

MINUTES OF THE
NASHOBA REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Meeting of January 4, 2023
Meeting Location:
Emerson School – 2nd Floor Conference Room
50 Mechanic Street, Bolton, MA 01740

ATTENDEES: Lean Vivirito (Chairperson), Michael Horesh (Vice-Chairperson), Amy Cohen, Scott Powell, Shandor Simon, Brett Collins, Karen Devine, Maureen Mazzone, Sharon Poch, Amy Vessels, Joseph M. Gleason.

ABSENT: None.

6:00 p.m. At 6:00 p.m. Chairperson Leah Vivirito called the meeting to order and lead the meeting in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

6:01 p.m. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

6:02 p.m. Chairperson Leah Vivirito recognized Vice-Chairman Michael Horesh in his capacity as Chairman of the Budget and Warrant Sub-committee to provide an introduction of Tracy Novick, Field Director of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees who was present to provide an overview training presentation of the responsibilities and on the legalities attendant to warrants.

6:03 p.m. Tracy Novick, Field Director of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees was recognized to present to an overview training presentation of the responsibilities and on the legalities attendant to warrants.

Ms. Novick provided a slide presentation on budget responsibilities for Massachusetts school committees concentrating on the requirements of Gen. Laws c. 41 § 56, Gen. Laws c. 71 §14(d), and Gen. Laws c. 30B. Both during and after the presentation Ms. Novick fielded questions from the members of the District Committee.

7:01 p.m. CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairperson Leah Vivirito recognized Vice-Chairman Michael Horesh.

MOTION: Vice-Chairman Michael Horesh moved to approve the consent agenda January 4, 2023 containing the meeting minutes of December 14, 2022 and the

warrants of January 6, 2023. Seconded by Chairperson Leah Vivirito. No discussion on the motion.

WARRANT NO	DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
4326	1-6-23	VENDOR FY 23	\$354,103.73
4327	1-6-23	AP ACH FY 23	\$102,768.60
4328	1-6-23	BENEFITS FY 23	\$971,451.60
4329	1-6-23	PAYROLL FY 23	\$1,517,855.11

IN FAVOR: Lean Vivirito, Michael Horesh, Amy Cohen, Scott Powell, Shandor Simon, Brett Collins, Karen Devine, Maureen Mazzone, Sharon Poch, Amy Vessels, Joseph M. Gleason

OPPOSED: None. MOTION PASSES 11-0

7:02 P.M. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairperson Leah Vivirito recognized Vice-Chairman Michael Horesh.

MOTION: Vice-Chairman Michael Horesh moved to enter into an executive session (pursuant to Gen. Laws c. 30A § 21(a)(3)) for purposes of discussing collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position to the public body and the Chair so declares and the Committee would return to open session at the conclusion of the executive session. Seconded by Amy Cohen. No discussion on the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Lean Vivirito	YES
Michael Horesh	YES
Amy Cohen	YES
Scott Powell	YES
Shandor Simon	YES
Brett Collins	YES
Karen Devine	YES
Maureen Mazzone	YES
Sharon Poch	YES
Amy Vessels	YES
Joseph M. Gleason	YES

Upon approval of the motion Member Brett Collins was excused from the executive session and departed the Conference Room.

7:03 p.m. The Nashoba Regional School District Committee reconvened in open session for purposes of amending the original motion to enter into executive session. Chairperson Leah Vivirito announced that the amendment to the motion was necessary to include non-member attendees as part of the executive session. Member Brett Collins was recalled to be included in the discussion of the (amended) motion to enter into executive session.

Prior to accepting an amended motion to enter executive session Chairperson Leah Vivirito sought leave to adjust the agenda to hear the Student Representative report prior to entering into executive session. No objection(s).

7:04 p.m. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

Dan Aube, Student Representative to the Nashoba Regional School District Committee provided an up-date on current events at Nashoba Regional High School.

7:06 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairperson Leah Vivirito recognized Vice-Chairman Michael Horesh.

MOTION: Vice-Chairman Michael Horesh moved to enter into an executive session (pursuant to Gen. Laws c. 30A § 21(a)(3)) for purposes of discussing collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position to the public body and the Chair so declares. Executive session to include Superintendent Kirk Downing, Assistant Superintendent Laura Friend, and Business Manager Ross Mulkerin. The Committee would return to open session at the conclusion of the executive session. Member Brett Collins to be excused from the executive session. Seconded by Amy Cohen. No discussion on the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Lean Vivirito	YES
Michael Horesh	YES
Amy Cohen	YES
Scott Powell	YES
Shandor Simon	YES
Brett Collins	YES
Karen Devine	YES

Maureen Mazzone YES
Sharon Poch YES
Amy Vessels YES
Joseph M. Gleason YES

7:39 p.m. The Nashoba Regional School District Committee reconvened in open session.

NEW BUSINESS:

7:40 p.m. Chairperson Leah Vivirito sought leave to adjust the agenda to New Business hear reports from the Food and Nutrition Coordinator and Director of Facilities. No objection(s).

7:40 p.m. FOOD SERVICE UP-DATE: Food and Nutrition Coordinator John Overcash Jr. was recognized to provide an up-date on operational matters attendant to the Nashoba Regional School District's food service program. Mr. Overcash's report was presented in a slide presentation and included an up-date on free meals, supply chain issues, personnel up-date(s), and menu engineering.

7:53 p.m. Chairperson Leah Vivirito sought leave to adjust the agenda hear report from the Food Director of Facilities. No objection(s).

7:53 p.m. FIVE (5) YEAR CAPITAL PLAN: Business Manger Ross Mulkerin and Director of Facilities Robert Frieswick provided an overview of the Five (5) Year Capital Plan and recent adjustments. Mr. Frieswick indicated that with current financial strains on the sending communities and the ongoing high school building project it was decided to try and extend out completions of certain requisite capital improvements across the school district. Mr. Frieswick's report was presented in a slide presentation form and he reported out on specific items in each of the district's schools.

8:16 p.m. SUPERINTEDEDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Downing and Assistant Superintendent Friend provided an up-date on matters pertaining to the Nashoba Regional School District. The submitted report can be viewed here: [Superintendent's Report](#)

8:45 p.m. (RETURN) TO NEW BUSINESS

EXTENDED DAY FEE REVIEW: Business Manager Ross Mulkerin recommended a three (3) percent (3%) increase in Extended Day Fee. The

Nashoba Regional School District to vote on this recommendation on February 1, 2023.

PRE-SCHOOL FEE REVIEW: Business Manager Ross Mulkerin recommended a three (3) percent (3%) increase in Pre-school fee(s). The Nashoba Regional School District to vote on this recommendation on February 1, 2023.

8:52 p.m. HALE WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP: Business Manager Ross Mulkerin advised that the Nashoba Regional School District had received a One Thousand Two Hundred Dollar and 00/100 (\$1,200.00) donation to help defray the cost to the Hale Middle School's Washington, D.C. trip for any student in need of same.

MOTION: Vice-Chairperson Michael Horesh moved One Thousand Two Hundred Dollar and 00/100 (\$1,200.00) donation to help defray the cost to the Hale Middle School's Washington, D.C. trip for any student in need of same. Seconded by Amy Cohen. No discussion on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Lean Vivirito, Michael Horesh, Amy Cohen, Scott Powell, Shandor Simon, Brett Collins, Karen Devine, Maureen Mazzone, Sharon Poch, Amy Vessels, Joseph M. Gleason

OPPOSED: None. MOTION PASSES 11-0

8:54 p.m. PRESENTATION OF DIRECTOR OF INNOVATION AND DIGITAL LEARNING – JOB DESCRIPTION. This matter was addressed under the SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

8:55 p.m. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

POLICY KCD – PUBLIC GIFT TO THE SCHOOL (DISTRICT). Chairperson Leah Vivirito recognized Policy Sub-committee Chairperson Karen Devine to present up-dates and changes to Policy KCD. Member Karen Devine outlined any additional changes to the revised policy since its last presentation to the committee.

Member Amy Cohen raised a question regarding the language relative to the approval of grants under this policy.

Member Michael Horesh raised a clarifying question as to whether the policy referenced (KCD) is the correct policy as there may have been a transposition error in the posting. It was determined that the actual policy reference is "KDC".

MOTION: Member Amy Cohen moved to table a vote on the up-date to Policy KDC until such time as a report is received from the Business Manager relative to the requirement of approval of grants by the committee. Seconded by Leah Vivirito. No discussion on the motion.

IN FAVOR: Lean Vivirito, Michael Horesh, Amy Cohen, Scott Powell, Shandor Simon, Brett Collins, Karen Devine, Maureen Mazzone, Sharon Poch, Amy Vessels, Joseph M. Gleason

OPPOSED: None. MOTION PASSES 11-0

8:59 p.m. BUILDING RENTAL RATE: Chairperson Leah Vivirito recognized Vice-Chairman Michael Horesh.

