

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING
Monday, May 6, 2013**

**Newburyport High School
Meeting Convened at 7:07 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**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chairman Mayor Donna Holaday called the meeting to order at 7:07 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 Public Schools Mission Statement.

FY14 BUDGET PRESENTATION:

Superintendent Dr. Marc Kerble and Interim Assistant Superintendent of Finance Dr. Jim Picone presented the FY14 Budget to the Committee. The total FY14 Budget request is \$26,345,941. This is an increase over FY13 of \$1,004,489 or 3.96%. The revenue offsets are lower than the FY13 budget. FY14 Projected Revenue from Choice Tuitions, Circuit Breaker, and Choice Fund Balance are \$312,233 less than FY13. The revenue from Title 1 (\$140,216) and Special Education 94-142 (ABLE) (\$500,000) are added in the FY14 budget as grant funded personnel are now included in our budget. City Appropriations are projected to be \$23,231,943. The change from FY13 appropriations is \$681,506 (3.02%).

The FY14 budget includes a net change of Full Time Equivalent of 4.8 staff members. This budget will:

- Build technology integration at the High School
- Expand the Advanced Placement English program
- Expand technology engineering at the Nock Middle School
- Provide reading intervention during the summer and after school
- Support the Place-Based Education initiative
- Expand the music program at the Molin School and High School
- Expand the English Language Learners Program
- Supports the continuum of Special Education services across the district
- Expands leadership at the High School to address DESE mandate
- Expands health services support across the district
- Provides transportation for McKinney-Vento students
- Provides opportunity to share a lease partnership with Youth Services

Discussion:

Cheryl Sweeney asked what was left for teachers for the Virtual High School program. Dr. Kerble stated one .2 FTE plus a stipend for a teacher/coordinator with room for 25 students.

Mayor Holaday inquired regarding:

- Therapeutic Centers. Dr. Dee explained – it is a set of services – support services for behavioral issues – based on full inclusion.
- Organizational structure – psychologist. Dr. Dee explained
- Intensive service centers. Dr. Dee explained

Steve Cole inquired regarding:

- Health grant – nurse leader – what did we use that for this year. Dr. Kerble explained
- SPED in general – general disabilities – how does district stand on being prepared – do we have a comprehensive plan now. Dr. Dee said yes we do have a plan. Dr. Kerble said that he felt really good about continuation of services. He is confident about the SPED program.

Restoration Priorities (no particular order)

- Reading Teacher
- Inclusion Specialist
- Assistant Principal .5
- Tech Integrator .5
- Grade 2 Teacher
- Stem Coordinator
- Supplies & Equipment

Restoration Process

- Think about Priorities
- Think in Chunks
- Collaborate about Needs of System
- Complete Chart
- Finalize Priorities

Discussion:

Nick deKanter inquired regarding the .5 Principal job description. Dr. Kerble described several options.

Bruce Menin asked for an explanation from Dr. Picone regarding Revenue Sources/Projections. Dr. Picone explained that he included these to show the Committee.

Cheryl Sweeney asked Assistant Superintendent Angela Bik to talk about grants. Ms. Bik explained the various grants which is over \$1 million dollars.

Cheryl Sweeney explained that she wants the public to understand how we function with grants – what would happen is we lost some of these grants. Ms. Bik said if we lost some of these grants there would be a significant impact.

Dan Koen questioned the use of our buildings - where would that be reflected. Dr. Picone explained.

Dan Koen inquired regarding:

- If we ever look closely at our rates – as a potential revenue source. Dr. Picone explained. He explained that he recommended revisiting the rate scale – some rates are way too low.
- Profit vs. non-profit rates – do we see a possible increase in revenue. Dr. Picone commented on this.

Steve Cole inquired regarding:

- Cafeteria account. Dr. Picone recommended raising the lunch price for FY14 by .25¢. There is a new contract with Chartwells – they are being creative with the menu but are guided by state restrictions.
- Restorations – recommendations – where should any extra money be allocated to. Dr. Kerble said feedback from the School Committee will guide this.

Steve Cole spoke about possible revenues – various programs.

