

**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>

January 12, 2022

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE:** Leah Vivirito, Karen Devine, Dr. Mary McCarthy, Rich Eckel, Brett Collins, Mike Horesh, Stephen Rubinstein (left meeting at 8:39 pm), Joseph Gleason, Amy Cohen, Sharon Poch and Shawn Winsor

**ADMINISTRATION IN ATTENDANCE:** Superintendent Downing, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Maguire, and Director of Business and Operations, Pat Marone

**6:30 PM CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**6:32 PM CITIZENS COMMENTS**

.Keely Nowosacki, Stow Resident, attended the meeting to voice her opinion on masking mandates and testing.

Malloy Sidorchuk, Stow Resident attended the meeting to support the mask mandate and share her opinion on testing and Covid safety protocols.

**6:40 PM CONSENT AGENDA**

Topics on consent agenda include:

Warrants of January 14, 2022

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
4223	01/14/22	VENDOR FY22	\$ 84,118.14
4224	01/14/22	AP ACH FY 22	\$ 190,931.01
4225	01/14/22	BENEFIT FY22	\$ 948,433.75
4226	01/14/22	PAYROLL FY22	\$1,464,745.94

Draft Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2022

**MOTION**

Mike Horesh moved to approve the consent agenda of January 12, 2022 containing the meeting minutes of January 5, 2022, and the warrants of January 14, 2022; seconded by Rich Eckel

**Roll Call:**

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

Sharon Poch Yes

**VOTED AND PASSED. (10-0-1)**

**MOTION**

Mike Horesh moved to approve the meeting minutes of December 15, 2021; seconded by Stephen Rubinstein

**Roll Call:**

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

**VOTED AND PASSED. (10-0-1)**

**6:44 PM SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

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

The committee discussed adding an additional meeting on March 2, 2022 to hold the FY23 budget hearing and budget deliberations. The committee also discussed their preferences in holding a budget workshop on January 22, 2022.

**7:21 PM NEW BUSINESS**

**7:21 PM NRHS Capital Plan Update**

Rob Frieswick, Director of Facilities, provided a powerpoint presentation reviewing NRSD capital expenditures, the FY23 capital expenditures for all schools in the district as well as the capital expenses at NRHS. Mr. Frieswick reminded the committee that capital expenditures at the PreK-8 schools in the district are the responsibilities of the towns to fund, while capital expenditures for NRHS are the responsibility of the school district to fund through their budget.

**7:39 PM Change to SY21-22 Calendar (NRHS)**

Dr. Boynton requested due to the cancellation of mid-term exams, the late starts at NRHS on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 be changed to a regular school day, January 27, 2022 will remain a late start.

**MOTION**

Mike Horesh moved to approve a revision to the NRSD SY21-22 Calendar to change the NRHS late starts on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to a regular school day, January 27, 2022 will remain a late start; seconded by Sharon Poch

**Roll Call:**

Leah Vivirito	Yes
Karen Devine	Yes
Dr. Mary McCarthy	Yes
Mike Horesh	Yes

Rich Eckel	Yes
Joseph Gleason	Yes
Brett Collins	Yes
Shawn Winsor	Yes
Steve Rubinstein	Yes
Amy Cohen	Yes
Sharon Poch	Yes

**VOTED AND PASSED. (11-0-0)**

**7:52 PM Policies for First Reading**

**Policy BB – School Committee Legal Status**

Ms. Devine advised this policy is being presented for a first reading, noting the only change is to change the number of school committee members from 8 to 11.

**Policy JFAA – Residency Policy**

Chairperson Vivirito advised this policy is being brought forward noting the change is to include the required documents for school registration that are currently in the protocol be included in the policy as well for transparency purposes. Superintendent Downing advised he would like to remove item 1 of column B. Policy Subcommittee will revise policy and bring back to the committee for a second reading and adoption.

**8:06 PM DEARJ Action Items**

Ms. Poch introduced Ms. Laurie Burnette, Chair of the DEARJ Advisory. Ms. Poch advised the advisory would like to revise the long name of the DEARJ Advisory from Diversity, Equity, Acceptance and Racial Justice to Diversity, Equity, Awareness and Racial Justice and has requested the School Committee reaffirm the NRSC Anti-Racism Resolution adopted on June 17, 2020. The Committee discussed the request and need to reaffirm the resolution.

