

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Emerson School
50 Mechanic Street, Bolton, Ma
School Committee Conference Room
Second Floor

March 10, 2016

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Lynn Colletti, Kathy Codianne, Neal Darcy and Cathy Thier (left meeting at 8:40 pm)

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 6:00 PM

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Ms. Romasco advised of the ground rules for citizen's comments and advised of the district policies that address citizen's comments at a school committee meeting.

Dave Lindsay, Bolton resident, asked if he will be able to questions during the NRHS Space Needs Task Force presentation.

Nancy Federspiel, Bolton resident, advised she had concerns regarding the anonymous correspondence in the packet, her concerns of the reorganization timeline and positions effected, and budgetary questions regarding the Interim Superintendent Salary, lawyer fees and Superintendent Search Committee fees. Ms. Romasco advised those fees are paid out of the FY16 budget.

Richard Maglione, NRSD Staff – Mr. Maglione provided an overview of the tasks he performs in his role as Custodial Services Manager.

Shawna Croteau, Bolton, Ms. Croteau advised she and her husband are the Bolton residents that sent in the anonymous letter last week in support of the Proposed Reorganization Plan. Ms. Croteau thanked the School Committee and Dr. Bates for the support and collaboration they have received.

Student Advisory Report

Tom Bunnell reported on current activities and events at NRHS including Winter sports update, Robotics competition, school play, Model UN and band activities

NEW BUSINESS

NRHS Space Needs Task Force Recommendations

Mr. Bob Czekanski presented a powerpoint presentation on the process and timeline of submitting an SOI (Statement of Interest) to MSBA (Massachusetts School Building Association).

Outstanding Town Articles

Dr. Bates advised there are four outstanding Bolton Town Articles and provided a review of the status of the articles.

1. Dated 5/13 \$9,019.79 for School Safety Enhancements --- this money has not been used in almost three years.
Bill Cleary Response -This project is completed. This was for replacement exterior doors and locks for the building. It was slightly revised last year to finish a few items, but those have since been done. **This project is complete and the warrant can be closed.**

2. Dated 5/13 \$85,725 for School repairs Expended \$52,763.74 balance remaining \$32,961.46
Bill Cleary Response- This was for the installation of the Emerson Boiler. The project is complete and the updated ending balance I got from Ninotchka this morning was \$11.46. **This project is complete and the warrant can be closed.**

3. Dated 5/14 \$12,000 for Eng and Eval for FSS Boiler ---- this money has not been used in almost two years.
Bill Cleary Response- This has been an ongoing evaluation where we were looking at changing the boilers out or completing repairs on the system. Last year we looked at changing the system to propane under a MSBA grant, but decided it was not cost effective. I have worked with a HVAC company over this winter to evaluate the system with a focus on keeping the current boilers and updating/repairing them. They wanted to watch the boilers throughout the winter and I expect their evaluation shortly. Once I review for completeness I will report out and pay the invoice for this project. **I project this will be finalized by the end of April 2016.**

4. Dated 5/14 \$5,000 for Flooring Replacement FSS --- this money has not been used in almost two years.
Bill Cleary Response- This was for flooring (carpet) replacement at FSS. We bid out the project and were able to complete all the carpets identified for under budget. I have scheduled to have some additional tile flooring at FSS repaired in the hallways during this April vacation and I will then be able to close out this line item. **This project will be complete by the end of April 2016.**

Mr. Darcy questioned if a “use it or loose it” clause can be inserted when opening article with the town as to not tie up town funds for years.

Superintendent Search – Screening Committee Charge

Ms. Romasco advised the School Committee has to provide the charge of the Superintendent Search Committee. Ms. Odekirk read the following recommendation from Dorothy Presser, MASC (Massachusetts Association of School Committee). We the Nashoba Regional School Committee hereby charge the Nashoba Regional Superintendent Screening Advisory Committee with the task of selecting and conducting interviews with candidates and based upon the Nashoba Regional School Committee’s approved criteria recommending to the Nashoba Regional School Committee no less than three and no more than five individuals to be finalist for the job of Superintendent of Schools for the Nashoba Regional School District.

