

NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

School Committee Business Meeting 6:30PM

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

Library @ High School

SC Business Meeting Agenda February 25, 2025

SC Business Meeting Agenda Notes February 25, 2025

SC Warrant February 25, 2025

SC Business Meeting Minutes February 3, 2025

MSBA Certification Statements (Nock & High School Roof Projects)

Policy DD – Grants, Proposals and Special Projects

NEF Naming Rights Request – Room 210 (Jane G. Politis)

NEF Naming Rights Request – Room 112 (Cindy M. Johnson)

Policy FF – Naming New Facilities

Proposed 2025 - 2026 School Calendar – 2nd Read

Policy IC/ICA School Year Calendar

Newburyport Public Schools
School Committee Business Meeting

Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 6:30PM

Library @ High School, 241 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81586173350?pwd=GEU5qJhI6xbB3EtJHzOMUqQpqVgh3L1> <<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81586173350?pwd=GEU5qJhI6xbB3EtJHzOMUqQpqVgh3L1>>

One tap mobile US: +16468769923,,81586173350#,,,,*961570#

Or telephone US +1 646 876 9923

Meeting ID: 815 8617 3350

Passcode: 961570

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.

Please note: 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. The meeting will be televised locally live on Comcast Channel 9 & streamed via <https://ncmhub.org/share/channel-9/>.

School Committee Business Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. *Warrant 2/25/25 – possible Vote
4. *Meeting Minutes 2/3/2025 – possible Vote
5. Student Representative Report
6. *Funding for MSBA Accelerated Roof Project – Rupert A. Nock Middle School – possible Vote
7. *Funding for MSBA Accelerated Roof Project – Newburyport High School – possible Vote
8. *Consideration and review of the NEF’s request to name Room 210 at NHS in honor of Jane G. Politis – possible Vote
9. *Consideration and review of the NEF’s request to name Room 112 at NHS in honor of Cindy M. Johnson – possible Vote
10. *2025 - 2026 School Calendar – 2ND read – possible Vote
11. Subcommittee Updates
 - a. Finance Subcommittee – Brian Callahan
 - b. Policy Subcommittee – Kathleen Shaw
 - c. Communications Subcommittee – Sarah Hall
 - d. Teaching & Learning Subcommittee – Breanna Higgins
 - e. Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee – Mayor Sean Reardon
12. Superintendent’s Report

continued – next page

13. New Business

14. Executive Session – *Vote*
for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations, possible litigation and/or legal matters, and will not reconvene in Open Session.

*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 Public Schools
School Committee Business Meeting
Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 6:30PM
Library @ High School, 241 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

AGENDA NOTES

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81586173350?pwd=GEU5qJhI6xbB3EtJHzOMUqQpqVgh3L.1> <<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81586173350?pwd=GEU5qJhI6xbB3EtJHzOMUqQpqVgh3L.1>>

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School Committee Business Meeting Agenda

3. *Warrant 2-25-25 – possible Vote
4. *Meeting Minutes 2-3-2025 – possible Vote
5. Student Representative Report: *NHS student representative will provide the report.*
6. *Funding for MSBA Accelerated Roof Project – Rupert A. Nock Middle School – possible Vote
As required by the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), the district is seeking School Committee approval for the City Of Newburyport to appropriate the amount of two hundred fifteen thousand dollars (\$215,000) for the purpose of paying costs of Design and Owners Project Management Fees for the Roof Replacement at the Rupert Nock Middle School in accordance with Policy DD – Grants, Proposals and Special Projects (official certification statement and policy attached)
7. *Funding for MSBA Accelerated Roof Project – Newburyport High School – possible Vote
As required by the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), the district is seeking School Committee approval for the City Of Newburyport to appropriate the amount of two hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$275,000) for the purpose of paying costs of Design and Owners Project Management Fees for the Roof Replacement at the Newburyport High School in accordance with Policy DD – Grants, Proposals and Special Projects (official certification statement and policy attached)
8. *Consideration and review of the NEF's request to name Room 210 at NHS in honor of Jane G. Politis – possible Vote
Newburyport Education Foundation (NEF) is requesting approval for naming rights of Room 210 at the high school in accordance with Policy FF – Naming New Facilities. (see attachments)
9. *Consideration and review of the NEF's request to name Room 112 at NHS in honor of Cindy M. Johnson – possible Vote
Newburyport Education Foundation (NEF) is requesting approval for naming rights of Room 112 at the high school in accordance with Policy FF – Naming New Facilities. (see attachments)
10. *2025 - 2026 School Calendar – 2ND read – possible Vote
The Superintendent has submitted the 2025 - 2026 NPS school year calendar for review and approval by the School Committee in accordance with Policy IC/ICA School Year Calendar. Modifications from the previous version include moving 9/12 ER to 9/19, moved 1/9 SD to 1/16 and moved 3/27 ER to 3/20. (see attachments)

