

**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>

December 15, 2021

SCHOOL COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: Leah Vivirito, Karen Devine, Dr. Mary McCarthy, Rich Eckel, Brett Collins, Mike Horesh, Stephen Rubinstein, Joseph Gleason, Amy Cohen (left meeting at 7:40 pm returned at 8:21 pm) and Shawn Winsor

ABSENT: Sharon Poch

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.

6:01 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 6:01 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, Superintendent Downing, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Maguire, and Director of Human Resources, Ann Marie Stoica. 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
Rich Eckel	Yes
Joseph Gleason	Yes
Steve Rubinstein	Yes
Amy Cohen	Yes

VOTED AND PASSED. (8-0-0)

Committee returned to open session at 6:33 pm

6:38 PM CITIZENS COMMENTS

Keely Nowosacki, Stow resident, attended the meeting stating her opinions on the masking mandates.

6:41 PM CONSENT AGENDA

Topics on consent agenda include:

Warrants of December 17, 2021

<u>WARRANT NO.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
4215	12/17/21	VENDOR FY22	\$ 632,170.72
4216	12/17/21	AP ACH FY 22	\$ 364,693.83
4217	12/17/21	BENEFIT FY22	\$ 944,242.85
4218	12/17/21	PAYROLL FY22	\$1,502,517.70

Draft Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2021

MOTION

Mike Horesh moved to approve the consent agenda of December 15, 2021 containing the meeting minutes of December 1, 2021, and the warrants of December 17, 2021; seconded by Leah Vivirito

Roll Call:

Leah Vivirito	Yes
Karen Devine	Abstained
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

VOTED AND PASSED. (9-0-1)

6:43 PM SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

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

Superintendent Downing reviewed the Covid Data Dashboard in detail (link can be found in the Superintendent’s Report).

7:33 PM NEW BUSINESS

7:33 PM Superintendent Survey Debrief

Chairperson Vivirito and Dr. McCarthy provided a Powerpoint presentation on the survey that was given to and taken by the School Committee on their knowledge of the process of the Evaluation of the Superintendent. Chairperson Vivirito and Dr. McCarthy reviewed each question and provided an explanation on the questions that the Committee had questions on or were unsure of that step

in the process. Dr. McCarthy advised Dorothy Presser, from MASC will be providing a training on the Superintendent’s Evaluation in April.

7:40 PM DEARJ Action Items

Chairperson Vivirito stated she would like this tabled until the next meeting, without objection. No objection raised. Mr. Gleason requested a member of the DEARJ Advisory attend the meeting when this topic will be addressed.

7:50 PM Director of Business and Operations Report

Ms. Marone provided a PowerPoint presentation presenting the FY23 proposed Facilities rental rates, an updated on E & D, and capital expenditures by town and NRHS. Ms. Marone reviewed the November Results of Operations.

8:13 PM NRHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

There is no student report. Chairperson Vivirito advised a student report should be finalized and will be presented to the Committee in that fashion going forward and advised the committee to be mindful of the OML and not to veer off topics on the report.

8:15 PM UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Approval of the School Improvement Plans

MOTION

Mike Horesh moved to approve the School Improvement plans for Hale MS, Luther Burbank MS and Florence Sawyer School as presented on November 17, 2021 and Mary Rowlandson ES, The Center School and NRHS as presented on December 1, 2021; 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	Not in meeting at time of vote
Steve Rubinstein	Yes

VOTED AND PASSED. (8-0-0)

Preschool and Extended Learning Tuition Increase Proposal

MOTION

Mike Horesh moved to approve a 4% rate increase for Extended Learning before and after school programs effective for the 2022-2023 School Year; 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	Not in meeting at time of vote
Steve Rubinstein	Yes

VOTED AND PASSED. (8-0-0)

MOTION

Mike Horesh moved to approve a 3% tuition increase for integrated preschool effective for the 2022-2023 School Year; 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	Not in meeting at time of vote
Steve Rubinstein	Yes

VOTED AND PASSED. (8-0-0)

Substitute Pay Rate Increase Proposal

MOTION

Mike Horesh moved to approve the substitute rate increase to \$100.00 per day for Teachers and Instructional Assistants effective January 3, 2022; 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

VOTED AND PASSED. (9-0-0)

8:19 PM SUBCOMMITTEE/ADVISORY REPORTS

Budget and Warrant Subcommittee

Mr. Rubinstein reported subcommittee met on Monday and reviewed the November Results of Operations, and discussed the facilities rental rates and approved the recommendation made by Ms. Marone. The subcommittee discussed the DEAR J survey Mr. Horesh and Mr. Eckel will be working on the responses.

Communication Subcommittee

Ms. Cohen reported the committee will meet on December 20th, the subcommittee will review the DEARJ survey questions, working on a survey in collaboration with the Superintendent as part of his entry plan, the subcommittee is working on a recommendation to the school committee for School Committee Office Hours before School Committee Meetings.

NRHS School Building Committee

Mr. Gleason reported the building committee met yesterday, the Design Selection Committee finalized the interviews for the finalist, which were Drummey Rosane Annderson and Kaestle Boos Associates. The Selection Committee announced that Kaestle Boos Associates of Fall River, MA has been selected as our designed for the building project. Mr. Gleason advised they were the design firm for Minuteman High School. The committee has voted on a cap of \$850,000 for the design process. Skanska has notified the committee that Kaestle will be looking to secure a contract for \$825,000 Chairperson Vivirito advised the designer contract will need to be voted, therefore the School Committee will need to meet briefly on January 5th.

Personnel Subcommittee

No Repot

Policy Subcommittee

Ms. Devine reported the subcommittee met on December 6th, the subcommittee reviewed the DEARJ survey questions, the committee discussed two policies one on residency and one on fiscal responsibilities of the committee, they will be brought before the School Committee in January.

Advisory Reports

Audit Advisory

Mr. Eckel reported the Lancaster and Bolton representatives have not been reappointed, and requested Chairperson Vivirito send a letter to their Select board Chairs to reappoint those members.

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

No Report

Regional Agreement Amendment Advisory Committee (RAAAC)

Dr. McCarthy reported the advisory met on December 8th, the advisory now has a membership of 8, with a new member from Lancaster, Jen Fletcher, the Lancaster Select Board/Finance is still work on another member. The advisory will meet again on January 5th to continue their work reviewing the current agreement.

Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC)

No Report

8:35 PM ITEMS FOR NEXT/FUTURE AGENDAS

The committee reviewed the planning calendar for upcoming meeting items.

ADJOURN

MOTION

Mike Horesh moved to adjourn at 8:40 pm; seconded by Amy Cohen

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

VOTED AND PASSED. (10-0-0)

Reference Documents and Presentations

Agenda

Draft Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2021

Superintendent's Report

Model School Resource Officer Memorandum Of Understanding 2021

School Resource Officer MOU

SC survey results poll supt. eval_10-11_21

FY23 Additional Rate Increases, Capital Planning, E and D

FY22 November Results of Operations

Facilities Rate Change Proposal

School Improvement Plans

Extended Day and Preschool Tuition Rate Increase Proposal

Substitute Pay Rate Increase Proposal

Approved by NRSC 1/12/22

Submitted by Aleta Masterson

Aleta S. Masterson

Executive Assistant to the
Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent