

Nantucket School Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2018

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2 Present Members: Jennifer Iller, Chairman Timothy Lepore (arrival 6:34), Pauline Proch & Steve Sortevik

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4 The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM, by Jenn Iller, Vice Chairperson, in the Nantucket High School LGI.
5 Steve Sortevik made a motion to approve the agenda, it was seconded by Pauline Proch, and it was approved
6 unanimously.

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8 **Comments from the Public**

9 None

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11 **Presentations and discussions of interest to the Committee**

12 **Second Quarter Budget Report – Director of Finance, Martin Anguelov**

13 Mr. Anguelov introduced the Second Quarter Budget numbers and indicated the numbers are where he would expect
14 them to be. Forty-eight percent (48%) of expenditures funding is currently committed and this is equal to the
15 previous year. Payroll expenses have increased by \$431,124, or thirty-eight percent (38%) which, in comparison to
16 the previous year at (39%) is considered to be within an acceptable range for year to year contrast. However, total
17 expenditures are \$725,661 over what they were last year at the same time. This is due to contractual obligations and
18 a slight increase for repair and maintenance costs (Mr. Anguelov shared an HVAC expense over \$250,000 which is a
19 one-time maintenance item). Mr. Sortevik asked about these expenses and wished to know when unforeseen costs
20 happen, where does the money come from. Mr. Anguelov explained some of this can be taken from the electricity
21 lines where possible additional funding lies and that this will also help us with future budgeting forecasts – knowing
22 where we need some further funding and we can provide for that in the FY20 budget.

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24 The Nantucket Community School has very encouraging numbers. For this quarter the operations show a \$8,117
25 growth over the previous year, but the actual revenues in this Fiscal Year are \$23,117 over last year. Extended Day
26 showed a \$23,641 increase, Driver’s Ed had an increase of \$10,468 and Adult Ed had an increase of \$5,664. These
27 increases are offset by a \$10,640 decrease in Summer Camp revenues, a slight decrease of \$6,588 in the Pool
28 Revolver revenues mostly driven by Dolphin dues for swimming, and a \$1,940 decrease in Early Childhood &
29 Enrichment revenues. The total expenses and encumbrances for this quarter show a decrease of \$54,151 compared to
30 the same for last year at second quarter of \$40,994 but this is largely due to the reduction of \$10,800 in Rent
31 expenses at Candlewick Corner (a space we no longer rent) and also, the reduction of \$40,994 in Medical Insurance
32 expense costs for a handful of new employees that started in the fall.

33
34 The School Lunch program operated at the end of December 2018 at a deficit of \$35,400 versus a deficit of \$38,620
35 for the same period in 2017. Sales increased \$5,726 in the current year and in comparison to last year, both had the
36 same number of operating days (72 days). Food Services Director, Linda Peterson, feels relatively comfortable that
37 the numbers will stay within the subsidy. There have been some continued challenges with kitchen equipment (in
38 general) needing repairs, and specifically with the freezer malfunctioning again, but not at the same cost as the first
39 time the freezer went down. Jennifer Iller asked about purchasing of equipment and the inventory of such. Mr.
40 Anguelov answered it might be time to consider the need to replace some of the kitchen items in the foreseeable
41 future to ensure good working order and no loss of product which can impact the bottom line in expenses versus
42 revenue. Superintendent Cozort added that we might be able to apply year-end funds to help offset such costs. Steve
43 Sortevik asked about Capital money being available, and Mr. Anguelov did say that capital articles give flexibility to
44 cross Fiscal Years and we can prioritize closer to the end of the year.

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46 The Free & Reduced meals, handled largely by Sarah Erichsen, represented 40% of total meals served in comparison
47 to 36% for the same period last year. There are continual applications coming into the Central Office for families to
48 apply for F&R.

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Bullying Update – Principals Kubisch, McNeil, Cohen, & Buckey

NES - Mrs. Kubisch went first and announced there are no confirmed instances of bullying in Nantucket Elementary School. There were two situations that were investigated, with multiple people involved, but the determination was that these were children who are friends, who sometime act not so friendly with one another. The parents have been notified and the situations have been remedied. Pauline Proch asked where the line is drawn in determining bullying. Mrs. Kubisch answered that the actions need to be repetitive and represent an imbalance of power.

