

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

October 14 2010

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, George Babich and Reta Rupich

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.

Mr. Burke recognized three Stow Webelo's attending the meeting tonight to earn merits towards a badge.

Mr. Burke asked the committee if any objection to moving the student report out of agenda order to report next; no objections were raised.

Ex-Officio Report by Lizzy Cross

Standardized Testing

- SATs were held this weekend with many students taking advantage of the test this time of year, especially seniors looking to take advantage of the final opportunity to raise scores before early applications are due, however, it was not held at Nashoba so students were required to find other venues for the test
- The PSAT will be held at Nashoba this Saturday, October 16th for sophomores and juniors and is a qualifying test for a National Merit Scholarship

Announced National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists

- Nashoba was lucky enough to have four students qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Semifinals, meaning these students scored within the top 16,000 out of 1.5 million students who took the PSATs last year
- The students are Thomas Granger, Dylan Plaskon, Caleb Wisch, and Nicholas Alberts
- Nashoba also boasts a number of Commended Students meaning students who scored in the top 50,000

FOX High School Friday

- The Nashoba at Wachusett game was voted to be shown on FOX High School Friday last Friday, October 8th
- Nashoba was the underdog with Wachusett having had a perfect season last season (including winning the Superbowl) and had not lost a game since December 2, 2008
- In a huge upset, Nashoba beat the Mountaineers 21-14
- It was a great game with excellent school spirit on both sides

Wicked

- The Nashoba music department was able to take many students on a field trip to see the musical Wicked in Boston this past Tuesday
- Students had an amazing time and were grateful for the opportunity to see such a wonderful show

Early Applications

- Early Decision and Early Action applications are due soon (November 1st or 15th for most) for seniors wanting to apply to college early
- With the upcoming end of the quarter (October 29th) many seniors are hoping to boost their grades that last little bit in order to send in the best application possible

- The guidance department continues to be an invaluable asset around this time of year and I, for one, know I would be absolutely lost without the assistant of my guidance counselor

CONSENT AGENDA

Topics on consent agenda included:

October 1, 2010 Warrants

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3109	10/01/10	VENDOR	\$ 181,140.03
3110	10/01/10	BENEFIT	\$1,177,215.02
3111	10/01/10	PAYROLL	\$1,142,636.41

October 14, 2010 Warrants

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3112	10/15/10	VENDOR	\$ 370,801.65
3113	10/15/10	BENEFIT	\$ 18,635.70
3114	10/15/10	PAYROLL	\$1,144,753.41

Minutes of the September 16, 2010 meeting

CORRESPONDENCE

None

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 – Stow Elementary School Project
- Facilities – Track at the high school
- Finance Update
- Human Resources Update
- Professional Development
- School Committee Sub Committee meetings update
- Calendar Change Recommendation
- Teaching and Learning – MCAS Action Plans
- Teaching and Learning – American International College
- Teaching and Learning – Private School Approval

Mr. Wood stated that members of the member towns Board of Health are in attendance tonight. Mr. Wood explained the mosquito spraying situation in the towns as it relates to the schools. The members of the Board of Health introduced themselves. Jim Garreffo provided an overview of the mosquito testing and findings in the district that lead to the spraying. Each Board of Health Town Member explained the process in their respective town. Lancaster and Stow are both members of the Central Mass Mosquito Control, Bolton is not, but is on the warrant for Town Meeting to join. Mr. Burke asked Selectman Lindsay to have contact Central Mass Mosquito Control to present at their Town Meeting.

The committee discussed how to proceed with the MCAS presentation and reporting out to the community. The committee decided to have a workshop at the next meeting. The administration will put together a presentation to be televised on the town local cable stations.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance SubCommittee

Mr. Govindan reported the finance subcommittee met twice in addition to approving warrants, other topics were addressed including a study of the athletic complex at the high school and the signage for the Lancaster schools.

Personnel SubCommittee

Mr. Burke reported the members of the subcommittee met and shared ideas. The next meeting is October 21st at 5:30 pm in the School Committee Room.

Policy SubCommittee

Ms. Federspiel reported the subcommittee met last Thursday. School choice was the main topic for this meeting. Mr. Wood is compiling a number of scenarios for options to revise the policy for next year, the committee will meet again on Oct. 21st and Mr. Wood will present his scenarios. Ms. Federspiel also stated the Building Use Policy was reviewed and will also be discussed at the next meeting. Ms. Federspiel stated the Acceptable Use Policy will be voted on second reading tonight.

