

**Nantucket School Committee
Workshop Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2024**

Present Members: Chair Pauline Proch, Laura Gallagher Byrne, Timothy Lepore, Shantaw Bloise-Murphy - arrival 5:33 PM, and Superintendent Elizabeth Hallett - arrival 5:20 PM. This meeting is an in-person participation meeting in compliance with Governor Charlie Baker's statement allowing public bodies the ability to hold a meeting at a physical location that is open to the public, without requiring to provide alternative means of remote access.

The March 12, 2024 School Committee Workshop meeting was called to order at 5:14 PM in the Nantucket High School Conference Room by Chair Pauline Proch with a motion made to approve the agenda by Timothy Lepore, seconded by Laura Gallagher Byrne and approved unanimously by roll call.

The workshop session will begin and no votes will be taken. Discussion will begin.

Chair Proch began the workshop discussion with Policy BEDH - Public Comment at School Committee Meetings, expressing her concerns with the MASC suggested changes. Mrs. Gallagher Byrne, who is on the Policy subcommittee explained when reviewing the policy changes the goal was to allow the meeting to run smoother and provide the name of the public member who would like to speak for meeting records.

Dr. Hallett arrived at 5:20 PM.

Mrs. Bloise-Murphy arrived at 5:33 PM.

The committee went through and updated the policy with exhibit A and caught Mrs. Bloise-Murphy up to date with the conversation regarding the policy. Mrs. Bloise-Murphy, who is also on the Policy subcommittee respectfully wanted to make sure public comment wasn't a back-and-forth conversation.

Exhibit A proposed language.

1. At the start of each regularly scheduled School Committee meeting, individuals will sign in for an opportunity to speak during public comment. The public comment segment shall not exceed 15 minutes. All speakers are encouraged to present their remarks in a respectful manner. *Exhibit A The Chair has the prerogative to move public comment to a different time in the meeting if he or she deems it necessary and beneficial.*

Through the chair, Dr. Hallett asked if they could discuss her midyear progress report as she was scheduled to attend the NIS concert.

Superintendent's Midyear Progress Report

Superintendent Hallett provided an update on mid-year progress goals, highlighting reduced school suspensions and increased cohesion across the district. She noted the expansion of Responsive Classroom practices from kindergarten through fifth grade to now include grades six through eight, ensuring continuity for students transitioning to middle school. However, she emphasized the need for greater buy-in for restorative practices at the high school level. Mrs. Laura Gallagher Byrne shared positive feedback from CPS and NHS, though Ms. Bloise-Murphy expressed differing perspectives from elementary and high school teachers. Dr. Hallett stressed the importance of clear consequences, particularly for high school students, and discussed ongoing research for improving teaching methods. The second goal focused on student learning, with a discussion on MAP assessment results and plans for a full K-12 literacy audit. MTSS implementation at the high school was put on hold, with plans for a principal shadowing session scheduled for the following day. Other topics included educator evaluation and support, led by administrators, as well as initiatives for applied learning involving various staff members. Additionally, participation in Mycap with a team from Nantucket was highlighted, with further evidence provided on the last page of the meeting agenda. Dr. Hallett discussed plans for the District Leadership Team (DLT) to present suggestions regarding power standards, emphasizing collaboration and communication among stakeholders. Ms. Gallagher Byrne inquired about the availability of the rubric, to which Dr. Hallett confirmed its accessibility. Dr. Hallett also highlighted efforts to engage with parents, families, and community partners such as NET and Community Collaborative lunches, along with participation in events like the NHA International Women's Day Breakfast, and weekly updates. She expressed pride in student advisories but acknowledged challenges with middle

school-aged students, particularly in grades 6-8. Efforts included initiatives like "Caught Being Kind" at the elementary school. Superintendent Hallett reported on attending community organization meetings like MLPAC and upcoming attendance at FONPS, with pending participation in a SNAC meeting. Regarding the district website, she noted progress on the final site contract, prioritizing its completion. Lastly, Dr. Hallett requested a two-year evaluation and proposed moving it to after MCAS testing in September or October to allow for sufficient data and engagement with potential new school committee members.

The committee thanked Dr. Hallett and didn't see a problem with a two-year evaluation. Chair Proch mentioned feedback she received about not doing the Superintendent evaluation as a workshop. She would like a presentation from the Hope Squad.

Superintendent Hallett departed at 6:32 PM.

School Committee Self-Evaluation

The committee conducted a review of the eight sections of their self-evaluation, with a focus on areas where consensus had not been reached. Mrs. Bloise-Muphy emphasized the need for more workshops and training in the Governance section. In the Member Relations section, it was noted that obtaining all meeting information by Friday before the meeting was crucial. Concerns were raised by Mrs. Bloise-Muphy regarding some undisclosed items in the Committee/Superintendent Relations. The members also discussed not knowing about each school events too. Mrs. Proch clarified that sometimes the Chair or Vice Chair is informed first, deferring to Dr. Lepore. Mrs. Proch also explained school committee is not privy to personnel issues. Additionally, the topic of the District Improvement Plan (DIP) was addressed in the Strategic Planning and Fiscal Management section, while Community Relations was briefly touched upon in Section 7. Dr. Lepore suggested real-time translations for meetings.

Mrs. Proch departed at 6:54 PM.

Section 8: Conduct of Meetings There was a discussion of the layout in the LGI seating and not being able to see the presenter.

The School Committee's Midyear Review of 2023-2024 Goals will be discussed at a future workshop meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 7:05 PM by Laura Gallagher Byrne, seconded by Dr. Lepore, with none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Bedell
School Committee Clerk