

NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

January 26, 2006

School Committee in Attendance: Don Adams, Monica CampoBasso, Brian Burke, Ellen Sturgis, Chris Way, Cathy Giunta, Mel Govindan Ex-Officio Member Donnie Allison

Absent: Tricia Kelly

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Don Adams called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. at the Emerson Building of the Nashoba Regional School District.

APPROVAL OF THE January 12, 2006 MINUTES

MOTION

Cathy Giunta made a motion to approve the minutes of January 12, 2006 as amended. Seconded by Ellen Sturgis. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

APPROVAL OF THE WARRANTS OF January 27, 2006

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2054	1/27/06	VENDOR	\$456,336.23
2055	1/27/06	BENEFIT	\$551,637.13
2056	1/27/06	PAYROLL	\$945,464.94

MOTION

Cathy Giunta made a motion to approve the warrants as detailed in the memos dated 1/26/06 and noted above. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

CORRESPONDENCE

- MARS meeting Minutes from January 24th meeting
- Superintendent's Annual Town Report for the Town of Bolton

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (*This report is available on the district website)

Massachusetts's Building Authority (MSBA)

- The MSBA conducted site visits on January 13th and 17th. Mr. Wood told the committee that a formal report has not been received yet. MARS meeting minutes from January 24th meeting
- Mr. Wood's Annual Report to the Town of Bolton

Nashoba Website Launched

The District website received a new look and has been updated. Mr. Wood thanked Barrett Amos, Kathy McKinstry and Linda DeStasi for their efforts in making this happen.

FY07 Budget

Mr. Wood presented the proposed FY07 Budget to the committee. He told the committee and members of the public in attendance that this report would be available for viewing on the District website.

Follow Up Minuteman Outreach Program

Mr. Wood told the committee this will be an agenda item for the February 9th meeting and that he will have a recommendation.

Budget Workshops

Mr. Wood told the committee that they may want additional workshops for budget conversations and suggested adding February 16th and March 2nd. He also asked that the February 23rd meeting, which is during school vacation, be confirmed.

School Improvement Plans

Mr. Wood told the committee that the principals will review their plans with the committee at the February 4th budget workshop meeting.

FY06 Revenue Information

Mr. Wood told the committee that Mr. King is compiling information for them which will prove useful as they prepare to have conversations with their respective town finance committees regarding the proposed budget. Mr. Wood said this information would be ready for the February 4th meeting.

Annual Report

Mr. Wood told the committee that a copy of the Annual Report to the Town of Bolton was included in their packet for this meeting.

Calendar Committee Update

Mr. Wood told the committee that Calendar Committee is close to a recommendation and he is expecting a draft within the next few days.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Ex-Officio Report by Mr. Allison

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

Current Team records:

- Boy's Basketball Team: 5-7
- Girl's basketball Team is 9-1
- Wrestling Team: 9-6
- Indoor Track: 2-3
- Hockey: 3-7-2
- Skiing: Downhill Boy's- 5th place, Girl's- 4th place
- Cross Country Skiing: Two 2nd place and two 3rd place finishes

Other Events:

- Midterm exams ended and second term starts on Tuesday (January 31st).
- Senior class won the Class Plays with *Removing the Glove*.
- Cabaret Night has been cancelled due to organizational difficulties.
- Another Raging Cow will be held on February 4th at 9:30 p.m.
- The Jazz Band will have a concert on Thursday, February 9th.

Audit Advisory, by Mr. Wood

Mr. Wood told the committee that Bill Ross and Nancy Stell-Kiely both resigned from the Audit Advisory Committee. Ms. Sturgis told the committee that this would be a huge loss for the committee and in particular Ms. Stell-Kiely as her understanding of public accounting/town finances, has been invaluable.

Facilities Subcommittee, by Mr. Wood

Mr. Wood said there was a meeting on January 4th at which time the Lease Agreements were edited. He told the committee that the Lease Agreements have also been reviewed by the district's attorney and said

the Facilities Subcommittee will meet one more time to review them before bringing them before the School Committee.

Finance Subcommittee

Nothing to report. Ms. Giunta told the committee that the next meeting would be on January 30th.

Personnel Subcommittee, by Mr. Adams

Mr. Adams reported the Personnel Subcommittee continues to work on Unit C negotiations and that the committee would be moving to Executive Session later in the meeting.

