

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

School Committee Conference Room  
Emerson School  
Bolton, MA

October 21, 2015

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

**ABSENT:** Cathy Thier

**ADMINISTRATION IN ATTENDANCE:** Michael Wood, Superintendent of Schools, Georg King, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Romasco called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM in the School Committee Conference Room, Emerson School, Bolton, MA.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

None

**Student Advisory Report**

No report

**NEW BUSINESS**

**First Quarter Financial Report**

Mr. King advised he provided the first quarter financial report in the packet tonight. Mr. King reviewed the document providing an explanation of the line items, utilities, out of district tuition, health insurance and transportation. Mr. King stated the district is in good shape and there will be a better picture of the volatile line items during the second quarter report.

**Action Items:** Ms. Romasco requested the number of retirees for 2016 and a five year history of legal expenses.

**Website Enhancement Presentation**

Mr. Wood provided a review of the new website and advised the site is now ADA compliant. Committee members advised questions/suggestions they have received from the public.

**Action Items:** Mr. Wood to research the search function inconsistency and ensure all school sites have the correct information regarding fingerprinting.

**NRHS Computer Science Presentation**

Ms. Pat Clark and Ms. Susan Triantafillou, both Math Teachers at NRHS handed out the Android Tablets the students are using, the school committee members tried out the apps the students have developed or are using. Ms. Triantafillou and Ms. Clark provided a PowerPoint presentation on how these tablets are being used. Ms. Clark advised two new courses, Exploring Computer Science and AP Computer Science Principles that will be launched thanks to the support of NSF. A student video was shown illustrating an Alba rhythm exercise. Ms. Jodi Specht advised she is seeing more computer science demands in our students and students are looking for these majors in colleges.

**Policies – First Reading**

Ms. Odekirk advised the Policy Sub Committee is putting five policies forth for a first reading and reviewed the suggested changes. Ms. Romasco asked Ms. Odekirk to explain why the suggested revisions to policy BGD. Mr. Wood stated policy BDG is tied to policy CHCA-Approval of handbooks and advised that statute dictates that school councils have the final authority of school handbooks. Mr. Darcy advised he is concerned about a liability issue if the school committee is not reviewing the handbooks to ensure they are in line with district policies and would like to call MASC. The committee discussed the Policy subcommittee reviewing policies BDG and CHCA to combine into one policy.

- ADC- Smoking on School Premises
- BGE - Policy Dissemination
- BHC - School Committee-Staff Communications
- BGD - School Committee Review of Regulations
- CA - Administrative Organization

**Action Items:** Policy subcommittee will review policies BGD and CHCA and report back to the school committee.

**Permission for Chair to Access Counsel**

Ms. Romasco advised it is customary that districts have legal counsel that they reference, the administration leverages counsel for student and other issues. Ms. Romasco state there is a firm the district has used and she has leveraged Murphy, Hesse, Toomey and Lehane, LLC, she would like the committee to allow her to continue to access that counsel. The committee agreed by general consensus to allow the Chair to access legal counsel as needed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**School Committee Activity Calendar**

Ms. Romasco provided the updated school committee activity calendar and advised all the subcommittee goals are now incorporated in this calendar. Ms. Romasco reviewed the October activities and asked the committee for suggested changes. Ms. Romasco advised the finance subcommittee she would like a report out as their work develops. Ms. Romasco advised she would like a report out on one segment at the next meeting.

**Policies – Second Reading**

Ms. Odekirk advised the Policy Subcommittee is presenting the following policies for a second reading.

- JIH - Student Searches
- CCB - Line Staff and Relations
- CBD - Superintendent's Contract

**MOTION**

Nicole Odekirk moved to accept the second reading and revision adoption of policies, JIH, CCB and CBD as presented; seconded by Kathy Codianne **IN FAVOR:** Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Lynn Colletti, Kathy Codianne and Neal Darcy **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Finance SubCommittee**

Mr. Jones reported the subcommittee reviewed historical and projected personnel costs, which at first review is expected to be a 1.5% increase due to contractual obligations, the subcommittee also reviewed their activity calendar and approved the warrants. Ms. Jones advised the audit advisory council will be planning their audit meeting and report back to the school committee.

### **Personnel Subcommittee**

Ms. Codianne reported the committee met on Monday and discussed future agenda items, the creation of a survey to evaluate the Superintendent's Professional Practice Goal of work effectively with town government and evaluating personnel needs to support student learning. Ms. Codianne advised she will be contact Ms. Visco so set up a time she can met with the Personnel Subcommittee to discuss collective bargaining. The committee held an executive session to discuss contract negotiations with the Superintendent.

