

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING
Senior/Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950
Monday, December 6, 2021**

NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING

Present: Mayor Donna Holaday, Brian Callahan, Bruce Menin, David Hochheiser, Sheila Spalding, Sean Reardon (remote), and 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 6:35 PM. Roll call found all members present.

At this time Vice-Chairman Brian Callahan assumed the chairmanship of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no Public Comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Warrants:

Motion:

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Sheila Spalding** it was

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

Warrant 8040	\$ 342,939.34
A-Warrant	<u>11,818.28</u>
	354,757.62

Roll Call Vote:

Mayor Holaday	Yes
Brian Callahan	Yes
Bruce Menin	Yes
David Hochheiser	Yes
Sheila Spalding	Yes
Sean Reardon	Yes
Steve Cole	Yes

Motion Passed Unanimously

MINUTES:

Motion:

On a motion by **Sheila Spalding** and seconded by **Brian Callahan** it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the following:
School Committee Business meeting minutes of Monday, November 1, 2021.

Roll Call Vote:

Steve Cole	Yes
Sean Reardon	Yes
Sheila Spalding	Yes
David Hochheiser	Yes
Bruce Menin	Yes
Brian Callahan	Yes
Mayor Holaday	Yes

Motion Passed Unanimously

NHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:

NHS Student Representatives Olivia Hansen and Avery Hochheiser reported on the following:

- The high school had its first live theatre production (CLUE) since the pandemic (November 18-20th) in the Institute for Savings Bank Auditorium.
- Over Thanksgiving and this past weekend, the high school's band has been extremely busy. They led the rally, provided pep at the Thanksgiving Day game, gave an outstanding performance at the holiday parade on Sunday and will be playing at the winter concert. The band and orchestra have been and will be playing for the Invitation Nights downtown.
- Congratulations to NHS Band student Cedar Schumacher (freshman-trumpet) for his acceptance into the 2021 MMEA Northeast Senior District Music Festival. Cedar was accepted into the jazz band as 1st chair. He competed a year earlier against 10h-12th grade students from across the northeast corner of Massachusetts to earn his spot. He will not move on to audition for a spot in the All-State jazz band in January
- The Interact Club, a service organization affiliated with the Newburyport Rotarians, was involved in the Santa Parade over the Thanksgiving weekend with over 40 students participating.
- Before Thanksgiving, World Affairs and Diplomacy class students participated in the Model UN conference and competition at Rutgers University. All the students are to be commended for representing NHS at the highest level, as well as acknowledge Maddie Marshall and Desmond Conway who were noted as having exceptionally strong performances.
- On December 2nd the High School held their first showcase night since the pandemic. It was a huge success with much positive feedback from the families of the incoming 9th grade students. There were over 60 student volunteers, greeting families, giving tours and performing demonstrations.
- On December 20th, at 7:30 AM, the High School, in collaboration with Mayor Holaday, will be hosting a breakfast at City Hall for local businesses/organizations interested in partnering with the College and Career Center.

MOMENTS OF SILENCE:

Steve Cole asked for a moment of silence for Bert Berube, former NHS Counselor who spent two decades at NHS.

Superintendent Gallagher asked for a moment of silence for Joseph Levitt, son of teacher Pat Levitt who was killed recently in a car accident.

POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE:

Sheila Spalding updated the Committee on the final draft of the School Year/Calendar Policy (IC).

Motion:

On a motion by **Sheila Spalding** and seconded by **Bruce Menin** it was

VOTED: To accept as presented the School Year/Calendar Policy (IC).

Roll Call Vote:

Steve Cole	Yes
Sean Reardon	Yes
Sheila Spalding	Yes
David Hochheiser	Yes
Bruce Menin	Yes
Brian Callahan	Yes
Mayor Holaday	Yes

Motion Passed Unanimously

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE:

Steve Cole reported on the recent Finance Subcommittee meeting:

- Transfers included NHS Library supplies/equipment, test books
- Proposed changes to the transfer policy
- Budget
- Fees being collected
- Student Activity fees

Sheila Spalding inquired about change policy.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Gallagher reported on the following:

- COVID Updates - 650 individuals were vaccinated at the recent clinic. Another clinic will be forthcoming.
- There will be a Medical Advisory meeting this Wednesday.
- Strategic Plan Update - he thanked all volunteering to participate in a focus groups in the next 2 weeks. He will present a report to the Committee in January.
- November news: Next week - Bresnahan/Molin - Stem
 Winter Concert - Molin/Nock
 NHS Winter Concert - December 13
- He congratulated NHS for their recent stage performance.
- Friday - NHS held their first breakfast for local businesses
- 80 internships at NHS
- Teachers working on curriculum
- Donation by the Institution for Savings - 50 students working on investment portfolios
- Literacy projects

- Color Day - was a lot of fun
- Updated website

Brian Callahan inquired about the Molin remote.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN PRESENTATIONS:

Assistant Superintendent Lisa Marie Ippolito introduced the School Principals who provided an overview of their School Improvement Plan (SIP) goals and how it ties to the budget preparation process. Each presenter introduced their School Councils.

Bresnahan Elementary

Principal Jamie Sokolowski presented the following:

Bresnahan SIP Goals:

- Curriculum Planning and Assessment Goal
- Family and Community Engagement
- Professional Culture
- Safe and Supportive Schools

Molin Upper Elementary School

In Principal Rossi's absence **Assistant Superintendent Ippolito** presented the following:

Molin SIP Goals:

- Curriculum Planning and Assessment Goal
- Safe and Supportive Goal
- Professional Culture
- Family and Community Engagement

Sheila Spalding inquired as to what IPC stands for and MY View - what does it do?

Steve Cole inquired as to how base lines are established.

Superintendent Gallagher explained Swiss data.

Nock Middle School

Principal Nick Markos presented the following:

Nock SIP Goals:

- Goal I - Instructional Leadership
- Goal II - Support Measurable Academic Improvement
- Goal III - Professional Learning Community
- Goal IV - Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum
- Goal V - Safe and Supportive School Community

Newburyport High School

Principal Andy Wulf presented the following:

NHS SIP Goals

- Improve student Growth performance with attention to our high needs population
- School Climate Focus

- All students demonstrate college and career readiness skills upon their graduation
- All students leave with a personalized and flexible post-secondary plan
- Increase access to advanced coursework for the High Needs Subgroup

Mayor Holaday inquired if we had data on college admissions? Answer - Yes

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Assistant Superintendent Ippolito reported on the following:

- October meeting for the CISL Adhoc Committee (Curriculum, Instruction and Student Life)
- Monday meeting - School Improvement Plan

Sean Reardon inquired if there's a plan for the end of March - get baseline - are we planning on doing this? He also inquired if we are doing curriculum maps on our own.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR DISCUSSION:

Discussion revolved around the Tuesday, January 4, 2022 Inauguration Organizational/Business Meeting date. It was resolved to leave the calendar as-is with no changes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lauren MacDonald will go to meetings 4 times a year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion

On a motion by **Sheila Spalding** and seconded by **Bruce Menin** it was

VOTED: To adjourn to Executive Session at 8:30 PM for the purpose of discussing possible litigation and legal matters. The Committee will not be returning to Open Session.

Roll Call Vote:

Brian Callahan - Yes
Bruce Menin - Yes
Steve Cole - Yes
Sheila Spalding - Yes
David Hochheiser - Yes
Sean Reardon - Yes
Mayor Holaday - Yes