

NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

January 12, 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 Superintendent of Finance

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF THE December 15, 2005 MINUTES

**MOTION**

Chris Way made a motion to approve the minutes of December 15, 2005 as amended. Seconded by Cathy Giunta. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

APPROVAL OF THE WARRANTS OF January 13, 2006

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2050	1/13/06	VENDOR	\$11,735,886.32
2051	1/13/06	BENEFIT	\$25,416.92
2052	1/13/06	PAYROLL	\$912,579.62

**MOTION**

Cathy Giunta made a motion to approve the warrants as detailed in the memos dated 12/29/05 and noted above. Seconded by Brian Burke. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- MASC Special Member Survey
- Worcester Telegram & Gazette Special Sections Request- request from paper for information on student statistics.
- Letter from Stacey Bloom, lead attorney with Murphy Hesse, Toomey & LeHane, LLP, the District legal counsel dealing with the Architectural Access Board (AAB) and the Digit school Athletic Field and ramp issues. The letter informs the District that the work has been completed and all issues resolved.
- 2006-2007 NRSD School Calendar Survey Information
- Letter from Cleon I-I. Turner, State Representative 1~' 13arnstable District Cowl, regarding the Regional School Caucus and requesting information regarding fiscal issues the District feels should be addressed in the FY07 budget.
- Massachusetts Association of Regional School Districts (MARS) Minutes

- New England School Development Council (NESDEC) letter with Bolton enrollment in Formation.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### Scott Sacra, WCSA Honoree

Mr. Wood reported to the committee that Nashoba Regional High School student Scoff Sacra was recognized by the Worcester County Superintendent's Association for his academic, extra curricular and athletic contributions at the high school. Mr. Wood told the committee that he and Mr. Smith, NRHS principal, attended a luncheon with Mr. Sacra at Assumption College on January 10<sup>th</sup> where he was recognized for his achievements.

### Massachusetts School Building Authority

Mr. Wood told the committee that the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) will be visiting each of the schools in the District to assess needs and collect data as part of their current audit. He said the MSBA is conducting similar audits all across the Commonwealth.

### FY07 Budget

Mr. Wood reported to the committee that the FY07 Budget development is in the final stages. He said that an overview of the FY07 budget would be presented at the January 26<sup>th</sup> School Committee meeting and that an all day presentation of individual cost centers would be conducted on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

### Litigation Update

Mr. Wood updated the committee with regards to current litigation. He told the committee that there are no new developments and at this point the District is waiting for a court date to be scheduled regarding its motion to dismiss.

### Calendar Committee

Mr. Wood reported to the committee that the Calendar Committee will be invited to the first School Committee meeting in February. He said representatives from the Calendar Committee will be presenting recommendations and will be available to answer questions at that time.

### Retirement News

Mr. Wood told the committee that Mrs. Diane Haarmann and Mrs. Nancy Grohmann are retiring from their respective positions in the Guidance Department at the high school after many years of service. Mrs. Grohmann, a Guidance Counselor, has been with the District for 13 years and Mrs. Haarmann, has been with the District for the past 35 years, and has been the Director of Guidance for last 10 years.

### Facilities Update

Mr. Wood gave the committee a Facilities update. He told the committee that the ADA project at the high school is now complete. He said they would see a letter from the Attorney General's Office regarding this in their packet. He thanked all those who worked on this project, including former Assistant Superintendent John Antonucci, Director of Facilities Bill Spratt, along with Jim Brigham, Gary Swenson, and Brad Sticklor. Mr. Wood also told the committee that repairs to the Center School stage ceiling and floor are now complete.

### Second Quarter Financial Report

Mr. Wood told the committee that Mr. King will have this report at the next meeting.

### Annual Town Reports

Mr. Wood told the committee that the Annual Town Report Letters are due January 13<sup>th</sup> and he is currently in the process of putting in the finishing touches.

## **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: 4-4
- Girl's basketball Team is 6-1
- Wrestling Team: 3-4
- Indoor Track: 1-2 (upcoming meet Saturday)

Other Events:

- Model United Nations Club is going to interschool conference at Dartmouth College

Mr. Allison told the committee that auditions for NRHS Drama Society's production of *Singin' In The Rain* have concluded. Lead parts are as follows:

- Roald Osvold as Don Lockwood
- Verity Sayles as Lina
- Ashley Owen as Kathy
- Scott Hogan as Cosmo

Mr. Allison also told the committee that Class Plays will be performed on Friday at 7:00 p.m. and Cabaret Night will be January 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

### Audit Advisory

Nothing to report

### Facilities Subcommittee, by Mr. Wood

Mr. Wood told the committee that the Facilities Subcommittee is scheduling meetings with each of the three District towns and that the Lease Agreements will be sent to the District's attorney for review.

