

NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

**School Committee
Business Meeting & COVID Forum**

Monday, October 4, 2021

6:30 PM

**SC Packet Checklist: SC Business Meeting Agenda October 4, 2021
SC Meeting Agenda Notes October 4, 2021
NPS Medical Team Forum flyer
SC Business Meeting minutes 9-20-2021
Policy Subcommittee Meeting minutes 8/23/21
Policy Subcommittee Meeting minutes 9/28/21**

**Newburyport Public Schools
Newburyport, MA
School Committee Business Meeting & COVID Forum
Monday, October 4, 2021**

6:30 PM

Nock Middle School Auditorium, 70 Low Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

The Mission of the Newburyport Public Schools, the port where tradition and innovation converge, is to ensure each student achieves intellectual and personal excellence and is equipped for life experiences through a system distinguished by students, staff, and community who: - practice kindness and perseverance - celebrate each unique individual - value creativity; experiential, rigorous educational opportunities; scholarly pursuits; and life-long learning - provide the nurturing environments for emotional, social, and physical growth - understand and embrace their role as global citizens.

(Special Note: Masks must be worn at this in-person meeting which will be taped for later broadcast; Zoom is “not” available.)

Business Meeting Agenda: The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

- 1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

- 2. Public Comment**

- 3. COVID Forum**

- 4. *Consent Agenda - (warrants and meeting minutes), possible Vote**
 - a. Warrants
 - b. School Committee Business meeting minutes of 9/20/2020
 - c. Policy Subcommittee meeting minutes of 8/23/21
 - d. Policy Subcommittee meeting minutes of 9/28/21

- 5. Subcommittee Updates**
 - a. Finance Subcommittee – Steve Cole
 - b. Policy Subcommittee – Sheila Spalding
 - c. Joint Education Subcommittee – Sean Reardon

- 6. Superintendent’s Report**

- 7. New Business**

*Possible Vote

Adjournment

The School Committee reserves the right to call **executive session, as provided under Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2), of the General Laws to discuss strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations collective bargaining and/or potential litigation.

**Newburyport School Committee Meeting & COVID Forum
Meeting Agenda Notes**

**Monday, October 4, 2021
6:30 PM**

Nock Middle School Auditorium, 70 Low Street, Newburyport, MA

AGENDA NOTES

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

(Special Note: Masks must be worn at this in-person meeting which will be taped for later broadcast; Zoom is "not" available.)

Agenda:

2. Public Comment

3. COVID Forum

The School Committee will host a managed question and answer session about COVID-19 related concerns and Newburyport Public Schools with the medical advisory team which consists of: Sean Gallagher (Superintendent of Schools), Lauren McDonald (NPS Director of Health Services), Frank Giacalone (Newburyport Director of Public Health), Pam Palombo (Newburyport Public Health Nurse), Dr. Jessica Lasky-Su (parent and epidemiologist, professor/statistician at Harvard Medical School and Brigham & Women's Hospital), Commander Michael Allard (parent and Chief Operating Officer of the Red Sox Foundation and MA General Hospital Home Base Program), Dr. Lars Lundgren (district consulting pediatrician) and NPS Extended Leadership Team.

4. *Consent Agenda - (warrants and meeting minutes), possible Vote

- a. *Warrants*
- b. *School Committee Business meeting minutes of 9/20/2020*
- c. *Policy Subcommittee meeting minutes of 8/23/21 and 9/28/21*

5. Subcommittee Updates

- a. *Finance Subcommittee – Steve Cole*
- b. *Policy Subcommittee – Sheila Spalding*
- c. *Joint Education Subcommittee – Sean Reardon*

6. Superintendent's Report: Open House updates

7. New Business

*Possible Vote

Adjournment

FYI: Upcoming Dates:

- ✓ **Early Release Day:** Friday, October 8
- ✓ **Columbus Day:** Monday, October 11 (no school)
- ✓ **Parent Alliance meeting:** Tuesday, October 12 @ high school
- ✓ **School Committee Business Meeting:** Monday, October 18, 6:30PM
- ✓

*Possible Vote

NEWBURYPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS MEDICAL TEAM

FORUM

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4 at 6:30PM
IN THE NOCK AUDITORIUM

MASKS ARE REQUIRED IN THE BUILDING

JOIN US FOR A MANAGED Q&A WITH OUR MEDICAL ADVISORY TEAM:

SEAN GALLAGHER, Superintendent of Schools

LAUREN MCDONALD, NPS Director of Health Services

NPS EXTENDED LEADERSHIP TEAM

FRANK GIACALONE, Newburyport Director of Public Health

PAM PALOMBO, Newburyport Public Health Nurse

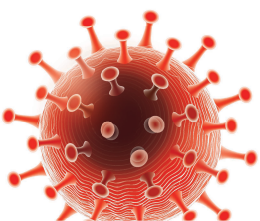
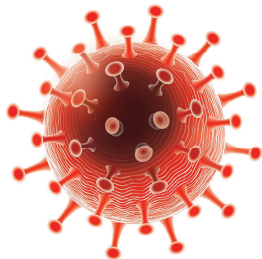
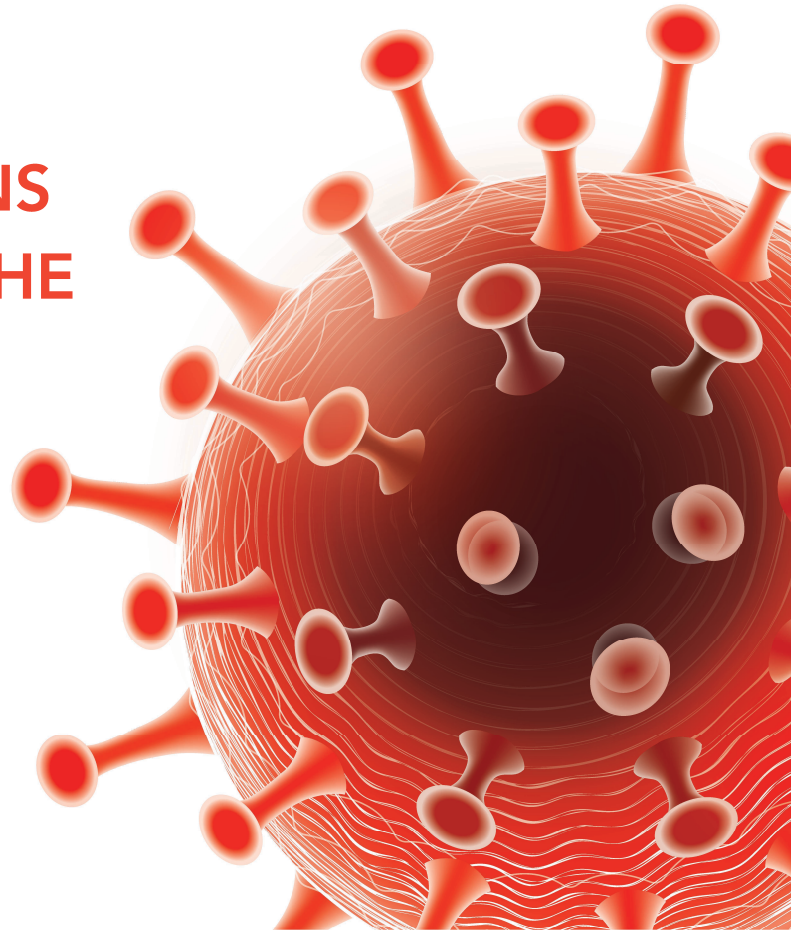
JESSICA LASKY-SU, DSc, MS

COMMANDER MIKE ALLARD

LARS LUNDGREN, MD, FAAP

**SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS
ABOUT COVID-19 AND THE
NEWBURYPORT PUBLIC
SCHOOLS AT:**

bit.ly/39AmamL



**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING
Senior Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950
Monday, September 20, 2021**

Meeting Convened at 6:33 PM

Mayor Donna Holaday / Brian Callahan Presided

Present: Mayor Donna Holaday, Brian Callahan, Bruce Menin, David Hochheiser, Sheila Spalding, Sean Reardon, Steve Cole

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Donna Holaday called the School Committee Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 6:33 PM. Roll call found all members present.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ralph Orlando, 4 William Hall Drive - stated he liked the meeting starting at 7:00 PM. He suggested the agenda go back to two Public Comment sessions.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Warrants:

Motion:

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Bruce Menin** it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrants:

Warrant 8039	\$301,869.13
Warrant 8039A	<u>\$ 97,141.71</u>
Total	\$399,010.84

And the following 3 sets of meeting minutes:

August 12, 2021, Newburyport School Committee Retreat

Monday, August 16, 2021, School Committee Business Meeting

Tuesday, September 7, 2021, School Committee Business Meeting

Motion Passed Unanimously

POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE - Face Coverings Policy (EBFA):

Sheila Spalding gave an overview of the policy.

Brian Callahan asked if outside policy was covered by this.

Superintendent Gallagher said masks were optional outside.

Motion:

On a motion by **Bruce Menin** and seconded by **Sean Reardon** it was

VOTED: To approve the Face Covering Policy (EBFA) as presented.

Motion Passed unanimously

David Hochheiser asked if there have been any changes to outside policy.
Superintendent Gallagher said masks were optional outside.

SELF-EVALUATION:

Brian Callahan read the results of the School Committee Self-Evaluation report.

David Hochheiser said some of this requires the way their meetings are run.

Brian Callahan reviewed how meetings are run.

Bruce Menin discussed Collective Bargaining item 6.

Brian Callahan spoke regarding different policies.

David Hochheiser spoke regarding the following issues:

- Having a second Policy Committee to go through the Policy Booklet
- The level of pushback - School Committee/School Department
Having a retreat in the future to discuss this.

