

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

School Committee Conference Room
Emerson School
Bolton, MA

February 25, 2015

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Lynn Colletti (arrived at 6:46 pm), Nicole Odekirk (arrived at 6:21 pm), Cathy Thier (left meeting at 8:35 pm) and Lorraine Romasco

ABSENT: Kara Keith and Julie Fay

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

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Federspiel called the meeting to order at 6:21 PM in the School Committee Conference Room, Emerson School, Bolton, MA.

Meeting Materials provided tonight can be located at www.nrsd.net

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

Student Advisory Report – No Report

NEW BUSINESS

2015-2016 Calendar Recommendation

Ms. Visco, Chair of the Calendar Committee, and members of the Calendar Committee presented their recommendation for the 15-16 SY. Ms. Visco reviewed the proposal. The school committee will vote a 15-16 SY calendar at the next meeting.

Overview of Financial Impact of Proposed FY16 Budget

Mr. King reviewed the white page included in the packet. The purpose of this document is to explore in depth critical financial issues regarding the Nashoba Regional School District (NRSD) budget that are raised annually in multiple forums. The District has followed a consistent, reliable, prudent, yet flexible approach to budget and financial management for the last 12 years. As a result the District has risen from being overseen by a financial control board to one of the fiscally healthiest regional school districts in the State. This paper will offer a detailed review that will demonstrate that the District has been responsive in spending reserve funds in a responsible manner to help our member Towns mitigate the assessment costs. In addition evidence will be presented showing that these District measures have allowed the Towns to enhance their financial stability. FY 2016 is a year where the District is facing some uncontrollable costs in the area of special education particularly that is requiring a larger than average increase in the budget. Although this is not a welcome situation for the District or member Towns, it is clear this increase is affordable based on the facts presented here. Mr. King reviewed in detail all areas of the document.

OLD BUSINESS

FY16 Budget Discussion

Ms. Federspiel advised she would like to begin with a general timed discussion and then hear from each committee member their thoughts on the proposed budget. Ms. Federspiel provided a breakdown of what areas of the 5.05% proposed increase the district has no control over (i.e. contracted salaries 60%, Special Education out of district placement, 30%, benefits, 10%,) Ms. Federspiel advised these numbers were rounded, so therefore only approx. 2% of the 5.05% increase the district can control. School committee members asked clarifying questions, expressed their concerns in areas of the proposed budget and their feelings of where they would like to see the final budget. Mr. King and Mr. Wood answered all questions. It was requested the administration provide a proposal with a 3% - 4% increase for the next meeting. Mr. Wood advised there will need to be a \$500,000 reduction in the budget for each 1% the 5.05% increase is reduced. Ms. Romasco requested the administration provide a budget proposal with 3% increase with reductions that do not impact, teaching staff, students or classroom learning.

Policies Second Reading

Policy ECA - Buildings and Grounds Security

Policy JIC - Student Discipline

Policy KDDA - Publication of Personal Information

Policy IJOA - Field Trips

Policy GBA – Equal Opportunity Employment

Policy ACAB-ACC – Discriminatory Harassment

Policy AAC-ACA-ACE – EEO

Policy JB – Equal Educational Opportunities

Policy JICA – Student Code of Conduct

MOTION

Maureen Busch made a motion to approve the second reading and adoption the policies listed above with the exception of policy ECA; seconded by Cathy Thier **IN FAVOR:** Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Lorraine Romasco, Cathy Thier, Nicole Odekirk and Lynn Colletti, **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Facilities and Finance Subcommittee

Ms. Busch reported the warrants were approved.

Personnel Report

Ms. Federspiel reported the committee met to discuss the Superintendent’s goal writing to align them with the district improvement plan. The committee will work on turning the district improvement plan into a Superintendent’s Goals grid.

Policy Subcommittee

Ms. Romasco reported the committee met with a group of teachers who were concerned because they were told the climate survey was intended to replace a staff driven administrator evaluation. Ms. Romasco advised the survey intent is to look across the district at regular employees, full time or part time, to identify where moral is, do they feel the district is making strides, do they have what they need, etc. Ms. Romasco stated that this survey is not to be used as an evaluation tool for the administration.

ESBC

No Report

NRHS Space Study

No Report

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:

- Snowmageddon 2015
- MEMA and ways to fund snow budget
- Luther Burbank Staff Meeting
- School Van Arrival
- Parking
- MCAS Testing Dates
- Foundation Commission Hearing Rescheduled
- Coordinated Program Review Report

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

NONE

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

Topics on consent agenda included:

February 27, 2015 Warrants

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3469	02/27/15	VENDOR	\$ 352,220.69
3470	02/27/15	BENEFIT	\$ 4,040.20
3471	02/27/15	PAYROLL	\$1,278,586.63

Minutes of February 11, 2015

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Committee went into Executive Session at 9:05 pm for the purpose of discussing strategy for possible litigation, to include Michael Wood, George King and Aleta Masterson with the only business to be conducted after the executive session is to adjourn the regular meeting.

MOTION

Maureen Busch made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:05 pm for the purpose of discussing strategy for possible litigation, to include Michael Wood, George King and Aleta Masterson with the only business to be conducted after the executive session is to adjourn the regular meeting; seconded by Lorraine Romasco.

- Ms. Federspiel Yes
- Ms. Busch Yes
- Ms Romasco Yes
- Ms. Odekirk Yes
- Ms. Colletti Yes

MOTION

Maureen Busch made a motion to reconvene to open session at 9:05 pm; seconded by Nicole Odekirk

Ms. Federspiel	Yes
Ms. Busch	Yes
Ms Romasco	Yes
Ms. Odekirk	Yes
Ms. Colletti	Yes

MOTION

Maureen Busch made a motion to adjourn at 9:06 pm; seconded by Nancy Federspiel **IN FAVOR:** Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Lorraine Romasco, Nicole Odekirk and Lynn Colletti, **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (5-0-0)**

Respectfully Submitted,
Aleta Masterson
Executive Assistant

Reference Documents and Presentations

- Agenda
- 2015-2016 SY Calendar Recommendation
- White Paper on FY16 Budget
- Admin Salaries
- Policy ECA - Buildings and Grounds Security
- Policy JIC - Student Discipline
- Policy KDDA - Publication of Personal Information
- Policy IJOA - Field Trips
- Policy AAC-ACA-ACE - EEO
- Policy JB - Equal Educational Opportunities
- Policy GBA - Equal Opportunity Employment Policy
- Policy JICA - Student Code of Conduct
- Policy ACAB-ACAC - Discriminatory Harassment
- Superintendent's Report
- Meeting Minutes of 2/11/15

Approved by NRSC, 3/16/15