

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, April 24, 2012**

**Newburyport High School
Meeting Convened at 7:06 PM**

**Room 118
Mayor Donna Holaday/Cheryl Sweeney Presided**

Present: Bruce Menin, Steve Cole, Cheryl Sweeney, Mayor Donna Holaday, Nick deKanter, Audrey McCarthy, Dan Koen

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE FY13 BUDGET:

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Mayor Donna Holaday called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. Mayor Holaday called for a roll call, which found all members present. All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

READING OF MISSION STATEMENT:

Mayor Holaday read the Newburyport School Committee Mission Statement.

At this point Vice-Chairman Cheryl Sweeney assumed chairmanship of the meeting. She turned the meeting over to Superintendent Dr. Marc Kerble for the FY13 Budget Presentation.

FY13 BUDGET PRESENTATION:

Dr. Kerble thanked Cathy Manning, Nancy Lysik, Assistant Superintendents Deirdre Farrell and Angela Bik, Karen Brann and the School Principals for their dedication and hard work pertaining to the compiling of this budget. Dr. Kerble spoke of the disappointment in not being able to include Foreign Language in this budget, and of the way education is approached in foreign countries.

Dr. Kerble and Assistant Superintendent Deirdre Farrell presented the FY13 Budget to the Committee. Copies of the budget were presented to the audience and Dr. Kerble and Ms. Farrell used a power point presentation to further explain the budget.

Dr. Kerble thanked all who raised funds (private grants) for the education needs of the Newburyport School system. He also thanked Mayor Holaday during the revenue source explanation of the budget for the increase in the City's contribution. He stated that Mayor Holaday was an "education Mayor".

Discussion:

Dan Koen questioned Choice. Ms. Farrell explained.

Bruce Menin inquired as to what would happen to new Choice monies. Ms. Farrell explained.

Cheryl Sweeney inquired if the Library is reflected in private grants. Ms. Farrell explained.

Dan Koen inquired regarding the \$1.3 million coming into the budget – is it reflected as going out of the budget. Ms. Farrell explained.

Steve Cole questioned enrollment increases.

Dan Koen questioned 5th grade reduction/class size.

Nick deKanter asked if they will be getting an additional expenses list. He also said he would like more detail regarding revenues. Ms. Farrell explained and stated she could provide a spreadsheet.

Dan Koen stated that this budget process this year has been quite a learning experience for him. He said this was a job well done and he was very pleased.

Steve Cole questioned City figures. Mayor Holaday explained.

Steve Cole commented on foreign language – he stated we need to design and commit to a better strategy regarding foreign language. Dr. Kerble said he is committed to a foreign language program.

Principal Hopping commented, saying he took exception to the foreign language comment. This topic has been discussed thoroughly again and again – we want foreign language back, but not at the expense of core subject teachers – it is important for our kids and if there is money it will be added.

Dan Koen stated that programs need to be sustainable – we need to capitalize on all possible efficiencies - this will take a lot of forethought and multiple year plans.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Ralph Orlando, 4 Wm. Hall DR **CONCERN:** He stated that the Committee are the people who have the final say here. He commented on the following:

- It is a tragedy that we do not have foreign language at the Middle School.
- Enrollment – loss of a teacher
- Increases in FTE – take a harsh look at
- Expand courses at the High School – the High School continues to suffer
- You need to make sure you have asked all questions before you vote this budget.

VOTE ON THE FY13 BUDGET:

Bruce Menin commented that this was another difficult budget – he commented on how things have changed in his years on the School Committee – this will be a hard budget for him to vote for.

Steve Cole commented on Foreign Language – he would like to see this restored.

Nick deKanter stated “What price excellence?” – This budget does a lot of right things – we need to step up to the plate and make things happen.

Motion

On a motion by Dan Koen and seconded by Nick deKanter it was

VOTED: To accept the FY13 budget as recommended by Superintendent Dr. Marc Kerble, with the current transportation and high school athletic fee structure. The budget reflects the following figures:

Salary	\$19,587,934
Expenses	<u>\$5,753,518</u>
	\$25,341,452

Roll Call Vote

Bruce Menin	- No
Steve Cole	- Yes
Cheryl Sweeney	- Yes
Mayor Holaday	- Yes
Nick deKanter	- No
Audrey McCarthy	- No
Dan Koen	- Yes

4 Yes 3 No

Motion Passed

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dr. Ralph Orlando **CONCERN:** Foreign Language needs to be part of a strategic plan – you have to put the money up. He also commented on High School electives and 990 hours.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion

On a motion by Mayor Holaday and seconded by Nick deKanter it was

VOTED: To adjourn the Public Hearing for the FY13 Budget at 8:55 PM.