continued – next page

11. Subcommittee Updates
 - a. Finance Subcommittee – Brian Callahan
 - b. Policy Subcommittee – Kathleen Shaw
 - c. Communications Subcommittee – Sarah Hall
 - d. Teaching & Learning Subcommittee – Breanna Higgins
 - e. Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee – Mayor Sean Reardon
12. Superintendent's Report: *FY 26 Budget Update, AD Hiring Status , and Business Manager Hiring Process Update*
13. New Business
14. Executive Session – *Vote for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations, possible litigation and/or legal matters, and will not reconvene in Open Session.*

FYI: Upcoming Dates:

- ✓ **Communications Subcommittee meeting:** Thursday, February 27 @ 5PM
- ✓ **SEPAC meeting:** Thursday, February 27 @ 6PM
- ✓ **School Committee Business meeting:** Monday, March 3 @ 6:30PM
- ✓ **Teaching & Learning Subcommittee meeting:** Thursday, March 6 @ 6PM
- ✓ **Nock School Council meeting:** Friday, March 7 @ 8:15AM
- ✓ **Policy Subcommittee meeting:** Monday, March 10 @ 7:00PM
- ✓ **NHS School Council meeting:** Tuesday, March 11 @ 5PM
- ✓ **FINCOM meeting:** Thursday, March 13 @ 9:30AM
- ✓ **Superintendent's Advisory Council meeting:** Tuesday, March 25 @ 6:30PM
- ✓ **Early Release Day:** Friday, March 28

*Possible Vote

School
Committee
Warrant

FY25-WARRANT 8142

A-Warrants

February 25, 2025

Warrant 8142	\$ 779,674.14
A-Warrant	\$ 11,145.31

Total of Warrant	\$ 790,819.45
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NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING
High School Library, 241 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

Monday, February 3, 2025

Present: Juliet Walker, Sarah Hall, Kathleen Shaw, Brian Callahan, Breanna Higgins, Andy Boger and Mayor Sean Reardon

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Juliet Walker called the School Committee Business meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 6:30 PM. Roll call found all members present except Mayor Reardon (arrived at 7:30). All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: none

Warrant:

Motion:

On a motion by Brian Callahan and seconded by Sarah Hall it was

VOTED: to approve the Warrant in the amount of \$153,511.02 as presented.

Motion Passed

Mayor Reardon absent

Minutes

Motion:

On a motion by Brian Callahan and seconded by Kathleen Shaw it was

VOTED: to adopt the minutes from the January 21, 2025 School Committee meeting as presented.

Motion Passed

Mayor Reardon absent

2025-2026 High School Athletic Fees

Members reviewed the athletic fee list, noting the fee list was actually for 2025-2026. James Antonelli explained the proposed increase for Boys and Girls Ski teams is to get away from fundraising.

Motion:

On a motion by Brian Callahan and seconded by Sarah Hall it was

VOTED: to approve a user fee increase in 2025-2026 to Boys and Girls Ski teams to \$300, and to approve the User Fee list for 2025-2026, subject to Policy JQ – Student Fees Fines and Charges.

Motion Passed

Mayor Reardon Absent

Student Representative Report

Maddie Jackman presented the student report that included Kindness Month activities and Global Day of Play at the Bresnahan, Spirit Week at the Molin, Community Basketball fundraiser at the Nock, and congratulations to the Mock Trial Team, as well as various musicians at the high school.

Newburyport's Whittier School Committee Rep

Brett Murphy reported that Whittier was closed today due to a water main break. He stated the Plant Operations Subcommittee will meet on February 4th to conduct interviews to select a project manager for the wastewater treatment plant study. Three bidders applied to the RFP.

