

NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

June 1, 2006

School Committee in Attendance: Don Adams, Monica CampoBasso, Ellen Sturgis, Cathy Giunta, Tricia Kelly, Brian Burke, Mel Govindan, David Horne, 2005-2006 Ex-Officio Member Donnie Allison, 2006-2007 Ex-Officio Member Laura O’Neil

Absent: N/A

Administration in Attendance: Michael Wood, Superintendent of Schools, George King, Assistant Superintendent for Finance

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Don Adams called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. in the Office of the Superintendent.

APPROVAL OF THE May 18, 2006 MINUTES

MOTION

Cathy Giunta made a motion to approve the minutes of May 18, 2006 as amended. Seconded by Ellen Sturgis. **IN FAVOR:** Cathy Giunta, Don Adams, David Horne, Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Ellen Sturgis, Mel Govindan, Tricia Kelly **VOTED AND PASSED (8-0). UNANIMOUS**

APPROVAL OF THE WARRANTS OF June 2, 2006

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2088	4/21/06	VENDOR	\$ 255,811.37
2089	4/21/06	BENEFIT	\$ 48,957.71
2090	4/21/06	PAYROLL	\$ 978,291.44

MOTION

Cathy Giunta made a motion to approve the warrants as detailed in the memos dated 6/01/06 and noted above. Seconded by Brian Burke. **IN FAVOR:**, Mel Govindan, Cathy Giunta, Don Adams, David Horne, Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Ellen Sturgis, Tricia Kelly **VOTED AND PASSED (8-0) UNANIMOUS**

CORRESPONDENCE

- Superintendent’s Evaluation form
- Virtual High School 2005 Annual Report
- Email correspondence from Mary Redford, thanking School Committee for support
- Stow Planning Board Notice
- Email correspondence from Kevin Yentz to Monica CampoBasso regarding the development of a policy for funding of student endeavors.
- Recognition letter from the Massachusetts Foreign Language Association for Laura DiMasi, NRHS Gr. 10 student who was awarded an honorable mention in the 2006 MaFLA essay contest.
- Letter from Triton Regional School Committee regarding Chapter 70 funding and the possibility of a lawsuit against the Commonwealth similar to the McDuffy/Hancock litigation.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT (*This report is available on the District website)

Differentiated Instruction Product Exhibition:

Mr. Wood spoke about the Day on the Differentiated Instruction Product Exhibition which was held at the Mary Rowlandson Elementary School on Friday, May 19th. He told the committee this was a huge

success and that each year they learn more. He said that next year they are hoping to hold this event later in the day or perhaps in the evening and invite parents and members of the community.

High School Track Bids

Mr. Wood told the committee the District received two bids for the resurfacing of the H.S. track. The two bids were from Cape and Island Tennis and Track and Tracklite Systems. The bids are being reviewed by Mr. Spratt and Mr. King and a decision will be forthcoming. Mr. Wood told the committee that the planned resurfacing will last about four years which will give them time to decide what the overall plan will be regarding space needs for fields at the high school.

Senate Budget:

Mr. Wood reported to the committee that the Senate passed their budget with no changes. He also said there are changes to the Chapter 70 formula for distribution and that almost all of it is in the District's favor. He added that with the House plan the District would lose \$306,309. and with the Senate's plan the District would receive \$80,000 more in financial assistance. He said there was no answer yet as to what side would prevail.

Federal and State Certification Rules:

Mr. Wood told the committee that guidelines announced in 2001 and prescribed in the *No Child Left Behind Act* will take effect this fall. He said that teachers and paraprofessional must meet Highly Qualified requirements prior to returning in the fall.

End of Year Budget Transfers:

Mr. Wood told the committee that Mr. King will have the end of year budget transfers prepared for the June 15th meeting and this will close out the accounts for FY06.

New Student Representative:

Mr. Wood told the committee that Donnie Allison, Ex-Officio member for the 2005-2006 school year will be graduating and going on to Duke University on the fall. He introduced Laura O'Neil, who will be the new Ex-Officio member of the School Committee for the 2006-2007 school year.

Layoffs to Meet Budget Obligations:

Mr. Wood announced that letters went out to staff that will be impacted by the FY07 budget. He said that twelve staff members will be impacted because they will have to move into a different job, and that twelve may lose their job because a senior staff member could possibly "bump" them. Out of this twelve, four were long term substitutes who were filling in for a variety of reasons. He added that as vacancies occur, the impacted twelve staff members will have the option to stay on if they choose and if they are a good fit for the open position.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Ex-officio Report by Mr. Allison

Mr. Allison reported to the committee on recent events and activity at the high school.