Motion Passed Unanimously

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, April 24, 2012**

**Newburyport High School
Meeting Convened at 9:02 PM**

**Room 118
Mayor Donna Holaday/Cheryl Sweeney Presided**

Present: Bruce Menin, Steve Cole, Cheryl Sweeney, Mayor Donna Holaday, Nick deKanter, Audrey McCarthy, Dan Koen

REGULAR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Mayor Holaday called the Regular meeting of the School Committee to order at 9:02 PM. At this point Vice-Chairman Cheryl Sweeney assumed chairmanship of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motions

Warrants:

On a motion by Dan Koen and seconded by Nick deKanter it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant:
\$7,005.61

Motion Passed Unanimously

On a motion by Dan Koen and seconded by Steve Cole it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant:
\$307,897.85

Motion Passed

Mayor Holaday voted Present

Minutes

On a motion by Mayor Holaday and seconded by Dan Koen it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the Newburyport School Meeting minutes of Monday, April 2, 2012.

Motion Passed Unanimously

NHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

NHS Student Representative Alex Bradley reported on the following:

- The Honors Banquet will be held tomorrow
- Thursday – German Theatre Fest
- Seniors – there are 17 ½ days left of school
- Students are preparing for the AP Tests
- Saturday – Junior Prom – Promenade at Atkinson Common

2012-2013 SCHOOL CALENDAR REVIEW:

Dr. Kerble reported that a recent Civil Rights Audit indicated that Newburyport High School does not meet the requirement of 990 instructional hours. Newburyport has been given one year to rectify this. Dr. Kerble presented a Draft 4 of School Calendar which proposed delayed opening of school on Thursdays (2 hour delay at NHS, 3 Hour delay at all other schools) rather than early release days on Fridays. This, together with Principal Parent's recommendation for ½ hour exam review for the next school year will bring NHS to 990.

Discussion:

Nick deKanter asked for an explanation for delayed openings rather than early release days. Principal Parent explained.

Bruce Menin stated he liked it.

Dan Koen said he liked it too.

Steve Cole asked with the late arrival will there be a tiered lunch. Principal Parent said yes.

Audrey McCarthy stated this was similar to snow days. She commented on Fridays.

Mayor Holaday said priority has to be given to 990 – time on learning.

Dan Koen said he is not sure how this is going to impact younger children/parents.

Audrey McCarthy stated she has a child at every level – it is a matter of adjustment.

Dr. Kerble said he will do a survey.

Steve Cole asked if they could get current attendance for current early release days. A delayed opening might improve attendance.

Dr. Kerble said he looked at attendance – attendance was better on those days.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment at this time.

MSBA UPDATE:

Assistant Superintendent Farrell reported that:

- The selection committee met – re. Nock/Molin project budget
- School Building Committee – May 2
- May 3 – submittal due

Mayor Holaday reported that on Tuesday, May 15 – Public Forum – City Hall

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Kerble reported on the following:

- National Art Honor Society Induction, April 4 – He congratulated the teachers and students
- National Honor Society Induction, April 12
- Sherri Gray, Nock/Molin Tech Integrator, for being selected as one of 80 from a national applicant pool of 300, to attend a summer study opportunity supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, entitled "The Most Southern Place of Earth: The music, culture, and history in the Mississippi Delta." This workshop serves as a follow up to the virtual field trip professional development for district teachers led by Sherri last summer. She planned to integrate the workshop into the Gr. 5 social studies curriculum and unit on Plantations.
- The NHS 2012 Real World Design team, "The Blazing Angels", and coach Sarah Leadbeater, for placing third in the statewide Governors Challenge.
- The April 12, search that took place at Newburyport High School by the Newburyport Police, Amesbury K-9 Units and the Essex County Sheriff's Department.

- Contributions:
 - Institution for Savings Bank \$500,000 to the Restore the Stadium
 - Institution for Savings Bank \$100,000 to upgrade the NHS Library/Media space
 - NEF, for the 28 Nooks to the Discovering History program at the Nock Middle School
- Kathy Hill, Jesse Craddock who took students to Boston to show off their basketball skills.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion

On a motion by Mayor Holaday and seconded by Bruce Menin it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 9:42 PM.

Motion Passed Unanimously