MOTION: Chairman Michael Horesh moved to approve the rental rates as presented. Seconded by Amy Vessels. Discussion on the motion. Member Joseph Gleason spoke to the matter of the rental rates and suggested that the Nashoba Regional School District Committee should consider striking the bifurcated rental rate(s) in favor of a unified rental rate absent discounts or fee waivers for not for profit, tax exempt, and/or 501(c)(3) organizations. Member Gleason made mention of the fact that certain of these not for profit, tax exempt, and/or 501(c)(3) organizations do not embrace the core values and principals of the Nashoba Regional School District and should not be afforded discounts or even free use of the district's facilities.

Member Sharon Poch inquired as to the fifteen percent (15%) assessment for camps that utilize district facilities. Business Manager Ross Mulkerin responded to the query and explained how and when this assessment is levied.

IN FAVOR: Lean Vivirito, Michael Horesh, Amy Cohen, Scott Powell, Shandor Simon, Brett Collins, Karen Devine, Maureen Mazzone, Sharon Poch, Amy Vessels.

OPPOSED: Joseph M. Gleason. MOTION PASSES 10-1

9:06 p.m. Chairperson Leah Vivirito sought leave to continue the meeting past 9:00 p.m. as so required. No objection.

9:06 p.m. Member Amy Vessels left the meeting.

9:06 p.m. SUB-COMMITTEE/ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BUDGET AND WARRANT REPORT: Sub-Committee Chairman Horesh reported that this subcommittee met on December 8, 2022 and that a January 17, 2023 meeting will be held to address O.P.E.B. and post-budget workshop meeting will be scheduled for the second half of January, 2023 (after the January 18, 2023 budget workshop).

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: Sub-Committee Chairperson Poch reported that Superintendent Downing is going to include a District Committee section in his weekly reports to parents and interested parties. Also, the sub-committee is working on a method to allow parents and interested parties expedited access to district information. Further, this subcommittee will be working with the Policy Sub-committee to up-date the committee's policy manual.

NRHS BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT: Sub-Committee Chairman Gleason advised as to the Massachusetts School Building Authority's vote on December 21, 2022 unanimously approving the district's preferred schematic report and advancing the district to Module Four (4) – Schematic Design. The next meeting of the N.R.H.S. Building Committee is on January 5, 2023 where the topic of public funding will be discussed. The next public forum on the high school building project will be on January 9, 2022 where a representative from the Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance will present on the issues attendant to public funding of build projects in Massachusetts.

PERSONNEL REPORT: Michael Horesh reported that this sub-committee will be meeting next week on January 10, 2023.

POLICY REPORT: Sub-Committee Chairperson Devine advised that that they are looking to schedule a meeting next meeting and that the sub-committee will be working on policy manual with Communications and Personnel on the policy manual.

AUDIT ADVISORY REPORT: Liaison Mazzone reported no up-dates.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCEPTANCE, AND RACIAL JUSTICE ADVISORY REPORT: Liaison Poch advised that this advisory committee met twice in December and the advisory committee met with Superintendent Downing and Assistant Superintendent Friend and that the advisory committee is engaged in aligning its projects for the school year with the district's strategic plan(s).

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT:
Liaison Devine advised on the annual basic rights presentation is scheduled for
January 23, 2023.

REGIONAL AGREEMENT AMENDMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REPORT: No up-dates, but Chairperson Vivirito advised that a response was
finally received from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and
that she will be reviewing same.

9:13 p.m. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA: A request for an up-date on bus routes was
made, but it was noted that generally this matter is outside of the committee's
scope of authority though members were referred to periodic up-dates from the
Business Manager's offices.

9:15 ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Chairperson Leah Viviriot moved to adjourn the meeting of the
Nashoba Regional School District Committee. Seconded by Amy Cohen.

IN FAVOR: Lean Vivirito, Michael Horesh, Amy Cohen, Scott Powell, Shandor
Simon, Brett Collins, Karen Devine, Maureen Mazzone, Sharon Poch, Joseph M.
Gleason

OPPOSED: None. MOTION PASSES 10-0

Respectfully submitted this 30th day of January, 2023.

Joseph M. Gleason

Joseph M. Gleason,
Recording Secretary