

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

December 9, 2010

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE:** Brian Burke, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch (arrived at 6:05), Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, George Babich, Lynn Colletti (arrived at 6:08) and Reta Rupich (left at 7:31)

**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.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Topics on consent agenda included:

**November 26, 2010 Warrants**

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3121	11/26/10	VENDOR	\$ 303,842.39
3122	11/26/10	BENEFIT	\$ 823,563.51
3123	11/26/10	PAYROLL	\$1,154,663.14

**December 10, 2010 Warrants**

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3124	12/10/10	VENDOR	\$ 497,509.92
3125	12/10/10	BENEFIT	\$ 49,039.73
3126	12/10/10	PAYROLL	\$1,134,345.49

Minutes of the November 9, 2010 meeting

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Resident Email regarding Hale Traffic  
Bolton Selectman Correspondence regarding budget

**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
- MASC Resolutions vote outcome
- Teaching and Learning
  - Kindergarten Lottery
  - Private School Approvals

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Student Advisory** by Lizzy Cross  
No Report

Mr. Cote, who is attending the meeting to present the Positive Climate Policy, provided an update on the recent activities at the high school.

### **Finance SubCommittee**

Mr. Govindan reported there is no new business; warrants were approved with all questions answered. Mr. Burke stated he is discussing with administration to hold a Saturday budget meeting, the date of February 5<sup>th</sup> is proposed.

### **Personnel SubCommittee**

Mr. Burke reported a meeting that was scheduled for last week was cancelled, after the first of the year meetings will continue.

### **Policy SubCommittee**

Ms Federspiel reported the school choice protocol and use of buildings policy will be presented for second reading tonight and the positive climate and idling policy will be presented for first reading.

### **ESBC**

Ms. Colletti reported that everything is on schedule and steel should be arriving next week.

### **SPED PAC**

Mr. Burke reported last meeting of the year was held, the next meeting will be in January 3<sup>rd</sup> and he will report out on that meeting at the next school committee meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Private School Approvals**

Mr. Wood advised he visited Dr. Franklin Perkins School, New River Academy, Browning Elementary/Lancaster Academy, Robert F. Kennedy Action Corps., Inc, and Stepping Stones and they have met all the requirements on the checklist and is recommending them for private school approval within the district.

## **MOTION**

Nancy Federspiel made a motion to accept the recommendation of Michael Wood as noted in the memo dated 12/2/2010 to approve the Dr. Franklin Perkins School, New River Academy, Browning Elementary/So. Lancaster Academy, Robert F. Kennedy Action Corps., Inc, and Stepping Stones, private schools within the Nashoba District and seconded by Mel Govindan **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)**

**Mabel Hale Fund Request**

Ms. Busch provided an explanation of the fund and explained \$1500 is being requested tonight, which is for a half day dance program at the Hale Middle School.

**MOTION**

Maureen Busch made a motion to approve the request from the Mabel Hale Trust Fund Committee for \$1500 to be used for the half day dance program at Hale Middle School as outlined in the memo dated 12/6/10 from George King 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)**

**Policy**

**School Choice Protocol – Second Reading and approval**

Ms. Federspiel stated the policy has not been changed since first reading. Ms. Busch stated feels this new protocol completely undoes what we did last year and then some, and she believes the limits and buffer are “overkill”. Ms. Busch stated she does not feel the policy is clear on the 5 new students per year statement and the Kindergarten waitlist sentence and how intradistrict transfers affect the buffer and would like clarification. Ms. Busch also voiced her concern over the lack of action taking on correspondence regarding school choice in the Spring and the over action taken on correspondence this Fall. The committee discussed clarifying language.

**MOTION**

Maureen Busch made a motion to send the School Choice Protocol back to the Policy Committee for language clarification around open seats and kindergarten lottery sentences seconded by Kathy Owen **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Maureen Busch, and Kathy Owen **OPPOSED:** Reta Rupich, Nancy Federspiel and George Babich **ABSTAINED:** Mel Govindan **VOTED AND PASSED (4-3-1)**

**Use of School Facilities, Policy KF – Second Reading and approval**

Mr. King stated the policy has not been changed since first reading and reviewed the changes in the policy revision.

**MOTION**

Mel Govindan made a motion to accept the second reading as amended and adoption of the Use of School Facilities, Policy KF 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)**

**Positive Climate Policy, Policy JICFB – First Reading**

Mr. Wood introduced Brian Cote and Pat Trahman. Ms. Trahman provided a review of the process of the development of the plan and policy. Mr. Cote explained the plan is a “breathing” document that will change and evolve each year. Mr. Burke stated he would like to see the policy/ plan name reviewed, he is not comfortable with “positive climate”. The committee thanked Mr. Cote and Ms. Trahman for their work on developing this plan/policy. The policy subcommittee will review the policy name at the next policy meeting in January.

## MOTION

Mel Govindan made a motion to accept the first reading of the Positive Climate Policy, Policy JICFB 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)**

### **Idling Policy, Policy EEAEF – First Reading**

Mr. Wood stated that this policy was developed to meet the criteria of the CHPS Program with regards to the Stow Building Project. The committee asked how this was going to be enforced. Mr. Wood stated we will start with signage.

## MOTION

George Babich made a motion to accept the first reading of the Idling Policy, Policy EEAEF – First Reading 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)**

### **FY12 BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS**

Mr. Wood provided a Preliminary FY12 Budget Considerations handout. Mr. King reviewed the handout which detailed the districts revenue and expense situation going into the budget development. Mr. Wood suggested the longer we wait to vote a budget closer to our March 15<sup>th</sup> deadline the better as we will have a better idea of what the States/Federal budgets will look like. Mr. Burke stated what he is taken from this presentation is

Mr. Lindsay questioned the use of the E&D and asked what the current balance of the E&D account is. Mr. Lindsay stated that the later the school committee votes on the budget the harder it is on the towns to develop their budgets. Mr. Wood reviewed the process of the towns voting the school committee budget. Mr. King stated if there was zero percent assessment the NRSD deficit would be 2.8 million dollars.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Heart Study**

Mr. Burke reviewed the recommendations the Athletic Director made earlier on this topic. Mr. Burke stated he wants the committee to make the determination if these recommendations are something the school committee should act upon. The committee held an open discussion.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**

Mr. Lindsay stated he would like the district to look at the employee contribution for health care, stating that employees taking on a greater percent of their health care cost may be a point of negotiation. Mr. Lindsay also stated he likes the idea of the Positive spin on the bullying prevention but prefers the word environment to climate.

Mr. Wood stated the district administration and school committee's thoughts are with Mr. & Mrs. O'Shea who lost their daughter Charlotte to cancer yesterday, Charlotte was a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student at the Florence Sawyer School.

## MOTION

George Babich made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 pm; seconded by Mel Govindan **IN FAVOR:** Brian Burke, Lynn Colletti, Nancy Federspiel, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen, Mel Govindan, and George Babich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (7-0-0)**

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Aleta Masterson  
Executive Assistant