

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING
Senior/Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950
Monday, February 7, 2022**

NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING

Present: Mayor Sean Reardon, Sarah Hall, Juliet Walker, Brian Callahan, Sheila Spalding, Bruce Menin, and Steve Cole

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Sean Reardon called the School Committee Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 6:34 PM. Roll call found all members present.

At this time Vice-Chairman Sarah Hall assumed the chairmanship of the meeting.

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

Mayor Reardon called for a moment of silence for Ray Gilfus who passed away recently. **Bruce Menin, Steve Cole and Superintendent Gallagher** spoke regarding Mr. Gilfus.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no Public Comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Warrants:

Motion:

On a motion by **Brian Callahan** and seconded by **Mayor Reardon** it was

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

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Warrant 8040 | \$565,205.93 |
| A-Warrant | <u>9,136.64</u> |
| | \$574,342.57 |

Motion Passed Unanimously

MINUTES:

Motion:

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

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the following:
School Committee Business meeting minutes of Monday, January 18, 2022 as amended.

Motion Passed Unanimously

NHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:

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

- International Cultural Club Student Shout-Out:
Katie Quinn, Lila Gridley, Emma Gabriel and Declan Callahan participated in the International Youth Virtual Symposium on Urban Heritage and History which was held virtually by the Taipei City Walker Club of Taipei City, Taiwan.
- Thanks to the efforts of One World Strong, we became one of 25 high schools in the country to partner with the McCain Institute, Homeland Security, and EdVentures in the Invent2Prevent program. Dr. Tom Abrams through consultation with program leaders created this class in which 18 of our seniors are part. Last week Isabel Guido and Landyn Mount shared their experiences with the class and responded to questions on the Morning Show.
- Endicott College: Bus 110 - Business Computers 1
The second of our three Endicott College classes is underway. Twenty-four students representing all four grades participated in the first session last Thursday night. Thanks to the support of the NEF we are able to offer three Endicott classes a year on our campus exclusively for our students at \$25 plus the cost of books. When completed, students earn high school and college credit.
- Real World Design Challenge - Champs Again
Under the tutelage of Ms. Casey McNulty, students participating in the Real World Design Challenge, took first place in this year's state challenge. Participating were Tyler Cowles, Caroline Doyle, Nolan Ellrott, Oliva Hansen, Avery Hochheiser, Oliver Pons and Owen Roberts.
- Poetry Out Loud Competition
Audrey Hoover is going to represent NHS at this year's Poetry Out Loud competition, a national recitation contest that celebrates the power of the spoken word and a mastery of public speaking skills.
- Environmental Stewardship Symposium - February 17 during Clipper Block
Mayor Reardon will launch an Environmental Stewardship Symposium in collaboration with ACES on February 17 during our Clipper Block to make students aware of different projects happening locally that they can become involved in.
- From the Nock:
Shout out to the Nock Band & Chorus & Orchestra for their performance that was taped and will be broadcast through the hub local TV.

NEF UPDATE:

Carrie O'Donnell, Executive Director provided an overview of recent activities of the NEF including allocations and a new naming rights opportunity at NHS as follows:

- Steve Politis' family raised \$5,000 to name a room at NHS. The family will be touring NHS soon to select a room.
- Budget - They will be giving \$361,000 to the district this year.
- Integrated Art Program
- Phase 2 - Nock/Molin Podcast Club
- Instructional Technology

- Investment Club at NHS – over 50 kids
- Phase 2 literacy and achievement program
- NHS Tech Club
- Playspace education
- Continued invest in STEM
- Career Pathways
- Continue teacher partnership program

Superintendent Gallagher, Bruce Menin and Sheila Spalding offered their thanks.

INTERNATIONAL TRIPS 2023:

NHS Principal Andy Wulf presented and explained two international trips which are being planned for high school students in 2023. The first trip is an 8-day trip “Adventures in Belize” during 2023 April vacation. The second trip is a 12-day trip from July 12, 2023 to July 23, 2023 entitled Leadership Conference, Freiburg & Lucerne.

Bruce Menin commented that the price tags are large. Aileen Maconi gave an explanation.

Mayor Reardon asked how the trips got chosen. Ms. Maconi said she tries to make the trips diverse.

Motion:

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

VOTED: To approve the 8-day trip Adventures in Belize during the 2023 April vacation.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Motion:

On a motion by **Bruce Menin** and seconded by **Brian Callahan** it was

VOTED: To approve the 12-day trip from July 12 to July 23 entitled Leadership Conference, Freiburg & Lucerne.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Juliet Walker said that a scholarship program would be a great idea.

FY23 BUDGET UPDATE:

Superintendent Gallagher provided an overview of the preliminary FY23 Budget as follows:

- Goal
- Reimagine
- Building a Shared Vision - Portrait of a Graduate
- Participants recommended programming
- Budget Background - \$38.6 million dollar budget allocation
- NPS enrollment staying steady
- Annual Funding Sources
- Elementary and Secondary Education Emergency Relief (ESSER II)
- ESSER III

- Funding which we need to maintain our current level of programming and services.
Phase one: identifying level service needs.
- FY'22
- Contractual Obligations
- Special Education
- End of ESSER II
- Replacing Choice Funds
- Additional Changes
- Total Projected Level Funding
- Funding which we need for aspirational budget - Phase two: identifying aspirational needs.
- Overview
- March 1st Budget Meeting Topics
- NPS FY23 Budget Overview

Bruce Menin stated census numbers have changed - will that change numbers? Are Kindergarten numbers counted?

Superintendent Gallagher and Mr. Littlehale explained.

Juliet Walker asked about Circuit Breaker and ESSER III.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

Finance - Brian Callahan said they have not met but will meet on the 17th and discuss transportation.

Policy - Sheila Spalding said they will meet next Monday.

Joint Education - Bruce Menin said they will meet tomorrow.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Assistant Superintendent LisaMarie Ippolito provided a report on the following:

- Newcomers into the EL Program at NPS - 28 newcomers - translators provided - intensely working with them. Bus transportation - staff working hard - pro development.

Sheila Spalding said she appreciated all the hard work involved.

- CISL Meeting - next Tuesday - Student Leadership - impressed with.
- NHS College & Career Center
- SIP presentation

Juliet Walker inquired if they could get the agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Gallagher reported on the following:

- New Testing Program - 51% students - 68% staff
Positive - 12 students - 5 staff
Sheila Spalding asked about 51%.
- Hiring
Bresnahan and Nock Principals
15 to 20 applicants each
6 candidates each interviewed

3 names forwarded

Will narrow that down to 2

In district site visits

Steve Cole inquired about the 2 finalists

- Superintendent newsletter
- New class

NEW BUSINESS:

Brian Callahan said a group will be going to Apple Headquarters on Thursday.

Superintendent Gallagher spoke about technology in classrooms.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion:

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

VOTED: To adjourn the Business Meeting of the School Committee at 8:15 PM.

Motion Passed Unanimously