

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Monday, January 5, 2015**

**Newburyport High School
Meeting Convened at 6:33 PM**

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

**Present: Nick deKanter, Steve Cole (6:40), Cheryl Sweeney, Mayor Donna Holaday,
Michael Luekens, Audrey McCarthy, Bruce Menin**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Donna Holaday called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. Mayor Holaday called for a roll call, which found all members present, except Steve Cole who arrived at 6:40. All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECT ONE MEMBER TO SERVE AS VICE-CHAIRPERSON:

Motion:

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

VOTED: To nominate Cheryl Sweeney as Vice-Chairman of the Newburyport School Committee for the 2015 year.

Roll Call Vote

Steven Cole	- Yes
Nick deKanter	- Yes
Mayor Holaday	- Yes
Michael Luekens	- Yes
Audrey McCarthy	- Yes
Bruce Menin	- Yes
Cheryl Sweeney	- Yes

Motion Passed Unanimously

ADOPTION OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Nick deKanter spoke regarding the three new rules; Code of Ethics, Norms of Interaction, and Operating Principles.

Motion:

On a motion by Bruce Menin and seconded by Michael Luekens it was

VOTED: Adopt the Guides to Conduct Operation and Practices.

Discussion:

Steve Cole inquired if there was a particular reason for using the word "offender." Mr. deKanter explained.

Michael Luekens said that this would be based on the perception of one School Committee member.

Steve Cole said why not simply use the word "member".

Nick deKanter said they would amend 4a to read “The vice-chair or his/her designate will speak to the member to correct the behavior if needed.

Michael Luekens agreed to amend his second of this motion.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Reading of the Code of Ethics:

Nick deKanter, Steve Cole and Mayor Holaday, in turn, read the Code of Ethics aloud.

Motion:

On a motion by **Mayor Holaday** and seconded by **Michael Luekens** it was

VOTED: To approve the MASC (MA Assoc. of School Committees), Code of Ethics; with the exception of #3d adding the phrase “until the Policy Committee has been able to clarify.”

Motion Passed Unanimously

Reading of the Norms of Interaction:

Michael Luekens read the Norms of Interaction aloud.

Motion:

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

VOTED: To approve the Newburyport School Committee’s “Norms of Interaction”.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Reading of Operating Principles:

School Committee members in turn read the Operating Principles aloud.

Motion:

On a motion by Mayor Holaday and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED: To approve the Newburyport School Committee’s, “Operating Principles” as presented.

Discussion:

Steve Cole questioned item 8, 11 and 13 which refer to decisions and suggested bringing it down to one phrase. Nick deKanter explained.

Bruce Menin suggested passing this to the Policy subcommittee.

Cheryl Sweeney spoke regarding item 8.

Mayor Holaday withdrew her motion and said send 8, 11 and 13 to the Policy subcommittee.

Audrey McCarthy withdrew her 2nd to the motion.

Motion:

On a motion by Mayor Holaday and seconded by Audrey McCarthy it was

VOTED: To send #8, 11 and 13 to the Policy subcommittee.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Michael Luekens stated that all email addresses should be updated on the district website.

APPROVE DESIGNEE & ALTERNATE TO SIGN PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS:

Bruce Menin was designated to sign payroll and vouchers and Cheryl Sweeney was designated as the alternate.

Vice-Chair Cheryl Sweeney stated that all subcommittees will remain the same. The ad-hoc Communications are back together with Audrey McCarthy serving as chair.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

On a motion by Audrey McCarthy and seconded by Mike Luekens it was

VOTED: To adjourn the Organizational Meeting at 7:43 PM.

Motion Passed Unanimously