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# NAUSET REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE Meeting of June 4, 2009 Held at the Nauset Administration Office

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Superintendent Gradone

#### **ROLL CALL:**

For the committee: Sarah Blackwell, Ed Brookshire, Dion Dugan, Marie Enochty, Bob Jones, Bonnie-Jean Nunheimer, Greg O'Brien, Jon Porteus, Jean Souther, Fred Walters

- For the administration: Michael Gradone, Gail Briere, Hans Baumhauer, Tom Conrad, Greg Baecker

Also present: Town officials, interested citizens

#### REORGANIZATION

Supt. Gradone asked for nominations for Chair. Marie Enochty nominated Bob Jones, seconded by Bonnie Nunheimer and it was **voted unanimously**. Chair Jones asked for nominations for Vice Chair. Bonnie Nunheimer was nominated; there being no other nominations, Bonnie was voted Vice Chair. Also voted by acclamation were: Secretary - B.J. Newmier, Policy - Dion Dugan, Sarah Blackwell, and for Region Only Policy - Marie Enochty; Union/Region Budget - Ed Brookshire, Dion Dugan; Budget/Finance Review - Ed Brookshire, Greg O'Brien, Jon Porteus, Jean Souther; Negotiations - Bob Jones, Bonnie Nunheimer; Cape Cod Collaborative - Marie Enochty; Charter School Liaisons - Marie Enochty, Bonnie Nunheimer, Fred Walters; High School Council - Ed Brookshire; Middle School Council - Fred Walters; Payroll Authorizer - Jean Souther, Alternate Fred Walters; Treasurer - Bill Dugan; Assistant Treasurer - Jim Nowack.

## CITIZENS SPEAK

A representative of Nauset High Neighbors and Abutters presented a petition, signed by 90 neighbors and abutters, opposing installation of an industrial turbine at Nauset High School. Mr. Lothrup expressed his desire to know what is going on regarding this issue. Chair Jones invited people to stay for the Update from the Wind Turbine Subcommittee which is on the agenda under Reports and Information. They did not stay.

#### PRIORITY BUSINESS

## - Administrators' Reports

Principal Conrad reported that the Fine and Applied Arts night was great; MCAS testing was completed; and reviewed the senior activities.

Principal Baecker reported on the students' trip to Quebec; a picnic for incoming fifth graders was sponsored by the PTA; 140 eighth graders will be going to New York City, followed by their 8<sup>th</sup> grade dinner/dance; awards ceremonies are upcoming; closing exercises will be the morning of June 23 at 9:25; the elementary schools have done a fine job providing information about the incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Asst. Supt. Briere reported the bad news that we didn't get the grant they had applied for; and the good news that she announced the teachers of the year and employee of the year - High School Teacher Mimi Butts is the Region Teacher of the Year, Elementary Teacher of the Year is Nancy Souder (Eddy), and Employee of the Year is Kathy Marino; all three will be recognized at the Joint School Committee meeting.

Mr. Jones encouraged everyone to attend the Joint meeting and noted that retiring staff will also be recognized as well as school committee people leaving.

Supt. Gradone reported that the state budget was reduced by \$380,000 below what we forecast and the Committee will be kept up to date. He is advising staff that the budget may continue to evolve over the summer. He reported that the Eastham Police Department has applied for a grant to fund the Resource Officer so that program may be

TOWN OF ORLEANS TOWN CLERKS OFFIC 20135 July

able to continue. He also said that he enjoyed the Middle School musical production, <u>Annie</u>, and the High School Musical, <u>West Side Story</u>, was the best high school musical he's ever seen.

Mr. O'Brien recognized that this is Mike Gradone's final Region meeting and he thanked him and said it was an honor to have served with him.

#### Auditor's Report

Richard Bienvenue reviewed the auditing process and reported on the highlights of the audit. Mr. Jones asked for specific recommendations to the School Committee in exercising its responsibility in oversight of the financial status of the Region. Mr. Bienvenue responded that the School Committee adopts the budget, and should then monitor expenditures according to the adopted budget; making sure you have documented what was agreed upon, an example is in the budget areas – not to transfer between budget lines without the committee's approval.

# Award Eldredge Park Vending

Mr. Baumhauer reported that only one bid was received and that is the same vendor as in the past. It was moved by Marie Enochty, seconded by Dion Dugan and voted unanimously to award the bid to Ardath's.

#### - Confirm Reductions in Force

Mr. Gradone has been discussing contracts and legal interpretations daily regarding RIF language. All staff having their positions eliminated or reduced have been made aware. The NEA Executive Board has been told that this may not be the end of the process if state funds are reduced further, more personnel may be affected. It was reluctantly moved by Ed Brookshire and seconded by Dion Dugan to ratify the list of Reductions in Force for FY 10. There was discussion. No staff voluntarily wished to have their position reduced; custodial staff is diminished and staff will be asked to get rid of their own trash to help them do the necessary work. One of the teachers at the High School whose position is being eliminated is a single mom. The fact that next year will be even worse was acknowledged. **Voted unanimously with regret.** 

## Consider July Meeting Date

The Committee agreed to meet on July 9 instead of July 2 to give an extra week for the state budget to come through.

# OTHER REPORTS AND INFORMATION

#### Joint Meeting

In addition to the Celebration of Excellence, there may be bids to award and there will be a presentation by Alan Castellano and Supt. Gradone will deliver "thoughts" for the committees.

# Wind Turbine Subcommittee Update

Mr. Conrad will be meeting with the Town Planner from Eastham. Under Town regulations, the Wind Turbine would have to be no more than 75', not the 250' commercial turbine. He will also meet with Town Administrator Vanderhoef next week, followed by a meeting with the Subcommittee. Options are still being discussed and considered. The National Seashore is also doing a feasibility study.

## Other Reports

Mr. Jones reported on the four-day workshop on leadership which was funded by the Christopher Lovelock bequest. Orleans School Committee member Gwynne Guzzeau also attended. Gwynne Guzzeau wants to do a presentation at the September 10 Joint School Committee meeting. On June 8, there is a Lower Cape Regional School Summit

# Nauset Regional School Committee Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2009

scheduled at Orleans Town Hall with representatives of the Lower Cape School Committees, and Superintendents to look at regionalization. On June 25 there will be an open meeting at the Middle School with Peter Francese, a demographer. He also reported that he's been in touch with Steve Henneman of MASC to invite him to attend a School Committee meeting in the fall to give the big picture and he has agreed.

ArtsLink

Marie Enochty reported that another mural is being done by students with Hans deCastellane in Orleans (by Willy's). She also noted that they are close to getting their 503b status.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

 It was moved by Bonnie Nunheimer, seconded by Jon Porteus to approve the minutes of May 7, 2009. Voted: 5 Aye, 5 Not Voting (J. Souther, S. Blackwell, M. Enochty, E. Brookshire, G. O'Brien)

#### ADJOURNMENT

- It was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

B.J. Newmier,

Secretary, NRSC