Mary DeLai reported that Whittier has launched their budget process. The school committee will meet on February 26th, and the public hearing on the budget will be held on March 12. They are entering negotiations with the teacher's union. Mary also spoke of the admissions policy review and evening adult learner programs.

NHS Cell Phone Follow Up

High School Principal Andy Wulf stated the high school has done a lot of work focused around engaging students on healthy behavior as it relates to smart devices. Principal Wulf explained the three main drivers at NHS: growth, readiness and voice. He provided a brief history of the high school's cell phone policies and strategies.

Principal Wulf described the student dialogues run by grade 11 and 12 English teachers as part of the summer reading program (Gr 11 read *Accountable* and Gr 12 read *Atomic Habits*). High school students Emerson Leahy and Tyler Chorebanian shared their personal strategies to self-regulate their cell phone use, which they recently shared at assemblies for grade 9 and 10 students. The Senior English classes will be involved in an upcoming student dialog topic, "*Why your attention matters*". Future activities may include a possible intergenerational dialogue involving parents, teachers and students, as well as working with the IT group to limit apps on iPads.

Proposed Business Manager Hiring Process

Juliet Walker explained the details of the proposed advisory committee that would assist with the hiring process for a school business manager. Members interested in serving on the committee should contact Mayor Reardon.

Motion:

On a motion by Sarah Hall and seconded by Andrew Boger it was

VOTED: to form an Advisory Subcommittee to the School Committee for up to one year or until position is filled as described in the packet in accordance with policy BDF – Advisory Committees to the School Committee.

Motion Passed

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Finance Subcommittee

Brian Callahan reported they will meet on Thursday, February 13th at 8:00AM.

Policy Subcommittee:

Juliet Walker stated the next meeting will be held on February 10th.

Communications Subcommittee

Sarah Hall reported they met on January 23rd. They set the meeting calendar for the remainder of the year (last Thursday of each month from 5-6pm, except May 1st due to school break). They also reviewed successors for 2024 and various action items for 2025. The next meeting will be held on February 27th.

Teaching & Learning Subcommittee

Breanna Higgins stated they held the first meeting on January 27th. They went through an overview of mid-year assessments used by the district and also had a long conversation about the competency determination. Future meetings will be held on the fourth Monday of each month.

Evaluation Subcommittee: have not met

Review 2025-2026 School Calendar – DRAFT

Members reviewed the proposed 2025-2026 calendar. This was the first reading of the 2025-2026 calendar; a second reading and possible vote will occur at the February 25th meeting.

Brian Callahan explained his version of the calendar. He moved many Early Release Days to a Friday prior to a vacation or holiday, which is beneficial to families.

In response to Brian Callahan's proposal, Superintendent Gallagher stated he is concerned about increased district-wide absences when an Early Release Day falls before a holiday/vacation. In addition, the April 3rd ERD cannot be moved due to the AFSCME contract. The Superintendent could move the March 27 ERD so it doesn't fall right before the April 3rd ERD.

Sarah Hall commented that early release days are longer work days for teachers, therefore if ERDs were moved, teachers would have to work until 4PM the day before holidays and/or vacation weeks rather than work their normal day.

Breanna Higgins asked if it would be beneficial to have fewer early release days, and condense them into full days. Also, what is rationale for later start / earlier finish for Pk-K in calendar year. The Superintendent will obtain more information from the Administration.

Superintendent's Report

AD Hiring Process Update: Four candidates met with the high school team, made up of Principal Wulf, Lauren Gee, Mike Testa, Nick Markos, James Antonelli, and Marshall Simons. Principal Wulf will make his final hiring recommendation to the Superintendent this week.

FY26 Budget Update: Superintendent Sean Gallagher shared that the Governor’s proposed FY26 budget provides over \$6 million for Chapter 70 funding to Newburyport, which is a \$152K increase.

MASS Refugee Support Webinar: Superintendent Gallagher participated in a refugee support webinar sponsored by MASS, which provided helpful guidance and feedback to all school districts. The district has protocols and policies in place. The EL staff have been provided with information that can be supplied to any families they are working with if needed.

MASS Winter Conference: Superintendent Gallagher attended the winter conference with area superintendents. This year’s topics included a presentation and review of a Social Media Toolkit, strategies districts are using to deal with social media, student’s mental health and depression related to social media, and opportunities for Artificial Intelligence in schools.

