

**NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Remote meeting via Zoom Technology

This meeting was held remotely, the Nashoba Regional School Committee adheres to Open Meeting Law (OML) Regulations, which have been altered. Here is a link to that order: <https://malegislature.gov/Laws/SessionLaws/Acts/2021/Chapter20>

November 3, 2021

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE:** Leah Vivirito, Karen Devine, Dr. Mary McCarthy, Rich Eckel, Amy Cohen, Brett Collins, Mike Horesh, Stephen Rubinstein, Joseph Gleason and Shawn Winsor

**ABSENT:** Sharon Poch

**ADMINISTRATION IN ATTENDANCE:** Superintendent Downing, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maguire, Director of Business and Operations, Pat Marone, and Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Joan DeAngelis

**6:00 PM CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairperson Vivirito called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**6:03 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares regarding the matter of Maria del Rosario vs. NRSD Regional School District et al. (Docket No. 1885CV01899); and pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares regarding the matter of Maria del Rosario vs. Nashoba Regional School District and Bureau of Special Education Appeals (C.A. No 19-cv-40107TS)

**MOTION**

Mike Horesh moved to go into Executive Session at 6:02 pm pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares regarding the matter of Maria del Rosario vs. NRSD Regional School District et al. (Docket No. 1885CV01899); Executive Session will include the School Committee, Superintendent Downing, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Joan DeAngelis and district legal counsel, Attorney Kevin Freytag and Attorney Sasha Gill. School Committee will reconvene to open session at the conclusion of Executive Session.; seconded by Rich Eckel

Chairperson Vivirito declared that discussion of strategy with respect to each litigation, in an open meeting, may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body.

**Roll Call:**

Leah Vivirito	Yes
Karen Devine	Yes
Dr. Mary McCarthy	Yes
Mike Horesh	Yes
Rich Eckel	Yes
Amy Cohen	Yes
Joseph Gleason	Yes
Brett Collins	Yes

Shawn Winsor Yes

Steve Rubinstein Yes

**VOTED AND PASSED. (10-0-0)**

And;

Executive Session pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares regarding the matter of Maria del Rosario vs. Nashoba Regional School District and Bureau of Special Education Appeals (C.A. No 19-cv-40107TS)

**MOTION**

Mike Horesh moved to go into Executive Session at 6:04 pm pursuant to Mass. General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares regarding the matter of Maria del Rosario vs. Nashoba Regional School District and Bureau of Special Education Appeals (C.A. No 19-cv-40107TS); Executive Session will include the School Committee, Superintendent Downing, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Joan DeAngelis and district legal counsel, Attorney Kevin Freytag and Attorney Sasha Gill. School Committee will reconvene to open session at the conclusion of Executive Session: seconded by Stephen Rubinstein

Chairperson Vivirito declared that discussion of strategy with respect to each litigation, in an open meeting, may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body.

**Roll Call:**

Leah Vivirito Yes

Karen Devine Yes

Dr. Mary McCarthy Yes

Mike Horesh Yes

Rich Eckel Yes

Amy Cohen Yes

Joseph Gleason Yes

Brett Collins Yes

Shawn Winsor Yes

Steve Rubinstein Yes

**VOTED AND PASSED. (10-0-0)**

Committee returned to open session at 7:00 pm

**7:01 PM CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Keely Nowosacki, Stow Resident, provided citizens comments on her feelings on the DESE masking mandates.

**7:04 PM CONSENT AGENDA**

Topics on consent agenda include:

Warrants of November 5, 2021

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
4203	11/05/21	VENDOR FY22	\$ 245,442.51

4204	11/05/21	AP ACH FY 22	\$ 96,759.16
4205	11/05/21	BENEFIT FY22	\$ 12,355.87
4206	11/05/21	PAYROLL FY22	\$1,474,148.75

Draft Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2021

**MOTION**

Mike Horesh moved to approve the consent agenda of November 3, 2021 containing the meeting minutes of October 20, 2021 and the warrants of November 5, 2021; seconded by Amy Cohen

**Roll Call:**

Leah Vivirito	Yes
Karen Devine	Yes
Dr. Mary McCarthy	Yes
Mike Horesh	Yes
Rich Eckel	Yes
Amy Cohen	Yes
Joseph Gleason	Yes
Brett Collins	Yes
Shawn Winsor	Yes
Steve Rubinstein	Yes

**VOTED AND PASSED. (10-0-0)**

**7:05 PM NRHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Chairperson Vivirito asked the two new student representatives, Sonia Nicholson (grade 12) and Dan Aube (grade 11) to introduce themselves and provide a little background on themselves. Chairperson Vivirito advised the Student Representatives to raise their hand during the meeting if they have anything they have a question on or would like to contribute to a conversation.

**7:10 PM SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Superintendent Downing and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maguire provided district updates; the report can be viewed in its entirety [here](#).

**7:39 PM NEW BUSINESS**

**7:39 PM Wolf Mascot Video**

Dr. Kate Boynton, Principal of NRHS, provided a video depicting the student enthusiasm for the new NRHS mascot, the Nashoba wolves.

**7:48 PM Superintendent Evaluation Process**

Chairperson Vivirito and Dr. McCarthy provided a powerpoint presentation on the process of the evaluation of the Superintendent along with a timeline of the process and advised of additional planned training on the evaluation process.

**8:08 PM Superintendent Goals**

Superintendent Downing provided a document with his 2021-2022 goals and advised, in consultation with the Personnel Subcommittee, this goals document was crafted to focus priority practices of the superintendent evaluation rubric. The standards and practices for the superintendent written in full text are included in this document below the superintendent goals. The six priority practices for the 2021-2022 school year are highlighted in gray in the standards rubric and have the following headings. Superintendent Downing reviewed each of the three goals stated in the document. The School Committee will vote on acceptance of the goals presented tonight at the next meeting.

**8:46 PM NRHS School Building Committee – Designer Selection Process**

Superintendent Downing advised the Designer application processes closed last week, we have seven applicants. The School Building Committee is charged with advancing 3 people to the overall MSBA selection committee, of which one of those is the CEO, one is the Superintendent and one is appointed by the School Committee. Superintendent Downing advised the matter was discussed at the School Building Committee Meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup>, the Superintendent will serve as the CEO, the Superintendent’s seat is for the Superintendent or their designee, the Superintendent as designated Pat Marone, the School Committee is then charged with selecting the third person, the Building Committee did make a recommendation to appoint Ken Frommer to the third seat. Mr. Gleason stated this was not his understanding of the discussion and recommendation by the Building Committee at the October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, his understanding was that the School Building Committee’s recommendation was the Chief Procurement Officer, Pat Marone would be the School Committee’s appointee and that Ken Frommer would be the CEO designee.

**MOTION**

Joseph Gleason moved to appoint the following individuals to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Architectural Design Selection Panel under section 2a10 of the MSBA’s design selection procedures so far as Kenneth Frommer of Lancaster, MA, appointed as the School Committee’s appointee, Patricia Marone, appointed as the Superintendent’s designee and Superintendent Downing be appointed as CEO ; seconded by Stephen Rubinstein

**Roll Call:**

Leah Vivirito	Yes
Karen Devine	Yes
Dr. Mary McCarthy	Yes
Mike Horesh	Yes
Rich Eckel	Yes
Amy Cohen	Yes
Joseph Gleason	Yes
Brett Collins	Yes
Shawn Winsor	Not present in meeting at time of vote
Steve Rubinstein	Yes

**VOTED AND PASSED. (9-0-0)**

**8:59 PM In Person School Committee Meetings Timeline**

Chairperson Vivirito advised the Governors Emergency order allows public bodies to meet remotely until April 1, 2022. Superintendent Downing advised this is a decision of the School Committee in terms of how the committee wants to meet, there are some complexities to this, there were discussion on this last year and a quote from an outside firm on a technology set up would look like in a different environment. Superintendent Downing advised there are some technologies that need to be worked out but is certain if the those could be worked out but would require some investment. Chairperson Vivirito asked the Superintendent to bring forward three options for meeting in person advised she does not want to invest any funds.

**9:10 PM Sharing Motions in Text**

Chairperson advised going forward she will share her screen with the proposed motion language as it is being read.

**8:16 PM UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**8:16 PM School Committee Goals**

Chairperson Vivirito advised the subcommittees developed one goal each, which will make up the overall School Committee goals. Chairperson Vivirito provided a document with the proposed goals and reviewed each goal.

**MOTION**

Mike Horesh moved to accept the 2021-2022 School Committee Goals as presented; seconded by Rich Eckel

**Roll Call:**

Leah Vivirito	Yes
Karen Devine	Yes
Dr. Mary McCarthy	Yes
Mike Horesh	Yes
Rich Eckel	Yes
Amy Cohen	Yes
Joseph Gleason	Yes
Brett Collins	Yes
Shawn Winsor	Not present in meeting at time of vote
Steve Rubinstein	Yes

**VOTED AND PASSED. (9-0-0)**

**9:16 PM School Committee Protocols**

Chairperson Vivirito indicated that this topic was discussed previously and it was discussed to possibly wait until the next workshop to work through these and pause on adopting the MASC model protocols. The committee discussed whether or not to adopt the MASC protocols until the workshop to develop their own. This will be added to an upcoming agenda for a vote.

**9:20 PM SUBCOMMITTEE/ADVISORY REPORTS**

**Budget and Warrant Subcommittee**

Mr. Rubinstein reported the committee met on Monday evening to finish their SC goal, Bolton FinComm members attended, an invitation will be extended to all three town FinComms to attend the next meeting.

**Communication Subcommittee**

Ms. Cohen reported the subcommittee meet on Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>, the subcommittee worked on adding specificity to their goals to align them with the SMART goals.

**NRHS School Building Committee**

Mr. Gleason stated he would like to apologize, as it was not his intention to put the Superintendent on the spot. Mr. Gleason reported as of now “the ball” is in the hand of the Design Selection Committee, November 10<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for submission to the MSBA of the designer bids. The next Building Committee meeting is schedule for the 16<sup>th</sup> of November.

**Personnel Subcommittee**

Ms. Vivirito reported the subcommittee has been working with the Superintendent on his goals.

**Policy Subcommittee**

Ms. Devine reported the subcommittee met earlier tonight and had a couple of policies questions, the subcommittee is doing some investigations and information gathering to move forward. The next meeting is scheduled for December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Advisory Reports**

**Audit Advisory**

Mr. Eckel reported the advisory is planning a meeting to approve the minutes from last year. Mr. Eckel advised he is confirming which members need reappointment and ensuring all communities have a copy of the audit.

**Diversity, Equity, Acceptance and Racial Justice Advisory (DEARJ)**

Chairperson Vivirito advised Ms. Poch provided a report in her absence tonight. Ms. Poch reported met on October 21<sup>st</sup> which was their first meeting and welcome any new community members to wish to join. DEARJ is looking for guidance from the School Committee on how they may best serve School Committee around their goals on diversity, equity, racism and social justice.

**Regional Agreement Amendment Advisory Committee (RAAAC)**

Dr. McCarthy reported she has been working on securing the membership of the committee, and advised of the members she current has. The first meeting will be November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)**

Mr. Collins reported on the upcoming events for SEPAC which can be found on the NRSD website under the Families Tab, then SEPAC tab.

**9:35 PM ITEMS FOR NEXT/FUTURE AGENDAS**

The committee reviewed the planning calendar for upcoming meeting items.

**ADJOURN**

**MOTION**

Stephen Rubinstein moved to adjourn at 9:35 pm; seconded by Rich Eckel

**Roll Call:**

Leah Vivirito	Yes
Karen Devine	Yes
Dr. Mary McCarthy	Yes
Mike Horesh	Yes
Rich Eckel	Yes
Amy Cohen	Yes
Joseph Gleason	Yes
Brett Collins	Yes
Shawn Winsor	Not present in meeting at time of vote
Steve Rubinstein	No

**VOTED AND PASSED. (8-1-0)**

**Reference Documents and Presentations**

- Agenda
- Draft Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2021
- Superintendent's Report
- NRSC Superintendent Evaluation adapted from MASC\_2021
- Superintendent's 2021-2022 Goals
- M.S.B.A. - Design Selection Process Section 2(A)(10) (2)

NRSD School Committee Meeting Minutes, November 3, 2021  
Designer Selection Process: Timeline, Procedures and Criteria  
Local Designer Selection Panel Committee Names  
NRSC 2021-2022 Goals  
MASC Protocol Model  
NRSC Protocols

Approved by NRSC 11/17/21  
Submitted by Aleta Masterson

*Aleta S. Masterson*

Executive Assistant to the  
Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent