

NAUSET REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Meeting of January 6, 2011
Held in the Nauset Room, Orleans Town Hall

APPROVED
MAR 28 AM 11:18
TOWN OF ORLEANS
CLERKS OFFICE
K. Delaney

Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

For the Committee: Jon Porteus, Greg O'Brien, Jean Souther, Dion Dugan, Bob Jones,
Ed Brookshire, Fred Walters, Frank Cummings, and Sarah Blackwell

For the Administration: Richard Hoffmann, Bonny Gifford, Ann Caretti, Kathy Schrock and Jim Nowack
Thomas Conrad, Maxine Minkoff and Student Representative, Robert Montano

Also present: Town officials, interested citizens

AGENDA CHANGES

Dr. Hoffmann asked that Item F., Capital Project Update be tabled until the next meeting.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Hoffmann recognized Allison Beavan, Choral Music Teacher at Nauset High School and read a letter from the Brewster Council on Aging thanking Ms. Beavan and the Chorus for their wonderful holiday performance.

CITIZENS SPEAK

Selectmen Ed Lewis of Brewster and Selectwoman Margie Fulcher of Orleans addressed the Committee regarding the MSBA funds reaffirming that those funds must go toward assessments in the individual towns and cannot be used for operational expenses. Chair Jones noted that the Committee is aware of the provisions and are well aware that the money will go to the towns to lower assessments.

PRIORITY BUSINESS

Superintendent's Excellence Award

Superintendent Hoffmann recognized Duncan Howes not only for his academic excellence but for his community involvement, leadership abilities and good character, then presented him with the Superintendent's Excellence Award. The accolades were numerous. Duncan accepted the award and said a few words of thanks to the community, students, and teachers at Nauset High School for their flexibility and assistance in enabling him to achieve all that he has been able to achieve during his years at Nauset in academia (especially math), music, wrestling, and sailing. Principal Conrad informed the Committee that Duncan has been accepted to MIT and Cornell University.

Student Representative Report

Robert Montano reported that everyone is preparing for mid-terms which will take place the last week in January. Model U.N. Club is preparing for a conference and an Energy Fair will be held at Orleans Elementary School with students helping elementary school children understand science concepts. He reported that the hockey team lost to Plymouth North 4-0. The Wrestling Team is 3-3 this year. The Boys Basketball team beat Plymouth North and are 2-3 for the season. The Girls Basketball team beat Plymouth North 56-42 and is 2 and 3 for the season as well. The Drama Club rehearsals have begun for "Hello Dolly." The Senior Music Festival begins tomorrow at King Phillips High School and January 28 is All States. The entire music department is getting ready for the Pops concert in March with Middle School students.

Administrative Reports

Principal Minkoff reported on student activities taking place which included: The Drama Club students preparing for their spring production of "Grease," student musicians had a wonderful winter performance, and the Middle School hockey team is undefeated and she congratulated Sara Harwood for all her hard work. Students visited the Harwich Jr. Theatre and experienced the production of "Jack and the Beanstalk." Sara Blackwell secured donations from Mid Cape Home Centers for six picnic tables and Cape Associates for \$100 for picnic tables.

Dr. Bonny Gifford, Assistant Superintendent reported on district-wide Professional Development highlighting the Preventing and Intervening in School Related Bullying, Professional Update for School Nurses, Category IV, Database Whirlwind & Technology for the Terrified, and Hand Made Pottery. In district professional development will include Executive Functioning Temperaments Effects on the Classroom, Responsive Classroom, and Using Twitter to Enhance Your Professional Learning Network. In addition the math literacy team will continue to work developing a District Math Literacy Action Plan. On January 18th educational assistants and teachers will come together for the first professional development council meeting of

Nauset Regional School Committee Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2011

the 2010-11 school year and begin a dialog regarding the development of a long-term professional development plan that will provide the district with a thoughtful and collaborative process that connects adult learning to student learning outcomes at all levels. Dr. Gifford also reported on the new Massachusetts Frameworks, the Math Literacy Team, Bullying and Prevention Plan, Grant Updates, and a Title I Review.