Athletics- Current team records:

- Baseball: unavailable
- Softball: unavailable
- Boy's Track: 2nd in leagues; won at District Class Championship; came in 0th of a field of 40 at the All District Meet
- Girl's Track: 4-1, 2nd in leagues; tied for first at District Class Championship; came in 11th in a field of 40 at the all-District Meet
- Boy's Tennis: 9-8
- Girl's Tennis: 12-2

Other Events-

- Model UN Conference- Dan Blanton, Jacob Kopczyński, Alex Paladini, John Stefanos, Margy Robinson, Ashley Vannesse, and Marie Deluca won delegate awards at the conference.

- Last day of classes for seniors was made into a half day and seniors were allowed to go out to the football field with water balloons and shaving cream. They enjoyed a cook-out, Ultimate Frisbee and wiffleball. Mr. Allison said the “First Inaugural Field Day” was designed to avoid the somewhat dangerous tradition of water balloon wars in the parking lot.
- The April vacation 2007 trip sponsored by the Foreign Language dept. will be going to Italy and Switzerland, with stops in Milan, Venice, Florence, Verona, Pisa, Ravenna, Lugano, Lake Maggiore, and coastal towns of the Mediterranean.
- The Relay for Life is scheduled to be held, weather permitting, Friday, June 2nd.
- The National Honor Society inducted new members on Wednesday, May 31st. The newest members are:
 - Essie Ablavsky, Axel Anderson, Courtney Baker, Marco Balducci, Nicole Balin, Alyssa Browne, Sean Busch, Angela CampoBasso, Sarah Davies, Marie DeLuca, Eric Fournier, Caitlin Gribbons, Ellen Hartford, Maddie Hawkins, Rebecca Hoover, Lindsey Horowitz, Emily Jacobs, Elizabeth Keck, Tyler Kerr, Risa Langelo, Katie Ledoux, Kerin Murphy, Kathleen Murtland, Max Nicoll, Alex Paladini, Liz pane, Jill Perreira, Megan Powell, Matt Powers, Anthony Raduazo, Giulia Rizzo, Margy Robinson, Layne Sadler, Erika Schiffer, Cristina Shea, Dan Stefanis, Sam Tobia, Ashley Vanesse

Facilities Subcommittee, by Ms. Kelly

Ms. Kelly said the Facilities Subcommittee did not have a recent meeting to report on. The following agenda items were taken out of order and discussed under Facilities Subcommittee.

Energy Conservation:

Mr. Bill Spratt, Director of Facilities presented a PowerPoint presentation of an overview concerning the District energy conservation efforts. He told the committee that overall the District has saved \$109,532. through energy conservation. He said the efforts toward this included setting the heating systems in the schools that had automated systems so that the heat automatically lowers when students and staff are not in the buildings, thereby conserving energy and costs. Mr. Spratt recognized Mr. Gary Swenson and Mr. Jim Brigham, who he said managed the operation to address the District heating system automation.

Scheduled Maintenance:

Mr. Spratt presented the committee with an update of the District’s scheduled maintenance. This update included a feasible study for the Central Office move, additional upgrades of the generator and kitchen and cafeteria updates at NRHS, heating system training (Energy management) and repairs to a venting system at the Florence Sawyer and Emerson Schools, field maintenance at the Mary Rowlandson and Luther Burbank Schools, a bathroom stall replacement at the Pompositticut School, and a floor and exterior painting at the Center School in Stow. Projects on hold include field/erosion seeding at the Florence Sawyer and Emerson Schools and window replacement at the Hale Middle School.

Republic Electric:

Mr. Wood called the committee’s attention to a letter from Police Chief Trefry of Stow, which was included in their packet. The letter was concerning the school zone flashing lights in Stow at the Center and Pompositticut Schools which Chief Trefry sent to Mr. Spratt to clarify his previous request that the District pay the cost of installing four new posts and a controller system in the amount of \$3450. In his letter Chief Trefry said that this work was completed over the Christmas vacation because Mr. Spratt had verbally agreed to pay the \$3450 for this installation. Discussion ensued regarding this topic. Committee member Tricia Kelly raised concern and question regarding the fact that this project did not need to be considered for Capital Planning as it just made it under the requirement of \$10,000, at \$9,950. Ms. Kelly asked if the committee could follow-up on this issue and look into this. Mr. Wood said he would report back to the committee after making some inquiries to Chief Trefry. Ms. Sturgis told the committee that she has worked with old buildings and that it was not unusual to get into something and find the project would be more than originally planned, and that it is actually fairly common. Committee member Cathy Giunta also raised concern about covering this cost for this project. Mr. Spratt addressed the committee

regarding this issue. He said the District has worked hard to build bridges with the town communities and departments and he felt it was important to honor the commitment to cover this cost. Mr. Wood told the committee that he too felt the District should work in collaboration with the towns and that this did not seem unreasonable to do.

