

NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

April 7, 2005

School Committee in Attendance: Nancy Fleming, Don Adams, Tricia Kelly, Chris Way, Cathy Giunta, Ellen Sturgis, Mary Beth Yentz, Monica CampoBasso, Ex-Officio Member Kristin Squires

Absent: None

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.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 24, 2005 MINUTES

MOTION

Chris Way made a motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2005 as amended. Seconded by Tricia Kelly. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

APPROVAL OF THE WARRANTS OF April 8, 2005

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1063	04/08/05	VENDOR	185,831.26
1064	04/08/05	BENEFIT	21,891.88
1065	04/08/05	PAYROLL	905,276.33

MOTION

Cathy Giunta made a motion to approve the warrants as detailed in the memo dated 04/07/05 and noted above. Seconded by Don Adams. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

CORRESPONDENCE

MASS FY06 A Transition Year, dated March 24, 2005 – Mr. Wood distributed a position paper from MASS recommending that FY06 be a transition year as a bridge between a revised school funding and accountability system and intelligently revised consensus of adequacy.

Suburban Coalition – Mr. Wood attended the Suburban Coalition Legislative Breakfast on Tuesday and they are recommending a proposal similar to the EDCO Collaborative position to restore at least 50% of the 20% cut that we had in FY04. Mr. Wood is hopeful that some additional funding will come our way.

Nashoba United Youth Soccer – Athletic Director Richards is working with Mr. Mintz of the Nashoba United Under 12 team concerning their need for practice fields. Due to usage and over usage of the high school fields, the District can only offer limited use of any fields.

Senator Antonioni's Annual Spaghetti Supper – Ms. CampoBasso mentioned Senator Antonioni annual spaghetti supper will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2005 in Leominster and that all are invited.

MASC Day on the Hill – MASC Day on the Hill is scheduled for April 26, 2005.

Additional School Committee Meeting – Ms. Fleming discussed the need for an additional meeting prior to the May 2nd Bolton and Lancaster town meetings in order to vote the FY 06 Town Assessments. It was agreed that a meeting will be held on Thursday, April 28, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at the Nashoba Regional High School.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Wood’s newsletter discusses the new MA DOE Department of Early Education and Care. This group will oversee students from birth to age 5.

Strategic Planning Meeting – The steering committee has developed a draft plan and they are looking for input, understanding and ideas for the future. Specific goals and action steps will be developed in the future.

Destination Imagination – Two District teams will be going to the world competition in Tennessee after winning state contests. One of the teams is from the Florence Sawyer School and the other is from the Luther Burbank Middle School.

Tri-Town – The Tri-Town meeting focused on ways that the three towns can work together on a regional basis. The School Facilities Task Force has two representatives from Bolton and two from Stow. All towns are working to find reliable demographics and discussing the possibility of sharing the costs of a demographer. Each town will bring any work that they have done on demographics to the June 2nd meeting. Ms. Fleming complimented Mr. Dunn of Lancaster who chaired the most recent Tri-Town meeting.

Placement Process – All three towns will use the principles of clustering and the same levels will be used by all. In the eighth grade at the Luther Burbank Middle School groups are remixed at every term. This is also done in Stow but not in Bolton. The benefits of each method were discussed.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Ex-Officio Report by Ms. Squires

Ms. Squires reported on current activity at the high school. There was a power outage last Thursday and students were released early. Lancaster and Stow 8th graders visited the high school and Bolton will be coming soon. In Music news, MICCA, the Endowment Concert and the State Competition have all gone well for Nashoba Music students. The Jazz Band received a Silver Medal and Leah Shoer won an individual award for outstanding performance on the trombone. In Sports news, the track and baseball teams had their first games today. Tennis will start next week. Most seniors must declare the college that they will attend by May 1, 2005 by sending in a deposit. Three students have been selected to attend Mt. Holyoke’s “Take the Lead” conference for young women September 29 – October 2. They are Denise Pollack of Lancaster, Colleen Makary of Stow and Shannon Kelley of Bolton. The Gay – Straight Alliance will sponsor a day of silence on April 15th to protest discrimination against gay, bisexual, lesbian, and transgender people. The Foreign Language Club will be going to London, Paris and Venice over April vacation. Amnesty International will host their annual trivia contest on April 13th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. In Student Council news, Health Week will run from April 11th to April 15th. Members of the Council will participate in the Walk for Hunger on May 1st with MASC students from across the state. Fourteen students have signed up for the Mr. Nashoba Event. The INDIE art festival is coming up April 29th. The Drama Banquet is on May 1st at the Sterling Country Club. The spring musical Grease will be presented this weekend and presales of tickets have been extraordinary. Over 60 students are in the play.

Stow School Building Committee by Ms. Way

This group met briefly on March 28th to approve the request for an assessment of the Future Electronics Building and sharing the cost with the town of Bolton. They met on April 4th and discussed a timeline.

Mr. Kane attended the meeting to discuss options concerning his property in town. The Committee is financing an appraisal of his property.

Transportation Subcommittee by Ms. Sturgis

This Subcommittee met to discuss the possibility of offering a late bus for students. This service would have to be self supporting and there is a desire to keep the fee comparable to the parking fee of \$70.00. Mr. Antonucci will gather information from the bus company (i.e. number of drop offs in each town, possible route map), and at the same time, the Subcommittee will consider surveying students to determine the level of interest from students.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent's Evaluation Process and Timeline

In order to assure confidentiality and therefore, candor from School Committee members and to clarify the timeline used in the evaluation process, the Superintendent Evaluation Policy and the Timeline and Protocol need amending. The amended timeline is adjusted to reflect the January to January cycle. Although members will continue to seek the opinions of the School Advisory Councils, in order to keep the integrity of the role of the School Committee as the only evaluators of a Superintendent, the only published compiled report will be the one that reflects the evaluations of the School Committee members. The Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee will discuss the degree of participation of the School Advisory Council's in the evaluation process at a future meeting.

MOTION

Chris Way made a motion to accept policy "Policy for Evaluation of the Superintendent" File CBI-R adopted April 26, 2001 and accepted for first reading April 7, 2005 and to include the accompanying protocol. Seconded by Don Adams. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

OLD BUSINESS

Policy Second Reading

Right to Notice and Hearing for Suspension and Expulsion

At Counsel's recommendation this policy is being revised and simplified since the first reading. Because of this, Mr. Wood will review with the Administrative Council prior to bringing it to the Committee for approval.

Bus Transportation

In the first reading of this policy, wording was amended. The second reading includes this change.

MOTION

Ellen Sturgis made a motion to accept policy "School Bus Safety Program" File EEAE for a second reading and adoption on April 7, 2005. Seconded by Don Adams. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

CASE Collaborative

Mr. Wood informed the Committee that he has been assured by counsel that budget approval by the Executive Board is inferred in Article VII. Mr. Adams wondered if all members were required to carry a minimum limit on their liability insurance. Mr. Wood will ask for that information and a vote on the amendments to the charter will be postponed.

CITIZEN INPUT

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION

Mary Beth Yentz made a motion to enter into Executive Session in order to discuss legal issues and said session to include Superintendent Michael Wood and Assistant Superintendent John Antonucci. Seconded by Chris Way. **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 8:02 p.m.

The Committee reconvened in Open Session at 8:32 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Tricia Kelly made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Don Adams. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen McKinstry
Executive Assistant