

Superintendent Coffee Minutes

September 14, 2017

Present: Linda Parotto; Elizabeth Clemente; Barbara Crosby; Syd Fee Barsanti; Jana Duarte; Seanda Bartlett; Donna Muhr; Leslie Bresette; Tina Steadman; Hadley Dutra

Superintendent's Report:

- 1) Mr. Cozort welcomed the parents and began by sharing a variety of safety and security measures that the Nantucket Public Schools have instituted. These include a vestibule at CPS and one in the new intermediate school. He shared plans to build a vestibule in the existing NHS lobby. He then introduced the School Resource Officers (SRO), noting that Officer Cassie Thompson has served in the past and that Officer Keith Mansfield and his dog (Moby) have joined the district this year. The two of them shared their vision of school resource work, noting that relationship building is critical. You will see them in the hallways and classrooms of all four schools, but also outside at morning drop-off and afternoon dismissal, as well as at recesses and lunch periods.
- 2) Mr. Cozort next introduced Kelly Cooney, the district's new English as a Second Language (ESL) Director. Ms. Cooney talked about her role and shared the number of ESL students in the district and the spectrum of services and supports they will be provided. She described the identification of students and how some students may arrive from another country without being literate in their home language, making it a challenge to provide an education for them. She also reminded the audience that there are wonderful benefits to the diversity that all of our students experience. A parent asked how we can address improving the understanding and awareness among our students and across our parents. Ms. Cooney responded that is a goal of hers and Mr. Cozort shared that it is also something the School Committee has identified as a focus for the upcoming strategic plan.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2017! The District's Curriculum Directors will attend.