

NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING DRAFT

April 28, 2005

School Committee in Attendance: Nancy Fleming, Don Adams, Tricia Kelly, Chris Way, Cathy Giunta, Ellen Sturgis, Mary Beth Yentz, Monica CampoBasso,

Absent: Ex-Officio Member Kristin Squires

Administration in Attendance: Michael Wood, Superintendent; John Antonucci, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fleming called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM. at the Nashoba Regional High School.

Prior to any business, Ms. CampoBasso spoke about Alison Murphy, an outstanding student and role model at the Nashoba Regional High School who tragically died in a skiing accident on Friday during April vacation. A moment of silence in her memory followed. Administration was praised for the handling of the situation with the students and staff.

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 7, 2005 MINUTES

MOTION

Chris Way made a motion to approve the minutes of April 7, 2005 as amended. Seconded by Don Adams. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

APPROVAL OF THE WARRANTS OF APRIL 21 AND APRIL 28, 2005

The Warrant Subcommittee approved Warrants 1066 and 1068 as the warrants occurred outside of the regular school committee meeting schedule.

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1066	04/22/05	VENDOR	530,802.51
1067	04/28/05	BENEFIT	483,931.09
1068	04/22/05	PAYROLL	777,852.00
1069	04/27/05	VENDOR	604.62

MOTION

Cathy Giunta made a motion to approve the warrants as detailed in the memos dated 04/21/05 and 4/28/05 and noted above. Seconded by Don Adams. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter From School Committee Members To Local Newspapers – A copy of a letter sent from members to local newspapers discussing the budget process was distributed.

Massachusetts Senator Antonioni – Mr. Wood distributed a letter from Senator Antonioni acknowledging receipt of Mr. Wood's budget concerns letter and discussing his refiling of *An Act Relative to School Improvement* with Senator Therese Murray.

Concerned Citizens of Stow – The Concerned Citizens of Stow sent an email to Ms. Sturgis of the School Committee concerning overrides.

Hale Middle School – The handbook for the Hale Middle School was distributed.

Representative Eldridge Correspondence – Rep. Eldridge sent a communication to Committee members concerning a rally at the State House on Tuesday, May 3rd. It will be shared.

Parent Communication – Parents will rally at the State House on May 10th to increase educational funding.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Day on the Hill – Mr. Wood, Mr. Antonucci, Ms. Fleming, Mr. Adams and Ms. Way attended the MASC/MASS Day on the Hill. Both houses were in caucus, but members met with Representative Walrath, Senator Resor, Representative Eldridge, and Representative Naughton. Representative Walrath spoke with them concerning a proposal in front of both houses requesting that those communities that lost 20% of their Chapter 70 funding in FY04 have restored at least 50% of that money. This is the time to write to our state legislators.

Mr. Wood is attending a two-day workshop concerning gifted and talented. Enrichment is a goal of the District and it may become a state initiative.

Consideration to write a letter to our legislators concerning restoration of the Chapter 70 funds that were cut in FY 04 will be an agenda item on May 5, 2005.

Ms. Way noted that in the Governor’s budget he recommends a cut in the income tax. All of the legislators that members spoke with agree that this revenue is needed and they do not support this cut. The Legislature is reviewing the charter school funding formula and other charter school issues. At the present time, charter schools must satisfy nine criteria. Senator Resor is proposing the addition of a tenth criterion that charter schools must pass approval at a town meeting or at town council which will reflect community need and support. Mr. Adams discussed a letter he wrote stating that charter schools should do what it was understood that they would do – produce new methods and offer services that school districts are unable to offer themselves as the special education collaboratives do. They should do something that benefits the community rather than placing us in adversarial positions.

The date for the next Tri-Town meeting is Wednesday, June 1, 2005. The meeting will be hosted by Bolton at the Bolton Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Because so many students and parents have come to the meeting, Ms. Fleming will move the New Business item, Destination Imagination Funding forward on the agenda.

Destination Imagination Funding

Both Bolton and Lancaster have had Destination Imagination teams qualify for the World Competition in Knoxville Tennessee the week prior to Memorial Day. Funding is near \$9,500 for each team and there is only a short period of time in which to raise these funds. Mr. Wood recommends that each team be awarded \$3,400 (the amount granted last year to each qualifying team) and that the money come from the unexpended unemployment insurance line item. Mary Beth Yentz removed herself from voting as her husband and son are members of the Lancaster team.

