

**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 17, 2021

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

ABSENT: Amy Cohen

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

6:00 PM CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

6:02 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Unit A / Unit C.

MOTION

Mike Horesh moved to go into Executive Session at 6:02 pm pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Unit A / Unit C. Executive Session to include the School Committee and Superintendent Downing. School Committee Member Brett Collins will be excused from Executive Session due to a conflict of interest. School Committee will return to open session at the conclusion of the Executive Session; seconded by Stephen Rubinstein

Chairperson Vivirito declared discussion of strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body – Unit A / Unit C

Roll Call:

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

VOTED AND PASSED. (9-0-0)

Committee returned to open session at 6:33 pm

6:33 PM CITIZENS COMMENTS

Keely Nowosacki, Stow resident provided her citizens comments regarding the relation between Chapter 70 funding and masking/vaccine requirements.

6:38 PM CONSENT AGENDA

Topics on consent agenda include:

Warrants of November 17, 2021

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
4207	11/19/21	VENDOR FY22	\$ 212,509.92
4208	11/19/21	AP ACH FY 22	\$ 195,729.70
4209	11/19/21	BENEFIT FY22	\$ 925,358.84
4210	11/19/21	PAYROLL FY22	\$1,779,766.45

Draft Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2021

MOTION

Mike Horesh moved to approve the consent agenda of November 17, 2021 containing the meeting minutes of November 3, 2021, as corrected and the warrants of November 19, 2021; 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 Yes
- Steve Rubinstein Yes
- Sharon Poch Yes

VOTED AND PASSED. (10-0-0)

6:35 PM SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

6:52 PM NEW BUSINESS

6:52 PM Hale, Luther Burbank and Florence Sawyer School Improvement Plans Presentation

Principal Grady, Principal Friend and Principal Bates provided a PowerPoint presentation with an overview of the process of developing a school improvement plan. Each Principal provided and reviewed their individual school plan.

7:19 PM Insights from the MASC/MASS Conference

Dr. McCarthy advised she attended the Conference virtually this year and found the experience very different from years past when she attended in person. Dr. McCarthy stating the technology used during the individual presentations was subpar with problems with audio and video, but most presentations were available on line. Dr. McCarthy provided a review of the presentations she attended. Mr. Gleason attended the Conference in person and advised he is going to take more of a universal approach to his report on the conference. Mr. Gleason stated he has had the opportunity in the past to attend both the MASC/MASS and the National School Committee Conference, which were both well organized and encouraged all the committee members to attend either conference during their time on the committee. Mr. Gleason advised that both organizations are advocacy groups and as such are not disinterested neutral arbiters of educational issues both organizations take positions as part of their presentations often times with the exclusion of counter positions; these conferences are “their turf, their rules”, so therefore future attendees should be aware you may not always hear a balanced opinion. Mr. Gleason reviewed some of the presentations he attended.

7:32 PM UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Superintendent Goals

MOTION

Mike Horesh moved to accept the 2021-2022 Superintendent Goals as presented; 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
Steve Rubinstein	Yes
Sharon Poch	Yes

VOTED AND PASSED. (10-0-0)

7:34 PM School Committee Protocols

Chairperson Vivirito advised the current protocols and the MASC model protocols are in the meeting packet. The committee discussed whether to review the current protocols for revision now or wait until the Summer workshop. The committee came to the decision to wait until the workshop to dedicate the time needed.

MOTION

Stephen Rubinstein moved to maintain the current protocols; seconded by Joseph Gleason

MOTION

Joseph Gleason moved to amend the motion on the floor to include striking the 2nd and 3rd sentence from the current Protocol #2; 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	No
Sharon Poch	Yes

VOTED AND PASSED. (9-1-0)

MOTION

Stephen Rubinstein moved to maintain the current protocols; seconded by Joseph Gleason

Roll Call:

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

VOTED AND PASSED. (8-2-0)

