

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

March 25, 2014

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Julie Fay, Cathy Their(left meeting at 7:06 pm), Lynn Colletti, Kara Keith, Jeff Odell and Lorraine Romasco

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

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Federspiel called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM in the School Committee Conference Room.

CONSENT AGENDA

Topics on consent agenda included:

March 28, 2014 Warrants

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3394	03/28/14	VENDOR	\$ 366,671.92
3395	03/28/14	BENEFIT	\$ 656,616.27
3396	03/28/14	PAYROLL	\$1,284,737.71

Minutes of March 11, 2014

CORRESPONDENCE

- Kindergarten Correspondence from Stow residents regarding the want for a dedicated ½ day K classroom.
- Stow Petition for Half Day Kindergarten dedicated Classrooms
- Technology Graduation Requirement Correspondence
- Ms. Thier advised she received a correspondence regarding a volunteer opportunity called Working for Worcester.
- Ms. Romasco advised received two correspondences regarding the letter to the editor in the Bolton Independent regarding test scores in the district. Ms. Federspiel stated she wants to make in clear we work very hard to not separate items by towns, and to suggest one town has test scores different than another appears inappropriate to her.
- Ms. Fay advised she received a request from a school choice applicant asking to move the lottery up to align with deposit being required by private schools.
- Ms. Fay also received several requested to not hold MCAS testing on a Monday.

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.*)

Topics included:

- Massachusetts School Breakfast Challenge
- Coordinated Program Review "Kick Off"
- A Day on the Hill
- School Evacuation Procedures

NEASC Standard III Presentation: School Culture and Leadership

Diane O'Neil and Maura Bailey attended the meeting to report on their NEASC Standards. Ms. O'Neil advised her standard is Community Resources and reviewed her standard. Ms. Bailey advised her standard is Assessment. Ms. Bailey reviewed how NEASC reviews the teachers, schools and district's methods for student assessments.

Athletic Director's Winter Season Update

Ms. Rich attended the meeting to provide a review of the district winter athletics. Ms. Rich highlighted the students who received awards or who were league All-stars and which teams went on to post season tournaments with those tournament results. Ms. Rich also highlighted the students who received the T & G All Stars award. The Winter Report is available in its entirety at www.nrsd.net, Athletics Tab.

Eighth to Ninth Grade Transition

Mr. Wood advised he has meet with the middle school Principals and Dr. Graham to discuss the transition plan and schedule. Mr. Wood stated one of the concerns is the way the program is now the conferences don't align with when the parents see their children's choices. Mr. Wood provided a draft revised transition plan and reviewed the plan and the override procedures. Dr. Graham was in attendance and reviewed the override procedures, course registration process and building the HS schedule.

Concession Stand Update

Mr. Wood provided an updated on the progress and an updated on the financial state of the Concession Stand. Mr. Wood advised the project will be completed in April 2014. Mr. Wood advised the total cost of Athletic Complex was 2.225 million, the original estimation was approx. 1.9 million for the field and approx. \$300,000 for the concession stand. Mr. Wood stated the change orders on the field the cost ending up being 2.1 million for the field project, there were some change orders due to conditions the site manager occurred during the project so therefore there was only \$135,000 left for the concession stand. Mr. Wood stated Bill Cleary, NRSD Facilities Director took everything in house with an estimated finish cost of \$203,000 for an overage of \$68,000 which will be absorbed within the facilities budget.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Advisory Report

Ms. Nyshidha Gurijala reported;

- The Nashoba Drama Society presented *Les Miserables* the weekend of March 15th. The cast and crew worked very hard and the play was incredibly well done. This play was the last school play for the seniors graduating this year, and it's safe to say that they definitely ended on a high note.
- On Tuesday March 18th, the first annual Best Buddies Volleyball tournament was held in the upper gym at Nashoba. Members of the NRHS Best Buddies faced off against members of the Bolton Public Safety Department, followed by a game of students versus faculty. The Best Buddies/BPS game tied 1-1, and everyone had a lot of fun. Proceeds will help send next year's Best Buddies Officers to the National Leadership Conference held annually in Indiana this July. Additionally, donations received will benefit the Boston Marathon fundraising campaign of Shawn Mackie, a NRSD physical therapist. Mr. Mackie will be completing the marathon in support of Best Buddies MA this April.

- The Nashoba Cadet EMT Program is hosting the biennial CPR Marathon this Friday and Saturday at Nashoba. The event is open to the public. The cadets will be performing CPR for 24 consecutive hours, and other activities include an extensive raffle, free blood pressure readings, games for kids, and an opportunity to learn about heart health and disease prevention, as well as how to perform CPR. Proceeds benefit the Pierino Bonnazoli Scholarship Fund.
- In Athletics, the Spring Season is off to a good start despite dealing with the weather and field conditions.

Finance Subcommittee

Ms. Busch reported warrants were approved.

Personnel Subcommittee

Ms. Federspiel reported the committee has met with the NREA to discuss negotiations which are on going.

Policy Subcommittee

Ms. Federspiel reported the committee met last week, the primary discussion was regarding the bullying policy which will be presented at a future meeting.

SEPAC (Special Education Parents Advisory Council)

Mr. Wood reported there are two meetings scheduled, March 26th and April 9th in room 216 at the high school from 7-9.

ESBC

No Report

NRHS Space Study Task Force

No Report

NEW BUSINESS

Items for addition to the agenda

No items were raised.

Superintendent's Evaluation Process Overview

Mr. Wood reviewed the Superintendent evaluation documents he will be adding to the packet before the next meeting. Mr. Wood reviewed the evidence board and advised this board will contain all the evidence he has met the standards. Mr. Wood advised the evaluation tool was emailed to the committee today and advised this is a public process. Mr. Wood advised all members will complete the tool and they will all be reviewed and a composite and a draft will be developed in an open meeting. Ms. Federspiel advised it makes the process much smoother and helpful if everyone fills out there tool before the meeting because it is difficult to form your opinion once you have those of others. Ms. Federspiel advised the laws have changed and it now must be complied by the committee in public.

Chapter 222: The New Discipline Law and Impact on Schools

Mr. Wood advised this is a new law effective in July 2014, around response to inventions that requires all school districts, when they find the consequence of behavior require a suspension from their school experience, schools must address that and ensure that the lost education time is made up. Mr. Wood advised this new law also covers students who drop out of school who may pursue a GED. Mr. Wood provided a review of the district discipline report on the DESE website, reviewed the interventions the district has in place now and advised the district will be looking at what kind of services are needed to meet the student's needs. Mr. Wood advised this is a work in progress and there will be more discussions in the future as this develops.

Food Service Contract

Mr. Wood advised the Food Service Coordinator, Tom Houle was approached to provide the meals for the Darnell School in Hudson. Mr. Wood stated the school will require approximately 30 meals per day and advised the Center School is able to handle this. Mr. Wood stated the Darnell School will be responsible for picking up all meals and there will be no cost to the district for this contract.

MOTION

Jeff Odell made a motion to approve the contract between NRSD and The Darnell School in Hudson, for NRSD to provide the Darnell School with meals at the cost of \$2.75 for each lunch, \$2.00 each breakfast, and \$3.50 for each staff meal; seconded by Maureen Busch **IN FAVOR:** Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Lynn Colletti, Jeff Odell, Kara Keith and Julie Fay **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0)**

Town Meeting Planning

Ms. Federspiel advised she would like to remind everyone to “rally the troops” to attend the Annual Town Meetings to ensure there is support of the school district and its budget, all meetings are May 5th. Mr. Wood advised district administration will be at each town meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Kindergarten FY15 Plan Update

Ms. Federspiel stated there has been correspondence round the kindergarten program for FY15 school year next year and stated it is being revisited tonight just so the committee is clear on what was voted on. Mr. Wood advised the district has started its planning and he sent out another letter making it very clear what the timeline was and the letter is posted on the front page of our website. Mr. Wood advised this is a one year start and each year each we will be voting as the budget is a big driver of this program. Mr. Wood advised internally the district will be preparing itself of all day kindergarten for all but will be informed by what we are seeing in terms of the budget and how things work. Ms. Maxfield attended the meeting and advised the committee they have identified a couple local programs who operate with both full and half days students integrated and we will be tours those schools to observe them. Ms. Maxfield stated that concerned parents are welcome to accompany the staff to tour the other schools. Ms. Maxfield advised she has spoken to all the kindergarten teachers and they are comfortable with the program for next year and do not foresee any problems.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

A resident attended the meeting to address her concern of her child being in the integrated kindergarten classroom and what would happen if her child was the only child to leave at ½ day, would affect that would have on him and stated she felt that when they signed up for kindergarten it was implied it would be a dedicated ½ day classroom and stated she believes they should be able to get what they enrolled for.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Committee went into Executive Session at 8:30 pm for the purpose of :

- A. Discussing litigation strategy
- B. To discuss negotiation strategy with Unit A

MOTION

Maureen Busch made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:30 pm for the purpose of discussing litigation strategy and to discuss negotiation strategy with Unit A to include Michael Wood, George King, and Aleta Masterson with no regular business to be conducted after the executive session to reconvene for the purpose of adjournment only; seconded by Jeff Odell.

Ms. Federspiel	Yes
Ms. Busch	Yes
Ms. Colletti	Yes
Ms Romasco	Yes
Mr. Odell	Yes
Ms. Fay	Yes
Ms. Keith	Yes

MOTION

Julie Fay made a motion to reconvene to open session at 8:48 pm pm for the purpose of adjournment; seconded by Maureen Busch.

Ms. Federspiel	Yes
Ms. Busch	Yes
Ms. Colletti	Yes
Ms Romasco	Yes
Mr. Odell	Yes
Ms. Fay	Yes
Ms. Keith	Yes

MOTION

Maureen Busch made a motion to adjourn at 8:49 pm; seconded by Julie Fay **IN FAVOR:** Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Lorraine Romasco, Lynn Colletti, Jeff Odell, Kara Keith and Julie Fay **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (7-0-0)**

Respectfully Submitted,
Aleta Masterson
Executive Assistant

Approved by School Committee April 8, 2014