Superintendent Hoffmann reported that Central Office staff have been busy creating and preparing five budgets and have begun negotiating with teachers and educational assistants. Bargaining with secretaries and custodians will begin very soon. Dr. Hoffmann attended and enjoyed many holiday concerts throughout the district. He announced that "Envision OES" will take place on January 7th at 5:00 p.m. and the Committee was invited to attend. He also indicated that he has opened the search for Principal, Nauset Middle School and will be forming a screening committee with staff and parents.

FY11 Budget Update

Jim Nowack, Director of Accounts, reviewed the monthly expenditure reports with the Committee noting nothing out of the ordinary at this time.

FY12 Budget Update

Dr. Hoffmann informed the Committee that Principal Tom Conrad and Principal Maxine Minkoff would review their budgets line-by-line along with the rationale/justification for each item.

Principal Tom Conrad reviewed his line item budget and passionately advocated for the needs of students and staff at Nauset High School. Some of the highlights of his presentation were: increasing enrollment, growing class size, need to restore teaching positions that have been funded through other revenues, stipends for advisor/advisee program, need for more professional development, need for updated textbooks, need to purchase one ink cartridge for each staff member next year, counselors, part time nurse, Project Access and the school resource officer. He suggested to the Committee to "stay the same is only to fall behind." In the near future he would like to assess all students' reading capabilities and indicated that all students should be reading at grade level when they graduate. Members of the Committee thanked Principal Conrad for being a tireless advocate for Nauset kids.

Chair Jones indicated that the budget is up 2.05%. He also stated that the schools are a part of our community, linking schools and community together. A tremendous amount of student volunteer service is given to the community and that Schools are the community, not just an isolated entity.

Russell French, Vice Chair of the Eastham Finance Committee, addressed the Committee regarding sustainability especially in the areas of pensions and health care and suggested the need for town officials and school officials to meet and decide what can be done going forward to reduce costs.

Principal Maxine Minkoff reviewed her line item budget with the Committee indicating that the Middle School is hurting very badly from cuts that have been made over the past couple of years. She would like to restore some exploratory programs such as the jazz ensemble, choral music instructor, .4 art teacher, physical education classes, and restore foreign language teacher, need for math teachers, more professional development for math, restore textbook money, keep counselors full time, and restore the late bus.

Chair Jones indicated that the Middle School budget proposed increase is 3.75% without any salary increases. Dr. Hoffmann indicated that the Committee will look at all of the requests at the next School Committee meeting.

Provincetown Tuition Agreement

Dr. Hoffmann indicated the need to address the Provincetown Agreement as it is a one year agreement. Provincetown is not changing their plan of closing Provincetown High School. Modifications in tuition calculations may be necessary as well as an escalation clause in the new agreement. Four towns are assessed for the Capital Plan and Provincetown may have to share in the formula as well.

The Chair of the Region School Committee, Dr. Hoffmann, the Superintendent from Provincetown, and the Provincetown School Committee Chair will schedule a meeting to discuss all the issues and the agreement.

Reports and Information

Policy Subcommittee – no report

Nauset Regional School Committee Meeting Minutes of January 6, 2011

Transportation Subcommittee – Dion Dugan reported on the preliminary results of the Bus Transportation Survey –
44% indicated no problem with elementary schools starting earlier
43% indicated they would be interested in after school care
70% not concerned about middle school and high school students riding the bus together
They will now move forward with planning informational forums in the schools.

Sustainability Subcommittee – Mr. O'Brien is in the process of meeting with finance committee members and will continue to look at the template of revenues and expenses.

Wellness Subcommittee – Ms. Blackwell reported that the subcommittee continues to revise the Wellness Policy.

Cape Cod Collaborative – Mr. Walters reported that the bus situation at the Cape Cod Collaborative has settled down and the busing is running very efficiently. Cape Cod Challengers Club has spent time and money upgrading the Osterville site.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Brookshire, seconded by Mr. Dugan, it was voted to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2010 meeting. Not voting: Mr. Cummings

Executive Session

The Executive Session was postponed until the next meeting.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Dugan, seconded by Mr. Brookshire, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann M. Tefft, recording secretary