Cheryl Sweeney inquired regarding total cuts to supplies. Dr. Kerble said \$160,000.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rosanne Nersessian, 466 Merrimac St. **CONCERN:** She thanked the Committee for adding back to the SPED program.

Dominique Deare, Warren Street **CONCERN:** She commented on the budget, enrollment and getting people us.

Mary Zinck **CONCERN:** She commented on adding an ABA to the Brown School and not to Bresnahan – she was sorry to hear that – she has concerns. The SPED program needs to be supported.

VOTE ON THE FY14 BUDGET:

Motion

On a motion by Bruce Menin and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED: To support the FY14 budget as presented.

Discussion:

Bruce Menin commented on the consequences of the sequester - the Federal level and local level – we will be losing Head Start slots – he wanted to raise the public awareness of this. Brown School Principal Amy Sullivan said she looked into this – she spoke to the Dept. of EEC – she will update the Committee as she receives further information.

Dr. Picone said he recommended the Committee take three votes – total salaries, total non-salaries and total budget.

Cheryl Sweeney asked what were the ramifications of voting for one and not for another.

Bruce Menin said he would amend the motion to read:

To support the FY14 budget as presented to include total salary, total non-salary and total budget.

Roll Call Vote

Bruce Menin - Yes

Steve Cole - Yes

Cheryl Sweeney - Yes

Mayor Holaday - Yes

Nick deKanter - Yes

Audrey McCarthy - Yes

Dan Koen - Yes

Motion Passed Unanimously

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion

On a motion by Dan Koen and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED: To adjourn the Public Hearing at 8:25 PM.

Motion Passed Unanimously

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SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, May 6, 2013**

**Newburyport High School
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**Room 118
Mayor Donna Holaday/Cheryl Sweeney Presided**

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

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Chairman Mayor Donna Holaday called the meeting to order at 8:25 PM.
Mayor Holaday called for a roll call, which found all members present.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motions

Warrants:

On a motion by Dan Koen and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant
\$23,354.04

Motion Passed Unanimously

On a motion by Dan Koen and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant:
\$413,037.74

Motion Passed

Mayor Holaday voted present

Minutes

On a motion by Nick deKanter and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the School Committee Meeting of Monday, April 29, 2013.

Motion Passed Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dominique Deare, Warren Street
wondered where it was.

CONCERN: She inquired regarding the Senior Project and

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Dr. Kerble reported on the following:

- Exams – Advanced Placement exams and MCAS Math & Science tests are being administered.
- Walk for Hunger in Boston – 27 Nock students and 6 grade nine NHS students along with 3 teachers raised over \$6,000.

- Building Projects – Dr. Kerble stated he is amazed at how flexible the Nock School students are during the renovations – the spirit and morale of everyone is great.
- Technology at the new Bresnahan School – new renovated projects – technology is much more flexible – at a building committee meeting they discussed interactive boards and iPads. We cannot have it all but discussions are ensuing. Mayor Holaday commented on the building meetings – conversations regarding technology are encouraging. Dan Koen said progress is moving right along – he is pleased with the cleanliness of the site – it is a highly structured site – air scrubbers are being used.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor Holaday reported that she has scheduled a meeting on Tuesday, May 21, with abutters of the Bresnahan School. Groundbreaking for the new Bresnahan School will be Friday, June 7, at 9:30 AM.

A discussion ensued between Mayor Holaday and Bruce Menin regarding World War II Memorial Stadium and Civil War Memorials.

Mayor Holaday reported on field work at the Bresnahan, NHS stadium and Fuller Field – the capital project is moving forward – getting estimates to take down the north side of the NHS stadium.

ADJOURNMENT/EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion:

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

VOTED: To adjourn to Executive Session at 8:49 PM for the purpose of contract negotiations. Committee will not be returning to regular session.

Roll Call Vote:

Bruce Menin - Yes
Steve Cole - Yes
Cheryl Sweeney - Yes
Mayor Holaday - Yes
Nick deKanter - Yes
Audrey McCarthy - Yes
Dan Koen - Yes
Motion Passed Unanimously