New Business

- Kathleen Shaw thanked everyone for participating in the Community Talent show.
- Kathleen Shaw said SEPAC recently held a planning meeting. The next meeting will be in person on Thursday, February 27th. They are working to establish dates for future meetings and topics.
- Mayor Reardon reminded everyone that the State of the City Address and the Community Awards will be at 7PM on Wednesday, February 26th at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

On a motion by Juliet Walker and seconded by Brian Callahan it was

VOTED: to adjourn the Business meeting of the Newburyport School Committee at 8:25PM and move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing possible contract negotiations and/or legal matters, and will not reconvene in open session.

Motion Passed

Roll Call Vote

School Committee Member	Vote
Mayor Sean Reardon	Yes
Sarah Hall	Yes
Andrew Boger	Yes
Brian Callahan	Yes
Breanna Higgins	Yes
Kathleen Shaw	Yes
Juliet Walker	Yes

Submitted by: Maddie Jackman

Location: NHS Library

Bresnahan News:

Kindness Month at the Bresnahan - For the month of February, the Bresnahan is excited to celebrate **Kindness Month**. Teachers and counselors have collaborated to create a series of morning meeting videos and activities for all classrooms to participate in. These activities will help students explore the many ways to show kindness to one another.

Their goal is ambitious — to complete 1,000 acts of kindness! As a school, they will work together to achieve their goal by displaying 1,000 paper hearts around the building. When staff and students observe an act of kindness, they will fill out a heart and place it on their classroom door. It will be truly inspiring to walk the hallways and see kindness in action throughout their school community!

Their goal is to use this initiative to foster a strong sense of community and encourage kindness in every student. We hope that every child will be “caught” being kind and contribute to our school-wide mission.

Global Day of Play - We are excited to share that on February 7th, in honor of Global Day of Play, the Bresnahan is partnering with Newburyport Recreation and Youth Services to celebrate the power of play as an essential part of learning and development.

This will be a screen-free day where students are invited to bring in one play item to share with their peers. Teachers will take on the roles of facilitator, fellow player, and guide, ensuring a safe and inclusive environment while encouraging child-led play. This initiative allows students to explore creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving in a meaningful way.

Their goal is to highlight the critical role of play in cognitive, social, and emotional growth, while giving teachers the flexibility to tailor activities to their classroom dynamics.

Molin News:

4th graders are researching explorers and beginning their study of the regions of the United States.

5th graders are working on writing informational and persuasive writing pieces.

The Molin School will have a Spirit Week next week and celebrate the 100th day of school!

Nock News:

There will be a Student Vrs Parent Basketball Fundraiser on March 26th at 6 PM at the NOCK to support 7th & 8th grade overnight trips! The night will feature two action-packed games—students will take on the parents, and the winner will face off against a team of Newburyport faculty members!

Admission is only \$5, and pizza, snacks, and drinks will be available for sale to keep everyone fueled throughout the games!

Parents may contact Principal Nick Markos if they are interested in playing. Come cheer, eat, and have a blast while supporting a great cause. Let's make this night a slam dunk!

High School News:

Bay Schumacher has earned his spot in the Northeastern Jr. District band for his second consecutive year. On behalf of Mr. Wulf, Mr. Gallagher, his parents, Monica Duncan and David Schumacher, and his music teacher, Mr. Cohen, we are all extremely proud of Bay, and look forward to his performance in this elite band of 7th, 8th, and 9th grade students in March.

NHS students Calli Taffel, Milla Baptiste, and Lucius Nelson read original poetry at the International Holocaust Remembrance Day event held by the Human Rights Commission.

The **Mock Trial Team** won Region 20 and will be heading to the regionals and Fabulous 14 on March 2 at Clark University. This is the first time winning after starting the team three years ago.