NIS - Mrs. McNeil reported two confirmed cases of bullying last year and that they did fall into this category, because there was an imbalance of power and it was both repeated and targeted behavior. She reviewed that a safety plan was developed for the victim and a support plan was put into place for the aggressor. Mrs. Proch asked in this case if there is support from the families. Mrs. McNeil answered that she encourages and expects children call their parents when such a situation has occurred. They must ‘own up’ to their behavior and it is helpful to have them to share their role in the issue, and this engages parents to be more pro-active. The School Committee had a few questions regarding how fast the situations are discovered and the time frame of action. Mrs. McNeil said Guidance is often a part of the system in discovery and the fallout is addressed immediately with the processes in place.

CPS - Fernando Jones, Dean Of Students, delivered the CPS bullying report citing three incidents registered, but that with investigation, these did not qualify as bullying. At this age level, the situations are often cyber bullying issues and often students who know of them come forward. Mrs. Iller asked further about students reporting on their peers and Mr. Jones talked about the mantras of ‘doing the right things’ and ‘see something, say something’ when something unkind is happening. Mrs. Iller was curious how often this reporting happens and Mr. Jones said an average is 2-3 times per week. They try hard to keep tabs on students and the right behaviors as well as the consistent monitoring of what is considered bad behavior.

NHS - Ms. Psaradelis, Assistant Principal, delivered the high school bullying report. She stated while there have been a number of concerns leading to investigation of bullying, there have been no confirmed cases. Concerns come from friends, students, teachers, guidance, and students at this age generally have better skills to handle certain situations. The high school practices Restorative Justice and she feels this works better as a follow up and as a teaching tool. The support staff in NHS is large and all of the Student Support Team meet every other Tuesday to discuss and assess how things are moving along. Mrs. Proch stated she feels the social-emotional programs seem to be paying off and she is pleased to see the progress. Mr. Sortevik asked Ms. Psaradelis for a specific number of situations that have been reported, and she replied two confirmed investigations, one cyber in nature and another, a situation in the classroom.

Committee discussion and votes to be taken

Vote to Adopt the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget

Superintendent Cozort felt it might be advantageous to pass over this vote at this time in the hope of some follow up news from Town regarding the Appropriation number. Mr. Sortevik directly asked the Superintendent if he is hopeful was there an indication to being so? Superintendent Cozort responded that while there are not promises, he thought the possibility could exist and we could be “allowed to hope.”

Approve MOU between Nantucket Community School and the Town of Nantucket for Recreational Field Use

Steve Sortevik made a motion, seconded by Pauline Proch, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Approve Donation to NHS from Cape Cod Savings for Credit for Life Fair, \$1,000.00

Pauline Proch made a motion, seconded by Steve Sortevik, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Vote to Approve Donation to NHS from Island Lumber Company for Wood Shop program, \$825.00

Steve Sortevik made a motion, seconded by Jenn Iller, with none opposed, the motion was approved

