

NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

School Committee Business Meeting 6:30PM

AMENDED #2

Monday, March 17, 2025

SC Business Meeting Agenda March 17, 2025

SC Business Meeting Agenda Notes March 17, 2025

SC Warrant March 17, 2025

amended 3/17

SC Business Meeting Minutes March 3, 2025

Daycare – Director Job Description

Policy GCA – Professional Staff Positions

Student Activity Account Request

Policy JJF – Student Activity Accounts

Two NHS Overnight Field Trip Requests

amended 3/17

 NHS Performing Arts Group – Orlando, FL

 NHS RWDC – Washington, DC

Policy JJH - Student Overnight or Late Night Travel

Revised FY26 Level of Service Budget

High School Competency Determination Policy – 2nd read

Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements

Superintendent's Report

Capital Improvement Program FY26-30 (old format)

added 3/14

**Newburyport Public Schools
School Committee Business Meeting - AMENDED #2**

Monday, March 17, 2025 at 6:30PM

Sr./Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89967966519?pwd=0jPoba93fZ2akKAqXPrtHmnnBOx1Cy.1>

Meeting ID: 899 6796 6519; Passcode: 151460

One tap mobile ; +16468769923,,89967966519#,,,,*151460# US (New York)

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. Introduction of new Athletic Director
4. *Warrant 3/17/25 – *possible Vote*
5. *Meeting Minutes 3/3/2025 – *possible Vote*
6. Student Representative Report
7. *Onsite Daycare Plan Update & Proposed Job Description – *possible Vote*
8. *Student Activity Account Request – *Women in Sports Club – possible Vote*
9. *Two NHS Overnight Field Trips – NHS Performing Arts - Orlando, FL – *possible Vote*
– NHS RWDC – Washington, DC – *possible Vote*
10. Revised FY26 Level of Service Budget
11. *High School Competency Determination Policy – *2nd read – possible Vote*
12. 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
13. Superintendent's Report
14. New Business
15. 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 - AMENDED #2
Monday, March 17, 2025 at 6:30PM

Sr./Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

AGENDA NOTES

Join Zoom Meeting

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School Committee Business Meeting Agenda

3. Introduction of new Athletic Director

We would like to welcome Anna DeVitto as the new Athletic Director. For the past four years, Anna has worked as the athletic director at Fontbonne Academy in Milton, MA. Ms. DeVitto is passionate about student development and identification through sport. While at Fontbonne, she built an athletics program grounded in collaboration and a culture that fosters growth in all stakeholders. We are excited for Anna to bring this experience, vision and leadership to Newburyport.

4. *Warrant 3-17-25 – possible Vote

5. *Meeting Minutes 3/3/2025 – possible Vote

6. Student Representative Report: NHS student representative will provide the report.

7. *Onsite Daycare Plan Update & Proposed Job Description - possible Vote

HR Director Pam Kealey will present an update regarding the plan to open an onsite daycare at the Bresnahan School. In accordance with Policy GCA – Professional Staff Positions, the district is seeking approval to create a “Director/Lead Preschool Teacher” position. (job description attached)

8. *Student Activity Account Request – Women in Sports Club – possible Vote

In accordance with Policy JJF – Student Activity Accounts, this new high school club is requesting a student activity account. (see attached)

9. *Two NHS Overnight Field Trips – possible Vote

In accordance with Policy JJH - Student Overnight or Late Night Travel:

- a. The NHS Performing Arts group is seeking permission for an overnight field trip during the April 2026 spring break to Disney located in Orlando, Florida. (see attached).*
- b. For the first time since the pandemic, the final presentations for the national Real World Design Challenge will take place in person (instead of virtually). As such, the RWDC team will travel to Washington DC the weekend of May 2nd - May 4th. This year's project involved designing a drone aircraft capable of delivering supplies to remote locations to assist firefighters during an active wildfire. (see attached)*

10. Revised FY26 Level of Service Budget

Superintendent Sean Gallagher will provide an overview of funding considerations, key expenditures and relevant financial challenges that have an impact on the FY26 LOS Budget. (attached)

**** continued next page ****

March 17, 2025

Page 2

11. *High School Competency Determination Policy –2nd read - possible Vote
Superintendent Sean Gallagher will present the proposed high school competency determination to be added as addendum IKF-R to existing Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements (attached).

12. 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

13. Superintendent's Report: *Bus Transportation Update, FY25 SOA Plan Progress Report Status, and School Choice 2025-2026 Projections*

14. New Business

15. 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:**
- ✓ **Joint School Committee & City Council B&F Meeting:** March 20 @ 4:00PM
 - ✓ **Teaching & Learning Subcommittee meeting:** Monday, March 24 @ 6PM
 - ✓ **Superintendent's Advisory Council meeting:** Tuesday, March 25 @ 6:30PM
 - ✓ **Canceled – Communications Subcommittee:** March 28
 - ✓ **School Committee Business Meeting:** Monday, April 7 @ 6:30PM
 - ✓ **Policy Subcommittee meeting:** Monday, April 14 @ 7PM
 - ✓ **FINCOM meeting:** Thursday, April 17 @ tba

*Possible Vote

School
Committee
Warrant

FY25-WARRANT 8144

FY25-WARRANT 8145

A-Warrants

March 17, 2025

Warrant 8144	\$ 633,681.90
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Warrant 8145	\$ 44,215.00
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A-Warrant	\$ 22,140.81
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Total of Warrant	\$ 700,037.71
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NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING
Senior/Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

Monday, March 3, 2025

Present: Mayor Sean Reardon, Juliet Walker, Sarah Hall, and Andy Boger; (Breanna Higgins, Brian Callahan and Kathleen Shaw were absent)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Sean Reardon called the School Committee Business meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 6:30 PM. Roll call found all members present except Breanna Higgins, Brian Callahan and Kathleen Shaw. All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. At this point in the meeting, Juliet Walker took over.

Public Comments: none

Warrant:

Motion:

On a motion by Andrew Boger and seconded by Mayor Reardon it was

VOTED: to approve the Warrant in the amount of \$71,754.52 as presented.

Motion Passed

Breanna Higgins, Brian Callahan and Kathleen Shaw absent

Minutes

Motion:

On a motion by Mayor Reardon and seconded by Sarah Hall it was

VOTED: to adopt the minutes from the February 25, 2025 School Committee meeting as presented.

Motion Passed

Breanna Higgins, Brian Callahan and Kathleen Shaw absent

Student Representative Report

Unable to attend; March 3rd report filed with meeting minutes.

FY2026 – FY2030 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Facilities Director James McSweeney explained the city's new online CIP program, including an explanation of how projects are graded and prioritized. Twelve items on the FY26 District Priorities list were briefly reviewed, and was followed by a slide show that included photos of each problem area. The school committee had an opportunity to ask various questions. SC members feel it would be beneficial to have more background about each project, including cost details and scoring. James will try to obtain this information from the new program to share with the School Committee.

FY26 Level of Service Budget Presentation

Superintendent Sean Gallagher reviewed the FY26 strategic priorities, focus areas, and budget assumptions, noting the district was still in negotiations with three unions, as well there is continued uncertainty with state/federal funding. The estimated LOS Budget listed the City Appropriation at 7.26% increase. Budget assumption details were reviewed, along with demographic trends related to enrollment, school choice, ELL, income, disabilities, and high needs students. Superintendent Gallagher also spoke of Chapter 70 and school choice funding effects on the budget.

The Superintendent stated that North Shore superintendents are actively looking at ways to possibly share special education costs. Juliet Walker suggested flagging budget line items with at-risk funding sources.

High School Competency Determination Policy – 1st read

Superintendent Sean Gallagher and Juliet Walker explained that the proposed Competency Determination Policy was created collaboratively with the NHS School Council, Teaching & Learning Subcommittee and Policy Subcommittee, and should be added as an addendum (IKF-R) to the existing Graduation Requirements Policy (IKF).

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Finance Subcommittee

Next meeting will be held at 8:00AM on March 13th.

Policy Subcommittee:

Juliet Walker noted the next meeting will be held on Monday, March 10 at 7:00pm.

Communications Subcommittee

Sarah Hall reported a meeting was held last week, and the main focus was planning the Joint City Council and FINCOM meeting that will be held on March 20th, time tentatively set for 5PM. Both Representative Dawne Shand and Representative Manny Cruz were invited. The Communications Subcommittee meeting originally scheduled for March 27th will be cancelled.

Teaching & Learning Subcommittee

Sarah Hall stated a meeting is scheduled for March 6th at 7:30AM.

Superintendent's Evaluation Subcommittee: have not met

Superintendent's Report

AD Hiring Status: Superintendent Gallagher stated that a meeting was held with the finalist to discuss the contract. Principal Andy Wulf will be sending out an announcement.

School Choice Projections: Superintendent Gallagher stated discussions related to school choice projections will be discussed at the next meeting on March 17th.

New Business: none

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

On a motion by Mayor Reardon and seconded by Sarah Hall it was

VOTED: to adjourn the Business meeting of the Newburyport School Committee at 7:43PM.

Motion Passed

Breanna Higgins, Brian Callahan and Kathleen Shaw absent

Submitted via email by: Newburyport High School

Bresnahan News:

Responsibility Challenge:

Our amazing Bresnahan students met their goal of 1,000 Acts of Kindness in February! Thank you for spreading kindness throughout our school—you all made a difference!

Now, it's time for a new challenge! In March, we're focusing on Responsibility. Each grade will compete to see who can be the most responsible, earning "thumbs up" for responsible actions. Next week, we'll kick things off with a school-wide assembly to introduce our Responsibility Challenge!

A huge thank you to the parent volunteers helping to cut out our "thumbs up" cards—your support helps us live out our school values: *Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Responsible!*

Clipper Courses: The second round of Clipper Courses wraps up this week! A total of **120** students participated in the Winter session. Thank you to the Bresnahan staff for creating fun and meaningful after-school enrichment opportunities for our students.

Molin News:

March Madness: Both 4th and 5th graders are participating in the Molin version of March Madness. Each day, the classes read two picture books, and every 4th and 5th grader will vote to determine which picture book advances to the elite eight, the final four, and, by the end of the month, the championship. The grade levels read different books.

Annual Arbor Day Poster Contest: The Friday before break, a representative from the Tree Commission spoke with the 5th graders to talk about the Annual Arbor Day Poster Contest. This sparked a lot of interest, so all 5th grade classes will be given 2 hours to complete a poster (If students don't finish, they can take it home.) ALL posters need to be completed by Friday, March 7th.

Nock News:

Nock Middle School had a fantastic turnout for the annual March Madness kickoff assembly last Friday. The energy was high as students learned how to earn points for the month-long homeroom competition, with the winning class taking home the prestigious Clipper Cup.

A special thank you to the parents, faculty, and students who have joined the rosters for the March Madness Basketball Fundraiser and Community Event on Wednesday, March 26, at 6 PM. The school is looking forward to another great night of school spirit and community engagement. Rosters are set!

Additionally, college trips are set for the Nock. This week, the 7th graders will visit Merrimack College, while 6th graders will head to Endicott College, and 8th graders will tour Suffolk University later this month. These visits are an exciting opportunity to expose students to higher education as the school continues to support the district's Portrait of a Graduate.

High School News:

- Good luck to the Girls Basketball team who plays St. Mary's tonight. The boy's basketball team is at home tomorrow night Boston Latin Academy.
- Congratulations to Lucius Nelson who was selected to represent Newburyport at this year's Poetry Out Loud competition. The semifinals will be this weekend, March 8.