**Motion**

Sharon Poch moved to change the long form name of the DEARJ Advisory from Diversity, Equity, Acceptance and Racial Justice to Diversity, Equity, Awareness and Racial Justice; seconded by Leah Vivirito

**Roll Call:**

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

**VOTED AND PASSED. (9-0-2)**

**Motion**

Stephen Rubinstein moved to table the discussion on the reaffirmation of the NRSC Anti-Racism Resolution adopted on June 17, 2020; seconded by Joseph Gleason

**Roll Call:**

Leah Vivirito	No
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Karen Devine	No
Dr. Mary McCarthy	No
Mike Horesh	No
Rich Eckel	Yes
Joseph Gleason	Yes
Brett Collins	Yes
Shawn Winsor	Yes
Steve Rubinstein	Yes
Amy Cohen	No
Sharon Poch	No

**VOTED AND FAILED. (5-6-0)**

Mr. Rubinstein left the meeting at 8:39 pm

**Motion**

Amy Cohen moved to reaffirm to the NRSC Anti-Racism Resolution adopted by the Nashoba Regional School Committee on June 17, 2020; seconded by Mike Horesh

**Roll Call:**

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

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

**School Committee Office Hours**

Tabled to future meeting

**Revival of Tri-Town for annual budget awareness**

Tabled to future meeting

**8:56 PM NRHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Sonia Nicholson and Dan Aube NRHS Student Representatives to the School Committee provided an update on current events and athletics at Nashoba Regional High School.

**9:01 PM UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Facilities Rental Rates**

**MOTION**

Mike Horesh moved to approve the facilities rentals rates as presented on December 15, 2021; seconded by Rich Eckel

**Roll Call:**

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

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

**9:04 PM SUBCOMMITTEE/ADVISORY REPORTS**

**Budget and Warrant Subcommittee**

Mr. Eckel reported the subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

**Communication Subcommittee**

Ms. Cohen reported the subcommittee will meet tomorrow night to continue working on a survey and the recommendation of Office Hours with the School Committee Members

**NRHS School Building Committee**

Mr. Gleason reported the contract the Kaestle Boos is now complete and they are under contract with the district. The next meeting is January 18<sup>th</sup> and which time Kaestle Boos and Skanska will be driving the project from here forward.

**Personnel Subcommittee**

Chairperson Vivirito reported the subcommittee has not met since the last School Committee meeting. The Subcommittee will meet again on January 26<sup>th</sup>, at which time salary ranges for the Administrative Team will be reviewed.

**Policy Subcommittee**

Ms. Devine report the Subcommittee met and focused on the two policies that were brought forward tonight. The Subcommittee will meet again on January 31<sup>st</sup> to make suggested revisions to bring forward for the second reading.

**Advisory Reports**

**Audit Advisory**

Mr. Eckel reported the advisory now has another member so they now have a quorum to meet, the final member is working on getting appointed by their town Selectmen. A meeting will be scheduled thereafter.

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

Ms. Poch reported the DEARJ Advisory met with Superintendent Downing and member of the March PD Planning. The advisory is looking forward to reviewing the feedback to the survey and providing the appropriate resources.

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

Dr. McCarthy reported the advisory met on January 5<sup>th</sup> and made a major impact in terms of reviewing the Regional Agreement and it looks as thou the advisory will be able to complete the review at the next meeting on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

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

Mr. Collins reported on the current and upcoming event of SEPAC and advised detail of all the events can be found on the district website under the families tab.

**9:10 PM ITEMS FOR NEXT/FUTURE AGENDAS**

The committee reviewed the planning calendar for upcoming meeting items.

**ADJOURN**

**MOTION**

Rich Eckel moved to adjourn at 9:13 pm; seconded by Dr. McCarthy

**Roll Call:**

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

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

**Reference Documents and Presentations**

- Agenda
- Superintendent's Report
- DESE Mask requirement extension
- NRHS Capital Plan Presentation
- Memo to School Committee about Midterm Exams and Updated Schedule
- SY21-22 Calendar
- Policy BB - SCHOOL COMMITTEE LEGAL STATUS Updated
- Policy JFAA - RESIDENCY POLICY Proposed Changes
- Statement of NRSC's Responsibility for Racial Justice and Equity
- Anti-Racism Resolution
- DEAR J Feedback Responses (Google Sheets)
- DEAR J Feedback Responses (PDF)
- Draft Meeting Minutes of 12/15/21
- Draft Meeting Minutes of 1/5/22

Approved by NRSC 1/26/22  
Submitted by Aleta Masterson



Executive Assistant to the  
Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent