

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

School Committee Conference Room
Emerson School
Bolton, MA

December 2, 2015

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

ABSENT: Lynn Colletti

ADMINISTRATION IN ATTENDANCE: Georg King, Acting Superintendent of Schools

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Romasco called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM in the School Committee Conference Room, Emerson School, Bolton, MA.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Committee went into Executive Session at 6:03 pm for the purpose of reviewing for release the executive session minutes from 8/26, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/12, 11/18, and 11/23 for release. Reference purpose #7 to comply with M. G. L. Chapter 30A, Section 22 and to reconvene into open session

MOTION

Nicole Odekirk moved to go into Executive Session at 6:03 pm for the purpose of reviewing for release the executive session minutes from 8/26, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/12, 11/18, and 11/23 for release. Reference purpose #7 to comply with M. G. L. Chapter 30A, Section 22 and to reconvene into open session; seconded by Kathy Codianne.

Roll Call Vote:

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

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

Committee reconvened to open session at 6:53 pm.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Nancy Fleming, Stow resident, read a statement regarding the resignation of Superintendent Wood.

Eleanor Recko Stow resident, questioned whether the school committee has hired legal counsel and when, she asked when the legal bills will be made public.

Pina Rocco, Stow resident, asked for the timeline of the release of documents regarding Superintendent Wood's resignation.

Maureen Busch, Stow resident, questioned the Honor Roll and how Habits of the Mind factoring into the equation of determining Honor Roll, she believes they should be included in the equation.

Student Advisory Report

Tom Bunnell reported our fall sports are all wrapped up except of course for our football team which will be competing in the D2 championship on Saturday at Gillette Stadium. We are the away team. Ms. Rich is putting together a fan bus so we can get as many people as possible out there. Our pep band is also playing on Saturday. Winter sports is starting with basketball and hockey all having their tryouts this week and winter track kicking off its season this week as well. We will be having our first indoor meet on the 12th. The model UN program at Nashoba is currently planning a conference for middle schoolers which is very exciting as well.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Executive Sessions Minutes

Ms. Odekirk advised the committee has voted to release the executive session minutes, although the general protocol has been executive session minutes get voted on and released at the end of the school year. Ms. Odekirk advised the committee did vote to release the minutes pending an opinion from legal counsel to determine if there is a legal impediment, which could be as early as the next school committee meeting. Ms. Odekirk advised minutes involving personnel issues have different standards and the school committee wants to protect all parties involved.

MOTION

Nicole Odekirk moved pending legal opinion on any legal impediments, that the school committee release the executive session minutes of 8/26, 9/23, 10/7, 10/21, 11/12, 11/18, and 11/23 to comply with M. G. L. Chapter 30A, Section 22; seconded by Neal Darcy **IN FAVOR:** Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Kathy Codianne, Cathy Thier and Neal Darcy **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

Kindergarten Plan

Ms. Maxfield attended the meeting and provided a presentation regarding the current Kindergarten model, providing a background and an overview of the current model. Ms. Maxfield advised the teachers believe the current model is working well and recommends at this time to stay with the current model, with the adjustment of reducing morning specials. Ms. Linda Hass, district Kindergarten teacher was on hand to answer questions. Consensus by the school committee was to continue with the current model.

NRSD Proposed Mower Purchase

Mr. Cleary attended the meeting to provide an explanation and answer questions regarding the need and use of the requested purchase of two mowers for the Facilities Department. The final cost will include the trade in value of the current mower.

MOTION

Kathy Codianne moved to approve the contract with Clinton Savings Bank for the purchase of 2 mowers as outlined in the memo from Bill Cleary to George King dated 11/13/15 seconded by Mark Jones **IN FAVOR:** Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Kathy Codianne, Cathy Thier and Neal Darcy **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

JKAA – Physical Restraint Policy

Ms. Conti attended the meeting stating the policy being presented is aligned with new state regulations. Ms. Conti provided a review of current physical restraint policies being followed in the district, stating 100 staff in the district are trained and what is expected of all staff, whether certified or not. The Policy Subcommittee will review at their next meeting and present back to the school committee at the next meeting to a vote.

Assessment Decision (MCAS or PARCC)

Mr. King advised some districts in the state have been piloting PARCC, in 2015 NRSD chose to stay with MCAS. Mr. King stated the state was supposed to announce this Fall whether they were going with PARCC or MCAS and the Board of Education vote for neither last week. Instead the Commissioner proposed MCAS2.0, which is an MCAS/PARCC combination but this will not be completed until 2017. Mr. King advised districts who used MCAS last year will stay with MCAS for 2016 testing cycles unless an affirmative vote to switch to PARCC by December 18th.

Action Item: Mr. King will gather data from Principals on teacher's opinions on the preference between MCAS and PARCC.

OLD BUSINESS

Superintendent Search

Ms. Romasco provided an overview of the roles of the school committee which included (1) approving district goals the policies that govern them, then, monitoring that progress to ensure the goals are carried out and taking corrective action if needed; (2) approving the budget then monitoring the budget throughout the year and ensuring the resources of the district are being used appropriately; (3) hiring and evaluating the Superintendent, approving the hiring of the Ass't Superintendent, Business Manager, SPED Director, District Nurse and Physician. She also included an overview of the role of the Superintendent who manages the operations of the district and hiring all personnel excluding those for which the School Committee is responsible and includes recommending policy, implementing policy the Committee approves and ensuring that policies are enacted; recommending the budget then implementing the final approved budget; managing the day to day operations of the district.