NHS Exterior

Brick & Masonry Repairs



NHS
Exterior

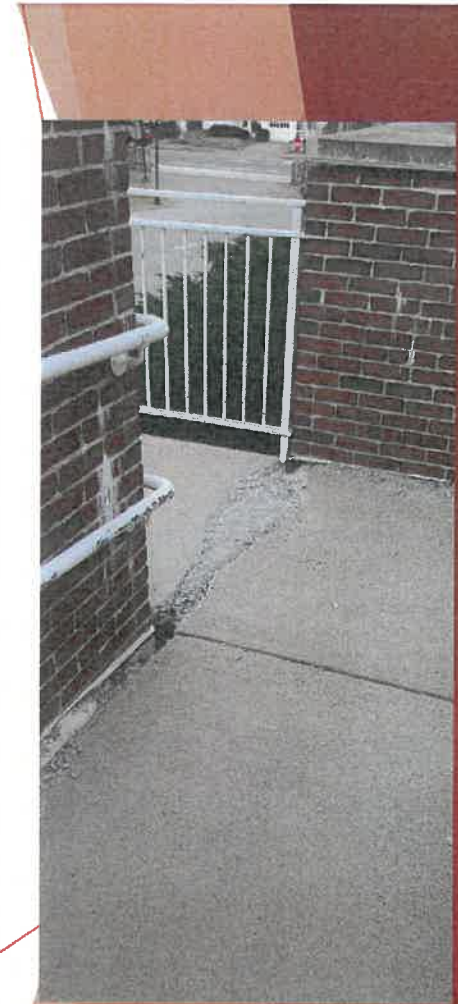


Brick
&
Masonry
Repairs



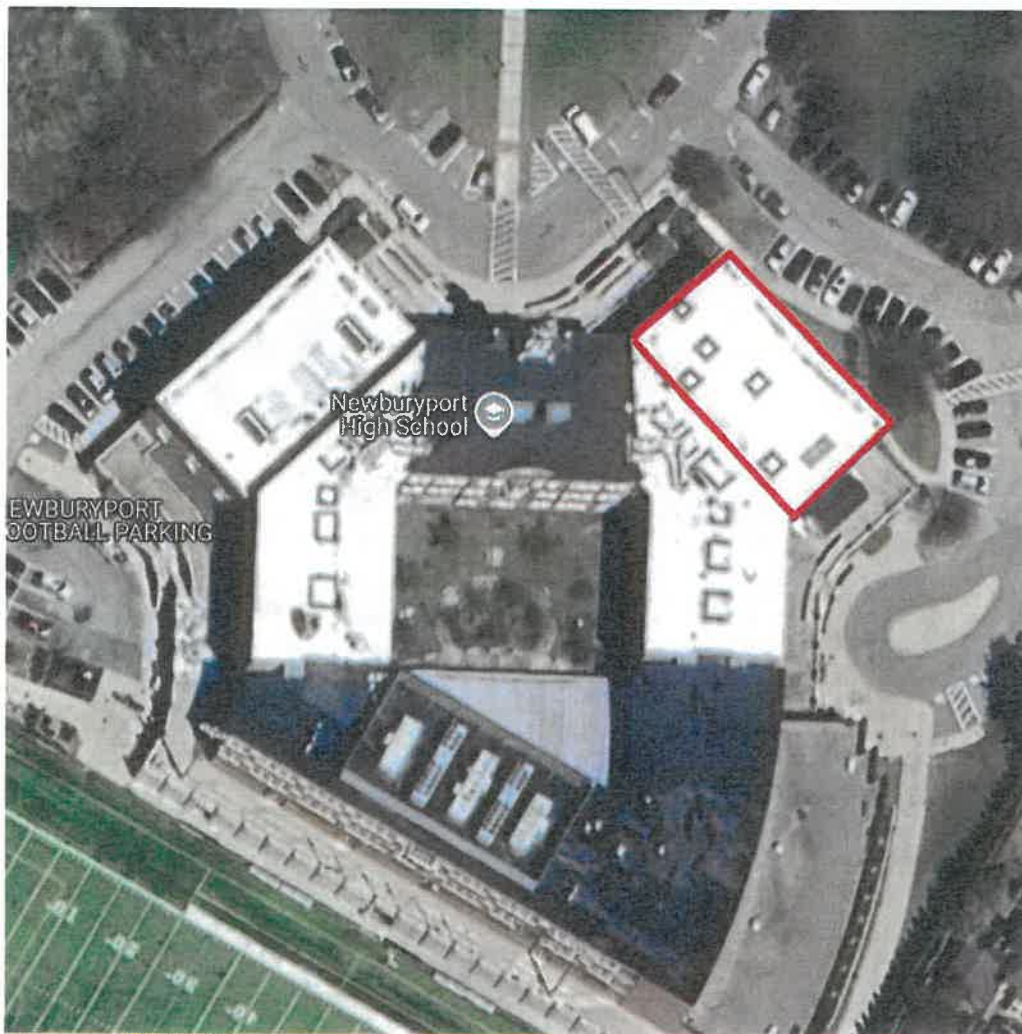
NHS
Exterior

Brick
&
Masonry
Repairs



NHS
Roof

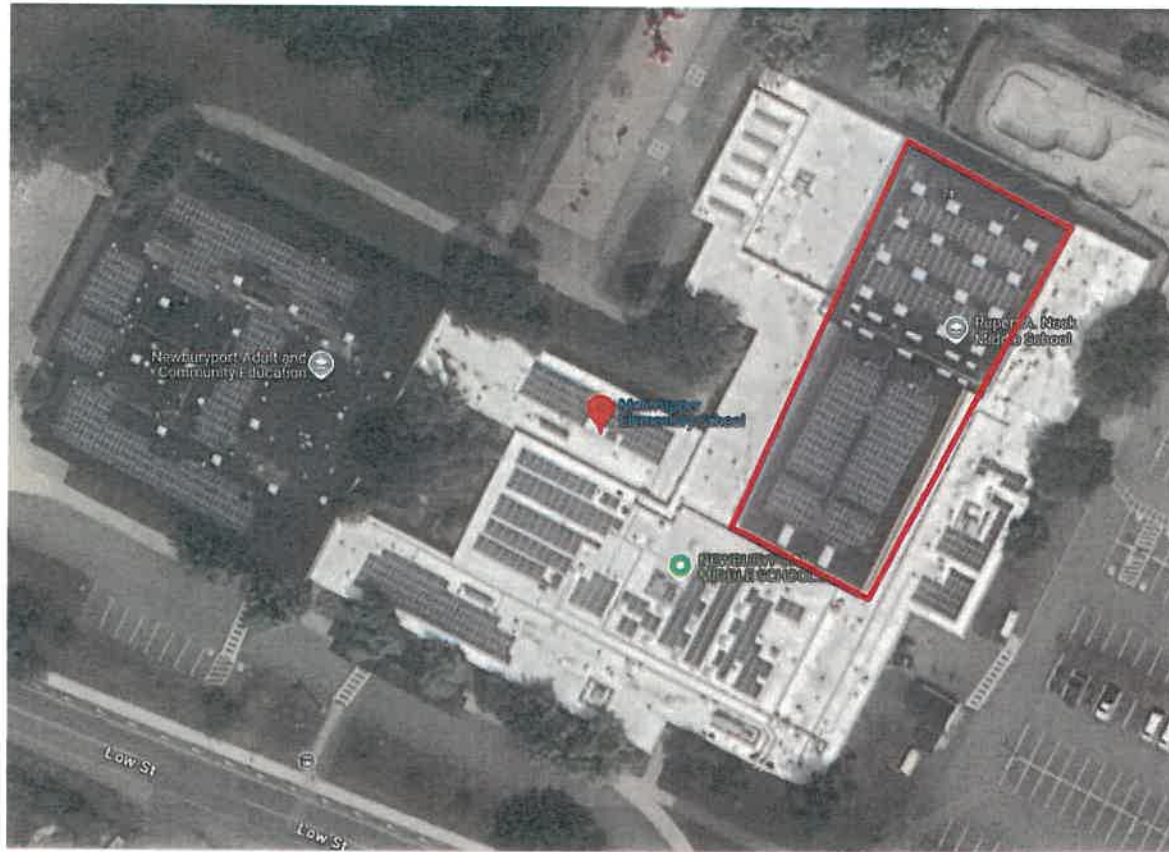
MSBA



Rupert
Nock
&
Edward
Molin

Roofs

MSBA



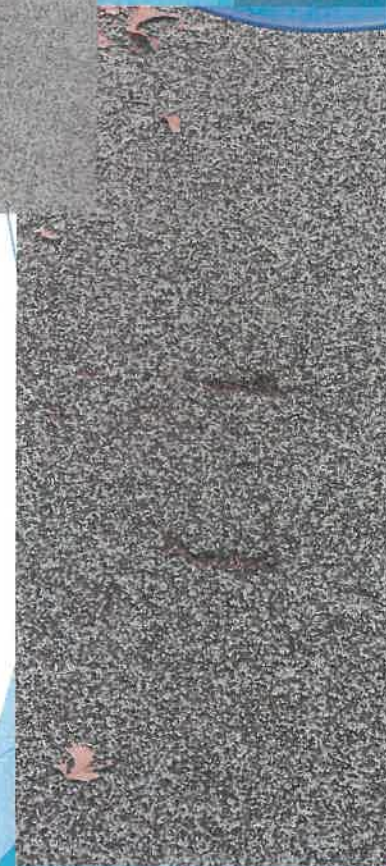
Molin Playground

Surfacing & Equipment Replacement



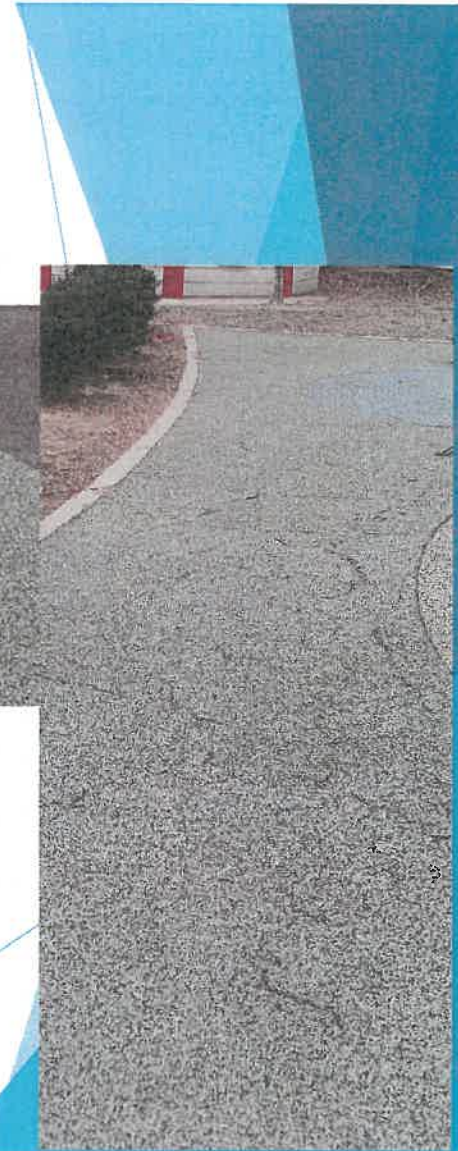
Bresnahan Playground

Rubber Surfacing



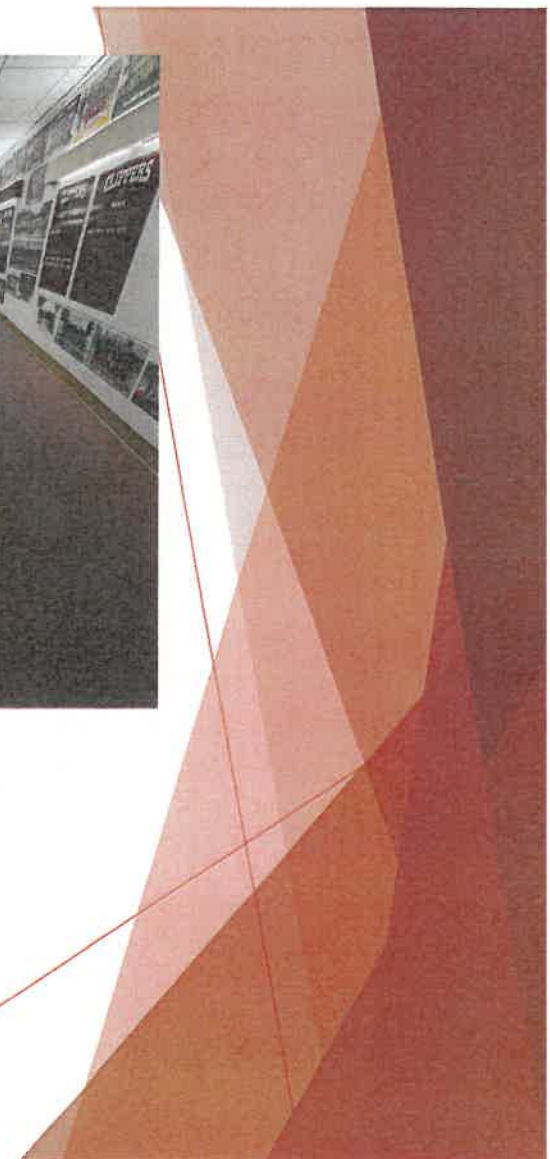
Bresnahan Playground

Rubber Surfacing



NHS
Flooring

Carpeting
&
Epoxy



Nock-Molin Playground

Repaving & Equipment Replacement



NHS Auditorium

Plaster Repairs



NHS Auditorium

Plaster Repairs



NHS Electrification

Heating System Boilers





**Newburyport Public Schools
Daycare Director/Lead Pre-School Teacher
Job Description**

TITLE: Daycare Director/Lead Pre-School Teacher

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education
2. Outstanding written and verbal communication skills
3. Well-organized with excellent leadership abilities
4. Exceptional interpersonal communication skills
5. Valid Early Childhood Education Director Certification
6. DESE Early Childhood Teaching License
7. Employment-based on successful completion of CORI and fingerprinting background
8. Such alternatives to the above qualifications as the school department may find appropriate and acceptable.

REPORTS TO: Superintendent of Schools

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT: Full time 194 days

JOB SUMMARY

This position combines the responsibilities of overseeing a high-quality daycare facility while also teaching and guiding preschool-age children in a nurturing and enriching environment. The ideal candidate will possess strong leadership, organizational, and educational skills and will be committed to fostering a positive learning atmosphere for both students and staff.

PERFORMANCE RESPONSIBILITIES (include but are not limited to):

1. Supervise and manage the daily operations of the daycare program, ensuring a safe, nurturing, and educational environment for children.
2. Manage daycare scheduling and enrollment processes, coordinating with parents and the school district.
3. Oversee a team of daycare staff, providing leadership, guidance, and professional development opportunities.
4. Ensure proper record-keeping, including attendance, incident reports, and communication with parents and guardians.
5. Lead and facilitate the development and implementation of a high-quality, developmentally appropriate curriculum for preschool-aged children.
6. Create a positive and engaging classroom environment that supports the social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development of each child.

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by employees assigned to this classification. They are not intended to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities and duties required of those in this classification.

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Newburyport School Committee

Reviewed: _____
Approved: _____

GCA: PROFESSIONAL STAFF POSITIONS

All professional staff positions in the school system will be created initially by the School Committee. It is the School Committee's intent to activate a sufficient number of positions to accomplish the school system's goals and objectives and to provide for the equitable staffing of each school building. Although such positions may remain temporarily unfilled, only the School Committee may abolish a position it has created.

Each time a new position is established by the School Committee, or an existing position is modified, the Superintendent will present for the School Committee's approval a job description for the position, which specifies the jobholder's qualifications and the job's performance responsibilities. The Superintendent will maintain a comprehensive set of job descriptions for all positions.

Adopted: December 18, 2017

Revised: October 2, 2023

STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCOUNT

Request For Recognition Of A Student Organization

SCHOOL: _____ High School

DATE OF REQUEST: __ 2/3/2025

The undersigned hereby request the recognition of the following student organizations, including approval to maintain monies in a student activity account.

Suggested Name of Organization: _____ Women in Sports Club

Reasons for Forming This Organization: _____

- At Newburyport High school, the Women in Sports club has a mission to promote and advocate for the Women in Sports community. We want to create larger crowds in the stands and support for the women's teams here at the high school and other girls youth sports in the community.

* We are Partnering w/ Youth Field Hockey

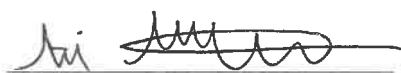
Criteria for Membership in Organization: _____

- The criteria for membership in this organization?
- To be interested in promoting athletics participation and support
- Attend 3 meetings
- Attend 1 dedication 9-12

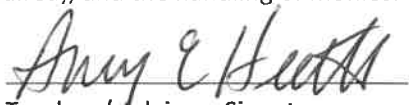
How will Adult Supervision be Achieved?: _____

- Our Advisor Amy Heath of another adult who will be appointed and approved prior

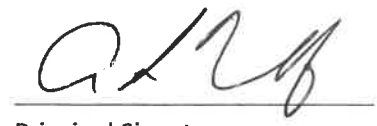
If approved, we understand that the organization will be held accountable for complying with all regulations / guidelines / procedures for fundraising, procurement of goods and services under the Uniform Procurement Act (as required), and the handling of monies.



Student Signature



Teacher / Advisors Signature



Principal Signature

Ani Mellett

Student (Printed Name)

Amy Heath

Teacher / Advisors (Printed Name)

Principal (Printed Name)

* * * * *

Completed by Superintendent's Office

The above organization is approved as a recognized student organization.

Superintendent's Signature

Superintendent's (Printed Name)

Date

Student Activity Account Name: *Women in Sports*

**** All Fundraisers Must Receive Advanced Authorization from the School Principal ****

Revenue, Receipts, and Deposits

Yes

No

- Are pre-numbered receipts, tickets, and/or attendance logs used? ✓ _____

50/50

- Under what circumstances would pre-numbered receipts or tickets not be used when collecting receipts? _____

Bake Sale

- Is a reconciliation process performed between pre-number receipts, tickets, or attendance logs and the funds being turned over prior to making a deposit? _____

Prepared by: _____

Reviewed by: _____

- In circumstances when pre-numbered receipts, tickets, and attendance logs are not practical, are two responsible people each count the cash received? _____

- Are funds turned over to the Principal within twenty-four hours? _____

- Are funds awaiting turnover kept in a locked/secure location? _____

- Are duplicate copies of Deposit slips maintained by Advisor? _____

- Are records kept by activity? _____

~~Student Travel~~

Yes

No

- Are requests for student travel prepared well in advance of the time the funds are needed? _____

Newburyport Public Schools
Fundraising Permission Form

FORM
A

Organization: Women in Sports School: NHS
*Contact Person (Coach/Advisor/Staff/Adult): Amy Heath
Phone: 508-284-6539 Email: aheath@newburyport.k12.ma.us

** This person will be responsible for submitting the Student Activity - Event Financial Report (Form B) to the Business Office in a timely manner after the fundraising event is complete.*

Description of fundraising activity: *(Please describe exactly how funds are being raised, including product being sold, vendor name, event location, ticket prices, website, fees, etc.)*

- Bake Sale on 50/50 Rattle at designated home games
this spring

Proposed Start Date(s): 4/1/25 End Date: 6/1/25 Time: Varsity
games

Funds generated will be used for the following purpose *(list specific use)*:

We partner & w/ youth field Hockey to help purchase
sticks for young girls just starting out. They will stay w/ the program.

Anticipated Profit: ? Include % split: NPS %: _____ Vendor %: _____

Describe procedure for handling Funds & Expenditures: Students collect money
counted w/ advisor and then deposited to the school for
a check to be dispersed to youth Field Hockey

- School Sponsored Athletic Team *(requires Athletic Director, Principal & Superintendent approval)*
- School Sponsored Club / Class / Group *(requires Principal & Superintendent approval)*
- School Related Parent Organization *(requires Principal & Superintendent approval)*
- School Sponsored Activity involving students in fundraising projects via sales within the school *(requires Principal & Superintendent approval)*

Organization Rep. Signature: Amy E Heath Date: 2/27/25

Athletic Director Signature: _____ Date: _____

Building Principal Signature: [Signature] Date: 2/3/25

Superintendent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Fundraisers must comply with School Committee Policies and Central Office administrative procedures.
NOTE: Incomplete permission forms will be returned. All fundraisers will be listed on the district's fundraising calendar.

STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS

Student funds may be raised to finance the activities of authorized student organizations. Student activity funds are considered a part of the total fiscal operation of the District and are subject to policies established by the School Committee and the Office of the Superintendent. The funds shall be only for the benefit of students and managed in accordance with sound business practices, which include accepted budgetary, accounting, and internal control practices. The Superintendent shall ensure that, annually, all Principals and student organizations receive a copy of this policy as well as a copy of established procedures for control of receipts and expenditures that meet or exceed DESE guidelines.

In compliance with Massachusetts General Law, the School Committee:

1. Authorizes the Principals to accept money for recognized student activity organizations, which currently exist, or as from time to time may be revised. All funds received for student activities must be deposited into the Student Activity Agency Account and no funds shall be directly deposited to a Student Activity Checking Account except from the Student Activity Agency Account.
2. Authorizes the District Treasurer to establish and maintain a Student Activity Agency Account(s) which is to be audited as part of the District's annual audit. The interest that is earned on such accounts shall be maintained in the Agency Account and distributed annually among the Student Activity Checking Accounts as directed by the procedures established by the Superintendent.
3. Authorizes Student Activity Checking Accounts for use by the Principals with specific maximum balances established annually for each school by vote of the School Committee. Payments for expenditures shall be made, whenever possible, by check, debit, or EFT directly from the Student Activity Checking Account. Reimbursements to personal credit card holders shall require the prior authorization of the Superintendent. Signatory authorization for Student Activity Checking Accounts shall be restricted to the Principal and (Superintendent or Treasurer). Student Activity Checking Accounts shall be audited annually in accordance with DESE guidelines.
4. Directs Principals to provide the Treasurer with a bond in an amount agreeable to the Treasurer.
5. Shall annually, prior to the start of each school year, vote to establish or change the maximum balance that may be on deposit in each Student Activity Checking Account.

For accounts with maximum balance limits that exceed \$25,000.00, the School Committee shall consider, in accordance with DESE guidelines, that an audit be conducted by an outside audit firm annually.

Graduating Class Funds

Funds held on behalf of graduating classes are to be held within the Student Activity Checking Account for the High School. Such funds shall be designated by the class' Year of Graduation.

Once a class has graduated from High School, their funds should be removed from the High School Student Activity Checking Account no later than two years from the date of graduation. It is the responsibility of the class officers to arrange for these funds to be removed from the High School Activity Checking Account. When requested, and once all outstanding financial obligations of the graduating class have been met, the remaining balance should be removed from the fund by check transfer payable to the Class of XXXX. Checks payable to individual members of the graduating class are not permitted.

Should the class officers not request to have their funds removed from the Student Activity Checking Account within two years of their graduating, the funds will be forfeited by the class and transferred into the General Sub-fund portion of the Student Activity Agency Account. These funds will then be allocated by a vote of the School Committee.

Class officers should be given a copy of this policy during the course of their senior year to ensure their knowledge of their obligations to perform under this policy.

Inactive Student Activities

When a student activity ceases to be active for a period of three years or more the Principal or other authorized administrator shall require the following actions:

1. Obtain written notice from the faculty advisor or student officer that the activity will cease to be a viable account. If unable to obtain such notification the Principal shall request action to close the account from the School Committee.
2. Identify in writing all assets of the student activity. The disposition of any assets shall be determined by the School Committee and may not benefit specific individuals.
3. Annually notify all students of the required actions if an activity ceases to exist.

Student Activity Deficits

Individual student activity accounts are not permitted to be in a deficit position. Whenever a deficit exists that is not the result of timing, the Superintendent shall recommend remedial action to the School Committee in a timely manner.

LEGAL REFS: MGL 71:47
CROSS REFS: JJA, Student Organizations
DIE, Audits

Approved: June 19, 2017

Revised: November 4, 2024

Addendum A

APPLICATION FOR A FIELD TRIP

Field trip requests must be turned in at least 10 school days before the trip. The names of students attending the trip must be made known to the faculty at least five school days before the scheduled trip.

1. Date of Trip April Break 2026
2. Class NHS Band, Orchestra, Chorus & Theatre
3. Teacher Steph Phillips, Steve Cohen, Rick Amicchiario, Kathy Shepherd
4. Number of Students Ideally at least 50
5. Destination Festival Disney (Orlando, FL)
Students would compete in performing arts festival
Submissions along with other students from the US.
Students will also get professional adjudication and receive
professional instruction in workshops with Disney artists.
6. Method of Transportation Coach bus, airplane
7. Estimated Student Cost \$ 2,500
8. Time of Departure TBD
9. Time of Return TBD
10. Academic Objectives performance, critique, workshops in music, dance & theatre
11. Number of Teachers 5-6 Names of Teachers (see above) in addition
to performing arts staff we will maintain a student/adult
ratio of no more than 8:1

NOTE: If substitutes are required, the front office must be informed after request if approved.

12. Date of Application _____
13. Inform Health Office of a list of students attending the trip; pick-up Alerts and first aid supplies.

Phillips
Endorsed: Curriculum Advisor

Phillips
Signature of Teacher Initiating Request

[Signature]
Approved: Principal

Not Approved: Principal

NHS PERFORMING ARTS

FESTIVAL DISNEY TRIP

APRIL BREAK 2026

History

NHS Performing Arts took this same trip in 2017.

In 2017 the performing arts department raised enough funds to offer \$586 in scholarship to EACH STUDENT travelling due to the efforts put forth in our performances.

Tour Highlights

- Round-Trip Transportation by Air, Coach Bus Transportation from NHS to Logan

- Disney All-Star Resort Hotel with Quad Occupancy

- Daytime Tour Manager (On-Call in Evening)

- All Meals While on Disney Property

- Overnight Security

- Basic Travel Protection

- 4-day Park Hopper Ticket

- Public Performance professionally adjudicated

- Disney Performing Arts Workshops in desired content areas

DAY ONE

Depart this morning from Logan Intl to MCO in Orlando. Upon arrival meet your Encore Tour Manager and check in to Disney's All-Star Resort. Enjoy the rest of the day at Disney's Hollywood Studios and see Fantasmic! light, water and fire show. Vouchers will be provided for lunch and dinner.

DAY TWO

Have breakfast at the resort then enjoy Disney's Epcot. Today each ensemble will have a chance to participate in a Disney Performing Arts Workshop. The band and orchestra will enjoy Disney's Your Instrumental Workshop. Sight-read, prepare and record a polished performance of special Disney music selections in a studio environment like a professional musician. The choir will take part in Disney Sings. The Theatre Department will work on an ensemble piece (singing and dancing) from a Disney musical with a professional Disney music director and choreographer. Record an excerpt from a Disney animated feature film's soundtrack and learn audition skills, vocal techniques and more under the guidance of a professional Disney vocalist. Spend the rest of the day enjoying the Disney parks. Once again vouchers will be provided for lunch and dinner within the park.

DAY THREE

Today enjoy Animal Kingdom. After lunch within the park (voucher provided) depart for Disney Springs where each ensemble will perform at the Waterside Stage, and have the opportunity to receive feedback from professional adjudicators. Groups will also get to see other schools perform. Tonight celebrate your successful trip with a group dinner at Planet Hollywood.

DAY FOUR

Following breakfast at the resort, today each ensemble will have a chance to participate in another Disney Performing Arts Workshop. Then students will enjoy the Magic Kingdom and see Wishes nighttime firework spectacular. Vouchers provided for lunch and dinner within the park

DAY FIVE

Have breakfast at the resort and enjoy some time at one of the Disney Waterparks or miniature golf courses (if desired), before boarding your coach to MCO for your flight for the return trip home.

Pricing

Pricing is dependent upon how many students travel, approximate cost for 50 students is \$2,500.

Fundraising/Scholarships

NHS Performing Arts is fortunate to be able to use our performances, skills and talents to help raise funds. In the past we have had success selling ads to our playbills, obtaining sponsorships from local businesses, as well as selling items at our performances (concessions, cast messages, etc..).

In addition to these opportunities, we will run traditional fundraisers as approved by the Administration/School Committee such as candy sales, mattress fundraiser, etc...

No student will be denied the opportunity to attend the trip. Fundraising opportunities will be available to all as well as a scholarship process for those in need

Goal/Purpose

In addition to offering professional level instruction, adjudication and experience to our students this trip is also aimed at building culture to aid in retention of students in the performing arts year after year (specifically Grades 8 to 9)..

Addendum A

APPLICATION FOR A FIELD TRIP

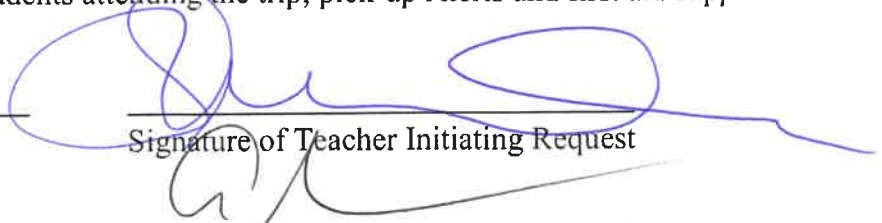
Field trip requests must be turned in at least 10 school days before the trip. The names of students attending the trip must be made known to the faculty at least five school days before the scheduled trip.

- 1. Date of Trip MAY 2ND - MAY 4TH
- 2. Class HONORS REAL WORLD DESIGN AND ENGINEERING
- 3. Teacher SARAH LEADBEATER
- 4. Number of Students 6
- 5. Destination RWDC NATIONAL COMPETITION IN WASHINGTON, DC
HYATT REGENCY CRYSTAL CITY @ REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT
2799 RICHMOND HWY, ARLINGTON, VA 22202
- 6. Method of Transportation FLYING
- 7. Estimated Student Cost Ø THE NEF HAS AGREED TO PAY FOR FLIGHTS
& REGISTRATION FEES. APPROX \$750 PER PERSON
- 8. Time of Departure 10AM
- 9. Time of Return 5PM
- 10. Academic Objectives COMPETE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL / ATTEND THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE
- 11. Number of Teachers 1 Names of Teachers SARAH LEADBEATER

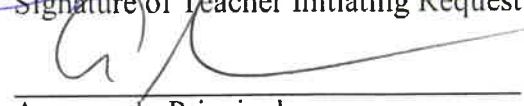
NOTE: If substitutes are required, the front office must be informed after request if approved.

- 12. Date of Application 3/17/25
- 13. Inform Health Office of a list of students attending the trip; pick-up Alerts and first aid supplies.

Endorsed: Curriculum Advisor



Signature of Teacher Initiating Request



Approved: Principal

Not Approved: Principal

STUDENT OVERNIGHT OR LATE NIGHT TRAVEL

All student trips which include late night or overnight travel must have prior approval of the School Committee. Initial approval by the School Committee is required before engaging students in fundraising activities. The School Committee will also consider the educational value of the trip in relation to the cost prior to granting initial approval. Overnight trips should offer significant educational benefits to students that clearly justify the time and expense of the trip. Such trips should be appropriate for the grade level.

Final approval will not be granted until all preparations for the trip have been completed including, but not limited to, all logistical details involving transportation, accommodation arrangements and fundraising efforts. The School Committee requires that final approval be sought no less than 30 days prior to the scheduled trip dates.

Teachers and other school staff are prohibited from soliciting for privately run trips through the school system and in the schools. The School Committee will only review for approval school-sanctioned trips. The School Committee will not review or approve trips that are privately organized and run without school sanctioning.

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 69:1B; 71:37N

CROSS REFS.: IJOA, Field Trips

Adopted: June 19, 2017

Revised: February 27, 2024



masc



Joint Statement: School District Budget Challenges

Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (M.A.S.S.)
Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC)
Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials (MASBO)

February 28, 2025

A disturbing trend has emerged in school districts throughout Massachusetts. As School Committees, Superintendents, and School Business Officials grapple with budget proposals for the 2025-26 school year, more and more districts are projecting significant budget deficits. The simple reality is that in many communities, **expenses are increasing at much higher rates than the revenue available to support them.**

At budget hearings and community meetings across the Commonwealth, residents are presented with proposed strategies to close the fiscal gaps, none of which is ideal, including staff layoffs, reduction or elimination of programs and services, and even school closures. District leaders try to reassure their constituents that they have proposed these solutions only after exhausting all other options. Many have advocated with municipal leaders for additional revenue, but cities and towns themselves are often facing economic challenges to deliver critical services. Some communities will pursue a Proposition 2½ override to avoid cuts through increased taxes, but voters are not always willing to pay higher tax bills, particularly if their own household budgets are already strained. Even a successful override is often a temporary solution that does not address the long-term structural deficits facing school districts.

Although the financial situation in each school district is unique, **we see a consistent pattern of fiscal pressures across a broad range of communities** – whether large or small, urban, suburban, or rural. Several major expenses are increasing dramatically year after year, including out-of-district special education tuition, transportation, health insurance, utilities, and other significant line items. At the same time, the revenue available to most school districts remains relatively flat. State funding has increased overall in recent years, but not enough to offset the rapidly rising expenses. Local communities – especially those without a sizable commercial sector – rely heavily on residential taxes, which cannot increase by more than 2.5% without an override. These shortfalls are compounded by the loss of federal funding that supported pandemic recovery investments, forcing districts to choose between eliminating those interventions or redirecting other revenue to sustain them.

When faced with painful consequences – especially the loss of talented employees or vital programs for students and families – it is understandable for residents to express their anger, frustration, and fear, and to demand answers about the causes of this predicament. We urge the people of Massachusetts to **know the facts and understand the statewide context** before placing blame on the individuals who lead our school districts. School Committees, Superintendents, and School Business Officials have a tremendous responsibility to manage public funds with the utmost care and with the best interest of students at the forefront. However, they are ultimately constrained by the resources available to them, particularly as the needs and costs to operate school districts continue to escalate well beyond the means of our communities.



NEWBURYPORT Public Schools

FISCAL YEAR '26 BUDGET BOOK

Superintendent Sean Gallagher

School Committee

Mayor Sean Reardon, Chair

Juliet Walker, Vice Chair

Andrew Boger

Brian Callahan

Breanna Higgins

Kathleen Shaw

Sarah Hall

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1) FY26 PRIORITIES

The NPS budget reflects the vision and strategic plan which address the needs of Newburyport students and schools. The strategic priorities provide direction to administrators and guide staff in developing budget recommendations. The budget addresses four key areas:

Vision: Move the district forward to accomplish the Reimagine Strategies (see below).

Teaching and Learning: Support continuous refinement of curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices.

People (Personnel): Meet the needs of all learners with highly qualified staff, teachers and administrators.

Operations: Ensure the resources, technology infrastructure, and school facilities support learning and meet district goals.

Strategic Focus Areas				
Teaching & Learning	Supports	Culture	Operations	Stakeholders
Providing high quality, high impact instruction	Ensuring every student has the supports they need to grow and learn	Creating a culture where every person can say "I belong here"	Ensuring highly qualified staff, up-to-date resources, and safe buildings	Building an active community of stakeholders

2) BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

The budget reflects the assumption that the school district will meet all federal, state, and local mandated programs and requirements. Thus, the budget includes sufficient resources and funding to meet contractual obligations, to implement mandated programs, and to ensure the high school meets accreditation standards.

Contractual Obligations

- ❖ Newburyport Teachers Association
- ❖ Newburyport Instructional Assistants Union
- ❖ AFSCME Union
- ❖ Non-union staff

Federal and State Mandates

- ❖ Special Education: Federal - IDEA & MA General Law 71B & 603 CMR 28.00
- ❖ English Learner (EL) Programs
- ❖ Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 Accommodations
- ❖ Transportation (i.e., special education, kindergarten, 2 mile K-6)

3) LEVEL SERVICE BUDGET

3.1 Budget Drivers FY26

A Level Service Budget reflects the cost of providing the same level of staffing, programs and operations from one fiscal year to the next. The level service budget drivers include:

- ❖ Expected expenses for all programs and staffing included in the FY25 operating budget.
- ❖ Expected costs of FY26 statutory or regulatory mandates and requirements (e.g., Special Education, English Learner, Homeless & Foster Care costs).
- ❖ Estimated contractual obligations (e.g., union and nonunion salaries, stipends, and overtime).
- ❖ Operations and maintenance costs for the new year (e.g., utilities, building maintenance).
- ❖ Estimated FY26 transportation costs (including general education and special education transportation costs).

In addition to our typical budget drivers, we are facing unprecedented instability in planning for federal and state grants. We have included projections based on our previous years, however, this may be subject to change.

3.2: FY26 Estimated Level Service Budget 3.3.2025

PROGRAM	FY24 Budget	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	Dollar Change	Percent Change
City Appropriation	\$ 36,533,619.00	\$ 38,176,735.00	\$ 40,950,126.00	\$ 2,773,391.00	7.26%
Medicaid	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 128,148.00	\$ (71,852.00)	-35.93%
Preschool Tuition	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 206,000.00	\$ 6,000.00	3%
Other Tuition	0	\$ 202,500.00	\$ 145,000.00	\$ (57,500.00)	-28.4%
School Choice Tuition	\$ 645,000.00	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 800,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	6.67%
Athletic Revolving	\$ 336,487.00	\$ 423,422.00	\$ 210,686.00	\$ (212,736.00)	-50.24%
Building Rental Revolving	\$ 32,615.00	\$ 32,615.00	\$ 32,615.00	0	0%
Transportation Revolving	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 203,128.00	\$ 68,128.00	50.47%
IDEA Special Education	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 574,916.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 84.00	0.01%
Title Grants	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 145,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ (20,000.00)	-13.7%
Professional Development Grant	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	-	\$ (140,000.00)	-100-%
Circuit Breaker Reimbursement	\$ 2,709,318.00	\$ 3,025,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ (1,025,000.00)	-33.88%
ESSER III	\$ 1,050,224.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	-	-%
Grand Totals:	\$ 42,727,263.00	\$ 44,005,188.00	\$ 45,375,703.00	\$ 1,370,515.00	3.11%

3.3 Level Service Budget Assumptions Detailed

Funding

1. City Allocation is funded through both Chapter 70 State Funding (Newburyport FY26 Chapter 70 is estimated at \$6,040,160, see page 12) and city funding
2. Medicaid Reimbursement: reimbursement goes directly to the City, funds offset NPS expenses (e.g., nurses, special education); based on FY25 actuals
3. Preschool Tuition: slight increase based on year-to-date revenue
4. Other Tuition: (tuition collected through special education and exchange programs)
5. School Choice Tuition: expected FY26 fund use \$800,000 (see page 13 for more School Choice information)
6. Revolving Accounts
 - (a) Athletics: projections based on actual revenues FY25 year to date
 - (b) Building Rental: no change expected in FY26
 - (c) Transportation: projections based on actual revenues FY25 year to date
7. Entitlement Grants
 - (a) Expected Reduction in Title I, II and IV
 - (b) Level funding for IDEA Special Education
8. Circuit Breaker Reimbursement: projecting \$2,000,000 in expenditures

Expenses

1. **Personnel.** The level service budget reflects contractual obligations for three unions (Newburyport Teachers Association (NTA), Instructional Assistants, AFSCME and non union employees). Since all three unions are currently in negotiations, costs are estimates only. FY26 salary projections include cost of living increases, step & column changes, and longevity increases.
2. **Non Personnel.** Cost center projections include inflation increases and estimated costs of supplies/materials for FY26.

Table 3.4: Proposed Budget 3.17.25

PROGRAM	FY24 Budget	FY25 Budget	FY26 Budget	Dollar Change	Percent Change
City Appropriation	\$ 36,533,619.00	\$ 38,176,735.00	\$ 39,748,367.00	\$ 1,571,632.00	4.12%
Medicaid	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 128,148.00	\$ (71,852.00)	-35.93%
Preschool Tuition	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 254,431.00	\$ 54,431.00	27.22%
Other Tuition	0	\$ 202,500.00	\$ 95,700.00	\$ (106,800.00)	-52.74%
School Choice Tuition	\$ 645,000.00	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 950,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	26.67%
Athletic Revolving	\$ 336,487.00	\$ 423,422.00	\$ 210,686.00	\$ (212,736.00)	-50.24%
Building Rental Revolving	\$ 32,615.00	\$ 32,615.00	\$ 0.00	\$ (32,615.00)	-100%
Transportation Revolving	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 140,970.00	\$ 5,970.00	4.42%
IDEA Special Education	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 574,916.00	\$ 587,000.00	\$ 12,084.00	2.1%
Title Grants	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 145,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	\$ (20,000.00)	-13.7%
Professional Development Grant	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	14.29%
Circuit Breaker Reimbursement	\$ 2,709,318.00	\$ 3,025,000.00	\$ 2,250,000.00	\$ (775,000.00)	-25.62%
ESSER III	\$ 1,050,224.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	-	-%
Grand Totals:	\$ 42,727,263.00	\$ 44,005,188.00	\$ 44,650,302.00	\$ 645,114.00	1.47%

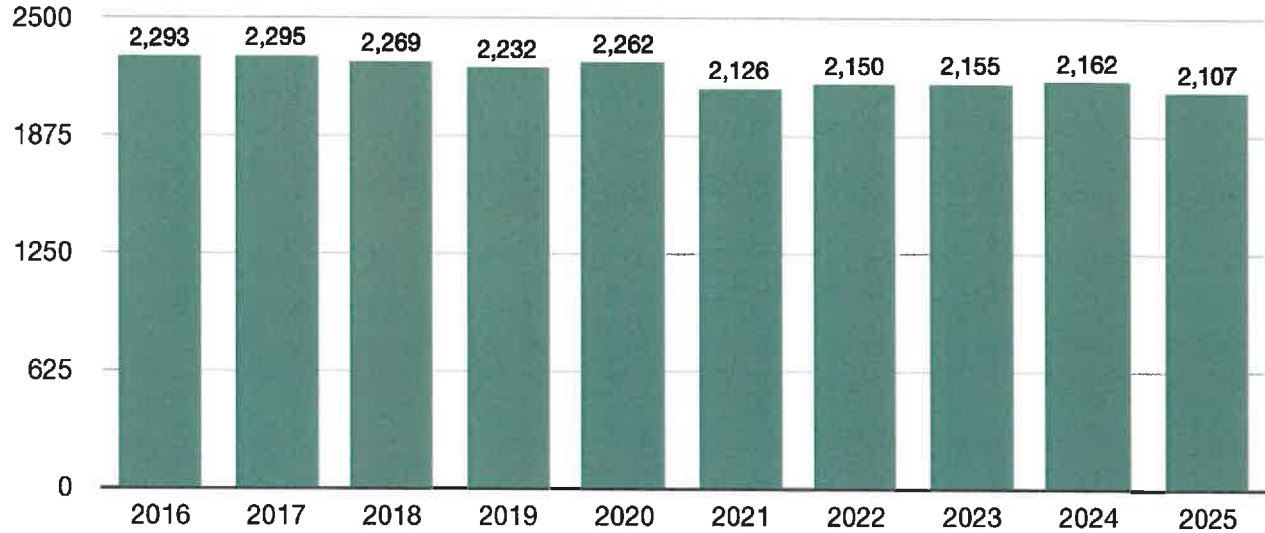
3.5 FY26 Proposed Budget March 17, 2025

Funding Changes from Level Service Budget of March 3, 2025

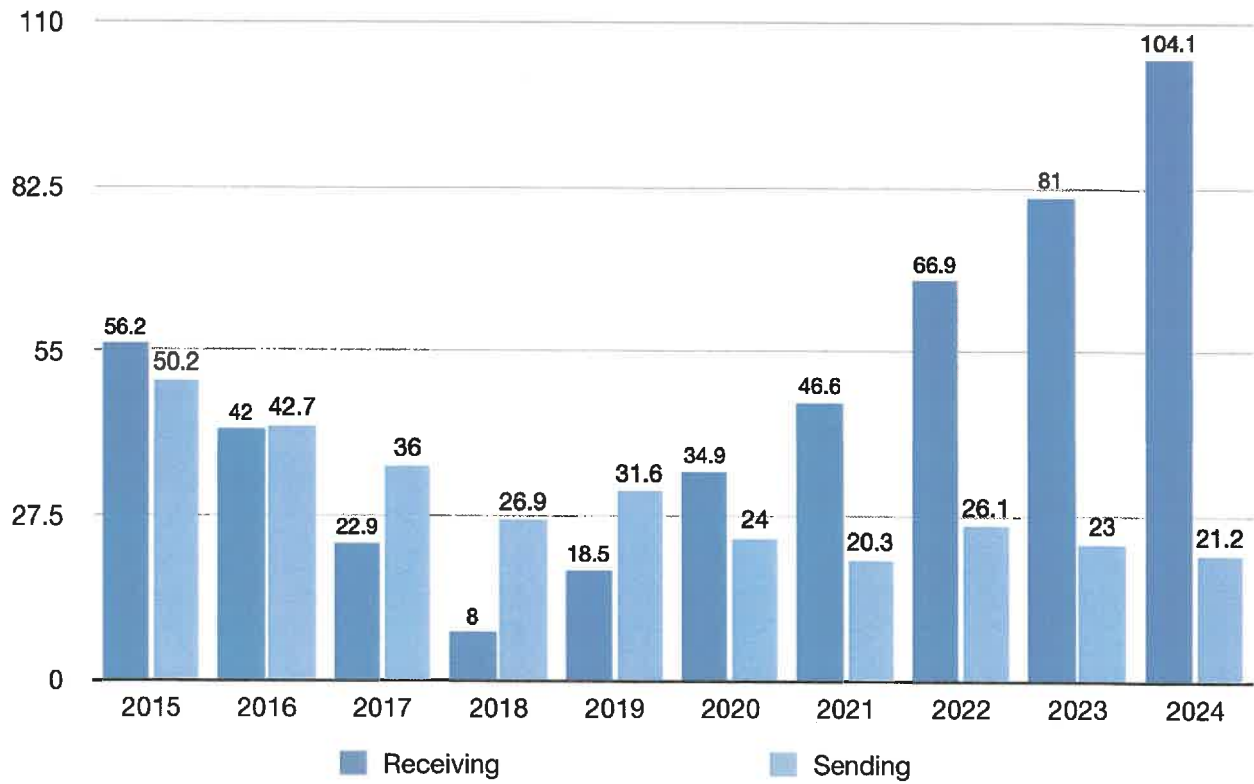
1. **City Allocation** is funded through both Chapter 70 State Funding (Newburyport FY26 Chapter 70 is estimated at \$6,040,160, see page 12) and city funding. Changes from Level Service Estimate are as follows:
 - 1.1. **Compensation Packages:** Based on ongoing negotiations with all district unions, we have a clearer picture of compensation packages (include salaries, step & lane changes, longevity payments, and expected benefits) leading to a reduction of level service estimate of around \$800,000
 - 1.2. **Contracted Services:** Due to the restructuring of the Special Education Department this fiscal year, we expect to be able to reduce our contracted services fees by delivering services using district resources (savings of \$200,000).
 - 1.3. **District Wide Supplies and Materials:** reduced by \$70,000
 - 1.4. **Staffing:** Special Education faculty and support staff reduction based on projected enrollment for FY26 (\$160,000)
2. **Medicaid Reimbursement:** reimbursement goes directly to the City, funds offset NPS expenses (e.g., nurses, special education); based on FY25 actuals)—no change
3. **Preschool Tuition:** slight increase based on year-to-date revenue — change reflects current balance
4. **Other Tuition** (tuition collected through special education and exchange programs) — no change
5. **School Choice Tuition:** March 3, 2025 level service budget used \$800,000, new budget includes \$950,000 in choice funding (see page 13 for more School Choice information)
6. **Revolving Accounts**
 - (a) Athletics: projections based on actual revenues FY25 year to date; no change
 - (b) Building Rental: reduced to \$0 based on current account balance
 - (c) Transportation: projections based on actual revenues FY25 year to date; no change
7. **Entitlement Grants**
 - (a) Expected Reduction in Title I, II and IV; no change
 - (b) Level funding for IDEA Special Education; no change
8. **Circuit Breaker Reimbursement:** new projection \$2,250,000 (change from 3.3.25 of \$250,000)

4) DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

4.1: Demographic Trends: Total Enrollment

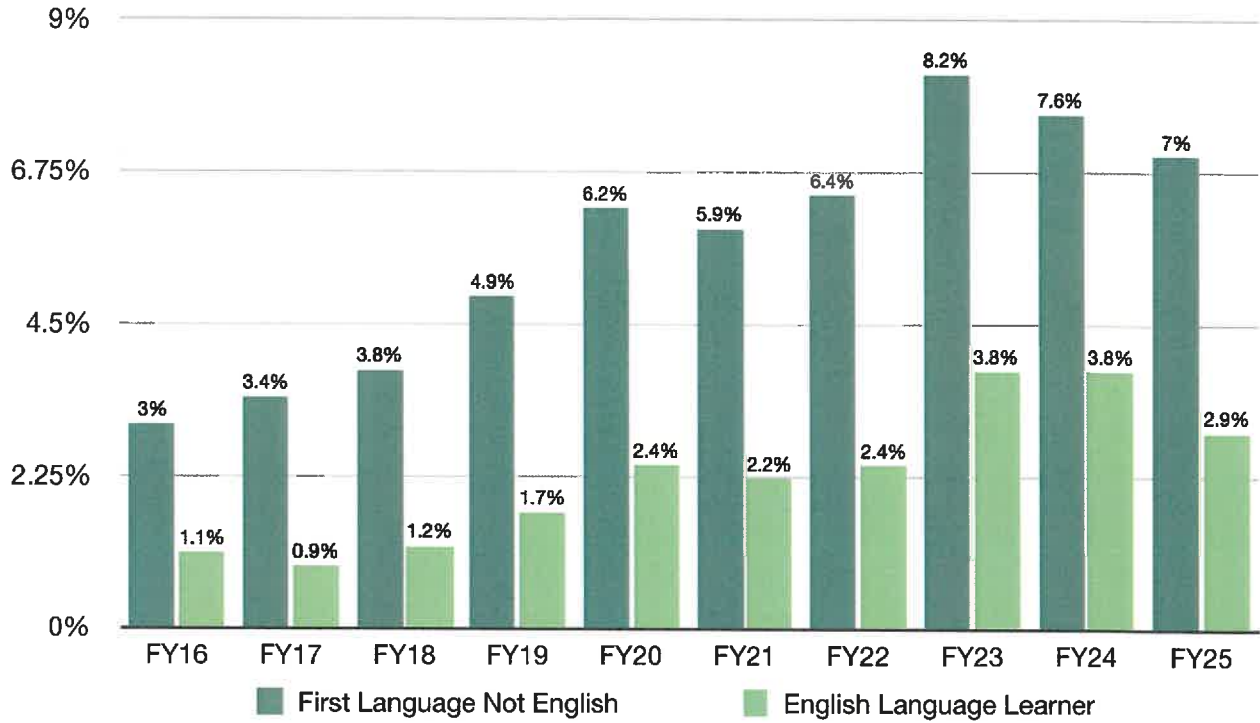


4.2: Demographic Trends: School Choice Enrollment Total

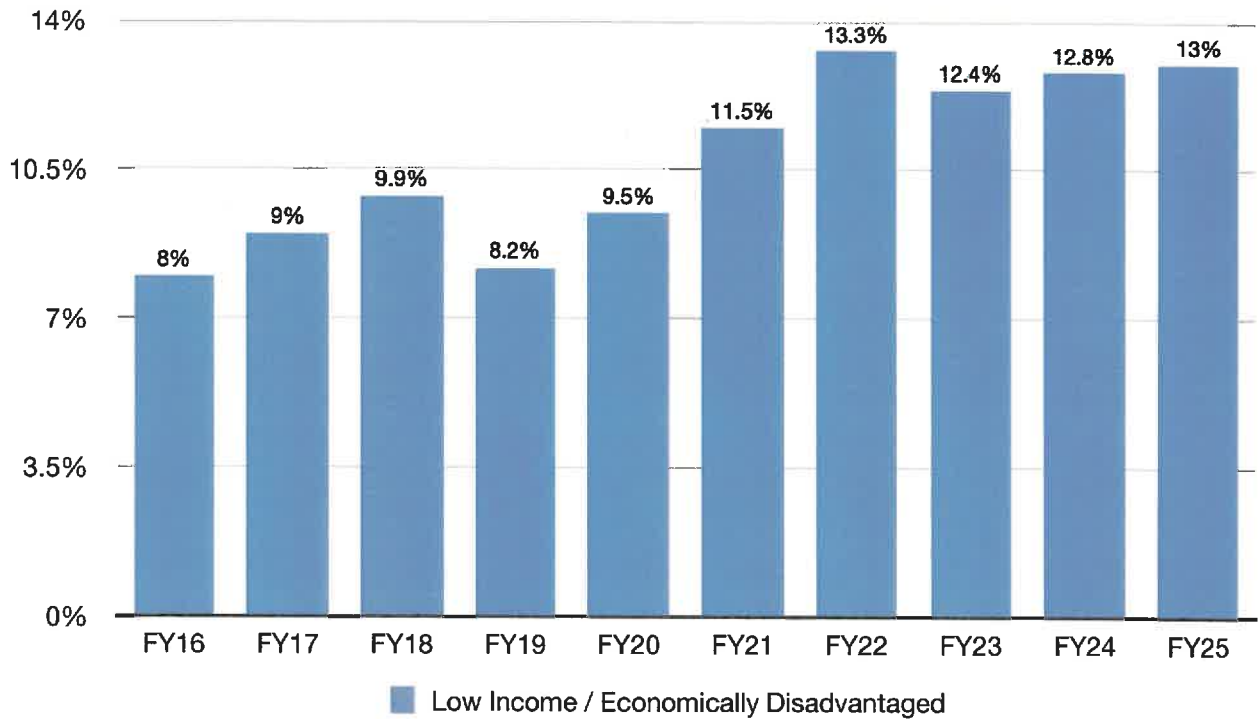


Enrollment based on October DESE reports

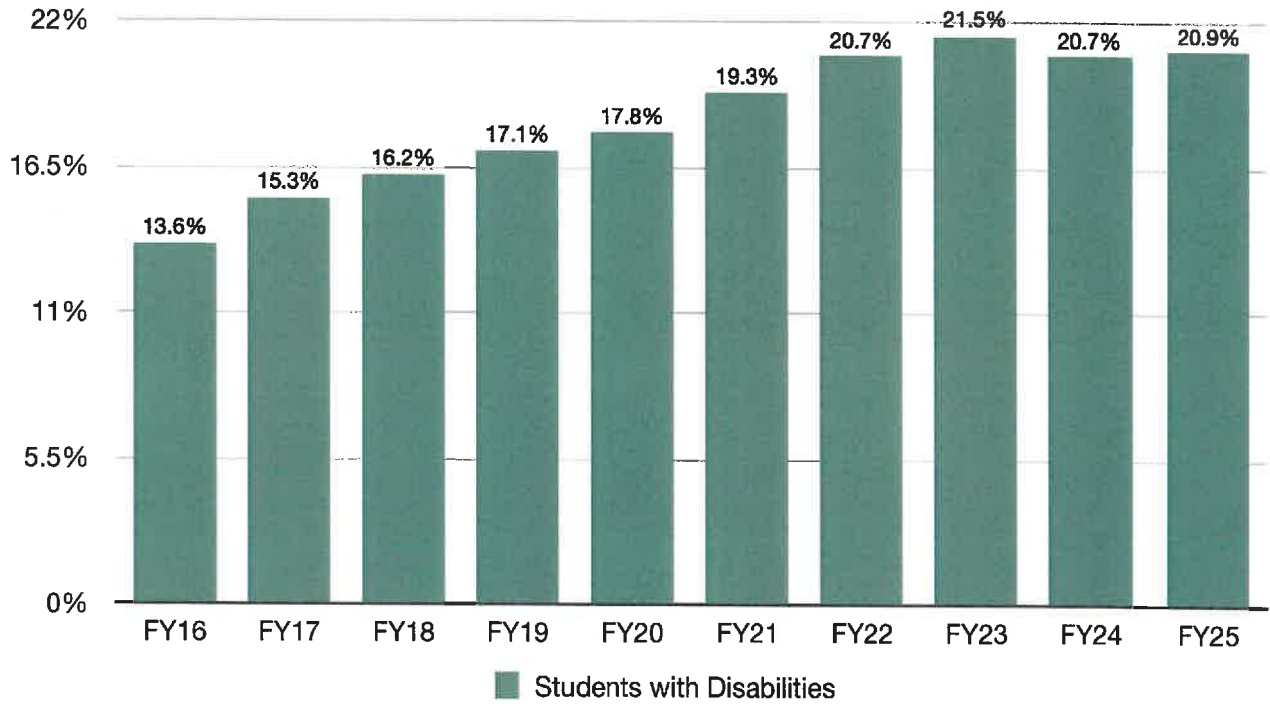
4.3: Demographic Trends: English Language Learners
(percent of total enrollment)



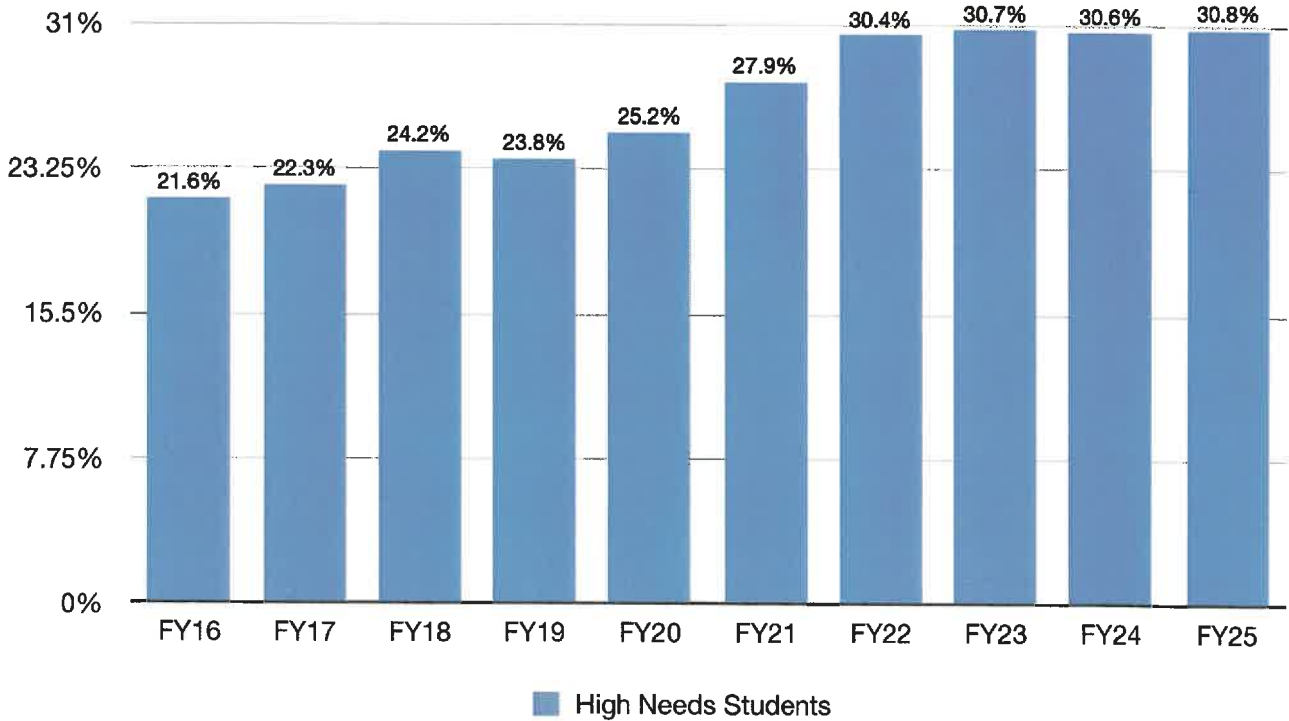
4.4: Demographic Trends: Low Income / Economically Disadvantaged
(percent of total enrollment)



4.5: Demographic Trends: Students with Disabilities
(percent of total enrollment)



4.6: Demographic Trends: High Needs Students
(percent of total enrollment)



5) BUDGET BACKGROUND INFORMATION

5.1: Chapter 70 Program Funding

“The Chapter 70 program is the major program of state aid to public elementary and secondary schools. In addition to providing state aid to support school operations, it establishes minimum spending requirements for each school district and minimum requirements for each municipality's share of school costs.” DESE School Finance

FY26 Funding for Newburyport

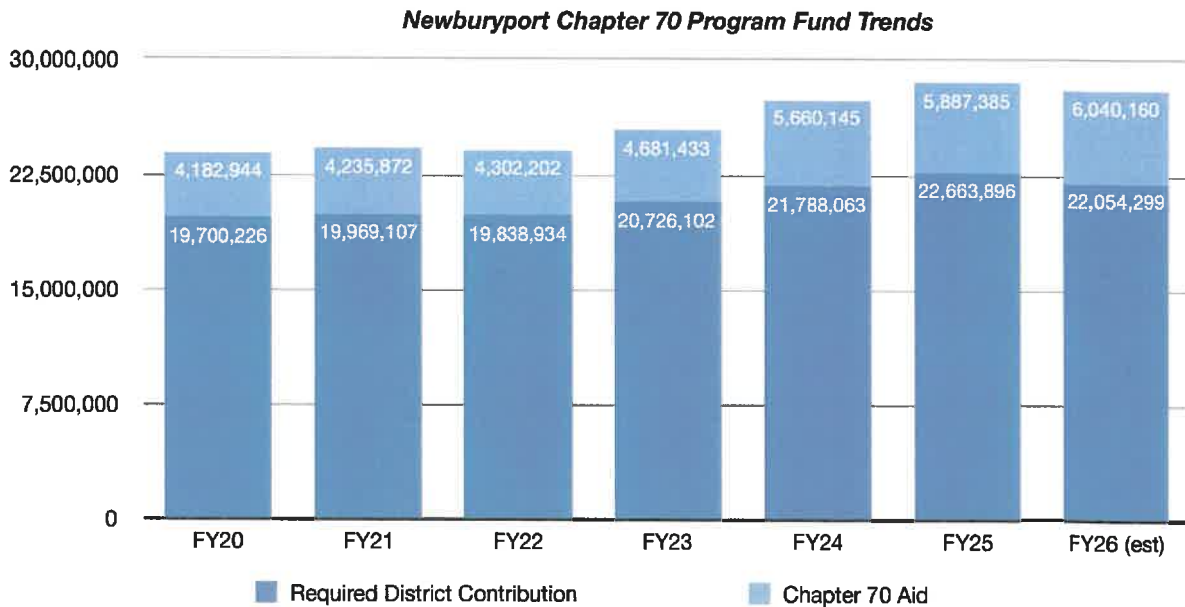
The funding Newburyport (or any city/town) receives is based on a formula that identifies:

1. **A foundation budget:** an adequate funding level for our enrollment (# students) and population (demographics: income, special education, English Learners) (FY26 expected: \$26,732,482)
2. **Target Local Contribution:** using the city's tax base and relative wealth calculations, how much Newburyport is expected to contribute (FY26 expected: \$22,054,297)

These amounts are then used to calculate **foundation aid**, the difference between foundation budget and local contribution.

The state also sets a **minimum per pupil increase** of \$75/pupil for FY26 and districts cannot receive less than the previous year.

The FY26 expected aid is \$6,040,160 an increase of \$152,775 from FY25. See chart below for trends. In Newburyport, typically about 85% of Chapter 70 Funding is allocated for NPS, with the remaining going to the charter school.



5.2: School Choice

School Choice was established by Massachusetts G.L. c. 76, § 12B in 1991 and amended in 1993. Choice programs allow parents/guardians to enroll their children in communities other than the one in which they reside. Districts who open choice seats are called receiving districts. Districts who have students “choicing” to another district are called sending districts.

Why isn't the income a simple formula of \$5000 x number of receiving students? The simple explanation is that there are adjustments made for students who are low income or are on an IEP. The state makes these calculations based on reports that the district submits.

Tuition and Special Classifications

	Student A	Student B	Student C	Student D
Educational Classification	No Special Classifications	Low Income or English Learner	Special Education In District	Special Education Out of District
Tuition	\$5000	\$5000	\$5000	None
Reimbursements	None	State aid funds are adjusted to reflect these students	Reimbursement of service expenses by sending district*	Full reimbursement of tuition/transportation by sending district*
	*These amounts are determined using a cost calculator similar to the one used for the circuit breaker program under G.L. c. 71B, § 5B			

Every year the school committee decides whether it will accept new enrollments. The superintendent, based on information from building principals on capacity, staffing and enrollment, recommends how many and at what level slots should be open. The School Committee votes based on this information.

NPS Choice Sending and Receiving Total Enrollment

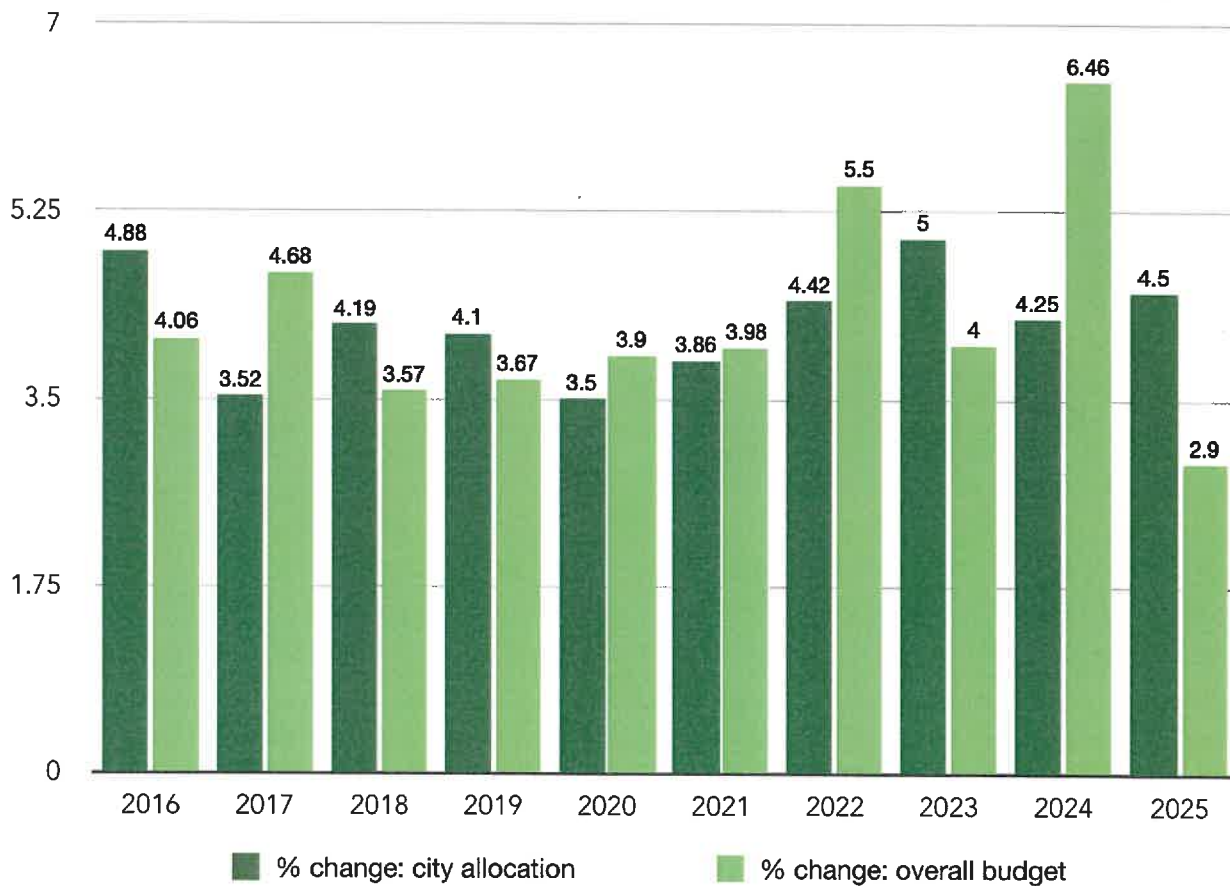
FY	Receiving		Sending	
	FTE Pupil	Tuition	FTE Pupil	Tuition
2015	56.2	727,472	50.2	316,320
2016	42	\$641,809	42.7	264,608
2017	22.9	\$196,447	36	\$210,885
2018	8	\$72,747	26.9	\$166,214
2019	18.5	\$124,126	31.6	\$220,302
2020	34.9	\$226,348	24	\$157,431
2021	46.6	\$307,168	20.3	\$151,701
2022	66.9	\$478,588	26.1	\$186,725
2023	81.0	\$562,884	20.87	\$187,738
2024	104.1	\$747,663	21.2	\$213,916

5.3: City Allocation Increase by Year

See below for trends in the change in city allocation and the overall budget from year to year.

YEAR	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
% change: city	4.88	3.52	4.19	4.1	3.5	3.86	4.42	5	4.25	4.5
% change: overall	4.06	4.68	3.57	3.67	3.9	3.98	5.5	4	6.46	2.9

Trends in City Funding: Percent Change in Overall Budget Compared to Percent in Change in City Allocation



Newburyport Public Schools Competency Determination Policy

- Reviewed by Teaching & Learning Sub Committee of the School Committee: 1/27/2025
- Reviewed by Newburyport High School School Council: 2/5/2025
- Reviewed by Policy Subcommittee of the School Committee: 2/10/2025

To be added as new section to: School Committee Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements

Newburyport High School Competency Determination

All students are required by Massachusetts Education Reform Law of 1993, G.L. c. 69, § 1D to meet a Competency Determination (CD) “by satisfactorily completing coursework that has been certified by the student’s district as showing mastery the skills, competencies, and knowledge contained in the state academic standards and curriculum frameworks” in English, mathematics, and science.

To meet the competency determination, NHS students must satisfactorily* complete coursework aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks that cover the content of the following courses:

1. English grade 9 and 10
2. Algebra I and Geometry
3. One of the following: Biology, Chemistry, or Physics

Students who have previously earned a CD through a regular or retest administration of the MCAS (including the November 2024 retest) or through a DESE appeal process, have earned their CD.

Students who left school prior to 2025 without meeting the CD have the opportunity to meet competency requirements by meeting with a Review Panel made up of subject area experts. Through the review, students will need to demonstrate competency in English, math and science through relevant, approved coursework.

**Satisfactorily complete coursework:* NHS students must meet the minimum threshold grade for passing as defined in the Newburyport High School Student Handbook [Clipper Compass - Section 3.3](#) - Grading Scale section. Please see the Newburyport High School Student Handbook Clipper Compass - [Section 3.5 - Grade Contesting](#) for procedures on *appealing a course grade*.

IKF: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate from Newburyport High School, a student must have earned at least 95 credits and complied with all state accountability requirements. Course requirements are the following:

- Four years of English
- Three years of Mathematics including completion of Algebra II or an Integrated Math equivalent
- Three years of lab-based Science which may include technology/engineering
- Four years of History/Social Science including US History and World History
- Two years of World Language
- Four semesters of Physical Education
- Two semesters of the Arts

Other requirements may be established by the school administration in relation to the particular program, otherwise the additional credits needed for a graduation may be selected from among elective courses. For the total number of credits required please see the high school program of studies or student handbook.

Credit for Foreign Study:

Students who are away for a term or year to participate in a student exchange program or otherwise study abroad may receive credits toward high school graduation when (1) study plans are approved by the school administration in advance; and (2) the institution where the study occurred submits a record of the student's work. In these instances, the Principal and student's guidance counselor will evaluate the work and assign credit for it according to standards prevailing in Newburyport High School.

Adopted: February 5, 2018

Revised: November 20, 2023

School Committee
March 17, 2025

Superintendent's Report



NHS Students On Dominican Republic Trip

FY25 SOA Plan: Progress Reports offer districts' key stakeholders important highlights about the implementation of SOA plans and progress being made to reduce disparities in learning opportunities and outcomes for student groups experiencing those disparities. Progress reports, due April 1, 2025, cover three key topics:

- Summary of progress to date (Academic Year 2024-2025)
- Key changes to the plan and next steps in implementation
- Ongoing activities to engage families / caregivers and other stakeholders

2024-2025 Transportation Update:

Current Bus Fees

- \$300 per bus pass per child (1st two children)
- \$100 per each additional child

Current Riders Per School

- Bresnahan - 350
- Molin - 212
- Nock - 282
- NHS - 249
- 24-25 Total = 1,093

- 23-24 Total = 1,095.

Funds received for passes for the past three school years are as follows:

- 2024-2025: \$118,567
- 2023-2024: \$89,000 (mileage waiver changed from 2.0 to 1.5 miles)
- 2022-2023: \$155,000

School Choice Potential Seat Offerings

Building principals reviewed potential school choice slots for next school year. At the April 7th School Committee meeting we will present a full breakdown of these projections.

