

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
FY18 BUDGET HEARING**

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

March 1, 2017

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Lorraine Romasco, Mark Jones, Neal Darcy, Lynn Colletti (arrived at 6:06 pm), Kathy Codianne, Nicole Odekirk, Jennifer Leone and Susan Reardon

ADMINISTRATION IN ATTENDANCE: Brooke Clenchy, Superintendent of Schools, Pat Marone, Interim Business and Operations Manager, Ann Marie Stoica, Director of Human Resources

FY18 BUDGET HEARING CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Romasco called the FY18 Budget Hearing to order at 6:00 PM

FY18 BUDGET HEARING

Superintendent Clenchy advised the budget has not been revised since the School Committee meeting on February 27th. The Superintendent provided a powerpoint presentation outlining the budget goal, considerations, stakeholder involvement, FY17 vs. FY18 budget totals and percentage increase, assessments, budget highlights and new programs/staff included in the FY18 budget.

Liz Cammilleri, Bolton, questioned the decrease of 80% in electricity line of the facilities budget. Superintendent Clenchy advised the change in the FY18 budget is that the numbers in the proposed budget are actuals versus estimates that were included in previous budgets, She added the Forensic Audit revealed there was more money in certain lines than needed to be, that is one of the lines.

Don Hawkes, Selectmen in Stow, expressed his “kudos” to the School Committee, Administration and Staff for working so closely together and with the Towns in the budget process, stating the Town Administrator in Stow made a statement to him that the Superintendent calls him once a week.

Brian Boyle, Bolton, questioned if the budget presented today includes the tuition increases voted at the last meeting. Superintendent advised those increases are not in the budget presented tonight and Mr. Boyle stated he is impressed with the process this year.

Don Lowe, Bolton Town Administrator, advised he has been the Town Administrator for eight years and thanked the Superintendent and School Committee for their dedicated hard work on the budget process and stated it was a very impressive year.

Peter McManus, Chairman of Stow Finance Committee, stated he is echoing the positive remarks about the budget process and the communication to towns.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Romasco called the regular meeting to order at 6:34 PM

NEW BUSINESS

Bus Route Concerns Reporting Process Update

Superintendent Clenchy introduced Ms. Darci Wardwell, HR Specialist, and advised there had been no formal process for parents to report a concern regarding a bus stop or bus issue. Ms. Wardwell presented the district’s new process for bus issues and shared a new google form that will be live on the district website next week. Parents can now report concerns and the

administration will be able to indicate response time and track issues for quicker resolution. Ms. Wardwell also advised there is a new email address to be used when a parent or guardian has a bus question or issue: transportation@nrdsd.net. The email will be received by district personnel and followed up on.

Chairman Romasco stated she would like the Administration to send correspondence to parents advising of the new process and asked Ms. Wardwell to attend a future School Committee meeting and provide an update on how the new transportation process is working.

Superintendent Mid Cycle Goals Review

Superintendent Clenchy provided a mid year update on her goals. She reviewed the student learning goal to develop and implement a plan for the transition of the computer based MCAS assessments. Superintendent Clenchy invited Cindy Larsen and Su Qi to provide a powerpoint presentation on the work that has been done on this goal and plans for implementation. The second goal is to establish appropriate evaluation procedures for Principals and Assistant Principals. Superintendent Clenchy advised the Assistant Principal's plan was completed first, and today she finalized the Principal's plan. She also shared that this year's evaluations will be a truncated version but next year will be on track with full evaluations; The third goal is to organize and procure copies of contracts and files for the district. The Superintendent advised she has been steadily working on this since her arrival in the district and a file room has been established. Director of Facilities, Jeff Converse, was able to obtain a truck load of file cabinets for \$3000 to house all district files. All departments are coordinated and categorized and in compliance with a double lock security system in place. The Superintendent and Chair requested Mr. Qi and Ms. Larsen attend a future School Committee meeting to provide an update on the network, IT plan, and instructional learning efforts.

OLD BUSINESS

FY18 Budget Discussion

Chairman Romasco asked the School Committee members if they had any questions on the proposed FY18 budget and advised the budget will be voted at the next meeting, March 15th per the regional agreement. No questions were raised.

Kindergarten Tuition

Chairman Romasco advised at the last meeting the PK and Extended day tuitions were reviewed. At that time, the Superintendent advised those programs were running at a deficit and the tuition structure had not been reviewed in several years. As a result of the administration's recommendation and the School Committee's review, the tuition on those programs were increased. Chairman Romasco advised the third program is Kindergarten, stating that if parents opt to send their child to ½ day Kindergarten there is no fee, if they opt for full day Kindergarten there has been a fee. The Superintendent and Interim Business Manager shared that the full day Kindergarten program is running with a large deficit at the current tuition structure. School Committee members discussed their concerns of effecting young families in the district that may be using all three programs.

MOTION

Mark Jones moved for increase the kindergarten tuition by \$30.00 per month for FY18; seconded by Jennifer Leone **IN FAVOR:** Mark Jones, Jennifer Leone, Lynn Colletti, and Kathy Codianne **OPPOSED:** Lorraine Romasco, Neal Darcy, Susan Reardon, and Nicole Odekirk **VOTED AND FAILED. (4-4-0)**

MOTION

Mark Jones moved for increase the kindergarten tuition by \$15.00 per month for FY18; seconded by Jennifer Leone **IN FAVOR:** Mark Jones, Jennifer Leone, Lynn Colletti, Lorraine Romasco, Susan Reardon and Kathy Codianne **OPPOSED:** Neal Darcy and Nicole Odekirk **VOTED AND PASSED. (6-2-0)**

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Subcommittee

Mr. Darcy reported the Finance Subcommittee discussed town levies.

Personnel Subcommittee

No report

Policy Subcommittee

Ms. Reardon reported she and Ms. Odekirk met with Dorothy Presser, MASC Field Representative. MASC (Massachusetts Association for School Committee) will be providing online policy hosting and advised they are starting with section A and B. Ms. Reardon advised the manual will be reviewed in sections and brought to the School Committee for vote. Ms. Reardon advised section D then C will be the next sections reviewed.

SEPAC

No Report

Tech Committee

No Report

Emergency Response Committee

No Report

Audit Advisory

No Report

CORRESPONDENCE

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Topics on consent agenda included:

Warrants of March 3, 2017

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3632	03/03/17	VENDOR	\$ 275,582.16
3633	03/03/17	BENEFIT	\$ 764,008.90
3634	03/03/17	PAYROLL	\$1,470,910.81

Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2017

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Mary Rowlandson Drone Presentation
- Establishment of NRHS Facility Committee
- FY18 Budget Discussion and Vote
- Corrective Action Plan, Phase Two and Special Education
- 2017-2018 SY Calendar / Late Starts Follow Up

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Committee went into Executive session at 7:41 pm pursuant to M.G.L. c. §30A, 21(a)3 to discuss strategy

with respect to collective bargaining for Units A and C if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

The Committee will not reconvene to open session; meeting will adjourn in Executive Session.

MOTION

Jennifer Leone moved to go into Executive session at 7:41 pm pursuant to M.G.L. c. §30A, 21(a)3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Units A and C if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. To include Superintendent Clenchy, Ann Marie Stoica, Director of Human Resources. The Committee will not reconvene to open session; meeting will adjourn in Executive Session; seconded Kathy Codianne.

Roll Call Vote:

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

VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0-0)

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
FY18 Budget Hearing Presentation
Bus Change Request Form
FY 18 Proposed Budget 3-1-17
Draft Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2017

Approved by NRSC 3/15/17