MOTION

Mark Jones moved to approve the charge to the Nashoba Regional Superintendent Screening Advisory Committee as stated; seconded by Kathy Codianne **IN FAVOR:** Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Kathy Codianne, Neal Darcy, Cathy Thier and Lynn Colletti **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (7-0-0)**

OLD BUSINESS

Reorganization Update

Dr. Bates advised he has scheduled Q & A Sessions with parents/community, schools and various district departments regarding the Reorganization Proposal and advised the dates, times and venues for these sessions. Dr. Bates provided a detailed review the Reorganization Proposal, breaking down each component and the current/proposed process for handling 504 accommodations. Dr. Bates stated the district is fortunate they have not faced a law suit regarding the district's handling of 504 accommodations. Ms. Romasco asked if the district is now covered; Dr. Bates replied he has addressed the issues and is currently conducting a review of the handling of all 504s school by school. Ms. Romasco advised she talked to district council and the School Committee does not have to vote on the entire restructure now; there is one component in the structure that has been a topic of conversation for several months, a dedicated Principal at the Hale Middle School. Mr. Darcy advised this School Committee is not the first to review this topic; former School Committees have discussed this with the same concerns as indicated in historical meeting minutes. Mr. Darcy advised the NEASC report received in November 2015 supports the need for restructure and autonomy for the Principal and he feels for all district Principals. The School Committee discussed the reorganization and need for a dedicated Principal at Hale Middle School. All members are in agreement of the restructure with some voicing a desire to wait until the new Superintendent is seated to allow him/her to make the final decision.

MOTION

Kathy Codianne moved to approve a dedicated full time principal at Hale Middle School for the 2016-2017 school year; seconded by Mark Jones **IN FAVOR:** Lorraine Romasco, Mark Jones, Kathy Codianne, Neal Darcy, and Lynn Colletti **ABSTAINED:** Cathy Thier and Nicole Odekirk **VOTED AND PASSED. (5-0-2)**

FY2017 Budget

FY2017 Budget Discussion and Vote

Dr. Bates advised he needs to add a full time ELL Teacher to the budget due to an increase need in student services, which will replace a paraprofessional, budget implications would be an approx. \$20,000 increase. Ms. Codianne requested a report with proficiency levels of the students, which would be helpful in determining the need. Ms. Romasco asked Mr. King where the money to fund this position would come from. Mr. King advised to vote the budget without adding the funds and "find" the funding within the proposed budget. Consensus is to add the position.

Ms. Romasco advised the committee has received an email from Mr. Cleary regarding the Custodial Manager; the committee discussed the position and the revolving facilities account.

MOTION

Lynn Colletti moved to reduce the facilities budget by \$25,000 and let the Director of Facilities determine his personnel needs and use the \$25,000 for the ELL Teacher needed. Motion was not seconded.

MOTION

Mark Jones moved to reduce the facilities budget by \$25,000 and those funds be used to fund the current Custodial Manager position and remove the administrative assistance making it a net \$0 budget impact; seconded by Nicole Odekirk **IN FAVOR:** Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, and Neal

Darcy **OPPOSED**: Lorraine Romasco, Lynn Colletti and Kathy Codianne **ABSTAINED**: Cathy Thier **VOTED AND FAILED. (3-3-1)**

Ms. Romasco advised the full time SRO (School Resource Officer) position was discussed at the FinComm meeting, Ms. Romasco asked the committee if there were there any oppositions to a full time SRO, no oppositions raised. Ms. Romasco asked Dr. Bates to verify the two teacher positions that are being absorbed by retirements are in fact due to retirements and are not a reduction in staff. Dr. Bates stated the Director of Human Resources has advised him that they will be absorbed by attrition.

MOTION

Kathy Codianne moved to approve the FY17 budget, version4 as presented; seconded by Mark Jones **IN FAVOR**: Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Kathy Codianne, Neal Darcy, Cathy Thier and Lynn Colletti **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (7-0-0)**

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Subcommittee

No Report

Personnel Subcommittee

No Report

Policy Subcommittee

No Report

NRHS Space Study Task Force

No Report

SEPAC

No Report

Tech Committee

No Report

Emergency Response Committee

No Report

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Bates reported:

March 10, 2016

I. Instructional Leadership

- Meeting with the Teaching and Learning Coordinators to on March 9, 2016 to further the discuss the professional development plans for the Summer Academies and continue plans do develop the goals and plans for professional development for the 2016-2017 school year. The Teaching and Learning staff will be meeting with the Principals next Tuesday to gather their input on professional development needs
- Attended the Educational Evaluation Committee meeting, March 8,2016 to provide feedback from DESE regarding DDMs and student impact ratings.

II. Management and Operations

- March 1-2, 2016 John Crafton, Joel Lovering and John Manzi from MASBO visited the district to provide a Financial Operations Review. They met with George King, Tracy Conte, Director of Special Education; Anne Neyland, Out-of-District Coordinator; Bill Cleary; Facilities Manager; Dr. Graham, High School Principal; Tania Rich; Athletic Director; Monica Visco, Director of Human Resources; Darci Wardwell, Payroll Clerk; Town Administrators Don Lowe and Ryan McNutt; Curt Bates, Interim Superintendent; Patricia Marone, Senior Accountant; Michelle Cote, Accounts Payable Specialist; Su Qi, Technology Manager; Vikki Chartier, Treasurer/HR Specialist; Tom Houle, Coordinator of Food Service; School Committee Members: Lorraine Romasco, Mark Jones, Neal Darcy and Cathleen

Their. The visiting team will present a preliminary report for us to respond to and make any corrections and the final report will be issued within 4-5 weeks.