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Vote to Approve Donation to CPS from Union Lodge F. & AM. for 8th grade Washington D.C. trip, \$663.00 Prior to the Motion, Mrs. Proch asked the CPS Principal for a quick update about the Washington trip, sharing families are a bit concerned about the fundraising and the individual cost expenses of the trip. Dr. Cohen filled the School Committee in about the upcoming April trip - Of 135 students, 117 are going on the trip (only a handful are not going for immigration fears and some students simply not wishing to go) and fundraising has been happening since the Summer: Car washes, bake sales, Christmas Stroll table, and three more in process, a basket raffle, an event at the Chicken Box and a Pasta dinner in March. He detailed every dollar earned offsets the cost. Some families have applied for scholarships which are being made available through generous donations such as the ones listed in the agenda. Dr. Cohen does not have a final numbers right now but he is hopeful that the student cost will whittle down to \$400/student. Mrs. Proch thought aloud it might be nice to have our local legislature representatives come into school to speak to the students prior to the trip. She then made a motion, seconded by Steve Sortevik, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Vote to Approve Donation to CPS from BridgePoint Risk Mgt, LLC for 8th grade Washington D.C. trip, \$1,000.00 Steve Sortevik made a motion, seconded by Pauline Proch, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Vote to Approve Donation to CPS from The Nantucket Project Academy for 8th grade Washington D.C. trip, \$2,000.00 Pauline Proch made a motion, seconded by Steve Sortevik, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Vote to Approve Donation to CPS from Egan Maritime Institute for 8th grade Great Harbour Yacht Club bus trips, October 15, & 16 , 2018, \$212.00 Pauline Proch recused herself, Steve Sortevik made a motion, seconded by Tim Lepore, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Vote to Approve Donation to NES from Nantucket Land Council for grant towards Engineering is Elementary Kits for Kindergarten, \$3,854.00 Pauline Proch made a motion, seconded by Steve Sortevik, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Vote to Approve Donation to NCS from Nantucket Education Trust, Inc. for Summer Boost, \$1,000.00 Tim Lepore made a motion, seconded by Steve Sortevik, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Vote to Approve Donation to NCS from Poets Corner Press, LLC for Early Childhood program, \$500.00 Tim Lepore made a motion, seconded by Steve Sortevik, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Vote to Approve Donation to NCS from First Congregational Church for Education Outreach Board, for Children Enrichment programming, \$500.00 Tim Lepore made a motion, seconded by Pauline Proch, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Vote to Approve Donation to NCS from Josh & Bernadette Brown for Learn to Swim program, \$1,000.00 Tim Lepore made a motion, seconded by Pauline Proch, with none opposed, the motion was approved

Vote to Approve NHS Cultural Trip (Spanish & Mandarin Clubs) overnight field trip to Boston, MA on February 8 & 9, 2019 Tim Lepore made a motion, seconded by Pauline Proch, with none opposed, the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve the January 8, 2019, Meeting Minutes. Pauline Proch made a motion to approve the minutes, Tim Lepore seconded, and the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve the January 15, 2019, Public Hearing Minutes. Pauline Proch made a motion to approve the minutes, Tim Lepore seconded, and the motion was approved.

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Vote to Approve the Transfers & Invoices

Pauline Proch made a motion to approve the transfers and invoices, Tim Lepore seconded, the motion was approved.

Superintendent’s Report–W. Michael Cozort

School Committee Self Evaluation

The Superintendent offered the School Committee a copy of the Self Evaluation they fill in annually. He gave them a paper and electronic copy. It was agreed they would complete and submit to Mrs. O’Connor by February 1, 2019.

FinCom Update

Approximately an hour earlier, the Superintendent and Director of Finance presented the Budget for 2020 to the Finance Committee. There were few questions and that suggested they have a clear understanding and appreciation of the Schools numbers and the needs. There was a comment pertaining to the wider ranging classrooms and focus on students and challenges with Math and other disciplines. FinCom will meet with the Capital Committee on Wednesday. There was some discussion about the Capital submission to create financial opportunity to buy land that borders school properties (future needs for building and/or expansion). The Town has not figured out how to buy these properties in terms of the mechanism they will use to do this. Mr. Sortevik attended the FinCom meeting and stated aloud that no one gasped at the thought of a new school in our future and the Committee liked the Master Campus Design Plan presented in lieu of the Athletic Complex plan, showing broader planning and vision.

Superintendent also shared Mr. Anguelov, Director of Finance, will be a part of a Webinar for the Chapter 70 and the impending formula change, so he can be clear how this will impact our Funding numbers.

On the Horizon

We are on target with our Horizon.

Subcommittees & Acknowledgements

Sub-Committees:

Behavioural Health Group – Mrs. Proch shared they met last week and had a great discussion. Programs appear to be doing a good job with support, education, and she talked about a detailed list from the four principals that have outlined areas to be aware of or that have been dialed in to meet student’s needs.

Nantucket Education Trust – Mrs. Proch also reported on NET and that they met last week to flesh out a new idea for college bound students. The new initiative is to take 10th grade students off island for college visits earlier than has been traditionally happening (typically Junior and Senior years). With an idea from board member, John Riccio, NET sent out an annual appeal outlining this idea. The return yielded approximately \$23,000 and she was very happy with the outcome.

At 6:58pm the School Committee adjourned on a motion made by Tim Lepore and seconded by Pauline Proch, and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Logan O’Connor, School Committee Clerk