

Nauset Regional School Committee
March 7, 2013
Brewster Town Hall

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ORLEANS TOWN CLERK
J May
APPROVED

Present for the Committee: John O'Reilly, Sue Skidmore, Jayne Fowler, Ed Brookshire Sarah Blackwell, Brian Kavanaugh Jon Porteus, Chris Galazzi, Cheryl Codair and Greg O'Brien

Present for the Administration: Principal Thomas Conrad, Dr. Ann Caretti, Ms. Giovanna Venditti, Dr. Bonny Gifford and Dr. Richard Hoffmann

Others: Russ French, Dave Dunford, John Knight, Greg Levasseur, and Tom Rhinehart

Call to Order –

Chair O'Reilly called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Agenda Changes

Fy14 Budget/Capital Budget

Citizens Speak

Ed Brookshire commented on the Region's meeting last month. He reminded the committee that they owe a responsibility to taxpayers but were elected to have a responsibility to the students, and members tend to forget that fact.

Priority Business

Administrators' Reports

Principal Conrad reported that the high school is entering into the preregistration process. He will be meeting with 8th graders at the Middle School and the Lighthouse Charter School this week. After that, they will begin the course selection process and it is his goal to have all selections in place by Step Up Day, before summer break. He reported that the half day curriculum days were fantastic, teachers continue to work on the Atlas System, MCAS tests are in, cafeteria booths are in and the Green Energy Club is fundraising for a bottle water filling station.

Mr. Brookshire noted that the murals in the cafeteria are outstanding!

Principal Minkoff reported that the Middle School staff and students did a fabulous job on the Curriculum Show and Tell Event. She invited people to attend the Greenhouse Auction on April 6th at Ocean Edge and thanked all the contributors helping with this fundraiser. She also reported that 8 musicians will be representing Nauset at the Jr. District Music Festival. Parents and students are visiting the Middle School preparing for next year.

MOTION

On a motion by Greg O'Brien, seconded by Sarah Blackwell, it was voted unanimously to accept the following gifts with gratitude.

- Charitable grant - \$4,870 - Ms. Elizabeth Frankel and Mr. Charles Steinhorn of the Eagles' Nest Fund for scholarships for students to attend the eighth grade class trip to Washington D.C.
- Ms. Patricia L. White - \$50 donation for the Greenhouse Project

- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph and Judith DiBridgida of Orleans have donated a telescope with attachments
- Mr. and Mrs. Gary Thorup have donated a ping pong table
- Masonic Angels Foundation has donated laptops for KidZ Projects

Dr. Ann Caretti reported on the Adolescent Series scheduled for April 2nd from 6:00-7:30 p.m. She also informed the committee that this is the transitioning period for many special needs students across the district going from elementary to middle and middle to high with everyone involved in assisting students with these transitions.

Dr. Gifford expressed her enthusiasm for the Middle School Curriculum Show and Tell Night that was an example of all standards in action. She congratulated all the staff and students for a wonderful event. She continues to work with staff members on Professional Development and continues to document curriculum in the Atlas database. K-5 Common Assessments have been rolled out and it was suggested people check the website. She highlighted the work of Roger Faucher who continues to lead the district's work relative to developing the STEM program.

Dr. Hoffmann reported he attended the National Conference on Education in Los Angeles during vacation week and will submit a written report. Next week Dr. Gifford will attend a meeting at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education relative to student achievement and student growth factors that will become part of the evaluation system. Dr. Hoffmann attended Community Read Days in Orleans and Eddy Elementary School. He also noted that students grades K-2 district-wide attended a drama production at the high school on anti-bullying and respecting each other which was very well done.

FY13 Budget

Giovanna Venditti reviewed the monthly expenditure reports with the committee highlighting changes since last month at the Middle School and High School and reviewed the FY13 spending plans. She noted in the Region only budget, account #8723, unemployment, will show \$12,000 worth of retroactive payments next month and account #8735, out of district placement, has a substantial change and an unanticipated expense of \$61,564. Dr. Hoffmann indicated that Circuit Breaker money could help in this situation and reimbursement could be about 60% of the cost. Dr. Caretti stated that the District does not get reimbursement for Special Needs Transportation costs. It was also noted that \$50,000 is being set aside at the High School and Middle School in case of an emergency.

FY13 Revenue

Dr. Hoffmann reviewed the updated 3/5/2013 Region Revenue Summary for FY13 with the Committee noting the changes since the last report. (State Aid Transportation Aid reduced, Truro Tuition reduced, Provincetown Tuition increased, Assessment for Therapists reduced, Assessment for Technician increased, Circuit Breaker increased, rebates in FY12 was included in report for FY12 certified E & D)

The Committee discussed enrollment projections and E & D anticipated balances. A policy will be developed to assure a certain balance in E & D. Sometime in the future, the Budget and Finance Committee will meet to review all revenue accounts. It was noted that in the past E & D was made available for emergencies. Chair O'Reilly indicated the auditor was coming to the next meeting.

