

Nantucket School Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2018

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2 Present Members: Zona Butler, Jennifer Iller, Tim Lepore, Melissa Murphy, Pauline Proch, Steven Sortevik &
3 Natalie Gammons

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5 The meeting was called to order by Chair, Tim Lepore, at 6:00 PM in the Large Group Instruction room at NHS.
6 A motion to approve the agenda was made by Steve Sortevik, seconded by Zona Butler and approved by the
7 Committee.

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9 **Comments from Public**

10 None

11 The Chairman wished, on his prerogative to move items on the Agenda, to welcome Mr. Jim Kelly and two
12 American Legion Post Commanders, Messrs. Joe Lazosowoski and Kelly Pierce, who come to address the
13 Committee.

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

16 **Marching Band Request to Nantucket High School**

17 Mr. Jim Kelly introduced himself and stated he has been hoping to resurrect the Marching Band from NHS. He was
18 the Superintendent 30 years ago, starting in 1964 and was today joined by his fellow compatriots, Mr. Lazowoski and
19 Mr. Peirce who were appealing to the School Committee to consider bringing back the Marching Band. Mr. Kelly
20 said he has heard great things about the current high school band and would like the students to participate in
21 Memorial and Veterans Day parades. It is important to the Legion, and to our Town. The gentlemen stated they are
22 happy to fully support the school in scholarship and fundraising opportunities to make this happen (naming examples
23 of pasta dinners for uniform costs and music fees). He recalled when the Legion had their own band, but now the
24 Legion must outsource this to music ensemble groups off island. He also reminisced that in the 60's, the graduating
25 class was 42 students and the band was a large band at that time. The men were hopeful to enlist the help of the
26 current high school music teacher and instrumental band leader, Erik Wendelken who joined the discussion. Mr.
27 Wendelken reviewed the music program numbers throughout the district and felt that the instrumental program was
28 smaller now and could not sustain a band. He identified 1983 as the last time the school had a marching band and
29 thought aloud that perhaps the dwindling number(s) was due to the many other school activities, sports, and outside
30 groups and programs that now exist for students to become involved. He felt that 60-80 students is what could
31 support a band program and that it needed to start at NES. Starting at a young age is when you get children
32 interested and holding their interest is key as they move through the system. There was a hefty amount of discussion
33 back and forth with School Committee members and Principals and Mr. Wendelken about the band program, what is
34 the makeup, how to have the access and or exposure in school and how in high school, what was once in the
35 curriculum, is now only offered after school. Dr. Buckley shared that revision to the 2018-2019 school course
36 curriculum removes Writing Seminar as a mandatory course, which in turn could provide some time in the schedule
37 to fill with a year round elective, which could possibly be band. Miss Gammons had a number of questions
38 regarding this option as she had been a part of band during her school day for years and hoped this would return as a
39 choice for students. The Principals of the other schools talked about staffing needs and time on learning as part of
40 the reason why instrumental music has waned a bit. The Legion Commanders stood up to remark that they really did
41 not understand all of the conversation - as far as they were concerned they were there to advocate for the possibility
42 of having music at their two important days and would be interested in supporting the positive outcome for this plea.
43 After that statement, a few creative ideas came from the School Committee members: Mrs. Butler pointed out it was
44 financial support they were offering and if we could find 50 members in the future we should think about the reality
45 of making this wish come true - we could work to grow the program because we have so many talented students.
46 Mrs. Proch thought aloud about an Intergenerational Band that might be able to come through the Nantucket
47 Community Music School. The Veterans thanked the School Committee for giving the consideration.

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49 **3rd Quarter Budget - Martin Anguelov, Director of Finance**

50 Director Martin Anguelov presented the numbers for the third quarter budget results citing we are well within
51 acceptable ranges for year to year comparisons. For this current year the total expenditures have increased by

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\$2,071,235 and 72% of expenditure funding has been committed compared to 68% from the previous year. Payroll expenses have increase by \$1,031,176, which represents 66% versus 65% for prior year, and this is expected especially with the Nantucket Intermediate School which adds staff and expenses. Mr. Anguelov briefly touched on the utility costs - we are currently at 90% of our budget and because that budget amount was our best guess with NIS adding costs, we will go over the allotted for the year. While there have been some savings in electric costs, the fuel increase has offset that savings. However, Mr. Anguelov is comfortable that we can cover the costs. Also of note, an increase of \$105,000 in books which represents expenses for Eureka Math curriculum books, phonics and additional core reading programs. Finally, the Special Education tuition line is \$200,000 and with the Circuit Breaker funds being reduced by the state this represents another increase. There are 8 students involved in off island placements and several in litigation which adds expense. Mr. Anguelov summarized that MUNIS sheets are a lot to review, but he feels they are helpful in understanding the budget movement. He is also happy to provide any additional analysis if asked to prepare something.

