

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

August 28, 2012

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Lynn Colletti, Julie Fay and Jeff Odell

ABSENT: Reta Rupich and Kara Keith

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

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Federspiel called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM in the School Committee Conference Room

Ms. Federspiel announced this is a special meeting for the sole purpose of reviewing the science lab initiative project at NRHS by the MSBA. Ms. Federspiel stated this is the first time the school committee is seeing this presentation along with the public. Ms. Federspiel advised this meeting is for informational purposes only, a votes will be taken at later dates.

Mr. Wood advised in June we were notified by MSBA that we had made the list of projects for the available 60 million dollars the MSBA has allot, Mr. Wood stated this is a grant specifically for science labs to bring them to the 21st century standards. Mr. Wood stated this is a very accelerated schedule which is set by the MSBA.

Mr. Wood introduced Parry Graham, Principal at NRHS, Alan Minkus, and Phil Poinelli, SMMA Lead Architect on the project. Mr. Poinelli presented a powerpoint presentation detailing the footprint of the school, floor plan of the high school pointing out where the present labs are located, class schedule vs. classroom availability. Mr. Poinelli stated after this class schedules calculations it was determined there is a need for 11 science labs/classrooms. Mr. Poinelli reviewed the new MSBA guidelines for 21st century leaning. Mr. Poinelli presented three options. Mr. Poinelli stated you go log on to www.massschoolbuildings.org and see a 4-5 minute presentation of what the science labs would look like when updated.

Dr. Parry Graham presented the “big picture” of the outstanding academic record of the students of NRHS, the science lab scheduling, negative impact of the current space, and the benefits of adding 11 new labs.

Ms. Colletti asked for the schedule for this project. Mr. Poinelli stated he believes this can be done during the Summer of 2013, with all the preliminary work (approvals, designs, bids, etc) being done during the winter. Ms. Colletti asked “if you are taking away Math rooms, where are these being moved to”. Dr. Graham showed on the diagram where these rooms will be moved utilizing “dead” space current not being utilized.

A citizen questioned if there have been any accidents as a result of the current labs conditions. Ms. Federspiel responded that there have been no accidents to her knowledge but a concern was raised during the tour of the labs of transporting chemicals between labs with halls full of students switching classes.

Ms. Bushe inquired if the needs of the wood and metal classes will be met if one of the rooms is eliminated. Dr. Graham advised he has reviewed the schedules and has not found any blocks where both rooms were being utilized at the same time.

Mr. Wood advised that Mr. King is going to review the Project Debt Projection and advised this is from the district's perspective of how affordable/unaffordable the project is. Mr. King reviewed the Project Debt Projection worksheet provided as a handout explaining the field and science lab projects amortization schedule. Mr. King reviewed the debt amount and payment schedule for the field and proposed science lab project. Mr. King advised that 4 million dollars is the base figure that is being used for this projection. Mr. King also advised the deficit bond of 2003 will be retied next month, Mr. King stated this debt has been in exclusion in all three towns but the median cost is \$478,000 which will no longer be in the operating budget going forward. Mr. King advised the overall debt, with exception of a couple years, for these two projects would be less than the previous bond annual cost. Mr. King advised these numbers will be refined as the projects numbers are refined before the debt is authorized.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Citizen comments and questions were raised from town citizens and members of the town boards on the following issues: all questions were answered by Mr. Wood, Mr. King and Mr. Poinelli

- Timeline of project
- Financing of project
- Other options for science lab renovations other than presented

MOTION

Lynn Colletti made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 pm seconded by Julie Fay **IN FAVOR:** Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Lynn Colletti, Julie Fay and Jeff Odell **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

Respectfully Submitted,
Aleta Masterson
Executive Assistant

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