Policy Subcommittee, by Mr. Wood

Mr. Wood told the committee that the Policy Subcommittee read the Physical Activity Policy. Mr. Wood also told the committee that information was distributed regarding changes in IDEA relating to SPED. He told the committee the SPED leadership would be invited to a future School Committee meeting to discuss this policy. Committee member Brian Burke asked if copies of the regulations would be disseminated to SPED PAC and Mr. Wood said this could be arranged.

SPED PAC

Mr. Burke told the committee that the SPED PAC Committee met on January 19th at their new meeting site at the Florence Sawyer School in Bolton. Mr. Burke told the committee that Tom Holloway of Stow Chiropractic discussed Learning Disabilities and ADD. Mr. Burke also told the committee that SPED PAC is working to gather their information and move their website so that it can be included under the umbrella of the NRSD website.

Stow Building Committee (SBC), by Ms. Sturgis

Ms. Sturgis told the committee that the SBC is currently undergoing the reorganization process. Mr. Adams added that he would be recommending some changes to subcommittees as a result of the reorganization of the SBC. He told the committee that with Ellen Sturgis now acting as the SBC representative, Chris Way will move to the Facilities Subcommittee and Cathy Giunta will now serve on the Policy Subcommittee.

NEW BUSINESS

Second Quarter Finance Report

Mr. King reported to the committee on the status of the Second Quarter. He told the committee that although the FY06 budget looked adequate there would likely be some minor adjustments.

- Retiree Health Insurance: There is a projected shortfall of \$40,000.
- Employee Health Insurance: Shortfall of about \$35,000. This appears to be due to more people on the plan than was anticipated.
- Dental Insurance: Begins February 1, 2006 with cost of \$7,000 a month.
- Short Term Disability Insurance: Budget amount needs to be increased \$25,000.
- Tuition Reimbursement: Due to contract agreement this is increasing by \$20,000.
- Energy Cists: Figure still evolving despite conservation efforts. This is the biggest challenge this year.
- Special Education Tuitions: This is presently being reviewed. Mr. King said that overall this looked O.K. Mr. King added that there are projected surpluses more than offsetting the projected shortfall.

Included in the projected surplus is:

- District Wide Salary Surplus: \$196,000. Mr. King told the committee that this figure results from restructuring of the collective bargaining contract and salary savings from vacant positions.
- School Choice: Surplus of \$60,000.

FY07 Superintendent's Budget Presentation

Mr. Wood Presented the FY07 Budget to the committee. Flash drives which included Mr. Wood's PowerPoint presentation regarding the FY07 budget, the FY07 Executive Summary and proposed budget spreadsheets, and rubric were distributed to all committee members. Mr. Wood said the mission of the District is to educate all students to their fullest potential. He then went on to discuss the FY07 budget as he presented a PowerPoint presentation to the committee and members of the community in attendance. The Superintendent's FY07 Budget can be found on the District website under *Superintendent's Notes*, as well as under *Finance*.

OLD BUSINESS

Lease

Mr. Wood said the Lease Agreements would be presented to the School Committee after the Facilities Subcommittee met to review them.

Minuteman Program

Mr. Wood told the committee that Minuteman has agreed to wait for the district to make their decision before moving forward with their budget. Minuteman has included Mr. Wood's recommendation in their budget. Questions about process were raised and Mr. Wood will report on February 9th.

CITIZEN INPUT

Pam Glauner inquired about the Minuteman program voting in each town and how that would be done. Mr. Wood said a vote would be taken at each of the District's member Town Meetings to either add the town of Stow to the Minuteman Project or leave the program as it is currently, a District program.

Ms. Glauner said she had read recently about the abuse allegations in an area school and asked Mr. Wood and the committee if the Nashoba Regional School District had any policies relating to abuse, or any plans to develop such policies. Mr. Wood responded that the District does have a professional Evaluation Policy in which this issue is touched upon as well as a code of Conduct pertaining to parents. Mr. Wood agreed that this is an issue that should be looked at discussed further.

MOTION

Motion moved by Don Adams to move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Unit C contract negotiations and also that Mr. Wood and Mr. King go into Executive Session as well. Seconded by Brian Burke. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

MOTION

Motion moved by Chris Way to leave Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Unit C contract negotiations.. Seconded by Monica CampoBasso. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Motion moved by Ellen Sturgis to adjourn. Seconded by Chris Way. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda DeStasi
Executive Assistant