7:52 PM Director of Business and Operations Report

Ms. Marone provided a powerpoint presentation reviewing the information contained in the Results of Operations reports and the Kindergarten and Turf Field Stabilization funds. Ms. Marone provided the October Results of Operations. Ms. Marone advised she is asking for a vote to approve the expenditure of \$400,000.00 from the Kindergarten Stabilization Fund and approve the expenditure of \$144,360 from the Turf and Field Stabilization Fund

MOTION

Stephen Rubinstein moved to approve the expenditure of \$400,000.00 from the Kindergarten Stabilization Fund and approve the expenditure of \$144,360 from the Turf and Field Stabilization Fund; 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	Yes
Sharon Poch	Yes

VOTED AND PASSED. (10-0-0)

8:13 PM NRHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Sonia Nicholson and Dan Aube NRHS Student Representatives to the School Committee provided an update on current events at Nashoba Regional High School, reviewing the new Digital Hall Pass that is being piloted. Ms. Nicholson advised she has sent out a survey on mask wearing at the HS and will report back on the results of the survey.

8:26 PM SUBCOMMITTEE/ADVISORY REPORTS

Budget and Warrant Subcommittee

Mr. Rubinstein reported the subcommittee met on November 15th. Results of Operation for October were reviewed as well as discussions on the budget creation schedule. Mr. Rubinstein advised members from the three town FinComms attended. Budget vote is scheduled for March 9th with a tentative Budget Hearing for March 2nd.

Communication Subcommittee

Chairperson Vivirito provided a report in the absence of Ms. Cohen. The subcommittee will be meeting on November 30th, where they will be working on two of their goals, developing a survey and details for a recommendation for the School Committee to hold office hours prior to the School Committee meetings. Superintendent Downing will be attending the subcommittee meeting to collaborate on the development of the survey.

NRHS School Building Committee

Mr. Gleason advised the NRHS SBC meeting scheduled for November 16th was postponed to December 7th to allow the Designer Selection Committee time for their work. Superintendent Downing advised a link to the feasibility time line will be included in the next agenda. Superintendent Downing advised the Designer Selection Committee's meeting will be November 30th. They have had two meetings to date with Skanska to review the 7 applicants. Skanska has developed a matrix of the applicants and performed reference checks. Finalist interviews are scheduled for December 14th; a final decision will be made at that time.

Personnel Subcommittee

Ms. Vivirito reported the subcommittee met today prior to the SC meeting; the subcommittee discussed trainings regarding the Superintendent's Evaluation; the subcommittee also reviewed the manual regarding salary ranges and deadlines for setting those.

Policy Subcommittee

Ms. Devine reported the Subcommittee has not met since the last report; the next meeting will be December 1st.

Advisory Reports

Audit Advisory

Mr. Eckel reported he advised the Bolton and Lancaster Reps they needed to be reappointed.

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

Ms. Poch read a letter from the DEARJ subcommittee to the School Committee.

Regional Agreement Amendment Advisory Committee (RAAAC)

Dr. McCarthy reported the committee had its first meeting, advised of the members of the committee. The next meeting is November 30th.

Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

No report

8:50 PM ITEMS FOR NEXT/FUTURE AGENDAS

The committee reviewed the planning calendar for upcoming meeting items.

ADJOURN

MOTION

Mike Horesh moved to adjourn at 8:54 pm; 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	Yes
Sharon Poch	Yes

VOTED AND PASSED. (10-0-0)

Reference Documents and Presentations

- Agenda
- Draft Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2021
- Superintendent's Report
- School Improvement Presentation
- Hale School Improvement Plan
- Luther Burbank School Improvement Plan
- Florence Sawyer School Improvement Plan
- Superintendent's 2021-2022 Goals
- MASC Protocol Model
- NRSC Proposed Protocols
- Proposed Protocols on letterhead
- Nashoba RSD SAR20 Audit- Final
- Nashoba RSD FS20 Audit - Final
- FY22 October Results of Operations
- Results of Operations & Stabilization Presentation
- 11.9.21 Nashoba (RHS) DSP Meeting Confirmation Letter
- DEARJ Letter to School Committee 11-16-21

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

Aleta S. Masterson

Executive Assistant to the
Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent