with NM Cares to arrange a performance of DIRT for all freshman and sophomore students at 8:30 a.m. on October 12. There will also be a free community performance at 6:00 p.m. in the high school performing arts center. According to the website (<https://www.johnmorello.com/the-shows>), Dirt is a one-man show that explores the challenges and decisions that young people face every day. Dirt gets to the heart of issues related to drugs, bullying, and self-esteem in a manner that resonates with audiences in a real and meaningful way.

NORTH MIDDLESEX EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The North Middlesex Regional School District administration is interested in establishing an education foundation for our schools. The foundation would raise funds to award mini-grants to teachers and staff to provide enrichment opportunities for our students.

The NM Education Foundation would explore the possibility of establishing a recognition program for former students who have achieved major accomplishments and educators and friends who have made outstanding contributions to education in the North Middlesex Regional School District. If you are interested in being a part of this exciting initiative, please contact the superintendent at jlanders@nmrsd.org.

MESSAGE FROM THE GREGORY E REEVES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RUN COMMITTEE

Greg's Run will be held on Saturday, October 7th on the Townsend Common. This race was started to honor a young man, Gregory Reeves, an NMRHS graduate, who was struck by a car while out running in Townsend. The course of this 4.6-mile race is the training run that he would use. His family started this as a way to honor him and fund scholarships for NMRHS students. In the past twelve years, the Gregory E Reeves Scholarship Fund has awarded over \$113,000.00 in scholarships to NMRHS students.

Attached to the Blackboard Connect message is a poster/flyer that includes important information about the race.

PEPPERELL FIREHOUSE OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 14, 2017

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Jersey Street Fire Station