

NAUSET REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Meeting of March 5, 2009
Held at the Nauset Administration Office

APPROVED

APR 2 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Bob Jones

ROLL CALL:

- For the committee: Ed Brookshire, Bob Jones, Bonnie-Jean Nunheimer, Paul O'Connor, Jon Porteus, Maureen Voke, Fred Walters, Rick Wood (Absent: Dion Dugan, Greg O'Brien)
- For the administration: Michael Gradone, Gail Briere, Ann Caretti, Tom Conrad, Greg Baecker
- Also present: Town officials, interested citizens

CITIZENS SPEAK – None

PRIORITY BUSINESS

- Consider FY 10 Budget

1. Excess and Deficiency Fund

Supt. Gradone explained that Mr. Baumhauer was ill and therefore this will be on another agenda when he is available to report to the Committee.

2. Consider School Choice

Supt. Gradone recommended that the Committee vote to accept choice students up to 300 total enrollment in grades 9 and 10; accept up to 16 choice students in 6th grade, and 12 choice students in both grades 7 and 8 for 2010. *It was so moved by Rick Wood, seconded by Ed Brookshire and voted unanimously.*

3. Public Hearing

The Capital Plan will be on the April agenda. Supt. Gradone reviewed the process that has been followed during this year's budget presentations and considerations. At the January 5 meeting, the budget had assessments up 9.61%. Revenues were down over 7%. After cuts were made, the assessments were at 8.88% at the January 20 meeting. On January 28, assessments were at 3.5% if \$500,000 in cuts are made. The Committee had directed him to come back with another \$212,000 in cuts to get down to 2.5%. On February 19, the Committee voted to make the \$500,000 in cuts and voted to use Federal Stimulus funds to get the assessments to 2.5% instead of making the \$212,000 additional cuts. He reviewed the summary sheet.

Chair Jones opened discussion to anyone in the audience who wished to speak prior to the Committee's discussion. Don Schober expressed concern over using the Federal Stimulus money because it is not a steady reliable source of income and recommended rethinking that decision.

Mr. Gradone then reported on the complex schedule reviewing it town by town; when each town requested to meet, and their budget policies. He recommended that half of the Federal Stimulus money be used to support the FY 10 budget and the other half to E&D to be used in FY 11.

Mr. Gradone also recommends that the Committee develop a three-year plan, beginning in July, to identify revenue that can support the funds that may disappear.

4. Certify Assessments

It was moved by Rick Wood, seconded by Jon Porteus and voted unanimously to certify the FY 10 operating assessments at \$17,415,010 (2.5%).

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5. Authorize Fund Raising

Supt. Gradone introduced John Cleary and Maria Anderson who have been working on getting support for the schools' budgets by raising donations and they are asking for the Committee's approval to go forward with this plan. Mr. Cleary has talked with a lot of people and so far has a promise of donations of \$2,500, \$1,000 and \$500. Ms. Anderson said they are willing to do the work and hope that people will come forward either with monetary donations or donation of their time. Mr. Jones thanked them for their support. *It was moved by Ed Brookshire, seconded by Paul O'Connor and **voted unanimously** to authorize this fund raising effort.*

Student Representative Report - none

Administrators' Reports

Tom Conrad reported on the Model UN program; Nauset drama students are performing in competition doing *Polaroid Stories*; the Clothesline Project Concert is March 14 at 7:30; MCAS are coming up; many students from Nauset High School received Honorable Mention, Silver and Gold Key Awards in the Boston Globe Art Contest.

Greg Baecker reported that 44 students participated in Model UN; the Future Problem Solving competition at MIT; 22 students in 7th and 8th grade are competing in the Mock Trial competition; the Pops Festival is coming up; and MCAS starts the end of the month.

Gail Briere reported on the Cape Cod Gateway Regional Resource Center which was funded by DESE. She reviewed the benefits of this in support of advanced learners and their schools.

Michael Gradone reported on the district receiving a bequest of \$38,634 to be used for special projects from the will of Christopher Lovelock who was devoted to the Nauset schools. *It was moved by Rick Wood, seconded by Ed Brookshire and **voted unanimously** to accept this bequest of \$38,634.*

Mr. Gradone also reported that the Regionalization Planning Grant we have been awarded in the amount of just under \$25,000 expires June 30. The process will begin in mid-April. Representative Sarah Peake is calling a meeting with a facilitator from the University of Massachusetts.

OTHER REPORTS AND INFORMATION

- Joint Meeting

The school committees will meet on March 19 to interview the finalists. The Chairs of the Search Committee, Region and Union #54 will meet on March 18 to decide on the structure of the Joint meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

- *It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



B.J. Newmier,
Secretary, NRSC