

Nantucket School Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2018

1
2 Present Members: Zona Butler, Tim Lepore, Melissa Murphy, & Natalie Gammons
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4 The meeting was called to order by Chair, Melissa Murphy, at 6:00 PM in the Large Group Instruction room at NHS.
5 Mrs. Murphy asked the Committee to consider changes to the agenda, including postponing the SC self-evaluation,
6 because two members were unable to be in attendance and moving Public Comment to after the presentations, in
7 consideration of the guests who were reporting on our Science Partnerships. Tim Lepore made a motion, which was
8 seconded by Zona Butler, and the Committee approved unanimously.
9

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

11 **Science Curriculum Update – Michael Horton, Director of Curriculum for Science, Technology & Math**

12 Mr. Horton presented a PowerPoint and began by briefly discussing the new Science Frameworks based upon the
13 Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). He pointed out that these standards will have a large impact across the
14 grades, but particularly in the middle school as the presentation of information moves to an integrated science (all
15 Sciences) rather than only one aspect (Life Science, Earth Science, Physical Science) each year. He also shared a
16 Venn diagram which depicts the relationships of disciplinary practices across contents. Mr. Horton explained that
17 the bulk of this presentation was, at the request of the School Committee, to describe and outline all of the District's
18 Science Partners from the community. He indicated that the "Island is a classroom" and that these local partners add
19 a tremendous first hand experience for our students and staff. He introduced the following representatives from these
20 partners:

- 21
- 22 1. Kim Botelho from Maria Mitchell Association
- 23 2. Amanda Bardsley from Egan Maritime Institute
- 24 3. Sarah Bois from Linda Loring Nature Foundation
- 25 4. Emily Molden from Nantucket Land Council
- 26 5. Yvonne Vaillancourt from the UMass Field Station
- 27 6. Mike Horton spoke on behalf of National Grid, Farm to School and the Community School, all of whom are
28 partners, but could not have representatives present tonight.
29

30 Each partner shared their mission and the current programs that they offer the students of our district. They went on
31 to discuss some of the proposed programs that they might offer to enhance science education K-12. A common
32 theme for the partners was that, in addition to programs, they have a great number of resources and professional
33 development opportunities that our teachers can use. Several of the partners also expressed their disappointment that
34 the Science Fair was no longer being held and questioned if this was because students had lost interest or that the
35 faculty was not supporting the initiative. In either case, everyone agreed that it was something that needed to be
36 revived.
37

38 **Annual District Report Card**

39 Michael Horton reviewed the second Report Card developed to share the State of the District. He shared that the
40 district is required to share a report annually and has, in the past, used what has been provided by the Department of
41 Education. We have taken most of the information they often provide, added additional data and presented it in a
42 more user friendly format. Several SC members commented that this was much more visually appealing and easier
43 to follow.
44

45 **Comments from the Public**

46 Mr. David Dickson, community member, addressed the School Committee and offered praise for the number of
47 athletic opportunities offered to the students in the district. He noted the addition in recent years of several sports
48 (cross country running, tennis) and expressed his appreciation for the job done by coaches in the system. In
49 particular, he noted the success of the swim team and recognized Coach Jim Pignato for their accomplishments.
50

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

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52 Vote to Request to Approve MOU with NTA and NPS, amending the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the
53 Teacher’s Unit.

54 Tim Lepore made a motion, seconded by Zona Butler, with none opposed, the motion was approved.
55

56 Vote to Accept Donation from Jennifer and Christopher Ferreira to NHS Gift Account for NHS Wood Shop
57 Program, \$1,500.00. Tim Lepore made a motion, seconded by Zona Butler, with none opposed, the motion was
58 approved.
59

60 Vote to Approve Policy IMA – Teaching Activities/Presentations. Tim Lepore made a motion to approve, Zona
61 Butler seconded, and the motion was approved.
62

63 Vote to Approve the February 6, 2018, Meeting Minutes. Tim Lepore made a motion to approve the minutes, Zona
64 Butler seconded, and the motion was approved.
65

66 Vote to Approve the Transfers & Invoices of February 20, 2018. Tim Lepore made a motion to approve, Zona Butler
67 seconded, and the motion was approved.
68

69 Vote to Approve the Transfers & Invoices of March 6, 2018. Tim Lepore made a motion to approve, Zona Butler
70 seconded, and the motion was approved.
71

72 **Superintendent’s Report–W. Michael Cozort**
73 **Enrollment**

74 Mr. Cozort welcomed Mrs. Tracy Roberts, who was in the audience, as the new Director of Nantucket Community
75 School.
76

77 Superintendent Cozort briefly reviewed the expectations for the evaluation of the Superintendent, noting that this
78 process should conclude by the end of March.
79

80 Superintendent Cozort reviewed the enrollment numbers noting that the overall enrollment was 1,639, the same as
81 the previous month. There were a few changes within each school. We were unable to put in the entries and
82 withdrawals for this month, but will ensure that those are included for the next report.
83

84 Karen McGonigle updated the Committee about the recent Cyber Attack on the district computer network. She
85 explained how this happened and what steps were taken to mitigate its effects. She praised her tech team for their
86 work to recover data and indicated they are working with a company to examine the measures we have in place and
87 make recommendations for improvements in our security.
88

89 **On the Horizon**

90 It was agreed to move the meeting scheduled for April 3rd to April 10th, given the conflict with the Annual Meeting.
91 Mr. Cozort asked if the Committee might want to have an Executive Session prior to the regular session on March
92 20th to work on the Superintendent’s evaluation and the Committee agreed.
93

94 **Subcommittees & Acknowledgements**

95 Sub-Committees: The Policy Sub Committee continues to meet and a Safety & Security meeting is scheduled.
96

97 At 7:25 pm the School Committee adjourned on a motion made by Zona Butler and seconded by Tim Lepore, and
98 unanimously approved.
99

100 Respectfully submitted,
101 Michael Cozort
102 School Committee Clerk pro tempore