Ms. Romasco provided an explanation of the Interim Superintendent vs. permanent Superintendent. Ms. Codianne advised in the meeting packet tonight is a document comparing three firms who conduct Superintendent Searches. Ms. Codianne provided an overview of the three firms and the process for choosing the firm, stating she would like to invite MASC and NESDEC to the next School Committee meeting for presentations on their services. Ms. Codianne advised, at the request of the Personnel Subcommittee, she has contacted MASC to obtain names of possible Interim Superintendents. Ms. Codianne provided a bio of three possible candidates, Kurt Bates, Nancy Spitulnik and George King. Ms. Codianne advised the School Committee will conduct interviews which will be conducted in an open meeting. The Committee agreed the orientation for Interim candidates will be Monday, December 7th at 5:00 pm and interviews will be held on Tuesday, December 8th beginning at 5:00 pm. Ms. Codianne will be posting the candidates' resumes and Letters of Interest as well as a document from the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Prohibited Employment Practices.

Mr. King advised that while he had identified current Hall Staff who could back fill the Acting Principal role for the 3 weeks he will be Acting Superintendent, none of those identified have a license to act as Principal which lead to his recommendation to back fill the Principal position at Hale MS with Patrick Perkins, former Principal of Luther Burbank. Mr. King indicated that Mr. Perkins is willing to be Acting Principal at Hale at a per diem rate based on his salary while serving as Acting Principal of Luther Burbank MS.

MOTION

Kathy Codianne moved to appoint Patrick Perkins as Interim Principal at Hale MS from December 3, 2015 – December 23, 2015 at the per diem rate of his 2015 salary while employed as Principal of Luther Burbank MS; seconded by Mark Jones **IN FAVOR:** Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Kathy Codianne, Cathy Thier and Neal Darcy **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance SubCommittee

Mr. Jones reported in the meeting packet tonight is a report out on district Personnel. Mr. Jones reviewed the memo and spreadsheet attached on personnel expenses. Mr. Jones explained the spreadsheet is for the current personnel structure moving into next year (status quo). Mr. Jones explained the COL and step structure for Unit A employees.

Personnel Subcommittee

Ms. Codianne reported what was discussed tonight is what was discussed at the Personnel meeting, the Superintendent and Interim search process.

Policy Subcommittee

No report

NRHS Space Study Task Force

No Report

SEPAC

No report

Middle School Honor Roll

Mr. King advised the proposal in the packet was put together last year to ensure the three middle schools in the district are using the same calculation for honor roll, which is not the practice now, each school council develops its own calculation. Mr. King reviewed the proposal. After discussion, the committee came to a consensus to keep things as is and allow school councils to make the final decision on the method used in the calculation of the honor roll for their school.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. King reviewed his Superintendent's report; *(The Superintendent's Report is available in its entirety on the NRSD website, www.nrsd.net).*

Topics included:

- Instructional Leadership
 - Teaching and Learning
 - Honor Roll
- Management and Operations
 - Budget Work
 - NRHS Space Study
 - Bolton Lease Appendix A
- Family and Community Engagement
 - Super Bowl
 - NRHS School Play

CORRESPONDENCE

Honor Roll Correspondence in the packet

Ms. Codianne advised she received a correspondence requesting hard copy minutes be sent to council of aging

Ms. Romasco advised she received letters of interests regarding the desire to be on the Superintendent search committee.

Ms. Romasco advised she received correspondence regarding late starts.

CONSENT AGENDA

Topics on consent agenda included:

December 2, 2015 Warrants

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3533	12/4/15	VENDOR	\$ 428,778.01
3534	12/4/15	BENEFIT	\$ 667,431.82
3535	12/4/15	PAYROLL	\$1,302,595.35

Minutes of November 18, 2015

Items to be considered for next agenda

- Assessment Decision (MCAS or PARCC)
- Physical Restraint Policy
- Dr. Graham to address the NEASC accreditation letter and concerns within the letter
- MASC and NESDEC Superintendent Search Services Presentations

MOTION

Nicole Odekirk moved to add a January 6, 2016 regular school committee meeting to the calendar; seconded by Mark Jones **IN FAVOR:** Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Kathy Codianne, Cathy Thier and Neal Darcy **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

MOTION

Mark Jones moved to adjourn at 9:25 pm; seconded by Neal Darcy **IN FAVOR:** Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Kathy Codianne, Cathy Thier 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

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

Reference Documents/ Presentations

Agenda
Kindergarten Plan Presentation
NRSD Proposed Mower Purchase
JKAA – Physical Restraint Policy
Assessment Decision (MCAS or PARCC)
Superintendent Search Consulting Services Proposals
Middle School Honor Roll
Preliminary Personnel Budget FY17
Honor Roll Correspondence
Honor Roll Correspondence.2
Habits of Mind Correspondence
Superintendent's Report
Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2015

Approved by NRSC 12/16/15