- On February 26, 2016 I attended the Assebet Valley Collaborative Executive Board meeting and 40th Anniversary celebration.

III. Family and Community Engagement

- Informational meetings for reorganization have been set for:
 - March 11 Social Workers
 - March 14 H.S. Guidance
 - March 15 Hale/Center School
 - March 14 1-2 p.m. Community 6-7 p.m. Community
 - March 16 MS/ES Guidance
 - March 17 9-10 a.m. Community
 - March 17 FSS/Emerson
 - March 18 H.S. staff 7-8 a.m.
 - March 21 MRE/Burbank
- Read to first graders today at the community reading day at Mary Rowlandson Elementary School.

IV. Professional Culture

- Nashoba Regional School District hosted the Regional Destination Imagination Tournament on Sunday, March 6, 2016
 - ML C Challenge Team from Hale won first place and will be heading to the State Tournament on March 26th at WPI
 - SL C Challenge Team from the High School won a Spirit of DI Award, a Renaissance Award, a DaVinci Award and first place and will be heading to the State Tournament at WPI
 - ML E Challenge Team a Florence Sawyer won a Renaissance Award and place first and will be heading to the State Tournament
 - EL B Challenge Team at Center place second
 - EL A Challenge Team Mary Rowlandson place eleventh
 - EL C Challenge Team at Florence Sawyer placed ninth
 - EL C Challenge Team at Center placed eleventh

Congratulations to Region 3 Director Nicole Caligiuri for her efforts to support this program.

- Dr. Graham has completed the Late Start Survey and 356 parents responded and will report the results at the April School Committee meeting
- DECA is off to Boston today for the State Competition
- The Hockey Team won their last game and will be heading to the Division Championship on Monday and if they win the defending champions will compete for the State Title
- The Football Division Championship Team has been invited to be guests of Senator Jamie Eldredge at the State House on Thursday, March 24th for lunch and recognition.
- The High School Musical is March 18, 19, 20.

CORRESPONDENCE

Reorganization Proposal correspondence as stated in the meeting packet.

CONSENT AGENDA

Topics on consent agenda included:

March 11, 2016 Warrants

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3553	3/11/16	VENDOR	\$ 570,329.82
3554	3/11/16	BENEFIT	\$ 11,231.56
3555	3/11/16	PAYROLL	\$1,278,613.16

- A. Meeting minutes of February 17, 2016 Budget Workshop
- B. Meeting minutes of February 25, 2016 Regular Meeting
- C. Meeting minutes of March 3, 2016 Regular Meeting and Budget Hearing
- D. Warrant for March 11, 2016

Adjourn

Kathy Codianne moved to adjourn at 8:40 pm; seconded by Neal Darcy **IN FAVOR:** Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk, Mark Jones, Kathy Codianne, Neal Darcy, and Lynn Colletti **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 and Presentations

Agenda

NRHS Space Task Force SOI Presentation (NRHS Space Task Force)
Town of Bolton Articles
NEAS&C Accreditation Memo
Superintendent's Report
February 17, 2016 Budget Workshop Minutes (A. Masterson)
February 25, 2016 Meeting Minutes (A. Masterson)
March 3, 2016 Meeting and Budget Hearing Minutes (A. Masterson)

Correspondence

School Committee received a correspondence from a Bolton resident stating the reorganization makes sense and does not understand the opposition to it regarding Dr. Bates' Reorganization Proposal presented 3/4/16

School Committee received a correspondence from Isabel Wells expressing concern with Dr. Bates' Reorganization Proposal presented 3/4/16

School Committee received a correspondence from Elyse Rhodin expressing concern with Dr. Bates' Reorganization Proposal presented 3/3/16

School Committee received a correspondence from Reta Rupich expressing concern with Dr. Bates' Reorganization Proposal presented 3/3/16

School Committee received a correspondence from Lori Anselmo expressing both understanding and concerns with regard to Dr Bates' proposed reorganization proposal made 3/3/16.

School Committee received a correspondence from Bethany Bressette expressing both understanding and concerns with regard to Dr Bates' proposed reorganization proposal made 3/3/16.

Lynn Colletti received a correspondence from Mary Marotta stating she wanted to personally thank Neal Darcy, other members of the school committee and Laura Friend for advocating for the importance of technology integration teachers.

Approved by NRSC 3/16/16