

NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

May 5, 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:

Administration in Attendance: Michael Wood, Superintendent; John Antonucci, Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance, High School Principal John Smith, High School Assistant Principal Jeremy Roche.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 28, 2005 MINUTES

MOTION

Chris Way made a motion to approve the minutes of April 28, 2005 as amended. Seconded by Don Adams. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

APPROVAL OF THE WARRANTS OF MAY 5, 2005

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1070	05/06/05	VENDOR	351,790.87
1071	05/06/05	BENEFIT	7,453.47
1072	05/06/05	PAYROLL	854,552.49
1073	05/06/05	VENDOR	50.00

MOTION

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Student Andrew Hogan, Concerned Student of Stow – This student sent a letter to the School Committee concerning the space issues in Stow. It will be redirected to the town.

Log In and Learn – Ms. CampoBasso shared an article on Virtual High School.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent's Report was distributed. Mr. Wood will do a formal presentation on the Future Electronics Building at the May 19th school committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Breathalyzer Use at High School Functions

Mr. Smith and Mr. Roche answered questions concerning the use of the breathalyzer in recent years. It is only used when there is a reasonable suspicion that a student is under the influence and it is denied. Students have a right to refuse and no breathalyzer is administered until the parent is present. Any discipline outcomes are dealt with on the next school day. Juniors have been informed of the potential use and process. A meeting with seniors will take place next week. Although breathalyzer use was

approved a few years ago, the Committee would like to see it become an annual discussion to keep them informed.

MOTION

Mary Beth Yentz made a motion to allow the use of the breathalyzer as outlined in the memo from John Smith, Jeremy Roche, and Peter Richards dated May 3, 2005. Seconded by Don Adams. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

OLD BUSINESS

Right to Notice and Hearing for Suspension and Expulsion

The Policy Subcommittee met on May 3, 2005 to put the final touches on this policy. The intent of any changes is to clarify when a hearing will occur and what process is to be followed.

MOTION

Mary Beth Yentz made a motion to accept Policy JKFA, Right to Notice and Hearing for Suspension and Expulsion with noted amendments and dated May 5, 2005 as a second reading and therefore adopted. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Ex-Officio Report by Ms. Squires

Ms Squires honored Alison Murphy. She noted that the administrators at the high school were once again extremely supportive and Alison will be remembered in the future with an athletic scholarship named for her. Nine juniors have scored high enough to be named to the 2006 National Merit Scholar program. The Elizabeth Haskins Math Competition will take place at Fitchburg State College on Friday, May 6, 2005. The Independent Arts Festival was a huge success. The Best Buddies Prom was held on April 29, 2005. The afternoon of May 14th "Jamnesty" will host local talent and that evening "Mr. Nashoba" will be crowned. Senior sendoffs begin next week and the Junior Prom will be held on May 27, 2005. The Ultimate Frisbee Club is meeting after school on Mondays. In sports events, the Girls' Softball team hopes to maintain a better than 50/50 record so that they may compete in the playoffs. The Girls' Tennis Team is undefeated and the Baseball team has been very successful. The Pops Choral Concert on Thursday, May 19th will be the last concert for this year. Bands will march in the Lancaster and Stow Memorial Day Parades.

Stow School Building Committee by Ms. Way

This group met on May 2, 2005. Enrollment Projections were presented. Mr. Don Kennedy of NESDEC prepared the projections in two ways; one very conservatively using birth data and a conservative rate of development; the other considered the migration of student population, extraordinary development, and the turnover of housing stock to younger families. An appraisal of the Kane property was discussed and it is what the committee expected at approximately \$3.1 million for the highest level of use. A preliminary report of the Future Electronics Building was distributed that identified the structure as in good shape. The recommended usage was that the office space becomes classrooms and the warehouse areas become larger used areas such as gyms and media centers. There are questions concerning the use of the rest of the building. Bolton is paying for half of this study. Discussion ensued concerning the pros and cons of going to town meeting with a school building plan prior to SBA approval. Ms. Yentz asked that it be noted that Lancaster will not appreciate the collaboration of Bolton and Stow as it could be divisive.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenue Update

The House did add \$50 per student to the Chapter 70 Aid for all schools in the Commonwealth and added money to regional transportation in their proposed budget. Should there be any increase in the amount of

money received, the District will vote to decide how to use the funds. There will be no increase in the budget amount regardless of what happens.

NEW BUSINESS

Legislative Appeal for Restoration of Ch. 70 Funds

The Committee discussed writing a letter to their legislators supporting the Reverse the Curse initiative.

MOTION

Mary Beth Yentz made a motion to ask the Chair and the Vice-Chair to create an email to our legislators informing them we support the Reverse the Curse initiative restoring local aid cuts and fulfilling mandates and commitments. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

CITIZEN INPUT

None

Mary Beth Yentz was honored for her years of service to the School Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen McKinstry
Executive Assistant