Mr. Anguelov reviewed the Nantucket Community School numbers and reported this year to be a much better year than the previous two. There are multiple improvements in the revenue stream: growth of \$37,406 in Instruction Income and in the Adult Education Revolver, an increase of \$43,281 in the Pool Revolver, an increase of \$36,979 in Extended Day and an increase in \$10,583 in Summer Camp.

The School Lunch Program has a larger deficit this year of \$68,189 versus the previous year of \$480. This difference is mostly due to personnel cost increases for adding new staff for NIS. Also, product increase for NIS and the previously mentioned freezer malfunction in NHS, which resulted in loss of product of \$6,000 in August. He discussed the subsidy and in turn the management fee that Chartwells will reimburse to NPS if the outcomes do not meet the contract number projections. Chartwells feels strongly that they can meet their goals. While the contract is a five year contract, it is a yearly review and if necessary changes need to be implemented, that can happen upon the review. The School Committee asked about Free & Reduced which is up 5.5% and also about the student lunch debt which has been fairly small.

New Policy ILD – Student Submission to Educational Surveys and Research

Steve Sortevik had a question about the Department of Education requirements versus regulations. Jenn Iller stated that the Drug and Alcohol survey for 7th and 9th grades is mandated and can only be offered in an “opt out” way while the Signs of Suicide (SOS) survey, a local survey, has been changed now as an “opt in” .

New Policy GBEBD – Online Fundraising and Solicitations – Crowdfunding

Steve Sortevik had a question about the protocol for this policy and the order of requesting permission for such solicitations and fundraising. He wanted to know if teachers are aware to whom they should seek approval. Mrs. Iller responded this is mostly to recognize crowdfunding (such as GoFundMe) and that teachers should not be able to send mass solicitations to personal or hand selected emails. Clarification was made that something sent through the Student Information System like ASPEN would be acceptable if previously approved. Mr. Sortevik notated a grammatical fix in the policy.

School Committee Sub Committees – Dr. Tim Lepore, Chair

Dr. Lepore reviewed the reorganized sub committees and task forces citing a few small changes and additions. There was a change in the negotiations committee, Pauline Proch and Tim Lepore will be on the negotiations for Custodians and Tim Lepore will be on the ESP negotiations, with the possible addition of Steve Sortevik.

On the Horizon

The next meeting will be May 1st. In the absence of Superintendent Cozort, Dr. Lepore reviewed the items for the agenda: School Presentation is Veritas, the school newspaper. There will be an Enrollment Update, a Special Education Update, and the Guidance Update.

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103 **Committee discussion and votes to be taken**

104 Vote to Approve Policy JICI – Possession or Use of Weapons This is a new policy being put forth for a vote.
105 However, there was some confusion regarding the personal protection spray devices and the language regarding this
106 particular item. Mr. Sortevik wanted to discuss further if a person is licensed to carry something into school or not
107 and how this is handled. Mrs. Butler agreed and reminded this policy is a new policy (not one found in the MASC
108 policies) and the Committee felt it was important to include. Dr. Lepore suggested tabling this for a vote in order to
109 flush out the details with the Superintendent.

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111 Vote to Approve the April 10, 2018, Meeting Minutes. Jenn Iller made a motion to approve, Zona Butler seconded,
112 with no opposition, the motion was approved.

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114 Vote to Approve the Transfers & Invoices Jenn Iller made a motion to approve, Zona Butler seconded, with no
115 opposition, the motion was approved.

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117 **Subcommittees & Acknowledgements**

118 Sub-Committees:

119 Jenn Iller mentioned the new drop-off that began on Monday at the Nantucket Elementary School. It was very
120 successful with almost every parent and staff member eager to implement this new procedure and only two parents
121 unhappy about the change to morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. It promotes a safer environment and Mrs.
122 Kubisch, NES Principal quickly reviewed how the first and second day moved. People felt well informed and the
123 overall feedback was positive. She added that she will ask for more feedback as the routines become instilled. Mrs.
124 Butler and Mrs. Iller applauded NES for doing this so quickly in such efficacy.

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126 Miss Gammons was asked about the students. She said they are a bit itchy now that spring has started to show its
127 face. AP exams are soon and students are getting ready for those.

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129 Jenn Iller mentioned the new district brochure that has just been created and is intended to be used for Job Fairs and
130 recruiting off island to entice new staff to our district.

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132 Steve Sortevik echoed the complimentary sentiment about the brochure. He also wanted to mention the Junior Art
133 Show at the Artists Association and how terrific it was – the art was terrific and he thanked the art teachers for
134 producing such a great exhibit.

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136 Jenn Iller reminded everyone about the CPS Band and Chorus concert Wednesday, April 25 at 7:00pm.

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138 At 7:17 pm the School Committee adjourned on a motion made by Steve Sortevik and seconded by Pauline Proch,
139 and unanimously approved.

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141 Respectfully submitted,
142 Logan O'Connor
143 School Committee Clerk