

**Nantucket School Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2020**

Present Members: Chair Jennifer Iller, Vice Chair Timothy Lepore, Zona Tanner-Butler, and Pauline Proch

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM, by Chair Jennifer Iller, in the Nantucket High School LGI. Zona Butler made a motion to approve the agenda, it was seconded by Pauline Proch and was approved unanimously.

Comments from the Public

None

Presentations and discussions of interest to the Committee

Recognition of Student

Dr. Hallett shared that she was delighted to recognize junior Maisie Cocker for her participation in the Massachusetts Music Educators Association's Eastern District Senior Music Festival held in January. She stated that while Nantucket High School has had numerous students participate in past festivals, it had been a few years since anyone had been accepted, so it was nice to celebrate Nantucket's return to the festival this year. She then invited Maisie and high school choral teacher Erin MacIver to the podium to share information about the festival. Mrs. MacIver shared that the Eastern District is the largest district in the state encompassing all communities from the South Shore through Cape Cod and the islands. Over 700 students audition to be in the chorus, band or orchestra, and approximately 200 are chosen based on their audition (performance of an audition piece and a sight-reading exercise). She also shared that the experience is an important one for students since they sing challenging music that they learn in just 3 days with a high-level professional choral director. Maisie shared that was an amazing experience, and she felt honored to have been chosen to participate.

"We are Nantucket" – CPS 7th Grade

Cyrus Peirce Middle School teacher Adriene Lombardi briefly described this project, which has completed its fourth year of having 7th graders interview community members of Nantucket. The project is a partnership between CPS, Dreamland and NCTV, and is intended to engage our students in a living history of Nantucket, probing what brought people to Nantucket and what keeps them here. She introduced 7th grade student Gabe Fitzpatrick and his entire interview was shown to the School Committee. SC members were interested in how he developed his questions and Gabe responded that he had certain questions prepared, but that the interview was really more of a conversation. The Committee agreed that the project is a great connection between school and community and congratulated Gabe for his interview skills.

Friends of Nantucket Public Schools (FONPS) – Liz Sullivan

Liz Sullivan and Gina Henke discussed the efforts of FONPS, our Parent Teacher Organization, and how it supports and enhances the education of our public school children. They shared their budget for 2020 and discussed their revenue stream and where their expenditures were focused. They also shared the new idea of an "Alternative" Leap Year fundraiser. It is a "No Fundraiser" fundraiser in lieu of a big, ticketed event and the proceeds which be restricted to field trips, which seemed to be a staff and school priority. Committee members shared they thought this novel idea was a great change of pace and would be welcomed by parents and the community. The SC thanked FONPS for their continued support of our schools.

Drop Out Report – Dr. John Buckey

Dr. Buckey was pleased to share this year's dropout data which shows only three students (as opposed to 11 in 2018). He shared some disaggregated data, which shows gender (2 males/1 female), one IEP student and one ELL student. The Committee was delighted with the information and wondered aloud what accounted for the drop in dropouts. Dr. Buckey was quick to credit the faculty, particularly the support teams in place to keep kids engaged and encourage them to complete their studies. He shared that "We have a lot of safety nets."

Committee discussion and votes to be taken

Vote to Approve Donation from Cape Cod 5 Mini grant to NES Grade One Special Education for \$100.00. Zona Butler made a motion, seconded by Pauline Proch, with none opposed, the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve Donation from Cape Cod of MIT to NHS Advanced Placement Calculus Course for \$400.00. Zona Butler made a motion, seconded by Pauline Proch, with none opposed, the motion was approved.

**Nantucket School Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2030**

Vote to Approve Donation from Community Foundation for Nantucket and the Will Brown fund to Nantucket Community School Learn to Swim program for \$1,000.00. Pauline Proch asked how these funds were used by NCS and Tracy Roberts shared that the Community School works in partnership with the PE department and the school counselors to identify appropriate students. Zona Butler made a motion, seconded by Tim Lepore, with none opposed, the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve February 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes. Pauline Proch made a motion to approve the minutes, Tim Lepore seconded, and the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve the Transfers & Invoices

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

**Superintendent's Report – W. Michael Cozort
Campus Planning Initiative**

Superintendent Cozort shared a Power Point that displayed a diagram of the entire campus and what considerations came into play as the Planning Committee designed it. Mr. Cozort pointed out that the first determination was where a new school might go if and when it is needed. He explained that this was critically important, because we don't want to put funds in new fields and then decide later that space is needed for a school. He went on to discuss different "phases" of the overall plan. The "new" playground for NIS was the first piece and that will be followed (this spring and summer) by moving the baseball field over to this Backus Field site. He added that we would like to add five tennis courts in the corner of this site, although it is tight. Mr. Cozort noted that tennis is growing as a school sport and it would be nice to have our courts on our site. The courts would also be a plus for the entire community. After this phase is complete, work would begin on the football/lacrosse stadium with a synthetic field and another synthetic field that could be used for Field Hockey and Lacrosse. There were several questions from Committee members, one being about renovations to the existing Field House and a suggestion that bathrooms be considered as part of the concession stand. Mr. Cozort stated that he would bring that back to the planning committee.

Subcommittees & Acknowledgements

Zona Tanner-Butler shared that negotiations are ongoing and the Policy Committee has scheduled a meeting to begin review of policies A-C.

On the Horizon

It was determined that the School Committee should have a workshop on Tuesday, March 10th to review their self-evaluation and work on the evaluation of the Superintendent which is required to be completed by March 31st. It was also agreed to have the SC Reorganization Meeting at 5:30 pm just prior to the scheduled SC meeting on April 7th.

At 7:15pm the School Committee adjourned on a motion made by Pauline Proch and seconded by Tim Lepore and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Cozort, School Committee Clerk Pro Temp