

APPROVED

MAY 7 2009

NAUSET REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Meeting of April 2, 2009  
Held at the Nauset Administration Office

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

ROLL CALL:

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

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TOWN OF ORLEANS  
TOWN CLERKS OFFICE

CITIZENS SPEAK

- None

RECOGNITION

- Massachusetts High School Drama Guild's State Drama Festival Champions  
Mr. Conrad introduced Nauset's "Dean of Drama" Paul Markovich who introduced Judy Hamer, Drama Coach and Teacher. This group performed Polaroid Stories, a play about homeless teenagers, in the State competition with the result that they are the State Champions. This is the second year in a row that the Nauset Honors Acting Troupe has won that honor. Ms. Hamer introduced the Honors Drama Students and alumni who have returned to work with Ms. Hamer in varying roles. They were recognized with a standing ovation from everyone in the room.

PRIORITY BUSINESS

- Student Representative Report  
Emily reported on the many activities continuing on campus.
- Administrators' Reports  
Dr. Caretti reviewed her bulleted report regarding DESE focus groups on definitions of eligibility and types of assessment needed on emotional impairment and neurological impairment; participating in the Bureau of Special Education Appeals focus group on IDEA regulations and restructuring; the summer program (extended school year services); and the fact that we have two unanticipated residential placements. The money to pay for the residential placements may come from Circuit Breaker funds for unanticipated extraordinary relief.

Mr. Conrad reported that there are over 250 groups in the State Drama Festival competition with over 3,000 people at Boston Symphony Hall for the performances; MCAS, MCAS, MCAS – this is the toughest English exam ever seen for the tenth graders; preregistration is taking place with each student meeting with their mentor.

Ms. Briere reported on the \$10,000 competitive grant application (Thinkfinity Grants) which will focus on Middle School math, integrating math through all content areas. She thanked Kathy Schrock for taking the lead in writing the grant.

Mr. Baecker also reported on MCAS testing and the fact that because of Good Friday, they had to double up tests on Monday and Wednesday; students in the Advanced Learners classes will go to New York City to the United Nations and tour other sites there; he's met with representatives of organizations that contract to use the Middle

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School facilities and have requested a reduction in the fee to use the front lawn, and he reviewed the fee schedule and the profits the organizations possibly make during their events, and advised the Committee that he will be asking the Committee to increase the fees in the future; he's working on next year's school schedule. The question of the school having their own events on the front lawn was brought up and discussion followed about the Antiques and Collectibles sales which were discussed last year. Mr. Baecker said he envisions "Tuesdays at Nauset" (not using the phrase "Flea Market" because of objections from local businesses). There was further discussion about competition, the change in the economy, and the Committee agreed that this should be on a future agenda so that the public sector could have input before the Committee takes any action.

Mr. Gradone reported on the federal stimulus plan which is to give money to the schools so they don't have to layoff people (IDEA and Title I) and he has only talked about the IDEA money for next year. Some of the anticipated funds were put aside for preschool so the amount is \$30,000 less than forecast. He is hopeful for savings in health insurance and noted it is not time to panic.

- Approve Capital Plan

In the absence of Business Manager Baumhauer (who is on vacation), Supt. Gradone reported on the heating problems at the High School and Middle School; with the High School's being the most needy. Mr. Baumhauer brought in an engineer who did a study of the High School's system and made an estimate on the cost to replace the system which is \$650,000. The amount on the warrants for Town Meetings is \$459,000. Mr. Baumhauer is recommending that the items on the Capital Plan for FY10 be pushed off to FY12 and that the Middle School heat replacement be included for FY11. Brewster Selectman Levasseur addressed the Committee and asked that a second opinion be obtained, and that Mr. Baumhauer check into Mass. Law Chapter 25A Division of Energy Resources. He expressed his distress that the Capital Plan is being changed at this point and with no previous notification from the CO business department. *Mr. Dugan moved and Mr. O'Brien seconded to get a second opinion on the High School boiler. After a brief discussion, the motion and second were withdrawn. It was moved by Dion Dugan and seconded by Jon Porteus to approve the Capital Plan subject to getting a second opinion and investigation of funding mechanisms under Chapter 25A, reinstating previous projects on the original Capital Plan if the High School heating costs are less than \$459,000. Voted unanimously.* Mr. Dugan moved that a Subcommittee be formed to look at the boiler and heating at the High School; seconded by Mr. Brookshire. **Voted unanimously.** Mr. Brookshire, Mr. Dugan, and Mr. Porteus volunteered.

- Consider Fund Raiser

Mr. Conrad introduced Gretel Norgeot who has drafted a letter to support the efforts of the folks working on raising the \$40,000 necessary to move ahead with the Wind Turbine project. They now have raised \$20,000. The letter explains the initiative of their fund raising efforts and they are requesting the Committee's approval to send it home with students. *It was moved by Greg O'Brien, seconded by Ed Brookshire and voted unanimously to approve the letter for distribution.*

- Section 18 of Health Insurance Law Change

Mr. Gradone reviewed the request the Committee is considering which is to exempt a retiree from having to move to a Medicare supplemental plan as well as purchase a family plan for their dependents (if the retiree is enrolled in a district family plan along with his/her dependents). This will allow a retiree in this situation to remain on a regular family plan until the dependents are no longer eligible for coverage. *It was moved by Greg O'Brien and seconded by Jon Porteus to approve the exemption of retirees who would have to bear the cost of both a Medicare supplement plan and an active family plan to cover the dependents until the dependents are no longer eligible for coverage. Voted unanimously.*

Nauset Regional School Committee Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2009

OTHER REPORTS AND INFORMATION

- Stimulus Update  
Supt. Gradone covered this during his earlier report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- *It was moved by Paul O'Connor and seconded by Ed Brookshire to approve the minutes of February 19, 2009. Voted: 6 Aye, 2 Not Voting (D. Dugan, F. Walters)*
- *It was moved by Bonnie Nunheimer and seconded by Jon Porteus to approve the minutes of March 5, 2009. Voted: 6 Aye, 2 Not Voting (D. Dugan, G. O'Brien)*

ADJOURNMENT

- *It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



B.J. Newmier,  
Secretary, NRSC

