

Joint Meeting of the Nauset School Committees
Nauset Regional Middle School
October 11, 2012

Present for the Brewster Committee: Dave Telman, Donna Kalinick, Jennifer Rabold, Brenda Cazeault,

Present for Eastham Committee: Ann Crozier, Laura Freeman, Joanne Irish, Mary Lou Sette

Present for Orleans Committee: David Abel, Eric Ehnstrom, Gwynne Guzzeau

Present for Wellfleet Committee: Chair Plaue, Jill Putnam, Terry Frazier

Present for Region Committee: John O'Reilly, Jayne Fowler, Jon Porteus, Sue Skidmore

Present for Administration: Richard Hoffmann, Bonny Gifford

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA CHANGES –

Item D. – MASC Resolutions was tabled as it will be taken up at individual school committee meetings.

PRIORITY BUSINESS

Martha Jenkins and Anne Moore gave a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the Nauset Community-Wide Read. The Community-wide read involves the entire district, communities and libraries promoting the reading of one book by Cammie Walker, 29 Gifts, which is a story of a young girl who is diagnosed with MS who does not focus on her affliction but decides to give something to others for 29 days. Companion books have been chosen for children. Virtues of kindness, caring, giving and community are inspired along with reading and writing. Each school is doing some school based events to celebrate the gift of literacy, reading, speaking, and writing. Local libraries are hosting events as well and will be issuing children's passports when visited and if all four libraries are visited the child will receive a free book.

October 24th at 6:00 p.m. storytellers, Bill Harley and Len Cabral will perform at the Nauset Middle School and all families are invited to attend for free. The culminating event will be a book drive in November called, "One Book to Share." It is the hope that through this activity we promote the joys of literacy, the resources of our town libraries, and remind people what a gift it is to be able to read.

Superintendent's Evaluation

The Superintendent reviewed the Superintendent Evaluation Document with the Committees. He noted that the plan is a work in progress but a good start that we can enhance and learn as we go along. The Superintendent's Evaluation document consists of a Self-Assessment, a Student Learning Goal, a Professional Practice Goal, and 5 goals taken from the Strategic Plan,

Chair Plaue asked the committee if they had any question regarding the Superintendent's evaluation process. She indicated that the School Committees will evaluate this year using evidence that the Superintendent gives to the Committee. Ms. Cazeault voiced a concern about the measurability of the goals. Ms. Rabold indicated that not all measures are numbers based and that some evidence will be subjective like meeting agendas and minutes. Ms. Guzzeau described the document as a great beginning as members are already thinking about the evaluation and would like to see it accomplished before the elections take place in May. It was suggested for the future this document be reviewed in the summer at Joint meetings. Dr. Hoffmann indicated that next year input from Principals on the Superintendent's performance will be included. Ms. Putnam stated that the Superintendent has done a lot of work in a short amount of time. It can be fine-tuned as we go along. She indicated this it was a motivating and high ambitious plan.

Chair Plaue stated that the Region School Committee could not vote on the plan due to a lack of a quorum.

Motion: On a motion by Dave Telman, seconded by Jill Putnam, it was voted unanimously by Union 54 to accept the self-assessment goals and focus goals for the 2012-2013 Superintendent's evaluation as submitted.

Chair Plaue thanked Dr. Hoffmann for all his hard work. Ms. Guzzeau expressed her concern about the lack of quorum for the Region.

Transportation Update

Giovanna Venditti, Director of Finance and Operations, reported on "Day One" transportation problems and solutions to the problems, bus changes that have been resolved, and a ridership study for the week ending September 22nd. She noted another ridership study will be done later in the year.

Giovanna Venditti was thanked for her report which included mileage and costs. It was requested that the morning and afternoon routes be looked at when the next ridership study is done. Ms. Kalinick noted the significant drop in mileage and asked if the buses were too overcrowded. The Committee would like to know the maximum number of students that can ride a bus. (elem. level/middle and high level) It was noted that ridership will change with before and after school activities.

Eric Ehnstrom, chair of the Transportation Subcommittee indicated that the subcommittee is meeting again and if committee members forward questions, they would be addressed. (email E. Ehnstrom) He also requested that Ms. Venditti invite someone from the bus company to the next subcommittee meeting.

Preschool Enrollment

Dr. Ann Caretti, Director of Student Services, informed the Committee that parents in Brewster are interested in fundraising for the preschool. She also called their attention to the recent vote of the committee indicating a preschool for non-special education students might be explored.

She reviewed the October 1 Preschool Enrollment noting they had some students with significant disabilities and so they reorganized the preschool to include an extended day program. Next year's preschool will need the extended day program as well. The financial ramifications with the tuition increase were mentioned. Dr. Caretti will have more information at the next meeting about tuition and how many community friends are on a wait list. Dr. Caretti indicated that the District used \$61,880 from the Preschool Revolving fund to offset the cost of the fourth classroom. The cost for each town was:

Brewster will pay \$264,000 44%

Eastham will pay \$154,139 26%

Orleans will pay \$84,918 15%

Wellfleet will pay \$84,418 15%

Totaling \$588,230 (these figures do not include transportation)

Dr. Caretti indicated that the cost allocation percentage is based on a 3-year average in the preschool. Dr. Caretti also reminded the committee that preschoolers come into the program as they become of age so enrollment numbers do change. Presently two new students are going to enroll at Wellfleet Elementary School. Maggie Mack indicated there are 7 or 8 community friends on the wait list. Dr. Mack indicated families ask for assistance when they need it and she will have more information when all free and reduced applications are processed. Chair Plaue thanked Dr. Caretti for the update and the monthly enrollment report.

Union 54 Meetings

Ms. Gwynne Guzzeau, Chair of Union 54, stated the first working meeting for Union 54 will be on Tuesday, November 27th. Members asked if the agenda could be posted indicating the topics that will be discussed well in advance. Ms. Guzzeau felt that each town will have a chance to "check in" and share what is and what is not working in their town. Agendas may include: School Choice, Negotiations, Foreign Language, Science, Transportation, and Food Services to name a few.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Dave Telman, seconded by Sue Skidmore, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of September 27, 2012. (1 abstention – Gwynne Guzzeau)

It was requested that there be a Cafeteria Report at the next Joint Meeting relative to participation and costs.

Ann M. Tefft
Recording Secretary