Newburyport School Committee

BUSINESS MEETING – FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Funding for MSBA Accelerated Roof Project – Rupert A. Nock Middle School

ARTICLE

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of Newburyport Public Schools for Design and Owners Project Management Fees for the Roof Replacement at the **Rupert Nock Middle School**, 70 Low St, Newburyport, MA for which feasibility study the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in connection with the feasibility study in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA, shall be the sole responsibility of the Town.*

MOTION / VOTE / ORDER

That the City of Newburyport appropriate the amount of two hundred fifteen thousand dollars (\$215,000) for the purpose of paying costs of Design and Owners Project Management Fees for the Roof Replacement at the Rupert Nock Middle School, 70 Low St, Newburyport, MA, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Newburyport may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Newburyport School Committee. To meet this appropriation, the City of Newburyport City Council, with the approval of the Mayor Sean Reardon is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The City of Newburyport acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the City of Newburyport incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City of Newburyport, [and further provided that the appropriation hereunder shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by M.G.L. 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2½)], and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the City of Newburyport and the MSBA.

Newburyport School Committee

Business Meeting – February 25, 2025

Funding Request for MSBA Accelerated Roof Project – Newburyport High School

ARTICLE

*To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of Newburyport Public Schools for Design and Owners Project Management Fees for the Roof Replacement at the **Newburyport High School**, 241 High St., Newburyport, MA for which feasibility study the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the Town incurs in connection with the feasibility study in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA, shall be the sole responsibility of the Town.*

MOTION / VOTE / ORDER

That the City of Newburyport appropriate the amount of two hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$275,000) for the purpose of paying costs of Design and Owners Project Management Fees for the Roof Replacement at the Newburyport High School, 241 High St., Newburyport, MA, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and for which the City of Newburyport may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Newburyport School Committee. To meet this appropriation, the City of Newburyport City Council, with the approval of the Mayor Sean Reardon, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The City of Newburyport acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any costs the City of Newburyport incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the City of Newburyport, [and further provided that the appropriation hereunder shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by M.G.L. 59, Section 21C (Proposition 2½)], and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Feasibility Study Agreement that may be executed between the City of Newburyport and the MSBA.

DD - GRANTS, PROPOSALS, AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

Adoption Date: 02/06/2017

Revision History: 10/02/2023

In accordance with state law, all grants and gifts to the District must be reviewed and accepted by the School Committee before expenditure. The School Committee will encourage the administration to seek and secure possible sources of state, federal, and other special funds that will enhance the educational opportunities for the children in alignment with district goals. The superintendent will submit for School Committee approval spending plans at the same cost center level as the district budget.

The Superintendent will be responsible for coordinating the development of proposals for all specially funded projects and for keeping the Committee apprised and updated on all such projects.

The Superintendent will ensure the district has and follows a written set of procedures in grant administration that aligns with state and federal laws and regulations.

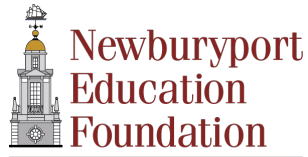
LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. 44:53A; 71:37A

2 CFR 200 Federal Uniform Administrative Requirements

Policy References:

M.G.L. 44:53A; 71:37A

2 CFR 200 Federal Uniform Administrative Requirements



The Newburyport Education Foundation would like to request the naming rights for the following two individuals and rooms at Newburyport High School.

**In Loving Memory of Jane G. Politis
Newburyport High School, Room #210
Naming Rights Amount: \$5,000**

Jane Politis dedicated 25 years of her life to Newburyport High School. She taught psychology, sociology, history, civics, and the "Leadership Seminar", a class focused on gifted and talented students. Jane attended Stanford University and majored in Political Science, and also studied and spoke Italian and Russian. Her undergraduate years were highlighted by a study abroad in Italy and extensive travel throughout Europe and Morocco.

Jane was nominated by her students for making a difference in their lives and was honored by being named "Who's Who Among America's Teachers." In 1998, she was nominated as a finalist for Teacher of the Year in Massachusetts. She was also presented with the Edward G. Molin Award for teaching excellence within the Newburyport School System. Jane cherished her time in Newburyport as a teacher and loved spending time with her students.

The Politis Family named a room after Jane's late husband, Stephen Politis, in 2022. They were so moved by the room naming and support of it from the Newburyport community that they decided to honor Jane in the same fashion. Her room will be directly across the hall from Stephen's room.

**Cindy M. Johnson Video Production Studio
Newburyport High School, Room #112
Naming Rights Amount: \$50,000**

It is important to note that over 40 individuals, companies and organizations donated over \$50,000 (and this number is still climbing) to honor Cindy in this way because of her commitment to not only Newburyport's Public Schools but the Newburyport Community.

Cindy earned her undergraduate degree in German Language and Literature from Wartburg College and went on to complete her Master's degree in the same field at the University of California, Davis. After holding executive roles at Addison Wesley, Cindy founded her own publishing company, which she successfully led for 38 years, specializing in non-traditional workflows and products, managing projects for prominent

companies including John Wiley & Sons, Pearson, Addison-Wesley, Houghton Mifflin, and Macmillan UK. Cindy's entire career has centered on books and education.

There are few people who have committed themselves to the city of Newburyport like Cindy has. She is one of the founding members of the Newburyport Education Foundation, has continued to serve on our Board of Directors since its inception in 2004, and has served as both President and Clerk. In 2016, The Newburyport Education Foundation introduced the Cindy Johnson Volunteer Award, which is presented yearly to an individual for the many devoted hours of encouragement, inspiration, and unselfish support they have given to the organization.

Cindy was a board member and vice chair of the Newburyport School Committee for 8 years and has been a member and past president of the Rotary Club for 31 years. She has also served as a Trustee for the Institution for Savings for 17 years, has been a clerk for the Wheelwright Scientific School, past board member for the Newburyport Lyceum, prior incorporator for Anna Jaques Hospital, prior board member for the Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce, and collector for the Central Congregational Church.

Professional recognition and achievements include:

- Ed Molin Community Leadership Award, Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce, 2012
- Community Leader for Public Education Award, 2009, Massachusetts Association of School Committees
- Editor of the Year, 1984

Cindy lives in Newburyport with her husband, Stuart, where they raised their two sons. When she's not dedicating her time to volunteerism, she enjoys tending to her plants and gardens having been blessed with two green thumbs and tirelessly fights for quality public education for all.

FF - Naming New Facilities

Adoption Date: 11/06/2017

Revision History: 06/03/2024

Naming New Facilities

Naming a school facility is an important matter that deserves thoughtful attention. Personal prejudice or favoritism, political pressure, or temporary popularity should not be an influence in choosing a name for a school, a portion of a school, or a portion of school grounds. Whenever possible, the wishes of the community, including parents/guardians and students, should be considered in naming school facilities.

The School Committee has the authority to approve the naming and renaming of buildings, structures, and facilities located on School District property. The School Committee also has the authority to name subsections of existing structures or facilities, such as classrooms, auditoriums, and gymnasiums.

Names and/or wording associated with school facilities shall be consistent with school district policies and promote messages aligned with the mission, vision and goals of the school district. To the extent possible, names and/or wording should be designed not to restrict the use of a space or inhibit changing the function of the space should that become necessary in the future.

When the opportunity to name or dedicate a new school or school related property, structure or facility is forthcoming, an orderly procedure will be communicated at the next available School Committee meeting. The Committee's agendas should clearly reflect the intent to consider, review, and vote on naming opportunities.

The School Committee may elect to authorize the designation of naming rights for specific portions of District facilities through advanced approval of a list of naming opportunities to be reviewed annually; provided such designation benefits the District and the Committee retains final approval over any name associated with School District structures or facilities.

An offer of a financial contribution to the School District may accompany a naming request, but the School Committee is not obligated to accept or reject a name based upon financial considerations alone.

NEWBURYPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Calendar 2025 - 2026



July							August							September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	H	5						1	2		H	T	SD	FDS	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	Pk-K	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	ER	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31		(0)	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				(19)
							31					(0)								

October							November							December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4							1							1
5	6	7	8	9	ER	11	2	3	ER	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	ER	13
12	H	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	H	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	H	H	H	27
26	27	28	29	30	31	(22)	23	24	25	ER	H	H	29	28	V	V	H			(17)
							30					(17)								

January							February							March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				H	V	3	1	2	3	4	5	ER	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	12	13	14	15	SD	17	15	H	V	V	V	V	21	15	16	17	18	19	ER	21
18	H	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
25	26	27	28	29	30	31								29	30	31				
						(18)						(15)							(22)	

April							May							June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	ER	4						1	2						ER	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	ER	9	7	8	9	10	11	Pk-K	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	PLD	[18]	H	20
19	H	V	V	V	V	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	[22]	[23]	[24]	[25]	26	27
26	27	28	29	30		(17)	24	H	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				(13)
							31					(20)								