MOTION

Motion moved by Ellen Sturgis to pay the bill of \$3450 to Republic Electric. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso **IN FAVOR:** Don Adams, Monica CampoBasso, Ellen Sturgis, Mel Govindan, Brian Burke, David Horne **OPPOSED:** Tricia Kelly, Cathy Giunta
VOTED AND PASSED. (6-2)

NRHS Environmental Science/Recycling:

Mr. Wood called the committee's attention to a letter in their packet from the NRHS G period Environmental Science class. In their letter to the School committee they request that the District put dumpsters for paper, bottles and cans behind the high school building for recycling. Presently the students are handling the taking away of the recyclable materials and are dependent on students with vehicles to accomplish this. Discussion ensued concerning this request. Ms. Giunta told the committee that the Boy Scouts are involved in a similar effort to recycle cans and bottles and have raised about \$5,000. through this effort. Mr. Spratt said that there are a variety of factors which need to be considered, including the shortage of storage space at the schools presently as well as the cost of recycling. He said he would investigate options regarding this effort and also would visit the Environmental Science class to discuss this with them.

Finance Subcommittee, by Ms. Giunta

Nothing to report. The next meeting of the Finance Subcommittee will be June 26th at 4:30 p.m.

Personnel Subcommittee, by Mr. Adams

Mr. Adams reported to the committee that they will be going into Executive Session later in the meeting for the purpose of discussing the superintendent's contract and to go over a legal issue.

Policy Subcommittee, by Ms. CampoBasso

Nothing to report.

SPED PAC

Mr. Burke told the committee that the presentation by SPED PAC to the School Committee will take place in the fall.

Stow Building Task Force (SBTF), by Ms. Sturgis

Ms. Sturgis reported to the committee that the SBTF sent representatives to present to the Selectmen. She said they have scheduled a Joint Board meeting for June 19th, where they will present their work to date and solicit feedback. They will then be ready to begin the RFP process for the project.

NEW BUSINESS

Scheduled Maintenance:

(This was presented during the Facilities Subcommittee update; see minutes under Facilities Subcommittee)

Energy Conservation:

(This was presented during the Facilities Subcommittee update; see minutes under Facilities Subcommittee)

School Committee Meeting Schedule:

Mr. Wood presented a draft of the 2006-2007 School Committee meeting schedule.

MOTION

Motion moved by Ellen Sturgis to accept the School Committee meeting schedule for the 2006-2007 school year as amended. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso **IN FAVOR:** Don Adams, David Horne, Monica CampoBasso, Ellen Sturgis, Mel Govindan, Tricia Kelly, Brian Burke, Cathy Giunta **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0)**

School Committee Start Times:

The committee discussed start times for the 2006-2007 school year School Committee meetings.

MOTION

Motion moved by Ellen Sturgis to continue to start School Committee meetings at 6:00 p.m. for the 2006-2007 school year. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso **IN FAVOR:** Don Adams, David Horne, Monica CampoBasso, Ellen Sturgis, Mel Govindan, Tricia Kelly, Brian Burke, Cathy Giunta **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0)**

School Committee Sub Committee Appointments:

The selection of subcommittee appointments was discussed by the committee. Committee member David Horne offered to take Ms. Sturgis' place on the Policy Subcommittee, as Ms. Sturgis is also Chair of the Stow Building Task Force.

Special Education Parent Advisory Committee Presentation:

This presentation was rescheduled by SPED PAC, and will be done in the fall.

NRHS Environmental Science/Recycling:

(This was discussed during the Facilities Subcommittee update; see minutes under Facilities Subcommittee)

OLD BUSINESS

Republic Electric:

(This was discussed during the Facilities Subcommittee update; see minutes under Facilities Subcommittee)

CITIZEN INPUT

Nothing to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The committee entered into Executive Session at 8:57 p.m.

MOTION

Motion moved by Cathy Giunta to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing possible litigation and to include Mr. Wood and Christopher Petri, and to enter into contract talks for the Superintendent of Schools and to include Mr. Wood. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso. **IN FAVOR:** Tricia Kelly, Cathy Giunta, Don Adams, David Horne, Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Ellen Sturgis, Mel Govindan. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0)**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Motion moved by Ellen Sturgis to adjourn. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso. **IN FAVOR:** Tricia Kelly, Cathy Giunta, Don Adams, David Horne, Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Ellen Sturgis, Mel Govindan. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0)**

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda DeStasi
Executive Assistant