

NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Budget Workshop

School Committee Conference Room
Emerson School
50 Mechanic Street
Bolton, MA

January 25, 2016

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Kathy Codianne, Cathy Thier Lynn Colletti, and Neal Darcy

ADMINISTRATION IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Curtis Bates, Interim Superintendent of Schools, George King, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Romasco called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM in the School Committee Conference Room, Emerson School, Bolton, MA.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None

Ms. Romasco thanked Mr. King and the Finance Subcommittee for developing the Budget Book being reviewed tonight.

Budget book

Introduction to 2017 Budget

Mr. King went over his introduction and indicated that inquiries would be followed up on and reported out on or before the next budget workshop on February 8, 2016. The following comments were made:

- Word Smithing on the Budget Book is required.
- Social Emotional Support: It appears there needs to be more discussion on what Social Emotional Support is and why it has become a problem within the school system.
- Privatization of non educational operations under review, Mr. King and Dr. Bates to follow up.
- Transportation: One more year on the current contract – no change. Mr. King to follow up on what a three-tier operating schedule would look like for 2018 budget.
- Mr. King to review benefits. Mr. King to provide a comparison of districts for the School Committee to review.
- Dr. Bates and Mr. King to provide a review of administration for efficiencies and overall program relevancy.
- Mr. King to provide another opinion of the 1:1 initiative and possible funding options for the School Committee and budget review.
- Personal sub committee to review administration for recommendations, process, increases
- Dr. Bates to review and provide a coordinated program review of SPED, Guidance, Psychology, Social Emotional
- Dr. Bates and Mr. King to create talking points for salaries including steps, lanes and longevity, union and non-union. May be within the MASBO information under industry standards.
- The School Committee asked Mr. King to include talking points in the Budget Book introduction to include the School Committee goals, district goals, budget percent change over

past 5 years, cost/student past 5 years (making sure the town capital projects are included in cost/student)

-Dr. Bates and Mr. King meeting with Dr. Graham to discuss tech needs at the High School this week.

Budget Revenues

Revenues broken down into two components, direct and offsets. The School Committee asked for break downs, clarifications and additional information prior to the next budget workshop for the following:

Revenue:

- The School Committee asked for historical context of E&D with the purpose of finding minimal levels appropriate for our district.

-Breakdown of extended day, percent of participation, explanation of enrichment including measures of success and application, breakdown of self-support, comparison to other districts for content, cost and programming.

-E&D breakdown-E&D needs to be reviewed for policy and protocol.

-Discussion on the line item 'other'. The School Committee wants definitive information.

Offsets:

-Kindergarten and Pre-K tuition – Breakdown including; number of students, cost, programming, comparison to other districts

-SPED tuitions – Breakdown of services for inclusion in district including programming, social issues and comparison to other districts.

-Athletic and extra-curricular student fees including uniforms and ancillary items required to participate with comparisons to other districts.

-Athletic field and building usage fees including, cost to district to rent, profile of renters, review of rental structure, benefit to district

Additional information requested, generated from above:

- The School Committee needs to have the conversation about OPEB and entertained voting the decision at Annual Town Meeting

-District Treasurer – request for job description, report outs, contract discussion before 6/2016

-Dr. Bates and Personnel to review job descriptions, contracts, Professional Development (PD) and measures of success for multiple positions prior to 6/2016. (The School Committee looking for point of view and recommendations)

- The School Committee asked for overview and information on PD and graduate courses over the past 5 years broken down into two categories: Administration and Teachers.

-Policy and protocol for PD, graduate courses and sabbaticals needs to be scheduled for review by Policy subcommittee, The School Committee and Superintendent.

-Mr. King to provide breakdown of utilities, Technology, Mechanical, Plumbing and Electrical.

-Mr. King to provide organizational chart of Facilities.

-Mr. King to provide organizational chart of the district

-Future discussion with local and state representatives needs to occur in regards to state mandated student services which are costly, disruptive, inconsistent, and impact School culture and programming. Dr. Bates to follow up with state representatives.

-Mr. King to provide a breakdown of the for sports fees on Revenue Fees sheet.

-Mr. King and Dr. Bates to review and report out on the schools classroom sizes and classroom reduction.

-Mr. King to break down district salary in the budget

-Mr. King and Dr. Bates to look into the possibility of items that might be removed from the budget.

- The School Committee to have a discussion on putting a full time principal at Hale Middle School.

Superintendent Search update

Kathy Codianne made a motion to list the future superintendent salary range as \$175,000 - \$195,000 in the advertising materials used for the superintendent search. (The range was based on MASCC recommendation which encompasses industry standards, similar district comparison) Seconded by Neal Darcy Vote 6-1-0 Opposed by Nicole Odekirk Motion passed.

Next Budget Workshop

February 8, 2016 6 pm

Nicole Odekirk moved to adjourn at 9:14 pm Cathy Thier seconded Vote 7-0-0 Motion passed

Approved by NRSC 2/11/16