

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING**

February 1, 2007

**School Committee in Attendance:** Don Adams, Ellen Sturgis, Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Cathy Giunta, David Horne, Mel Govindan, Tricia Kelly

**Absent:** N/A

**Administration in Attendance:** Michael Wood, Superintendent of Schools, George King, Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Tom O'Brien, Director of Athletics, William Spratt, Director of Facilities, Marianne Boswell, Director of Technology, John Smith, NRHS Principal, and Jeremy Roche, NRHS Assistant Principal.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Don Adams called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. in the Media Center, Nashoba Regional High School.

**RESOURCE OFFICER**

Chief Alfano of the Bolton Police Department addressed the committee regarding the Resource Officer position. The chief told the committee that his biggest concern is proactive policing. He said he did not want to make the schools a fortress, but rather a viable space where students would benefit by having a police officer they could come to know and trust as someone they could confide in. Chief Alfano said the proposed position of Resource Officer would be paid for partially by the Town of Bolton. Ms. CampoBasso said she would have a hard time supporting this position if it did not serve all three towns. The Chief said the Resource Officer would have an office at the high school where the primary focus would be, but that they would also work with the elementary and middle schools in all three towns. Discussion ensued. Ms. Kelly inquired as to how payment for this position would be split between the Town of Bolton and the District. Chief Alfano responded that if a new officer is hired for this position the salary would be \$41,000- \$42,000, and then another \$16,000 - \$19,000 for benefits. Mr. Wood said the district's portion of this would be \$40,000 per year. Ms. Kelly asked if the officer would be called out for other calls. Chief Alfano replied that this position would be a dedicated position and that they would not be called away for other calls, but that they would manage the traffic at the high school before and after school and be outside at the Florence Sawyer School as well. Mr. Burke asked if covering extra curricular activities would be part of the responsibilities of this position. Chief Alfano said that in some instances it would be part of the job. He said if there were expected issues at a dance or game then the officer could go to handle the situation and hopefully help the situation from occurring at all, and that would be a key benefit of having a Resource Officer.

**HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS**

Tom O'Brien, Director of Athletics addressed the committee regarding the proposed turf field. He showed a PowerPoint presentation showing the benefits of the turf field over the present field. Among the benefits mentioned by Mr. O'Brien were a decrease in cancellation of games, decreased injury to players, and increased revenue. He said the estimated cost for the turf field would be \$900,000. Mr. Burke asked what the life expectancy of the field would be. Mr. O'Brien replied that the field is guaranteed for 8 yrs, but the life expectancy is probably somewhere around 10-15 yrs. Mr. Wood said that this proposal will be included in the FY 09 budget but is being discussed now because the District will need to decide on a finance model and start the process soon. Ms. Sturgis commented that this proposal may not impact the budget this year but it will impact next year's budget. Mr. Adams agreed and said that the committee will need to talk with the town boards to see where they stand on this proposal. Mr. Spratt told the committee that from a maintenance standpoint the turf would be more cost effective than the current field. Mr. Adams said this proposal should be talked about at Tri Town so the committee could have feedback from the towns regarding this project.

Mr. Burke asked what the offsets were for Athletics. Mr. King responded that the offsets for Athletics total \$144,000. Mr. Adams asked if the committee could receive an analysis of this info. Mr. King replied that he would do that.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

Ms. Boswell, Director of Technology gave a brief overview of the projected Fiber Project. Ms. Boswell told the committee that the proposed plan would provide a more robust network. Ms. Boswell said the plan would be \$287,000 in non-recurring costs. She added that if the District decided to proceed with this project now there would be a 40% refund through e-rate. Mr. King told the committee that the cost will be spread over 5 years. He said there would be no cost from this next year, and estimated the cost for the next 4 years after that to be \$117,000. Mr. King said that because of e-rate the net increase of the \$117,000 would be reduced to about \$97,000 - \$98,000.

### **CAPITAL PROJECTS & SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE**

Mr. Spratt, Director of Facilities was available to answer any questions the committee had regarding the Capital Maintenance and Scheduled Maintenance.

Mr. Wood spoke to the committee regarding the proposed high school/admin renovations. He told the committee that the Town of Bolton will be looking to take over the space where the Central Offices are currently in the Emerson School Building. He said this is the driving force behind the high school renovation/admin project proposal, which would include approximately 10,000 square feet of classroom and lab space. Discussion ensued regarding space needs of the school district. Mr. Adams told the committee they need to find a balance of utilizing the existing space and also meeting the teachers' needs.

### **ALLIED ARTS SCHEDULE**

To be addressed at the next meeting

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

To be addressed at the next meeting

The committee decided to adjourn the meeting as it was approaching 9:00 p.m. and to address the latter two agenda items at the next meeting of the school committee.

### **ADJOURN**

#### **MOTION**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda DeStasi  
Executive Assistant