

Nantucket School Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2017

1
2 Present Members: Jennifer Iller, Tim Lepore, and Pauline Proch
3

4 The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jenn Iller at 6:00 PM in the Large Group Instruction room at NHS.
5 Mrs. Iller requested a change of meeting order, and FONPS will present first. Pauline Proch made a motion, Tim
6 Lepore seconded and it was approved unanimously.
7

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

9 **Friends of Nantucket Public Schools – Mrs. Eleanor Antonietti, Co-President**

10 Eleanor Antonietti addressed the Committee and shared that the board continues its strong presence in the schools.
11 She was happy to announce six new members expanded the board to 30 people. With additional manpower, we can
12 accomplish more and increase our fundraising arms and ultimately our funding stream. She reviewed the breakdown
13 of our board, parent advisors, faculty members, community representatives, a resident photographer and a dedicated
14 PR and Facebook and website person. With the larger board, FONPS also strives to be present at all school open
15 houses, principal coffees, special events in addition to all the main/annual fundraisers: The Bike-a-thon, Annual
16 Holiday House Tour, Community Spelling Bee, M’Ocean Pix Drive-In, & NES Dance. Additionally, there are
17 events such as the Teacher/Staff Appreciation Event, support groups, collaborations with other not-for-profits,
18 enrichments events and our programming designed to help students, staff, scholarships, etc. Mrs. Antonietti detailed
19 some of the enrichment programs. She reviewed the Children’s Fund, a “need blind” scholarship to assist with after
20 school and extracurricular opportunities and the Staff Initiated Funding devoted to assist the staff. Mrs. Proch asked
21 in connection with the SIF, was a final tally available at the end of the year to know how many students this fund has
22 helped. According to Mrs. Antonietti, it would be somewhere around 150, as the fund will continue to be available
23 through the summer. Mrs. Proch also asked how enrichment programming is selected with the answer from Mrs.
24 Antonietti that this lies in the hands of the Enrichment Chair, Logan O’Connor, who has been arranging these events
25 for over 15 years. Mrs. O’Connor addressed the Committee through the Chair sharing she works to find unique and
26 timely programming to compliment the current environment of the school, or a particular area of academics or social
27 or emotional content and she requests input from staff or administrators. Mrs. O’Connor also felt it also important to
28 re-state how much money (2 + million dollars over the years) the FONPS has been able to give to the district through
29 all of the fundraising efforts.
30

31 **Quiz Bowl - NHS Teachers/Advisors, Peter Panchy & Kate Hickson and NHS Students**

32 Annually, the Quiz Bowl students come and compete with the School Committee and the Administrators and this
33 year is no exception. Doing very well again at the State level of competition, the students representing the club and
34 ready for the friendly competition tonight: Grace Bartlett, Evan Borzilleri, Liam Connole, Harrison Holdgate, Sophie
35 Kuhl, Nicole Le Blanc, Stefan Silverio, Deana Weatherly, Isaiah Williams. Missing, Luci Bresette and Caroline
36 Richards due to athletic game conflicts. Mr. Panchy lead the competition with two lightning rounds of questions
37 covering history, science, math, sports, art, literary, music, theology and more with the score ending in what seemed
38 to be a tie. Mr. Panchy was very proud of the group as always and recapped that the students meet once a week all
39 year long preparing for the main competition in the Fall and trying to win a place among 20 teams for WGBH’s
40 ‘Super Sunday’. Out of over 120 schools competing he feels NHS belongs there every year!
41

42 **Graduation/Drop Out Rate Report – NHS Principal, John Buckey**

43 Dr. Buckey was very pleased to report good news this year, with a very low rate of dropouts. The Department of
44 Education (DESE) provides an overview in its summary report, but it makes it complicated to understand the
45 breakdown and therefore, Dr. Buckey likes to distribute further statistics to dig deeper into sub-categories for
46 graduation rate information. For 2016, only 7 students total for summer and school year, but only 4 in total that
47 represent solid numbers as three students are not captured as accurate true numbers – meaning they might have
48 dropped out and returned, or they are an ELL student who has just entered school with little formal education prior to
49 now. The low total rate equates to a 2/3 drop from the previous year and a percentage rate of 1.4% - extremely low.
50 Dr. Buckey attributes much of the low number success to all the programs in place to support our students such as
51 Social Services, Guidance, the Alternative Program all providing ‘safety nets’ to aid in success.