### Finance Subcommittee

Nothing to report.

### Personnel Subcommittee, by Mr. Adams

Mr. Adams reported the Personnel Subcommittee continues to work on Unit C negotiations. He said there would be no Executive Session at this meeting.

### Policy Subcommittee, by Ms. Giunta

Nothing to report.

### SPED PAC

Mr. Burke told the committee that the SPED PAC Committee had not had a December meeting and there was no news to report.

### Stow Building Committee, by Ms. Way

Ms. Way reported that the Stow Building Committee (SBC) met on December 19<sup>th</sup> and January 9<sup>th</sup>, and met with selectmen on January 10<sup>th</sup>. She said the topic of the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting was to discuss how they should move forward. She told the committee that there was a general agreement by the Selectboard that the SBC should be reconstituted and they were planning to put out a posting pertaining to this. Ms. Way said they hoped to get a broad based committee. Ms. Way also told the committee that she resigned from the SBC as of yesterday. Mr. Adams told the committee that Stow Representative Ellen Sturgis had agreed to be the new member of the SBC.

Tri-Town, by Mr. Wood

Mr. Wood told the committee that Tri-Town met the previous evening. He said there was a short agenda which included a brief report of the MAGIC meeting held on December 8<sup>th</sup>, a proposal to televise School Committee meetings. He said there was a general interest to do this by all three towns. Mr. Wood said another topic discussed was space needs planning throughout the District.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Acton Proposal

Information regarding the Acton Proposal was distributed and discussed. Mr. Wood told committee members and those in attendance that the document entitled "*Acton Proposal*" may be found on the District website at <http://www.nrsd.net/documents/schoolcommittee/ActonProposalpdf>. Discussion continued and committee member Ellen Sturgis voiced her concern that this may give legislators an easy out regarding making the fundamental changes that are needed. Mr. Govindan commented that the legislative meetings held recently were supposed to address this issue. But Mr. Wood replied that those meetings did not go a long way in making legislators understand the formulas involved. Mr. Wood told the committee that there is an information meeting in support of the Acton Proposal at the R. J. Grey Junior High School in Acton on January 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**MOTION**

Cathy Giunta, Seconded by Chris Way, move that the Nashoba Regional School Committee support the Chapter 70 Minimum Funding Proposal which would provide a minimum of \$2000 per student to each city and town in Massachusetts. **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Don Adams, Cathy Giunta, Chris Way, Mel Govindan, Ellen Sturgis **ABSTAINED:** Monica CampoBasso **VOTED AND PASSED.**

Dental Plan

Mr. King gave a brief summary and analysis of the Dental Plan options being looked at. His recommendation was to go with Delta Dental given they are the largest carrier in the Commonwealth and they include over 6,000 dentists in Massachusetts.

**MOTION**

Cathy Giunta made a motion to accept the recommendation of adopting Delta Dental as the Dental Insurance carrier for the District. Seconded by Mel Govindan. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

Televising School Committee Meetings

The topic of televising School Committee meetings was discussed. Mr. Wood told the committee that committee member Burke has asked the committee to look at the possibility of televising the School Committee meetings. Mr. Wood said that Mr. King has had conversations with the member towns, which all have or will have the capability for this.

**MOTION**

Brian Burke made the following motion:

"Whereas the Nashoba Regional School Committee approves, in principal, the broadcasting, either live or taped, of the School Committee meetings, be it resolved and moved that it invites the local cable access groups of the member towns to submit proposals for the manner and support of said broadcasts. Seconded by Cathy Giunta. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

Unit A Representation at School Committee meetings

Mr. Wood introduced Mr. Steve Cullinane, NREA Unit A President. Mr. Wood told the committee it is the intention of the NREA to have a representative in attendance at all School Committee meetings.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Nothing to report.

**CITIZEN INPUT**

Bill Joss asked the committee if a press release would be issued with regards to the signing of the Unit A Contract Agreement. Mr. Wood said he has given press interviews in which the topic was discussed and that a formal press release would be forthcoming.

Mr. Joss also inquired about the establishment of a new Stow Building Committee and asked how that would be handled. Ms. Way responded to Mr. Joss that there would be public interviews and that it is the ultimate goal of the SBC to have a broad based committee.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION**

Motion moved by Don Adams to adjourn. Seconded by Brian Burke. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda DeStasi  
Executive Assistant