

Nashoba Regional Space Task Force Meeting

February 23, 2016

Attendees: Bob Czekanski, Lynn Coletti, Jodi Specht, Parry Graham, Kathy Codianne, Dave LeBlanc, Heather LeBlanc, Maureen Busch

Meeting called to order at 7:15 with a quorum.

Updates. Bob will be presenting the final report and recommendations to School committee in one of the upcoming meetings, most likely either March 10 or March 16.

Final Report Draft. The Task Force continued editing the final report. An updated copy of the report in progress was distributed. Items from the interim reports that had not made it to the final report have been added. Most of the remainder of the meeting was spent assigning levels of importance to the additional bullet points:

p. 6 – Section 1 – Overcrowding: new first bullet: “NRHS student population in 110% of classroom capacity ... Effects of Current Overcrowding Upon Students section below.” Jodi made the motion to make this item Critical. Parry seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

p. 10 – Section 2 – Science classrooms (CRITICAL) – added bullet points to this. Discussion: Does the critical situation overall mean that all bullet points are critical? Group agreed to that although the overall situation is critical, we should vote on the importance of the bullet points individually.

Item 1: “Science classrooms are small (by current school building standards) ... There are significant problems with venting and the configuration of safety equipment.” Dave made the motion to make this critical. Jodi seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 2: “The equipment in the science labs varies ... This limits course offerings.” Jodi made the motion to make this important. Kathy seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 3: “Only one lab contains a chemical fume hood. ... ” Parry made the motion to make this important. Jodi seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 4: “All labs but one ... cold air in the winter.” Jodi made the motion to make this important. Heather seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 5: “Central heating is uneven ... far from optimum class environment for learning.” Parry made the motion to make this important. Kathy seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 6: “Fixed layout of lab tables and location of cabinetry impede collaboration among students.” Lynn made the motion to make this recommended. Jodi seconded. Vote 8-0-0

p. 11 – Section 3 – Current Curriculum. Additional bullet points under Art Classes. After additional discussion, it was agreed that the first eight (8) bullet items belong under Art, the remaining 7 bullet items should be moved to the Theater arts classes, and that section should be renamed “Theater and Performing arts” since some of the bullet points involve band.

Item 1: ‘Art classrooms not ventilated, preventing use of oil paints and other volatile substances.’ Parry made the motion to make this important. Dave seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 2: "Art classrooms too small for all students to use easels." Parry made the motion to make this important. Dave seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 3: "Some art classrooms lack enough sinks or any sinks at all." Discussion of important vs. recommended. Jodi made the point that availability of sinks is key to many offerings (clean up) so no sinks limits what can be scheduled when. Parry made the motion to make this recommended. Dave seconded. Vote: 6-2-0 (Jodi and heather voted no, the rest voted yes)

Item 4: "Only one supply closet for three classrooms." Jodi made the motion to make this desirable. Parry seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 5: "Inadequate space to display student work." Jodi made the motion to make this desirable. Parry seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 6: "Only one ceramic kiln available for seven ceramics classes, resulting in delays in students' ability to complete assignments." Jodi made the motion to defer this item. Parry seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 7: "No 'pug mill' to efficiently recycle used clay, resulting in waste of supplies and time." Bob made the motion to strike this item because a pug mill was recently acquired. Parry seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 8: "One art classroom has only artificial light." Parry made the motion to defer this item. Maureen seconded. Vote: 9-0-0

The following items moved to theater and performing arts:

Item 1: "Theater Arts classes share auditorium space ... require specialized space." Jodi made the motion to make this recommended. Parry seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 2: "Auditorium space not dividable so cannot be used by smaller groups." Discussion about this issue centered around the fact that the problem is not that the auditorium is not dividable; the problem is that we have to make do with the auditorium for lack of other spaces to use. The auditorium should not be retrofitted to accommodate other uses – other space should be found. Bob made the motion to strike this item. Jodi seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 3: "No direct route to the auditorium from main entrance or academic classrooms." Kathy made the motion to defer this item. Parry seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 4: "Auditorium not set up to provide direct feed of televised events." Parry made the motion to defer this item. Jodi seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 5: "Auditorium common storage space used by Theater Arts classes, Drama Club, Spring Musical, and R.A.D. classes." Parry made the motion to defer this item. Dave seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 6: "Insufficient instructional space designed for the depth and breadth of Music offerings." Bob made the motion to make this recommended. Dave seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Item 7: "Band room limited to fifty student capacity by fire code regulations." Discussion about how even though this fits the recommended category, it is different and should be elevated because we are quickly reaching the point where students will have to be turned away from band; unlike other "oversubscribed" courses where the solution is to add a second section, you can't really add a second

section of band to the same effect. Parry made the motion to make this recommended. Kathy seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Page 12: Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program. Discussion regarding clarifying the storage situation. The “stairs” in question provide access to the roof and the mechanical systems located there, but it is not a building egress, nor is it an enclosed stairway. Parry made the motion to reword the description of the EMT storage area as a mechanical space/roof access, and that the item should be reclassified to Defer. Kathy seconded. Vote: 8-0-0

Page 14: Added bullet point “Female athletes do not use weight cage outside of Wellness classes, probably due to crowded conditions.” Lynn made the motion to make this desirable. Maureen seconded. Vote: 7-1-0 (Parry voted against, the rest voted for.)

Page 16: A bullet point was suggested to be added to the draft for “Only one Conference room in the school (Critical?)” After discussion, it was agreed that this would be rolled into the following bullet point which discusses the size of the conference room.

(8:42 p.m. Mark Jones arrived. All additional votes will be based on 9 voters)

p. 17: Added bullet item: “Fire alarm system emergency voice announcements cannot be understood such as lock down drill due to sound level and acoustics of the cafeteria during lunch (CRITICAL?)” Dave made the motion to make this item critical. Parry seconded. Vote: 8-1-0 (Lynn voted against, the rest voted in favor)

page 19: Kathy made the motion to include 2 new bullet points as shown in the draft, with the additional phrase at the end of the second one so that it ends with “... to suit its purposes as a learning commons” and to classify them as deferred. Jodi seconded the motion. Vote: 9-0-0

Appendix A will be edited to match the changes that were made to the body of the report.

Bob will edit the explanation of the need for 10 additional classrooms (page 43) to clarify the need and calculation.

Parry briefly described Appendix C with the additional column “Future Space Needs”.

Next (final?) meeting will be March 15 at 7:00 p.m. at a location TBD.

Adjourn. Kathy made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave seconded. Vote 9-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.