

Newburyport Public Schools
School Committee – Superintendent Retreat

PITA HALL
8 Plum Island Blvd.
Newbury, MA 01951

Wednesday, July 31, 2019

MINUTES

Present: Mayor Donna Holaday, Bruce Menin, Nick deKanter, Steve Cole, David Hochheiser, Sean Reardon, Brian Callahan, Sean Gallagher, and Angela Bik

Facilitator: Tony Bent

I. Opening Comments / Discussions

- Welcome by Mayor Donna Holaday/ Bruce Menin / Sean Gallagher
- Introduction of Facilitator Tony Bent
 - Discussion of Leadership, Teams, Possibilities
 - Review of Agenda

II. The Year in Review: 2018-2019

- The Newburyport Public Schools: Ups and Downs
- The Newburyport School Committee: Self-Assessment Discussion
- The Newburyport School Committee: Goals and Process Discussion

III. Discussion about Articles and Local Contexts

- *What Makes a Team Effective*, Charles Duhigg (brief comment only)
- *Advice for New School Board Members*, Glenn Cook
Public Advocacy: Communications 101 (NSBA)
- *A Humanistic View of Leadership: Building Capacity Working Through Others, Managing Environments*, Anthony Bent (September 2018)
- The Newburyport School Committee: How does it communicate and how can it improve in this area?
 - Regular Meetings
 - Public Participation
 - Adding Special Purpose Meetings
 - Focused Public Relations

IV. Other School Committee Items - Process Discussion

- School Start Time
- District Review Status
- Homework Subcommittee
- City Charter Review
- World Language Update

V. Allergies:

At 1:20PM a meeting was called to open by Bruce Menin; Sean Reardon seconded the motion.

- a. Sean G. introduced the Life Threatening Food and Other Allergy district-wide allergy policy statement, as well as the allergy guidelines and procedures for the elementary schools. He explained that the first two paragraphs are the district policy.
- b. Sean G. likes the idea that this information will be given to parents at the beginning of school.
- c. Donna asked how many kids have life threatening allergies. Data was not available today.
- d. Angela stated that every grade has a classroom dedicated and the café has a table dedicated to allergies.
- e. Angela stated that school celebrations are a big problem as not all kids can have the items. This really establishes some guidelines.

Motion: On a motion by Bruce Menin and seconded by Sean Reardon it was

VOTED: To accept the first two paragraphs as the district policy and get a policy number at the 2nd reading. The remaining is the supporting documentation.

All in favor = yes; Motion Passed Unanimously

Meeting was called to adjourn at 1:24PM by Bruce Menin; Nick deKanter seconded the motion.

VI. Final Comments