
EDUCATION CHANNEL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, May 8, 2007
Nashua School District Office Conference Room 1

A regular, monthly meeting of the Nashua School District Education Channel Committee was held Tuesday, May 8, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in the Nashua School District Office Conference Room 1.

Chair Stacy Hynes, Director, Grants and Community Development presided; Dana Naas, Secretary, Grants and Community Development, recorded.

Committee members present:

Karen Cooper	Rivier College
Bernie Del Llano	Community Volunteer
Kathleen Drolet	Nashua School District
Rick Farrenkopf	Nashua School District (CTAB)
Stacy Hynes	Nashua School District
Ed Lecius	Nashua Police Department (CTAB)
Diane Vienneau	Nashua School District

Other attendees:

Jeff Poehnert	PEG Manager, City of Nashua
Thomas Vaughan	Board of Education
Michael Brindley	The Telegraph

Stacy opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. She performed roll call.

Review of Minutes from April 10, 2007 Meeting

Copies of the April 10, 2007 Minutes were distributed and accepted. Ed Lecius motioned they be accepted; Bernie Del Llano seconded.

Status of additional audio tests at NHS North Lecture Hall to broadcast live

Stacy said that overall, the live broadcast test at the April 18, 2007 Board of Education meeting went well. Jeff Poehnert said a problem still exists with the audio and he spoke with Comcast about resolution. They seem to think it is because of the high channel number 99 and should be easily rectified. Either way, the next BOE meeting (Monday, May 14, 2007) will be broadcast live as another test.

Our hope is on May 21, 2007 to begin broadcasting live on a regular basis. In addition to regular BOE meetings, Jim Pfeiffer has two and one-half hours of video of student-produced content.

Jeff Poehnert said he has seen some of the tapes already done and can tell students are aware it is intended to be broadcast and are sensitive to appropriate content.

Bernie Del Llano asked to clarify when there is the first broadcast. Stacy said May 14 is a test; May 21st is the day that student material will be on, plus Superintendent Christopher Hottel's Education Round Table. May 24 is the special BOE meeting with a presentation by NESDEC on the results of the facilities study.

Diane Vienneau asked how often the BOE meets. Tom Vaughan said there are usually two meetings a month, with fewer during the summer months.

Stacy said Jeff Poehnert is looking for announcements to be put on Channel 99. Bernie Del Llano said announcements from eNews can go on and Stacy said she will look into including them.

Tom Vaughan asked if there is going to be a bulletin board about school announcements. He said as more and more announcements are on a bulletin board it gets harder to read. Stacy suggested a link to the District website.

Ed Lecius said we could put upcoming Channel 99 events as a TV schedule in the newspaper, referring back to the website for details.

Stacy said we obviously have to get word out about the regular programming beginning on May 21. By getting the word out through all administrators and teachers, hopefully sparking their interest to plan for the new school year about how they can incorporate Channel 99 into their classrooms to help with teaching and learning. Diane Vienneau asked if announcement of Channel 99 launch is going to be in The Telegraph and Stacy said she will put out a press release, plus include it in eNews.

Kathy Drolet said she is thinking of next year for Exchange City as great material for broadcast.

Jeff Poehnert said that last Wednesday, May 2, the City Hall/Elm Street Job Shadow Day, he videoed the events and made a DVD from that. Stacy added that Job Shadow Day is a day where 8th grade students from Elm Street Middle School come to City Hall to spend two and one-half hours with City employees in their various departments. Jeff Poehnert said next year he can send out two or three cameras. Stacy added that at the end of the day, two or three students shared their experiences, which would make for great broadcast opportunity.

Kathy Drolet wondered if there should be a procedure for setting up and planning video programming. Stacy said the Education Channel Committee role is to approve programming and plans to follow, as an example, the form from the town of Bedford, which is clear and simple. She said approval procedures are spelled out in the policy and procedures manual guidelines.

Kathy Drolet said if there is a procedure for teachers, they will plan to video and they should know the procedure for planning purposes. She said possibly a small subcommittee could be formed and Stacy agreed.

Jeff Poehnert and Kathy Drolet said they will be on this subcommittee for establishing procedures. Kathy said there seem to be two aspects to the programming:

1. Show and tell type programs
2. What teachers do for programming.

Stacy asked Diane Vienneau about a term she used for a possible program, and it was “Did You Know?” Ed Lecius said the program could be based on a concept of vignettes that would present the raw product of videos of various student activities at all grade levels, and could be a weekly feature for an hour. There was discussion among members about various ideas for student video programming and that the videos taken could be edited by students in Jim Pfeiffer’s class at NHS South as part of their curriculum. There was also discussion about videos done in sequence, such as video diaries or journals.

Bernie Del Llano motioned to create the subcommittee named “Programming Protocols & Procedures Subcommittee” (PPP). There are five members: Bernie Del Llano (Chair), Kathy Drolet, Jeff Poehnert, Tom Vaughan, and Diane Vienneau. Ed Lecius seconded. The first meeting will be on Tuesday, May 15, 1:00-2:00 pm, District Office Conference Room 1.

Rick Farrenkopf said there is possibly available this year a federal fire safety grant to install video conferencing equipment in the fire station and schools where firemen can speak directly from the fire station to students in the schools. The program can be taped and shown on Channel 99 as well. Stacy said this will be fine as long as the programming stays within the guidelines of teaching and learning.

Tom Vaughan asked if there are opportunities for Spanish-speaking programs. Stacy said she will see a video today done by the students at NHS South. Bob Cioppa, who is an Education Channel Committee member, is a supporter and these programs will definitely be included.

Review of approval of suggested announcements

Stacy said she has not yet received any announcements for approval. Karen Cooper said she would like to bring in announcements about Rivier College speakers. Stacy said to please bring them in but be cautious about speakers approving of the announcements.

Tom Vaughan asked if there are difficulties obtaining free programming to use for “fill” until the Channel 99 program schedule is filled. Bernie Del Llano said he thinks the NH Department of Education has some video information available. Stacy said she will look into it.

Public Comment

Stacy asked if there were any other comments. She closed the meeting at 9:55 am and said she will keep everyone informed about Channel 99 progress. Bernie Del Llano motioned to adjourn; Karen Cooper seconded. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 12, in the District Office Conference Room 1.

Dana Naas, Secretary
Grants and Community Development
Nashua School District