

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

January 7, 2010

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Nancy Federspiel, George Babich, Mel Govindan, Maureen Busch, and Lynn Colletti (arrived at 6:10)

ABSENT: Richard Fly

ADMINISTRATION IN ATTENDANCE: Michael Wood, Superintendent of Schools, George King, Assistant Superintendent

CALL TO ORDER

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

A moment of silence was observed for Harold Brown Jr. who was killed while serving our country on Wednesday, December 30, 2009 at Forward Operating Base Chapman in Afghanistan. Mr. Brown is the son of Barbara and Harold Brown Sr. of Bolton.

STUDENT RECOGNITIONS

Guppy International Students

Mr. Wood presented a certificate of recognition to Luther Burbank students, Emily Steele and Kate Savell for winning the International Fancy Guppy Association's Junior Championship for 2009.

Certificate of Academic Excellence-MA Superintendent's Award

Mr. Wood presented the Certificate of Academic Excellence-MA Superintendent's Award to Nashoba High School Student Samantha Lindsay. Yivan Jiang also received this award but was not present to accept.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Ex-Officio Report by Mr. Nicoll

Athletics

Wrestling

- hosting the Demeo duals this Saturday at Nashoba, named in memory of wrestler Frank Demeo. It will feature 7 teams and start at 9:30 with a special presentation.

XC skiing/alpine skiing

- had their first competitions this week. Alpine had its first competition at Nashoba valley

Boys'/Girls' Indoor Track

- performed well at the MSTCA winter festival in Boston over holidays they won first in their league meet vs. Gardner next league meet Saturday v. Marlboro

Hockey

- tied Littleton 2-2 on 1/6

Boys' basketball

- 1st win Tues v. Lowell Catholic, game this friday v. Quabbin

Girls' basketball

- hosted another successful Nashoba invitational, with Groton-Dunstable, Oakmont, and Maynard among the teams in attendance.

Student Council Food Drive

- collected 2,000 items for Holiday Food Drive
- boxes placed in classrooms and students were asked to volunteer
- food donated to community food pantries

Rachel's Challenge

- before break, a speaker from Rachel's Challenge spoke about the events of the Columbine tragedy.
- his niece, Rachel Scott, was the first person to be killed. He wanted to continue the goals of stopping bullying and helping others that she wrote about extensively before she died.
- his presentation was extremely moving and talked about accepting others.
- a club, called Friends of Rachel, has been made to help spread a community spirit in the school and promote companionship & understanding

Operations Subcommittee

Mr. Burke stated we only had one full SC meeting in December however, Operations met on December 22nd in which the December 3rd faculty meeting feedback was discussed. Ms. Federspiel will be presenting the findings of the December 3rd faculty forum tonight. Mr. Govindan advised that the audit committee met and received the audit from Powers and Sullivan, there is nothing to report as everything was fine, a full report will be presented at the next school committee meeting.

Policy Subcommittee

Ms. Federspiel provided a handout detailing the feedback from the December 3rd Faculty/Staff meeting with the School Committee. Ms. Federspiel reviewed the handout. No additional comments were added to Ms. Federspiel's report.

SPED PAC

Mr. Burke reported the next meeting is on January 20, 2010, the topic of the meeting will be "Speech and Language Skills". Mr. Burke also stated there will be a basketball program in Emerson/FSS and the high school this Sunday for special needs students. This program will bring all sped students together from across the district.

ESBC

Ms. Colletti reported the ESBC did meet the historical consultant who is preparing a response to the Mass Historical Commission regarding the stone building at The Center School. Fundraising is finding success through enrichment activities on the half days.

APPROVAL OF THE December 3, 2009 Minutes

MOTION

Mel Govindan made a motion to table the minutes of December 3, 2009 pending amendments and seconded by George Babich.

APPROVAL OF THE WARRANTS OF December 11, 2009

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3044	12/11/09	VENDOR	\$ 238,427.88
3045	12/11/09	BENEFIT	\$ 41,754.44
3046	12/11/09	PAYROLL	\$1,116,565.89

APPROVAL OF THE WARRANTS OF December 24, 2009

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3047	12/24/09	VENDOR	\$ 437,183.78
3048	12/24/09	BENEFIT	\$ 285,457.05
3049	12/24/09	PAYROLL	\$1,125,735.28

APPROVAL OF THE WARRANTS OF January 8, 2010

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3050	01/08/10	VENDOR	\$ 147,861.63
3051	01/08/10	BENEFIT	\$ 530,919.29
3052	01/08/10	PAYROLL	\$1,087,320.30

MOTION

Monica CampoBasso made a motion to approve the warrants as detailed in the memos dated 12/10/09 and 12/22/09, noted above and approved by the Operations Subcommittee on 12/10/09 and 12/22/09 and the warrants as detailed in the memo dated 1/7/10 and noted above and seconded by Mel Govindan **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Nancy Federspiel, George Babich, Mel Govindan, Lynn Colletti and Maureen Busch and **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (7-0-0)**

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from Ann Ryan regarding Reading Recovery
- Letter from Michael Caligiuri regarding budget concerns
- Letter from Gail Tijan & Oleg Stakhanov regarding full day kindergarten lottery
- Email from Debbie Owen regarding requested schedule

Mr. Govindan requested a full report of Reading Recovery from the administration to be added to a future agenda. Mr. Burke asked the committee if they wanted a report from administration or if they want to discuss this during budget discussions. The committee censuses were to discuss during budget discussions.