### **Policy SubCommittee**

Ms. Odekirk reported the committee met on October 14<sup>th</sup>, some of the policies were presented tonight and future agenda items include, a district wide chemical health policy, committing funds policy, non-resident tuition based policy, overnight field trips and transfer authority.

### **NRHS Space Study Task Force**

Ms. Codianne reported the committee is at a point where they are ready to summarize their recommendations and report them out. Mr. Wood advised the RSF is out, with a closing date of mid-November.

### **SEPAC**

Ms. Odekirk reported SEPAC is holding a Skills Curriculum and Supports: Preschool to High School seminar tonight in the Library at The Florence Sawyer School.

### **Tech Committee**

Ms. Codianne reported she attended the district Tech Committee meeting. Mr. King provided the composition of the committee. Ms. Codianne advised the group broke into groups and started working on the Tech Plan. Mr. Darcy also attended the Tech Committee meeting and stated he believes the committee will "end in a good place."

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Wood reviewed his Superintendent's report; (*The Superintendent's Report is available in its entirety on the NRSD website, [www.nrsd.net](http://www.nrsd.net).*)

Topics included:

- Instructional Leadership
  - Teaching and Learning
  - Principal Goals
  - Math Pilot Update
- Management and Operations
  - NRHS Baseball Field Upgrades
- Family and Community Engagement
  - Private School Approval
- Professional Culture
  - Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools
  - Foundation Budget Review Committee
  - Visiting Schools
  - Superintendent's Goal 2 Update
    - Tri-Town

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Odekirk advised she received a correspondence from a Stow citizen regarding adding Jewish holidays to the calendar. Ms. Odekirk also received a correspondence regarding the new website, Ms. Odekirk will forward to Mr. Wood to research.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**October 23, 2015 Warrants**

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3524	10/23/15	VENDOR	\$ 584,894.45
3525	10/23/15	BENEFIT	\$ 51,172.61
3526	10/23/15	PAYROLL	\$1,397,269.36

Minutes of October 7, 2015 – Ms. Colletti provided action items to be added to minutes. Ms. Romasco provided grammatical corrections.

Private School Approval – So. Lancaster Academy and Perkins School

**Items to be considered for next agenda**

- Scheduling school tours
- Reviewing school committee protocols
- District communication plan
- MCAS presentation
- First Quarter financial follow-up
- Finance subcommittee to review revenue bucket
- Emerson building lease appendix

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Committee went into Executive Session at 8:20 pm to discuss negotiation strategies for Superintendent’s Contract.

**MOTION**

Nicole Odekirk moved to go into Executive Session at 8:20 pm to discuss negotiation strategies for Superintendent’s Contract; to include school committee members and Attorney Kevin Bresnahan of Murphy, Hesse, Toomey and Lehane, LLC, and Michael Wood for an opening statement, with no regular business to be conducted after executive session adjourns; seconded by Mark Jones.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ms. Romasco Yes  
Ms. Odekirk Yes  
Mr. Jones Yes  
Mr. Darcy Yes  
Ms. Colletti Yes  
Ms. Codianne Yes

**VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

**MOTION**

Nicole Odekirk moved to reconvene to open session at 10:22 pm; seconded by Neal Darcy.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ms. Romasco Yes  
Ms. Odekirk Yes  
Mr. Jones Yes  
Mr. Darcy Yes

Ms. Colletti Yes

Ms. Codianne Yes

**VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

#### **MOTION**

Nicole Odekirk moved to adjourn at 10:23 pm; seconded by Lynn Colletti **IN FAVOR:** Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Lynn Colletti, Kathy Codianne and Neal Darcy **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

Submitted by  
Aleta Masterson  
Executive Assistant

Meeting Materials provided tonight can be located at [www.nrsd.net](http://www.nrsd.net)

School Committee Meeting recordings can be viewed at: [Click Here](#)

#### **Reference Documents/ Presentations**

##### Agenda

First Quarter Financial Report

ADC - Smoking on School Premises

BGE - Policy Dissemination

BHC - School Committee-Staff Communications

BGD - School Committee Review of Regulations

CA - Administrative Organization

2015-16 SC Calendar of Activities.v3

JIH - Student Searches

CBD - Superintendent's Contract

CCB - Line Staff and Relations

Superintendent's Report

2015 MCAS Analysis

2015 MCAS Historical Proficient & Advanced

October 7, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Private School Approval Request - So. Lancaster School and Perkins School

Private School Approval Checklist

Approved by NRSC 10/28/15