

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

January 6, 2011

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Burke, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan (left at 7:09 pm), Lynn Colletti (arrived at 6:22 pm) and Reta Rupich

ABSENT: George Babich

ADMINISTRATION IN ATTENDANCE: Michael Wood, Superintendent of Schools

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Burke called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM in the School Committee Conference Room.

CONSENT AGENDA

Topics on consent agenda included:

December 21, 2010 Warrants

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3127	12/24/10	VENDOR	\$ 74,627.39
3128	12/24/10	BENEFIT	\$ 47,120.81
3129	12/24/10	PAYROLL	\$1,162,732.00

January 6, 2011 Warrants

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3130	01/07/11	VENDOR	\$ 252,364.19
3131	01/07/11	BENEFIT	\$ 38,999.70
3132	01/07/11	PAYROLL	\$1,113,809.99

Minutes of the December 9, 2010 meeting

CORRESPONDENCE

Idling Policy Correspondence

Student Recognition – Best Buddies

Mr. Wood recognized the Best Buddies Program Coordinators and students for its recent recognition as a national honoree. Mr. Wood introduced Elizabeth Alberts, Ms. Alberts introduced three students, Kara MacLean (Class of 2009), Adrienne Cummings (Class of 10) and Brendan Aylward (Class of 11) Ms. Alberts provided an overview of how the Best Buddies Program is run and the Best Buddies Prom.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

(The Superintendent's Report is available in full on the NRSD website at <http://www.nrsd.net>)

Mr. Wood reviewed his written report to the committee. Topics included:

- Facilities Update
- Finance Update
- School Committee Meetings go live
- Student Recognitions
- Teaching and Learning Update

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Advisory by Lizzy Cross

Alumni Day

- Graduated Nashoba students will be returning to the high school tomorrow to speak to seniors regarding their experiences in college
- It will take place during the activity period and all seniors are invited to attend
- Seniors were asked to write down questions they would like to have answered to ensure that the presentation will be the most helpful

Midterms

- Mid-year examinations will be taking place from January 18th to the 21st and will mark the end of the first semester
- All days of midterm week will be late-start half-days meaning that school will not begin until 9:40

Early Action/Decision

- This year more seniors than ever, over 36%, participated in some sort of early application process (either Early Action or Early Decision)
- Many are hearing back around this time and regular decision applications are also being sent in
- Guidance has initiated a financial aid presentation to those in the senior class and will be hosting a Scholarship Workshop during all periods of the day on January 14th

Laptops

- The Student Advisory Council is currently looking into a way to allow for laptop access to students
- As of late we have been particularly interested in determining how to create a system that would enable students to have laptops at school without leaving out students who do not own their own laptops
- We are considering an approach in which students with personal laptops would be able to bring them in to school and any other students would be able to rent a laptop from the school for a distinct period of time (this would require us to update our current traveling lab that is comprised of outdated laptops at this time)

Graduation

- Graduation will be held at the DCU Center in Worcester this year after a poll of seniors and parents revealed that it was the preferred option and after the senior class officers and Mr. Roche were able to tour the venue
- The DCU Center has a higher capacity than we are able to provide and will be a stable graduation site despite any weather conditions present at the time
- They will also allow us to decorate the stage to give the graduation the feeling of Chieftain Pride without the challenges currently faced with having graduation at the high school

Finance Subcommittee

Mr. Govindan reported warrants have been approved, nothing else to report.

Personnel Subcommittee

Mr. Burke reported the committee has met and he has appointed Mr. Stan Wysocki to the contract negotiation committee.

Policy Subcommittee

Ms Federspiel reported policy has met twice and tonight will be presenting the Idling Policy and Positive Climate Policy for second reading and School Choice Protocol for a third reading.

ESBC

Ms. Colletti reported ESBC has not met. Ms. Colletti will report at next school committee meeting.

SPED PAC

Mr. Burke reported SPED Pac did not meet in December, the next meeting is January 19th.

NEW BUSINESS

Calendar Committee Update

Mr. Wood reported the calendar committee will be ready for a presentation at the first February meeting. Mr. Wood explained this is an advisory committee to the Superintendent who will take their advise and develop a calendar to present to the School Committee who will develop the final calendar. Ms. Busch asked if there has been any feedback on the early conferences this year. Mr. Wood will ask the committee if they have received any feedback and report back.

Budget Workshop, February 5, 2011

Mr. Wood asked the School Committee if any members were not available on the proposed date. Mr. Burke asked Mr. Govindan to discuss venue and details at the next Finance SubCommittee and advise of final details.

OLD BUSINESS

Positive Climate Policy, Policy JICFB – Second Reading

Ms. Federspiel advised the only change in this policy from the first reading is a re-title of the policy and forms.

MOTION

Nancy Federspiel made a motion to accept the second reading and adoption of the Positive Climate Policy, Policy JICFB seconded by Mel Govindan **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (7-0-0)**

School Choice Protocol – Third Reading

Ms. Federspiel advised the protocol has not changed, but the wordage was revised for clarification. Ms. Colletti raised a concern regarding confusion over the wording regarding the district cap of 25. Ms. Federspiel and Mr. Wood explained the verbiage for clarification. Ms. Federspiel reminded this protocol is reviewed yearly.

MOTION

Mel Govindan made a motion to accept the third reading and adoption of the School Choice Protocol seconded by Nancy Federspiel **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, and Reta Rupich **OPPOSED:** Lynn Colletti **VOTED AND PASSED. (6-1-0)**

Idling Policy, Policy EEAEF – Second Reading

Mr. Wood advised this policy is required by MGL and is also a requirement for the CHIPS program regarding the Stow building project. Mr. Wood advised this policy is for public and staff. Mr. Wood reviewed what is considered idling per the law, which is 5 minutes in a stationary vehicle, for example if you are in a pick-up line that is moving, that is not considered idling. Mr. Burke advised the Superintendent that when this policy is implemented a joint press release with the member town Police Chiefs should be released.

MOTION

Mel Govindan made a motion to accept the second reading and adoption of the Idling Policy, Policy EEAEF seconded by Nancy Federspiel **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (7-0-0)**

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Mr. Lindsay advised he was at the Batco meeting last night and the School Committee Meetings are being broadcast live. Mr. Lindsay stated he would like to express disappointment that the Budget Workshop date was not moved forward as requested by the Bolton Selectman. Mr. Lindsay stated there is a possibility the Town of Bolton will most likely propose a budget with an assessment they develop. The Superintendent and the school committee discussed the legal process for Town/School budget approval. Mr. Wood advised that the proposed day of February 5th is only a week later than previous year's workshop which were held the last Saturday of January in the past.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Committee went into Executive Session at 7:10 pm for the purpose of discussing negotiations with no business to be conducted after and to include Michael Wood and Aleta Masterson.

MOTION

Nancy Federspiel made a motion to enter into an Executive Session at 7:10 pm for the purpose of discussing negotiations with no business to be conducted after executive session to include Michael Wood, and Aleta Masterson.; seconded by Maureen Busch **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

MOTION

Maureen Busch made a motion to reconvene to open session at 7:22 pm; seconded by Kathy Owen **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

MOTION

Maureen Busch made a motion to adjourn at 7:23 pm; seconded by Kathy Owen **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

NRSD School Committee Meeting Minutes, January 6, 2011
Respectfully Submitted,
Aleta Masterson
Executive Assistant