Grade 1 = 5 Grade 2 = 5 Grade 3 = 5 Grade 4 = 3 Grade 5 = 3 Grade 6 = 10

Grade 7 = 10 Grade 8 = 10 Grade 9 = 20 Grade 10 = 5 Grade 11 = 0 Grade 12 = 0

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (NHS Masonry)

NHS Exterior & Masonry Repairs

Department:	Schools
Category:	Facilities Renovation/Repair
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	Prior Year
Priority:	1 - Urgent/Very High
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$1,565,000
Estimated Useful Life:	25 Years
Capital Project Score	58.3



Description and Justification:

2015 the exterior stairway leading from the parking lot up to the west terrace at the high school was rebuilt due to severe deterioration.
 Since the 2019 Repairs more damage has occurred around the building including the front entrance stairs and ADA ramps. Repairs were made to this same stairway again in 2019, and they are in need of repair again.
 The funds requested would be to hire an engineering firm to evaluate the Structural Masonry around NHS and develop a plan for necessary repairs.
 Then funding would also be used to hire a contractor to perform the repairs.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year	
FY2026	\$50,000
FY2027	\$0
FY2028	\$505,000
FY2029	\$505,000
FY2030	\$505,000
Total Five-Year Cost	\$1,565,000

Operating Budget Impact:	\$0
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Anticipated Funding Source(s)	
	General Fund (Debt)
X	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
	Trust Fund/Local Grant
	Other*

*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: FY2026-FY2030

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (NHS Roof)

NHS Roof Replacement

Department:	Schools
Category:	Facilities Renovation/Repair
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	Prior Year
Priority:	2 - High
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$2,145,000
Estimated Useful Life:	20 Years
Capital Project Score	45



Description and Justification:

The roof on Building A at the high school is now over 29 years old. Leaks have been experienced in several places this past winter and a roofing contractor has been called in a number of times to make repairs. A Statement of Interest is being submitted to the MSBA for assistance with a roofing project. The timeline for a project with them puts the construction in the summer of 2026 at the earliest, so the estimated project costs are projected out two years. Construction costs are calculated at \$55/sq. ft. and OPM and Engineering fees are calculated at 15% of construction costs. Notification of invitation into the MSBA program is expected in October 2024. If Newburyport is not invited into the program this year serious consideration should be given to moving forward with the project without the MSBA due to the age and condition of the roof. Therefore therecommendation is to allocate the full amount of the OPM & Engineering fees in the FY25 CIP so the city is ready to move forward asap.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year

FY2026	\$275,000
FY2027	\$1,870,000
FY2028	\$0
FY2029	\$0
FY2030	\$0
Total Five-Year Cost	\$2,145,000

Anticipated Funding Source(s)

	General Fund (Debt)
X	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
X	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
	Trust Fund/Local Grant
	Other*

Operating Budget Impact:	\$0
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*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (Nock-Molin Roof)

Nock Molin-Gym & Auditorium Roof Replacement

Department:	Schools
Category:	Facilities Renovation/Repair
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	Prior Year
Priority:	2 - High
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$1,629,120
Estimated Useful Life:	25 Years
Capital Project Score	40



Description and Justification:

The gym and auditorium roofs are the only sections that have not been replaced during recent projects. They are currently in good condition, but are close to 25 years old, which is nearing the end of their life expectancy. This project is included in order to be forward thinking so that the city can be prepared for this expense when the time comes to replace these roofs. Cost estimate is based on \$16/sq. ft. It also provides allowances for General Conditions, Overhead & Profit, Bonding Fees, Design Fees, Escalation and a Contingency. It also provides an allowance to remove and reinstall the solar panels on the roof. This project would likely qualify for reimbursement under the MSBA's accelerated repair program.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year	
FY2026	\$215,000
FY2027	\$0
FY2028	\$1,414,120
FY2029	\$0
FY2030	\$0
Total Five-Year Cost	\$1,629,120

Operating Budget Impact:	\$0
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Anticipated Funding Source(s)	
X	General Fund (Debt)
	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
X	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
	Trust Fund/Local Grant
	Other*

*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: FY2026-FY2030

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (Molin Playground)

Molin Playground Replacement

Department:	Schools
Category:	Facilities Renovation/Repair
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	New
Priority:	3 - Medium
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$272,000
Estimated Useful Life:	20 Years
Capital Project Score	38.3



Description and Justification:

This project would be for Engineering Design and Construction to replace the existing playground at the Molin Upper Elementary School.
 The mulch used for the playground surfacing is in constant need of replacing and does not lend to be ADA compliant.
 The Equipment is 10+ years old and in need of replacement.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year	
FY2026	\$37,000
FY2027	\$0
FY2028	\$0
FY2029	\$235,000
FY2030	\$0
Total Five-Year Cost	\$272,000

Anticipated Funding Source(s)	
	General Fund (Debt)
X	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
	Trust Fund/Local Grant
	Other*

Operating Budget Impact:	\$0
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*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: FY2026-FY2030

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (Bres. Playground)

Bresnahan Plyground Surfacing

Department:	Schools
Category:	Facilities Renovation/Repair
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	New
Priority:	3 - Medium
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$275,000
Estimated Useful Life:	20 Years
Capital Project Score	48.3



Description and Justification:

The poured in place rubber surfacing at the playground is just over 10yrs old and is now in need of replacement due to cracking pulling apart.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year	
FY2026	\$0
FY2027	\$275,000
FY2028	\$0
FY2029	\$0
FY2030	\$0
Total Five-Year Cost	\$275,000

Operating Budget Impact:	\$5,000
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Anticipated Funding Source(s)	
	General Fund (Debt)
X	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
	Trust Fund/Local Grant
	Other*

*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: FY2026-FY2030

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (NHS Feasibility)

NHS Feasibility Study

Department:	Schools
Category:	Facilities Renovation/Repair
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	New
Priority:	3 - Medium
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$80,000
Estimated Useful Life:	20 Years
Capital Project Score	40



Description and Justification:

The purpose of this project is to take a look at the current spaces being used for various Science and STEM classes at the high school to determine the best way to create open and professional spaces that encourage cross-disiplinary use and instruction, provide for storage needs and support curricular needs. These funds would be used to hire a design firm to conduct a feasibility study and produce cost estimates for renovations to meet these goals.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year

FY2026	
FY2027	\$20,000
FY2028	\$20,000
FY2029	\$20,000
FY2030	\$20,000
Total Five-Year Cost	\$80,000

Anticipated Funding Source(s)

	General Fund (Debt)
X	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
X	Trust Fund/Local Grant
	Other*

Operating Budget Impact: **\$0**

*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (NHS ENG. Ser.)

NHS-Engineering Services

Department:	Schools
Category:	Facilities Renovation/Repair
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	Prior Year
Priority:	1 - Urgent/Very High
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$80,000
Estimated Useful Life:	30 Years
Capital Project Score	40



Description and Justification:

Hire an engineering firm to perform an existing condition report and develop plans, schedules and cost estimates for a variety of issues at the high school including rooftop chiller (air conditioning system) replacement or upgrade (energy savings project), water infiltration, masonry issues, and perimeter stone wall study. In FY25 we spent approximately \$20,000 on service calls for the chillers on the high school roof, and while repair costs have been less the last couple of years, the chillers, as well as other HVAC equipment, are nearing the end of their service life. Replacement of the chillers would likely be replaced in an electrification energy project. Numerous water infiltration issues, including in the main electrical room, require the services of a forensic engineering firm to solve, masonry deterioration continues in several areas, and stones continue to fall out of the perimeter stone wall necessitating the plan of a structural engineer to evaluate and prioritize repairs.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year	
FY2026	\$20,000
FY2027	\$20,000
FY2028	\$20,000
FY2029	\$20,000
FY2030	\$0
Total Five-Year Cost	\$80,000

Operating Budget Impact:	-\$15,000
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Anticipated Funding Source(s)	
	General Fund (Debt)
X	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
	Trust Fund/Local Grant
	Other*

*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (NHS Flooring)

NHS-Flooring Replacement

Department:	Schools
Category:	Facilities Renovation/Repair
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	Prior Year
Priority:	3 - Medium
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$75,000
Estimated Useful Life:	20 Years
Capital Project Score	25



Description and Justification:

Carpets and flooring throughout the high school are all from the addition/renovation in 2002. Many areas are now showing signs of wear and tear. Targeting FY2026 to begin an annual replacement program is a prudent measure to take.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year	
FY2026	\$50,000
FY2027	\$25,000
FY2028	\$0
FY2029	\$0
FY2030	\$0
Total Five-Year Cost	\$75,000

Operating Budget Impact:	\$0
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Anticipated Funding Source(s)	
	General Fund (Debt)
X	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
	Trust Fund/Local Grant
	Other*

*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: FY2026-FY2030

Middle School Playground Repaving

Department:	Schools
Category:	Parks, Grounds & Open Space
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	New
Priority:	2 - High
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$199,642
Estimated Useful Life:	25 Years
Capital Project Score	53.3



Description and Justification:

The west end asphalt playground at the Nock Middle School has outlived its useful life and requires complete restoration as the existing pavement is severely cracked and degraded. The age of the pavement is unknown, and likely is original to the building. The playground is enjoyed daily by children who attend the school, as well as residents who utilize the basketball courts off-school hours. The proposed project involves paving from the sidewalk at Toppan's Lane to the building, replacing the 4 basketball hoops and re-stripping the area for basketball and four square.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year	
FY2026	\$199,642
FY2027	\$0
FY2028	\$0
FY2029	\$0
FY2030	\$0
Total Five-Year Cost	\$199,642

Operating Budget Impact:	\$0
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Anticipated Funding Source(s)	
	General Fund (Debt)
	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
X	Trust Fund/Local Grant
	Other*

*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: FY2026-FY2030

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (Kitchen Equ.)

Kitchen Equipment Replacement

Department:	Schools
Category:	Miscellaneous
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	New
Priority:	3 - Medium
FY2022-FY2026 Project Cost:	\$45,000
Estimated Useful Life:	20 Years
Capital Project Score	



Description and Justification:

Some of the equipment in the Nock Middle School kitchen is original to the construction in the 1970s and is well past its useful life, including the serving line, refrigeration and some of the cooking equipment. Additionally, some of the kitchen equipment at the high school is reaching the end of its useful life and is beginning to cost more to maintain and repair than it is worth, particularly the ovens and reach-in refrigeration equipment. This project would begin a program to replace equipment based on the needs of the Kitchen Managers and recommendations of the maintenance department. When funding becomes available, a prioritized list of equipment will be sent to multiple vendors for price quotes. Based on those quotes and available funding, orders will be placed with the vendor or vendors offering the best value.

*The Food Services Manager applies for a grant each year that has helped replace some equipment over the past two years.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year	
FY2026	\$15,000
FY2027	\$30,000
FY2028	\$0
FY2029	\$0
FY2030	\$0
Total Five-Year Cost	\$45,000

Operating Budget Impact:	\$0
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Anticipated Funding Source(s)	
	General Fund (Debt)
	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
	Trust Fund/Local Grant
X	Other*

*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (NHS Plaster)

NHS School Auditorium Plaster Repairs

Department:	Schools
Category:	Facilities Renovation/Repair
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	Prior Year
Priority:	4 - Low
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$100,000
Estimated Useful Life:	30 Years
Capital Project Score	26.6



Description and Justification:

Plaster throughout the auditorium has sustained damage from a number of sources including roof and window leaks. The window leaks have been repaired, but this project should be staged after the roof issues have been addressed. Damage to the plaster has occurred on the ceiling and walls in both the main section of the auditorium and the lobby area.

This project will be moved up the priority list after the roof over this section of the building is replaced.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year	
FY2026	\$0
FY2027	\$0
FY2028	\$100,000
FY2029	\$0
FY2030	\$0
Total Five-Year Cost	\$100,000

Operating Budget Impact:	\$0
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Anticipated Funding Source(s)	
	General Fund (Debt)
X	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
X	Trust Fund/Local Grant
	Other*

*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM: FY2026-FY2030

PROJECT DETAIL SHEET (NHS Electrification)

NHS Electrification -- Boiler & Chiller Replacement

Department:	Schools
Category:	Facilities Renovation/Repair
Request Type (New/Prior Year):	Prior Year
Priority:	4 - Low
FY2026-FY2030 Project Cost:	\$3,600,000
Estimated Useful Life:	30 Years
Capital Project Score	26.6



Description and Justification:

The Purpose of this project is to replace the aging boilers, and Chillers at the High School and move the city forward toward emission resuction goals. In 2023 National Grid funded a scoping study to identify options for electrification ot the two HVAC systems at the High School. Of the two options identified, a central air to water heat pump system is currently the preferred option. The new heat pumps could be installed in the place currently occupied by the end-of-life chillers on the roof and utilize existing piping infrastructure. Estimated cost is \$3,622,700

Utility incentives for this project are estimated to be in the range of \$2 Million. In 2025 the MSBA will begin to accept SOI's related to electrification projects. Newburyport's 2-23 reimbursement rate from the MSBA is about 43%, which would apply to the remaing cost AFTER utility incentives are deducted from he total project cost.

Estimated Costs by Fiscal Year	
FY2026	\$0
FY2027	\$500,000
FY2028	\$0
FY2029	\$0
FY2030	\$3,100,000
Total Five-Year Cost	\$3,600,000

Operating Budget Impact:	\$0
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Anticipated Funding Source(s)	
	General Fund (Debt)
X	General Fund (Pay As You Go)
	Enterprise Fund (Debt)
	Enterprise Fund (Pay As You Go)
X	State/Federal Grant
	CPA Grant
	Trust Fund/Local Grant
X	Other*

*Specify other funding source(s) in project description.