

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

May 10, 2012

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Nancy Federspiel, Reta Rupich, Maureen Busch, Kathy Owen (left meeting at 7:09 pm), George Babich, Jeff Odell, and Lynn Colletti (arrived at 6:33 pm)

ABSENT: Julie Fay

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

Ms. Federspiel called for a moment of silence in honor of William Hurley a 2011 graduate of Nashoba Regional High School who was killed in a car accident last week.

CONSENT AGENDA

Topics on consent agenda included:

May 11, 2012 Warrants

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
3239	5/11/12	VENDOR	\$ 714,198.45
3240	5/11/12	BENEFIT	\$ 15,785.50
3241	5/11/12	PAYROLL	\$1,123,579.81

Minutes of the April 26, 2012 meeting

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Advisory Report

No Report

Finance SubCommittee

Ms. Busch reported the warrants were approved. The committee will discuss the bids for the Field and Track Renovation and Reuse Project later tonight.

Personnel SubCommittee

No Report

Policy SubCommittee

Ms. Federspiel reported the committee met to continue work on the Social Network policy and protocol and the Personal Device Use Policy, the revised policies will be presented for second readings tonight.

ESBC

Mr. Wood reported the committee has not met, the next meeting is Monday.

SPED PAC

No Report

CORRESPONDENCE

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Wood reviewed his Superintendent's report; *(The Superintendent's Report is available in full on the NRSD website at <http://www.nrsd.net>)*

Topics included:

- Annual Town Meeting Wrap Up
- Nashoba Regional High School Nationally Ranking
- Hazmat Incident at NRHS
- The Center School Project Update
- Tammy Award Nominees Announcement

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Town Meeting Update

Ms. Federspiel announced the Track and Field Project and District School Budget both passed. Ms. Federspiel thanked the members of the committee for their attendance and work at the Annual Town Meetings. Ms. Busch stated at the Stow Town Meeting no one asked any questions regarding the school district budget or asked for it to be brought forward. Mr. Wood advised he is going to speak to the town moderators about the process of the school committee members being able to stay at the front of the room to present and answer questions regarding district relate warrant items.

Field and Track Renovation and Reuse Bids Update

Mr. King advised six competitive bids were received and provided a spreadsheet listing the bidders and the amount of their bids, these bids are currently being reviewed to ensure they are compliant with the bid specs. Mr. King advised he expects the bid to be awarded in the next couple days and asked the committee to make a motion to award the bid to the lowest bidder listed on the spreadsheet. Mr. King advised the bid is a lump sum bid so therefore the bid must be awarded to the lowest bidder as long as references are verified.

MOTION

Maureen Busch made a motion to authorize the administration to award the bid to the lowest qualified bidder and enter into a contract with same seconded by Reta Rupich **IN FAVOR:** Kathy Owen, Nancy Federspiel, Reta Rupich, Maureen Busch, Jeff Odell and George Babich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

Discussion on Chinese at High School

Mr. Wood advised that about four years ago we had a two year study of the foreign language program, one of the pieces discussed was to add mandarin Chinese to the high school program of studies. In survey conducted of 8-12 graders approx. 300 students responded they would be interested in Chinese. Mr. Wood asked the committee their thoughts on adding this to the program. Ms. Federspiel stated she thinks it might be a little late for next year as schedules are being made and classes chosen and advised she would rather see it introduced the following year. Ms. Federspiel advised she would like to see if any area schools have this language and how the program is doing in those schools.

Ms. Colletti stated she believes a language teacher has to be engaging and stated she has not met very many language teachers that are engaging and asked if an online course would be an option. Mr. Wood stated we do have virtual high school but thinks a foreign language would be hard to learn on line. After an open discussion, it was the general consensus of the committee that if this was to be implemented it will be in the 2013-2014 school year.

OLD BUSINESS

Policy IJNDD – Online Communication Policy and Protocol

Ms. Federspiel advised the policy subcommittee met and stated the committee reached a decision that the subcommittee wanted the full committee to review and provide their feedback. Ms. Federspiel advised the name was changed to cover all online communications not just those communications that are conducted on social network sites. Ms. Federspiel asked the committee their thoughts on allowing Face book to be used in the classroom for communicating with parents and students. An open discussion ensued regarding the teacher's responsibility and the policy expectations of the teachers. Ms. Federspiel advised the subcommittee will meet again to continue working on the policy and protocol and the policy will be brought back to the full committee for a second reading.

Policy IJNDE – Personal Devices Policy, Second Reading

Ms. Federspiel advised this policy is to address the issue of students and staff using their own personal devices in the classrooms. The committee discussed the pros and cons of this policy for educational purposes and distractions in the classroom and the issue of the "have and have nots", how to handle the students who do not have their own device. Mr. Wood stated in long term thinking this could help the district as currently there are not enough computer labs for the need. Mr. Wood advised the teachers would manage the class and decide if the device is need for that particular class or not. Mr. Wood also advised there would be a guest server to use for personal devices to protect the district server and the same firewall would be set up to stop users from using unauthorized sites. Mr. Odell asked that we invite a couple of tech teachers to come in and discuss their thoughts on this policy. Ms. Federspiel advised teachers have been advising on the policy from the beginning. After a group discussion on security and network issues it was the censuses of the committee that the policy will be in effect for the faculty for the remainder of the year and in the Fall the administration will report on this pilot and a the school committee will make a decision based on the report if the students pilot phase should be implemented and what grade should do the pilot.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

NONE

Ms. Federspiel thanked Mr. Babich for his service on the school committee, as this is Mr. Babich's last meeting of his term and he will not be running for re-election.

MOTION

George Babich made a motion to adjourn at 7:34 pm seconded by Jeff Odell **IN FAVOR:** Nancy Federspiel, Reta Rupich, Maureen Busch, Lynn Colletti, Jeff Odell and George Babich **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (6-0-0)**

Respectfully Submitted,
Aleta Masterson
Executive Assistant