

**Nantucket School Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes – Remote Participation via ZOOM and Youtube**  
**March 24, 2020**

Present Members: Chair Jennifer Iller, Vice Chair Timothy Lepore, Zona Tanner-Butler, Pauline Proch, and Steve Sortevik. Also present from the Studio, NCTV Representative Andrew Cromartie, IT facilitator - Meeting is a Remote Participation Meeting via “ZOOM” in compliance with Governor Charles Baker’s mandate during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM, by Chair Jennifer Iller. Prior to approval of Agenda, the Chair read into the Minutes, scripted instructions for procedure of this meeting:

**Read into the March 24 Meeting Minutes at the Start of the Meeting - Confirming Member Access:**

*This is Jennifer Iller, Chair of the Nantucket School Committee. Permit me to confirm that all members and persons anticipated on the agenda are present and can hear me. Members, when I call your name, please respond in the affirmative: Tim Lepore, Vice Chair, Zona Butler, Secretary, Pauline Proch, Steve Sortevik*

*Staff, when I call your name, please respond in the affirmative: Superintendent Michael Cozort, Deputy Superintendent Elizabeth Hallett, School Committee Clerk, Logan O’Connor, Director of Technology, Jennifer Erichsen*

*Good evening. This Open Meeting of Nantucket School Committee is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker’s Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the “COVID-19 Virus.” In order to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 Virus, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor’s Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.*

*The Order, which you can find posted with agenda materials for this meeting allows public bodies to meet entirely remotely so long as reasonable public access is afforded so that the public can follow along with the deliberations of the meeting. Ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. This meeting **will not** feature public comment.*

*For this meeting, Nantucket School Committee is convening by **video conference via Zoom App** as posted on the Town’s Website identifying how the public may join.*

**For “Zoom” Meetings**

*Please note that this meeting is being recorded, and that all attendees are participating by video conference. Accordingly, please be aware that other folks may be able to see you, and to take care not to “screen share” your computer. Anything that you broadcast may be captured by the recording.*

**Meeting Materials**

*All supporting materials that have been provided members of this body are available on the Town’s website unless otherwise noted. The public is encouraged to follow along using the posted agenda unless I, Jennifer Iller, Chair notes otherwise.*

**Meeting Business Ground Rules**

*We are now turning to the first item on the agenda. Before we do so, permit me to cover some ground rules for effective and clear conduct of our business and to ensure accurate meeting minutes.*

*I the Chair, will introduce each speaker on the agenda. After they conclude their remarks, the Chair will go down the line of Members, inviting each by name to provide any comment, questions, or motions. Please hold until your name is called. Further,*

- *Please remember to mute your phone or computer when you are not speaking;*
- *Please remember to speak clearly and in a way that helps generate accurate minutes*

*For any response, please wait until the Chair yields the floor to you, and state your name before speaking. If members wish to engage in a conversation with other members, please do so through the Chair, taking care to identify yourself.*

*Finally, each vote taken in this meeting will be conducted by roll call vote.*

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A request was made to amend the agenda and not include Presentations during this meeting. Steve Sortevik made a motion to approve the agenda, it was seconded by Pauline Proch and was approved unanimously.

**Comments from the Public**

No Comments from the Public at today's meeting, waived by the Chair

**Committee discussion and votes to be taken**

Vote to Approve MOA between Nantucket Public Schools and Nantucket Teachers Association pertaining to Governor Baker's school district shutdown. Steve Sortevik made a motion, seconded by Pauline Proch, with none opposed, the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve Donation from Anonymous Donor to Adopt a Lunch Tray Program, Second Installment of 4, \$2,500.00. Tim Lepore made a motion, seconded by Zona Butler, with none opposed, the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve Donation from Cape Cod Five Charitable Foundation to NHS Math Department, \$400.00. Steve Sortevik made a motion, seconded by Zona Butler, with none opposed, the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve March 3, 2020 Meeting Minutes. Steve Sortevik made a motion to approve the minutes, Zona Butler seconded, and the motion was approved.

Vote to Approve March 10, 2020 Workshop Meeting Minutes. Requested to table these minutes to the next meeting – Zona Butler made a motion to approve the minutes, Steve Sortevik seconded, and the motion was approved

Vote to Approve the Transfers & Invoices

Steve Sortevik made a motion to approve the transfers and invoices, Zona Butler seconded, the motion was approved.

**Superintendent's Report – W. Michael Cozort Letter to Community – Updates to Remote & Online Learning**  
**Read into the Minutes:**

*Earlier today, Governor Charles D. Baker modified an executive order that previously closed public schools, private schools and non-emergency daycare centers until Monday, April 6, 2020. Under the new order, non-emergency daycare centers and public schools will remain closed until at least Monday, May 4, 2020. This announcement, while not totally unexpected, did come somewhat as a surprise this afternoon. School superintendents across Massachusetts have been in conversations about this very prospect and we expected an announcement Friday by the Commissioner of Education. Many of you are undoubtedly wondering, what now? Governor Baker emphasized that during this closure, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education ("DESE") would work with school districts to further develop remote learning and educational programming. The Nantucket Public Schools must now move from optional and supplemental assignments to higher expectations of our students. We have an amazing task force, headed by Deputy Superintendent Elizabeth Hallett, made up of teachers, teaching assistants and administrators who will roll out our learning plans for each school. As we shared in our message just yesterday, we expect you will see an increased outreach by your child's school staff. Our faculty will rise to the occasion in these extraordinary circumstances! We will expand our district communications to parents, with weekly updates on the website and through our email database.*

Steve Sortevik wanted to confirm if this was on the website, Zona Butler confirmed. The Superintendent also mentioned this will go through our email delivery service to all families.

**Subcommittees & Acknowledgements**

Zona Tanner-Butler shared that Policy met and had already gone through the A-B policies. Mrs. Iller stated the committee will continue to meet remote to review Policies in order.

Superintendent Cozort stated Negotiations are currently on hold during this time while trying to reorient the learning and education of our students during the COVID-19 situation, as this is what is most important. Negotiations hopes to reengage in approximately two weeks. NTA is in agreement.

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**On the Horizon**

For the April 7 meeting, the Superintendent mentioned that Presentations were pushed from March 24 and could be held on April 7. They were not time sensitive. He would review the Horizon and move things around accordingly.

**Other Comments**

The School Committee each made individual statements thanking the School Administration, School Staff, Town of Nantucket, the Nantucket Cottage Hospital, for all that they are doing during this time of need. They wanted to ensure everyone involved knew they appreciated the help, that they offered prayer and an opening to reach out to the Committee if you need. Dr. Lepore added it was his opinion that none of the coordination throughout the Town could be matched by that of the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent and the CEO of the Hospital.

At 6:22pm the School Committee adjourned on a motion made by Pauline Proch and seconded by Steve Sortevik and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Logan O'Connor, School Committee Clerk