Mayor Holaday thanked **Mr. Callahan** for his work in compiling this report. She said they need a better website for the School Committee.

Sheila Spalding, Brian Callahan and Superintendent Gallagher commented on the website.

FUNDRAISING:

Mayor Holaday said she thought the Finance Committee was working on fundraising.

Steve Cole commented on the fundraising policy.

Brian Callahan said he thought the Committee was going to see a list.

David Hochheiser said the question is why are they collecting so much money. Is this the sort of thing they want athletes doing?

Brian Callahan questioned how the policy is written.

Superintendent Gallagher said they could discuss this at the Finance Committee meeting. He spoke about what was covered by fees and had a discussion with the Athletic Director regarding Booster Club donations. They need a little more detail.

Sean Reardon said the Committee needs a bigger and clearer picture.

Mayor Holaday asked if they were getting money from the GE Foundation from the Newburyport Bank?

Superintendent Gallagher said he was not sure but would check into this.

Steve Cole said some money was received.

David Hochheiser discussed fundraising in the district.

Mayor Holaday said our students/teachers do a lot in the area of collections.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Gallagher reported on the following:

- Lueken's Calendar
- Past agenda items
- Student Handbook process - done in Spring
- Agenda items that come up in various months
- COVID - meeting with team to monitor cases in school/out of school
- Continue to wear masks
- Testing protocols

- Mandated update
- Lead nurse moving forward - vaccination for 12 and under - will set up a clinic when available.
- All faculty close to 98-99% fully vaccinated
Mayor Holaday asked about the numbers from the first clinic.
Superintendent Gallagher said most students took advantage of this.
Mayor Holaday said the city will work with the school for these clinics.
Superintendent Gallagher said parents can have a confidential discussion with the school nurse if they want.
- Early Release
 - Bresnahan School - Literacy focus
 - Molin School - Literacy focus
 - Nock School - Vertical curriculum run
 - High School - Partners, Common Planning
 - All together it was a great early release day.

Sean Reardon asked if numbers were available for 10 - 12?

Superintendent Gallagher said he would provide numbers at the next School Committee Meeting. He said it was approximately in the 80th percentile.

Steve Cole asked if the number of students was known.

Superintendent Gallagher said at the High School approximately 80% and at the Middle School approximately 60%.

Sheila Spalding said the Middle School has some eleven-year-old students which would affect the percentages.

Bruce Menin commented on the mask policy.

NEW BUSINESS:

Brian Callahan said there will be a Question and Answer session on Monday, October 4 at the Nock Middle School Auditorium with the Medical Team Forum.

David Hochheiser asked about the State Policy on October 1. Discussion regarding the Delegate to Hyannis ensued.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by **Sheila Spalding** and seconded by **Sean Reardon** it was

VOTED: To adjourn the Business Meeting of the School Committee at 7:35 PM.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Newburyport School Committee
Policy Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2021, 6:00 PM

Attendees:

Sean Gallagher, Sheila Spalding, Dave Hochheiser, Sean Reardon, Brian Callahan, Sarah Hall

The committee discussed the Face Coverings policy recommended by MASC. Our school attorney reviewed the suggested changes and recommended we stick closely to the MASC wording. Policy will be presented to the whole SC as a first reading September 7, 2021.

New SC Member Orientation (BIA) was discussed - Policy updates to include a set of procedures to delegate to subcommittee chairs.

Vice chair voting schedule suggested edits to BCA were discussed.

Discussion of adopting guidelines for SC meeting calendars. Committee will bring this to the whole SC for a first reading after the superintendent discusses it with his leadership team.

A brief discussion on increasing participation for the student representative. Vice chair could check in regularly with student rep to field questions/concerns.

Discussion on subcommittees included the Superintendent Evaluation Process (benchmarks, searchable DB/Google Form and regular meetings to monitor progress), as well as asking each subcommittee to draft a mission statement for inclusion in the policy manual.

Meeting adjourned 6:49 PM

Newburyport School Committee
Policy Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2021, 6:00 PM

Attendees: Sheila Spalding, Dave Hochheiser, Sean Reardon, Steve Cole

School Committee Meetings Calendar Schedule was discussed. It will be assigned file number BCAA and added to the governance section of the policy manual. It will be presented to the full School Committee for consideration.

(IC) School Year Calendar was revised with reference to the Labor day holiday and staff development. It will be presented to the full School Committee for consideration.

(BCA) edits were discussed. Moving the vice chair vote to either December or July were considered. The Policy committee decided to maintain the current policy.

Policies BDE and IB need revisions to remove reference to the "Curriculum and Instruction Subcommittee." These edits will be brought to the full School Committee for a vote.

Surveys were discussed. The benefits of using an outside agency, such as Panorama to conduct and collate data would be helpful to the district as we begin our five year plan. The Policy Committee will bring this item to the full School Committee for discussion.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:56PM