Dr. Hoffmann reviewed the FY14 Summary Sheet with the Committee indicating that the net operating budget is \$19,691,519, increase \$526,627 or 2.75% increase. The total assessment to towns is \$19,731,058.

Assessments to Towns

Brewster - \$9,225,888

Eastham - \$4,364,612

Orleans - \$3,777,647

Wellfleet - \$2,362,911

Mr. Kavanaugh and Mr. Galazzi expressed their concern about the divide between the auditor's report and the DESE Reporting. Mr. O'Brien made a motion to approve the budget indicating Administration is making good strides in the financial area and as a member of the Regional School Committee for 18 years, he indicated the focus for the school committee was building Nauset to be the best district in the area. He feels that this has been accomplished as Nauset is one of the best districts in the state. He indicated he would like to see a clear discussion of Technology and would like the principals to be part of the discussion.

MOTION

On a motion by Greg O'Brien, seconded by Sue Skidmore, it was voted 8 yeas, 1 nay (Brian Kavanaugh) and 1 abstention (Chris Galazzi) to approve the FY14 Budget in the amount of \$28,256,752 and certify the assessments to the member towns as submitted with the exception of the FY2014 Capital Plan.

Revision to Capital Plan

Dr. Hoffmann reviewed the revisions to the FY14 Capital Plan with the Committee.

MOTION

On a motion by Brian Kavanaugh, seconded by Chris Galazzi, it was voted, 7 yeas, 3 nays (John O'Reilly, Jayne Fowler, and Sue Skidmore) to adjust the amount for the Capital Plan to \$459,000 and accept the FY14 Plan as revised.

Discussion regarding technology ensued. It was noted that technology needs to be curriculum based and it was suggested that an Advisory Committee be established to concentrate on a vision and strategy. Cheryl Codair will meet with Dr. Hoffmann and Barbara Lavoine as to how to proceed with the establishment of the Advisory Committee.

MSBA Statement of Interest

Chair O'Reilly, Sue Skidmore, and Jon Porteus, members of the Capital Asset Subcommittee, reported that they prioritized items in the Habeeb Capital Asset Assessment report and determined they would address issues dealing with the building envelope and determined the middle school roof and the high school siding were priority items.

After discussion, on a motion by Chris Galazzi, seconded by Ed Brookshire, it was voted unanimously: Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on March 7, 2013, the Nauset Regional School Committee, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form that will be submitted to the MSBA no later than April 10, 2013 for consideration in FY2013 for the Nauset Regional Middle School located at 70 Route 28, Orleans, MA 02653 which

describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future under MSBA Priority #5, for the replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems such as roofs and heating and ventilation systems to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility. The roof and the roof mounted HVAC and related systems have reached the end of their useful life. The school is experiencing serious water leaks and break downs of the HVAC system resulting in poor air quality, inconsistent heating throughout the building, and water damage to other parts of an otherwise high quality facility. The District has endeavored to maintain the roof and HVAC and related systems by expending considerable resources over the past 3-5 years. However, the systems now need a permanent and more cost effective solution; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

It was noted that the Townspeople will be informed as the process progresses.

School Choice

Dr. Hoffmann distributed a handout regarding the school choice program that included an overview, calculation and payment of tuition charges, expenditure of tuition revenues, how the commonwealth shares in the cost for school choice, and why school choice works for Nauset. It concluded that School Choice makes sense for Nauset financially and educationally.

MOTION

On a motion by Cheryl Codair, seconded by Ed Brookshire, it was voted 9 yeas and 1 nay (Brian Kavanaugh) to vote the new school choice sets as proceeded.

Grade 6 – 30

Grade 7 – 2

Grade 8 – none (siblings only)

Total of 32 seats

Grade 9 – 49

Grade 10 – 2

Grade 11 – Siblings only

Grade 12 – Siblings only

Total of 51 seats

Policy Manual – Section C for First Reading

On a motion by Greg O'Brien, seconded by Chris Galazzi, it was voted unanimously to approve "in form" Section C of the policy manual for a first reading.

REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Policy Subcommittee – reported previously

Transportation Subcommittee – no report

Wellness Subcommittee – no report

Capital Asset Subcommittee – will schedule a meeting

Cape Cod Collaborative – no report

Middle School Liaison – no report

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were held until the next meeting.

Adjournment

On a motion by Chery Codair, seconded by Sue Skidmore it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann M. Tefft

Included in the Packet: Principal Conrad's report, Principal Minkoff's report, Asst. Supt. Report, Green House Building Project, Monthly Expenditure Reports, FY14 budget materials, School Choice Handout, Statement of Interest – MSBA, Minutes of January 24, 2013.