**Nantucket School Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2017**

52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102

Audit Report Fiscal Year End 2016 – Director of Finance, Martin Anguelov

Mr. Anguelov presented the findings of the FY2016 financial report, reviewed by the town’s audit firm of Roselli, Clark & Associates. In needing to be compliant with reporting and accounting rules, the auditors found two items, #6 representing a figure for employer retirement contributions and #12, relating to a change in the way Special Revenue Funds (School Lunch Fund, Athletic Fund) are reported. Both items were resolved, corrective action was filed in an End of Year Report amendment.

Comments from the Public

None

Committee discussion and votes to be taken

Vote to Approve Fiscal Year 2016 End of the Year Audit Report from Roselli, Clark & Associates. Tim Lepore made a motion, seconded by Pauline Proch and the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve MASC Survey Participation. Superintendent Cozort offered that he has reviewed the questions and while he feels the survey is benign in nature and some of the information might prove to be informative, he feels it will be less well received by the students, staff and families. It was consensus of the staff and administrators to opt out of the survey and as the School Committee agreed, the vote to opt out was made into a motion by Tim Lepore, seconded by Pauline Proch and the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve CPS Overnight Field Trip for the 8th Grade Oceanography students to Nantucket Shipwreck & Lifesaving Museum, June 3 & 4, 2017. Tim Lepore made a motion, seconded by Pauline Proch and the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve Gift Donation from Egan Maritime Institute to the CPS Student Activities Account for Maritime Studies of \$2,025.00. Pauline Proch recused herself from this vote and therefore, with no quorum, this was tabled to the next meeting.

Vote to Approve Gift Donation from Egan Maritime Institute to the CPS Student Activities Account for Maritime Studies of \$455.00. Pauline Proch recused herself from this vote and therefore, with no quorum, this was tabled to the next meeting

Vote to Amend and Approve: Policy AE – Commitment to Accomplishment, Policy BID – School Committee Member Compensation and Expenses, Policy BJ – School Committee Legislative Program, Policy BK- School Committee Memberships, Policy BEDH-E – Guideline for Public Comment, and with additional research delivered by Superintendent Cozort to support the policy, Policy BBA – School Committee Powers & Duties, a motion was made by Tim Lepore, seconded by Pauline Proch, and the motion was approved for all policies listed here.

April 4, 2017, Meeting Minutes:
Tabled for next meeting to meet the quorum.

Superintendent’s Report–W. Michael Cozort

NIS Building Update – The Superintendent will lead a tour this coming Thursday at 3:00, the final building construction work coming to a close. He is excited to bring in the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders for a tour after vacation as they will be the new students to open the building. Mrs. Proch asked to attend with the students as she was excited to see their reaction.

On the Horizon –Superintendent Cozort reviewed the Horizon, asking to schedule a reorganization meeting to assign the committee task force assignments. This meeting needs to be before May 2 and it was agreed by the School Committee to hold it on April 26th at 7:45 a.m. in the Central Office. (This meeting will be posted with the Town of

Nantucket School Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2017

103
104 Nantucket). In addition, the May school committee meeting will offer a report from Andrew Viselli about his
105 alternative program, information from Student Support Services, Wellness Committee update, Facilities Update,
106 Tour of NIS to students, and Suspension/In-School Suspension information.

107
108 **Subcommittees & Acknowledgements**

109 Superintendent Cozort wanted to update the committee on the hiring process for the district thus far. He believes we
110 are in 'good shape'. He noted that it is a process and of course, our geography can be a challenge. Three key
111 positions have been filled, the NIS Principal, Director of English Language Learners and Director of Special
112 Services. There have been some strong Assistant Principal candidates for NHS and NIS, but no final decisions. NIS
113 will need an Art Teacher, Guidance along with ELL and these are in the middle of the vetting and interview process.
114 CPS has hired a 7th grade Science teacher, has secured a 7th grade history teacher and has candidates for 8th grade
115 science and Technology. NHS has a math opening and an ELL position, and NES has two Elementary Education
116 positions at 4th and 5th grade.

117
118 Chair Jennifer Iller announced this would be her last meeting as Chair and thanked everyone.

119
120 At 7:22 pm the School Committee adjourned on a motion made by Melissa Murphy and seconded by Pauline Proch,
121 and unanimously approved.

122
123 Respectfully submitted,
124 Logan O'Connor, School Committee Clerk