2nd read - February 25, 2025

T = Teachers First Day **FDS** = First Day for Students
ER = Early Release **LS** = Late Start
H = Holiday **V** = Vacation
SD = Staff Development Day **PLD** = Projected Last Day

Mon., Sept 1 Labor Day Holiday Observed
Tue., Sept 2 First Day of School for Teachers
Wed., Sept 3 Staff Development Day (no students)
Thur., Sept. 4 First Day Of School for GRADES 1-12
Monday, Sept. 8 First Day of School for Grades Pk-K
Oct. 13 NO SCHOOL - Indigenous People Day Observed
Nov. 11 NO SCHOOL - Veteran's Day Observed
Nov. 27 & 28 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
December 24 thru January 2 NO SCHOOL - Holiday Break
January 5 SCHOOL RESUMES
Jan. 16 - NO SCHOOL for Students - Staff Development Day
January 19 NO SCHOOL - MLK, Jr. Holiday Observed
February 16 thru 20 NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
April 3 1/2 Day AFSCME Union (GOOD FRIDAY)
April 20 thru 24 NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
May 25 NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day Observed
June 7 Graduation Day - Class of 2026
June 12 Projected Last Day (Preschool & Kindergarten)
June 17 Projected Last Day (Grades 1-12) - Early Release Day
June 18 Projected Last Day (Teachers)
June 18, 22, 23, 24 and 25 Snow Make-up Days - [if needed]
June 19 NO SCHOOL - Juneteenth Observed

ER - Early Release Days (for staff development)
 September 19, October 10, November 4, December 12,
 February 6, March 20, April 3, May 8, and June 5

ER - OTHER EARLY RELEASE DAYS (staff & students)
 Wednesday, November 26 Thanksgiving Break

G = Graduation Day - on Sunday, June 7th @ 11AM
 (180 days - students) (184 days - teachers)

IC/ICA: SCHOOL YEAR / CALENDAR

The school calendar for the ensuing year will be prepared by the Superintendent and submitted to the School Committee for approval annually. The number of days or instructional hours scheduled for the school year will be determined in accordance with the following standards set by the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education:

1. Elementary school will operate for a minimum of 180 days. Schools shall ensure that every elementary school student is scheduled to receive a minimum of 900 hours per school year of structured learning time, as defined in regulation. Time which a student spends at school breakfast and lunch, passing between classes, in homeroom, at recess, in non-directed study periods, receiving school services, and participating in optional school programs shall not count toward meeting the minimum structured learning time requirement for that student.
2. Secondary schools will operate for a minimum of 180 days. Schools shall ensure that every secondary school student is scheduled to receive a minimum of 990 hours per school year of structured learning time, as defined in regulation. Time which a student spends at school breakfast and lunch, passing between classes, in homeroom, at recess, in non-directed study periods, and participating in optional school programs shall not count toward meeting the minimum structured learning time requirement for that student.

For the information of staff, students, and parents, the calendar will set forth the days schools will be in session; holidays and vacation periods; in service days; and parent conferences.

Newburyport School Calendars will always follow these guidelines with regards to setting a starting date for school:

- The Friday before Labor Day will always be a no-student day and a non-work day for educators.
- Before the full beginning of the year, time will be set up to allow students in transition years (1, 4, 6, and 9) time in their new buildings to become acclimated before all students arrive.
- New-teacher orientation and otherwise stipended days are not considered “regular faculty days” and can therefore take place outside of this policy.
- In years when Labor Day falls between September 1- 4, school will start after Labor Day,
 - o Regular faculty days will also start after Labor Day unless specifically requested for approval by the Superintendent and applicable labor unions.
 - o All students grades 1-12 will have at least 1 complete school day during this first week of programming.

- In years when Labor Day falls between September 5-7, we will start school during the week before Labor Day.
- Regular faculty days will not start before the Monday before Labor Day.
- All students grades 1-12 will have at least one complete school day during this first week of programming.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 4:7; 69:1g; 71:1; 71:4A; 71:73; 136:12
603 CMR 27.00

Adopted: 06/19/2017

Revised: 6/19/2017, 12/06/2021, 11/20/23