Ms. Federspiel advised she received a phone call regarding a movement of parents in Bolton to make the cafeteria more "green". Ms. Federspiel requested the parent put this in writing to include in future correspondence.

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:

- FY11 Budget Timeline
- Memorandum of Understanding: Race to the Top
- Executive Session
- Superintendent's Evaluation Process and Documents

NEW BUSINESS

School Facilities Use

Paul Granese attended the meeting tonight to discuss the facilities use fees at Nashoba. Mr. Granese provided a handout detailing the structure and history of New England Heat AAU Advanced Basketball and a new fee structure proposal, stating at the current fee, the organization will not be able to afford to stay in the district. Mr. Wood advised that he would like to come to an agreement on fees but it is a district policy, the New England Heat AAU Advanced Basketball is a for profit organization, to waive policy for one organization would open it up to other organization looking to have the policy waived as well.

Ms. CampoBasso asked for an explanation of the fee scale. Mr. King provided an explanation of the scale for nonprofit and for profit organizations. Mr. Burke advised they should file as a non-profit organization and they could rent the facilities at the nonprofit rate.

School Committee Meeting Schedule

Mr. Burke advised the meeting schedule was voted in the spring and we have varied from this version. Mr. Burke asked if everyone felt comfortable that we have not voted a new calendar with the changes. The committee agreed no vote needed. Mr. Wood advised is he proposing to include community interaction at the January 21st meeting and cancel the January 23rd meeting.

Ms. CampoBasso advised she is concerned about the time frame of the budget planning, proposing that we present the budget before the community input. Mr. Babich agrees that we should present a budget and then get the community input.

Ms. Busch stated "first we need to make it clear that we are going to have sufficient cuts this year and that an information sheet should be provided to the public prior the any meeting to help focus them in directions that can be fruitful".

Mr. Burke stated he does not think we will get the communities attention until we propose a budget, Mr. Burke stated he would like the Saturday meeting be held in February after the budget has been proposed to the school committee

Ms. Colletti stated she feels that the community will want to have an input before the budget is proposed not after.

The committee came to an agreement to hold the February 4th meeting at FSS and start at 4:30 to conduct regular business first and invite the public to attend.

Second Quarter Finances

Mr. King provided an overview of the second quarter finances which were detailed in the memo to Michael Wood dated January 7, 2010 and posted on the School Committee SharePoint.

Ms. CampoBasso stated she is concerned for Mr. King, that he can handle two full time jobs and feels his compensation should be reevaluated. Mr. King stated he has welcomed the opportunity and is happy to remain there as long as needed.

Race to the Top Memorandum of Understanding

Mr. Wood reviewed the Race to the Top Memorandum of Understanding and explained some of the requirements the association would have to agree with. Mr. Wood was originally going to advise not to sign but after reconsideration is recommending the memorandum be signed because in the future we would be blocked out of some the opportunities. Mr. Wood recommended the school committee to authorize the Chair to sign as he will be signing. Mr. Wood stated the association has not had a chance to meet to discuss this yet.

Ms. CampoBasso stated her understanding is that we can withdrawal if an agreement is not reached on an evaluation tool. Mr. Wood replied that is correct.

Mr. Govindan asked "what if the union does not sign?" Mr. Wood replied it is mute point if they do not sign as all three parties must sign.

Ms. Colletti asked for clarification on how we know this is not binding. Mr. Wood replied it is only binding if we apply for funds.

MOTION

Mel Govindan made a motion to authorize the Superintendent and School Committee Chair to sign the Race to the Top Memorandum of Understanding seconded by George Babich **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Nancy Federspiel, George Babich, Mel Govindan and Maureen Busch **OPPOSED:** Lynn Colletti **VOTED AND PASSED. (6-1-0)**

Superintendent's Review (Process Discussion)

Mr. Burke stated that this is a process that the school committee does twice a year and all documents can be found on the SharePoint site. Ms. CampoBasso pointed out the reason this is done twice a year is to allow the committee members to reflect before and after budget season. Mr. Burke asked the committee members to fill out the evaluation prior to budget season and after budget and forward to him, as they will be used for the yearly Superintendent evaluation.

OLD BUSINESS

None

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

School Committee went into Executive Session at 8:46 pm for the purpose of reviewing and recommending executive session minutes for release to the public and to discuss collective bargaining strategy with no business to be conducted after the executive session.

MOTION

Monica CampoBasso made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 8:46 for the purpose of reviewing and recommending executive session minutes for release to the public and to discuss collective bargaining strategy with no business to be conducted after the executive session; seconded by Mel Govindan **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Nancy Federspiel, George Babich, Mel Govindan, Lynn Colletti and Maureen Busch and **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (7-0-0)**

MOTION

Monica CampoBasso made a motion to reconvene to open session at 9:22 pm; seconded by Mel Govindan **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Nancy Federspiel, George Babich, Mel Govindan, Lynn Colletti and Maureen Busch and **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (7-0-0)**

MOTION

Mel Govindan made a motion to adjourn at 9:23 pm seconded by Maureen Busch **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Monica CampoBasso, Nancy Federspiel, George Babich, Mel Govindan, Lynn Colletti and Maureen Busch and **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (7-0-0)**

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Aleta Masterson
Executive Assistant

NOTES