

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MEETING
Monday, October 21, 2019**

**Rupert A. Nock Middle School
Meeting Convened at 6:30 PM**

Bruce Menin Presided

**Present: Nick deKanter, Steve Cole, Bruce Menin, Mayor Donna Holaday,
David Hochheiser, Sean Reardon,**

Absent: Brian Callahan

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Donna Holaday called the Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 6:30 PM. Roll Call found all members present except **Brian Callahan**. All those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no Public Comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Warrants:

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Nick deKanter** it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant.
\$21,087.70

Motion Passed

Brian Callahan absent for vote

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Mayor Holaday** it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant.
\$483,819.05

Motion Passed

Brian Callahan absent for vote

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Nick deKanter** it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant.
\$344,392.72

STUDENT RECOGNITION:

Superintendent Sean Gallagher recognized grade 12 student Annemarie Noe for her continued efforts to educate the community on teenage vaping. NHS Wellness teacher Amy Heath spoke of Ms. Noe's efforts in this endeavor.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC OVERNIGHT TRIP:

NHS Aileen Maconi explained the purpose of the trip to the Dominican Republic during February vacation 2020 - (February 14 to February 21).

Sean Reardon asked if this trip has been done before. Answer No

Mayor Holaday asked why only 8 students were going. Ms. Maconi explained other things that were going on at the same time.

Mayor Holaday commented that this trip was expensive. Ms. Maconi explained their target goal and to provide \$200 for each student as well as discounts. Three fundraisers to help fund the trip are upcoming.

Bruce Menin asked if Ms. Maconi was the only chaperone. Ms. Maconi said yes, but she will be accompanied by others from the company. She spoke of the accommodations at a small hotel a few miles away from the village.

Nick deKanter inquired what percent of the time would be spent on volunteer work and education. Ms. Maconi explained that in the AM they would be doing community service, visiting the community. Then there would be excursions to explore the natural habitats. In the evening they would be meeting with people from the village and with young men who have gone through the program without an education.

Nick deKanter asked how far from the village was the hotel. Ms. Maconi said within 20 miles. They would be provided with a mini bus and a driver.

Motion:

On a motion by **Mayor Holaday** and seconded by **David Hochheiser** it was

VOTED: To approve the overnight field trip to the Dominican Republic from February 14, 2020 to February 21, 2020.

Motion Passed

Brian Callahan absent for vote

MODEL UN CONFERENCE & NH PRIMARY STUDENT CONVENTION OVERNIGHT TRIPS:

Model UN

NHS teacher Matt LaChapelle spoke to the Committee regarding NHS Model UN traveling to Montreal, Canada to attend a conference from November 14, 2019 to November 17, 2019.

Motion:

On a motion by **Mayor Holaday** and seconded by **Steve Cole** it was

VOTED: To approve the overnight Model UN field trip to Montreal, Canada from November 14, 2019 to November 17, 2019.

Motion Passed

Brian Callahan absent for vote

New England College's Presidential Primary College Convention

NHS teacher Matt LaChapelle spoke regarding an overnight trip to attend the NH Primary Student Convention at the DoubleTree Convention Center from January 7, 2020 to January 9 in Manchester, NH

Motion

On a motion by **Mayor Holaday** and seconded by **Steve Cole** it was

VOTED: To approve the overnight New England College's Presidential Primary College Convention at the DoubleTree Convention Center in Manchester, NH from January 7, 2020 to January 9, 2020.

Motion Passed

Brian Callahan absent for vote

At this point in the meeting NHS student Annemarie Noe who had just arrived was introduced and awarded her certificate for her work in educating the community regarding teenage vaping. She received a standing ovation.

MASC RESOLUTIONS, 1-9:

Bruce Menin explained the purpose of the MASC Resolutions. Each Resolution was explained and it was agreed to have the Newburyport School Committee Representative vote at the MASC/MASS Joint Conference, November 6 - 9.

Resolution 1 - In favor

Resolution 2 - have conversation

David Hochheiser spoke regarding doing away with the INTEL Test

Resolution 3 - Yes

Resolution 4 - Yes

Resolution 5 - Yes

Resolution 6 - Yes

Resolution 7 - Yes

Resolution 8 - Yes

Resolution 9 - Yes

MASC/MASS JOINT CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 6-9:

Sean Reardon volunteered to be the Newburyport Representative at the MASC/MASS Joint Conference, November 6-9.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion:

On a motion by **Sean Reardon** and seconded by **David Hochheiser** it was

VOTED: To adjourn the Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee at 7:10 PM.

VAPING FORUM

Superintendent Sean Gallagher addressed the audience and gave an overview of the seriousness of the vaping problem. He explained that they were lucky to have the three speakers here tonight who have done extensive research into this problem that is affecting teenagers in our schools. A question and answer session followed the presentations. The three speakers were Dr. Cynthia Grondin, Dr. Gary Gastman, and Cathy Riccio, Supervisor of Health.

Dr. Cynthia Grondin, Research Scientist spoke regarding Vaping and Disease Risks: Uncovering the Connections. Her presentation explained the various vaping devices, what chemicals are involved, the Comparative Toxicogenomics Database and the Disease Risks. She explained in detail how vapor is changed as it enters the body into many harmful chemicals that affect the human body in detrimental ways. One Juul pod is equal in nicotine to that in a pack of cigarettes 59mg/ml.

Dr. Gary Gastman, spoke next regarding Link House, a Center for Behavioral Health and Addiction Treatment Services. Their mission is to provide the tools to maintain long-term recovery. They provide the following:

- Outpatient and group counseling
- Assessment and referral
- Medication management
- Recovery coach services
- Addition prevention, treatment and advocacy
- Professional training and community education

Cathy Riccio, BSN MS MSN Supervisor of Health, etc. spoke regarding the seriousness of the vaping problem. She spoke of the issues facing students and the steps that they can take if they become embroiled in the vaping problem.

A panel of local educators, three speakers, police and others were empaneled and a question and answer period was done. Panelists were: Dr. Grondin, Dr. Gastman, Cathy Riccio, Andy Wulf (NHS Principal), Mike Testa (NHS Ass't Principal), Sue Anderson (NHS School Nurse), Lisa Furlong (Nock Principal), Meg Tierney (Police Officer), and Frank Giacalone (Nwbpt Director of Public Health). Questions from the audience that had been written down and turned in were addressed to the various members of the panel.

Superintendent Gallagher closed the forum by thanking all those involved for their hard work and research into this most serious problem.