ESBC

Ms. Colletti reported they committee met on Monday and the project is moving on schedule. Ms. Colletti also stated the Collaborative for High Performing Schools Resolution will be voted on tonight.

SPED PAC

Mr. Burke reported next meeting is Tuesday, October 26th and a Bolton resident will be the guest speaker.

NEW BUSINESS

Collaborative for High Performing Schools Resolution

Mr. Wood stated there are two letters requiring Mr. Burke's signature, which are provided in the meeting packets. Mr. Wood reviewed the two letters that will require Mr. Burke's signature, which contain two resolutions, the EnergyStar resolution which would require the purchase of EnergyStar equipment and appliances for all new purchases for the Pompositticut/Center School; the second resolution is to participate in the U.S. EPA's Tools for Schools program

MOTION

George Babich made a motion to require EnergyStar equipment and appliances for all new purchases for the Pompositticut/Center School seconded by Nancy Federspiel **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, George Babich and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0-0)**

MOTION

George Babich made a motion to participate in the U.S. EPA's Tools for Schools program seconded by Lynn Colletti **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, George Babich and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0-0)**

Mr. Burke requests an advanced copy of the ESBC minutes, even if in draft form, if the school committee is taking an action on something the ESBC has voted on.

Fields Use Study

Mr. Wood provided an overview of the proposal from the Gale Associates to do a Fields Use Study. Mr. Wood stated the Finance SubCommittee has voted to approve this study. Ms. Bushe stated that whether we act on this now or not, the study needs to be done to show us what are options are. Mr. Govindan reviewed the repairs/patchwork that have been completed over the past few years and stated that these continued fixes are not the long term solution and some of the fields are approaching a safety hazard for our students to play on. Ms. Rupich stated the markings on the track are not metric markings and some officials have refused to hold meets there and was surprised after viewing the fields how they are overlapped. Ms. Federspiel questioned if using funds for this study is a better option that putting the money into the track. Ms. Federspiel wanted to bring to the attention that the last time this was discussed at town meeting there were a number of citizen concerns regarding turf. Mr. King replied that a lot has changed in the three years since then in the materials used for turf construction.

MOTION

Mel Govindan made a motion to approve the Field Use Study to be done by Gale Associates as outlined in the document to Bill Spratt dated October 4, 2010 seconded by George Babich **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, George Babich and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0-0)**

Proposed Calendar Change

Mr. Wood advised that after the calendar was approved the Association brought forward their concerns about the time spent around parent teacher conference. Mr. Wood stated the Association feels strongly that having conferences for a full 12 hours is not in accordance with past practices. Mr. Wood is asking that October 29th will be used for conferences instead of PD which is on the present calendar.

MOTION

Mel Govindan made a motion to change the 2010-2011 school year calendar to reflect October 29, 2010 as parent teacher conference for K-8 in place of professional development time as original scheduled seconded by Kathy Owen **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, George Babich and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0-0)**

Private School Approval – Trivium

Mr. Wood advised he visited Trivium and they have met all the items on the checklist and is recommending them for private approval within the district.

MOTION

George Babich made a motion to accept the recommendation of Michael Wood as noted in the memo dated 10/8/2010 to approve the Trivium School, a private school within the Nashoba District and seconded by Maureen Busch **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, George Babich and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0-0)**

School Physician Approval – Dr. Fitzpatrick

Mr. Wood advised is his requesting approval of Dr. Fitzpatrick to be appointed as school physician for the district. Mr. Wood advised this position is used primarily as council.

MOTION

Mel Govindan made a motion to appoint Dr. Fitzpatrick as school physician as recommended in the memo from Pat Trahman to Michael Wood, dated October 14, 2010 seconded by Nancy Federspiel **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, George Babich and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0-0)**

OLD BUSINESS

Acceptable Use Policy – Second Reading and approval

Ms. Federspiel stated the policy has not been changed since first reading and the policy bring us in compliance to accept Erate funds.

MOTION

Nancy Federspiel made a motion to accept the second reading and approval of the Acceptable Use Policy, Policy # IJNDB seconded by George Babich **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, George Babich and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0-0)**

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Mr. Lindsay advised that next Thursday the Selectman will be holding a preliminary budget meeting, where suggested assessments will determine and reported back to the district. Ms. Rupich and Ms. Federspiel have been invited to this meeting.

MOTION

George Babich made a motion to adjourn at 8:19 pm seconded by Reta Rupich **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, George Babich and Reta Rupich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (8-0-0)**

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Aleta Masterson
Executive Assistant