MOTION

Ellen Sturgis made a motion to support the two Destination Imagination teams from the Florence Sawyer School and the Luther Burbank Middle at \$3,400 per team for a total of \$6,800 to go to the World Competition in Tennessee. Seconded by Cathy Giunta. **VOTED AND PASSED. In favor:** Seven **Abstain:** One (Mary Beth Yentz)

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Ex-Officio Report

There is no report this evening as Ms. Squires is on a college visit.

Stow School Building Committee by Ms. Way

This group has not met since the last school committee meeting. The next meeting is May 2, 2005.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Third Quarter Projections

There has been little change in the projections since quarter two. Mr. Antonucci forecasts a surplus in the following accounts should nothing change between now and the end of the year - Insurance (\$50,000 to \$60,000) and the SPED Out-of-District Tuitions and Collaboratives (\$200,000) accounts. He is monitoring the Revenue and Facilities accounts through the end of the year. The goal is to finish the year with enough funds to replenish the E&D account with surplus monies up to the amount being used in FY 06 to reduce assessments or \$240,000. Mr. Antonucci is confident that this goal will be reached.

FY06 Assessments

There has been no change in the amount of the assessments since the Committee voted the budget March 10, 2005 as the state budget has not been finalized.

MOTION

Mary Beth Yentz made a motion that we vote to assess the Town of Bolton \$9,027,841, the Town of Lancaster \$7,908,614 and the Town of Stow \$10,906,207 for FY 06. Seconded by Tricia Kelly. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

Audit Acceptance

After the results of the FY 04 Audit were accepted by the School Committee, Ms. Fleming noted an error in the final report whereby the beginning balance for FY 04 Net Assets was incorrect and the FY 04 Revenues were overstated by the same amount. The final balance however was correct. After discussion with Nancy Stell-Keily, Mr. Antonucci took it to Powers and Sullivan who revised the FY 04 Financial Statement Report. To fix this new report the FY 04 revenues were reduced and the FY04 beginning balances for net assets were increased. All copies of the previous Financial Statement must be destroyed.

MOTION

Ellen Sturgis made a motion to accept the Report on Examination of Basic Financial Statements, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2004 and presented by Powers and Sullivan. Seconded by Don Adams. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

NEW BUSINESS

Grants Acceptance

Alice Eaton Grants - Acceptance of these grants will appear on an agenda after a written confirmation letter is received concerning the receipt of the Alice Eaton Funds.

Mable Hale Fund

MOTION

Ellen Sturgis made a motion to accept a request from Margaret Morgan to use \$1,500 from the Mable Hale Fund for recess equipment and a request from Claire Dutton for \$1,000 from the fund for start up money for the Hale Middle School Store. Seconded by Chris Way. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

Breathalyzer Use at the Nashoba Regional High School

This will appear on a future agenda when Mr. Smith can be present.

OLD BUSINESS

Policy Second Reading

Right to Notice and Hearing for Suspension and Expulsion

The Policy Subcommittee has not met to review amendments to the first reading of this policy. They will meet on May 3, 2005. It will be tabled until the May 5, 2005 meeting.

Superintendent's Evaluation Process and Timeline

Changes recommended at the first reading of this policy on April 7, 2005 have been included.

MOTION

Chris Way made a motion to accept "Policy for Evaluation of the Superintendent" File CBI-R for a second reading and adoption. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

CASE Collaborative

Mr. Antonucci has compared our insurance limits to those of the CASE Collaborative and has found that they are either the same or in some cases, CASE carries greater limits.

MOTION

Mary Beth Yentz made a motion to accept the Concord Area Special Education (CASE) Collaborative Agreement as presented labeled IX B. of the April 28, 2005 minutes. Seconded by Don Adams. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

CITIZEN INPUT

Bill Joss of Stow raised questions concerning the FY 06 Budget and Ms. Fleming responded.

Jim Gray recently moved to Stow and thanked Mr. Wood and Ms. Way for responding to his emails.

John Sangermano, Reporter from the Stow Paper, was advised that there is no correlation between the potential surpluses and deficits in Mr. Antonucci's memo concerning Third Quarter Projections.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION

Mary Beth Yentz made a motion to enter into Executive Session in order to discuss a personnel matter and said session to reconvene in Open Session. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso. **In Favor:** Nancy Fleming, Don Adams, Tricia Kelly, Chris Way, Mary Beth Yentz, Ellen Sturgis, Cathy Giunta, Monica CampoBasso. **Opposed:** None **VOTED AND PASSED.**

The Committee entered Executive Session at 7:50 p.m.

The Committee reconvened in Open Session at 8:25 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Mary Beth Yentz made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Ellen Sturgis. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen McKinstry
Executive Assistant