

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MEETING
Monday, February 3, 2020**

**Senior/Community Center
Meeting Convened at 6:32 PM**

Mayor Donna Holaday / Bruce Menin Presided

**Present: Brian Callahan, David Hochheiser, Bruce Menin, Mayor Donna Holaday,
Sheila Spalding, Sean Reardon, Steve Cole**

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Donna Holaday called the Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 6:32 PM. Roll Call found all members present. All those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

At this point **Bruce Menin** took over chairmanship of the Business Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bruce Menin asked people to come forward to make a public comment:

- Jack Gobb, 7 Gleason St., Andover, MA He inquired if the Sailbot classes had been cancelled for the coming year. Answer - No they will be running
- Lisa Matas, 9 Washington Street She spoke about the "Fun Run" fundraiser. She stated she felt it was an exploitive fundraiser.
- Trish Boaters, 18 Merrill Street She spoke about fundraising policies, buses for field trips, for-profit companies. The "Fun Run" organizers took 49% of all the money raised.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Warrants:

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.
\$7,989.15

Motion Passed Unanimously

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.
\$209,335.91

Motion Passed Unanimously

Minutes:

On a motion by **Sean Reardon** and seconded by **Sheila Spalding** it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the School Committee
Business Meeting minutes of Monday, January 21, 2020.

Motion Passed

Mayor Holaday voted present

STUDENT & STAFF RECOGNITION:

Superintendent Sean Gallagher recognized the following people:

- Nine students in the 8th grade at Nock Middle School were recognized for being Peer Mentors to students at the Bresnahan Elementary School. They visit the Bresnahan School 1x per week during their flex time with 8th grade teacher Jen Groskin.
- Christina Gentile: in recognition of six years of service as Special Education Director to the Newburyport Public Schools.

NHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

NHS Student Representative Peter D'Ambrosio reported on the following:

- Our Real World Design Challenge students finished first in the state competition. They will now have the opportunity to compete nationally in the Spring at Washington, D.C. A big congratulations to Ms. Leadbeater and the RWDC students on their accomplishment.
- The Student Council's February meeting will happen tomorrow. We will focus on community service and Spirit Week.
- The Theater Department will be performing Twelfth Night in less than a month. The first show will be on Wednesday, February 26 at 7:00 PM followed by Thursday night at 7:00 PM and Friday at 3:00 PM. The cast will then compete at the Drama Festival on Saturday, February 29 which will happen at Andover High School.
- This past Friday the High School's Peer Training, who had received extensive training from the ADL, during which the trainers led students in activities to help everyone gain a stronger understanding of the terms bias, prejudice and stereotype. The main outcome for students was to understand that people are much more complex than what you see on the surface.
- Alongside the peer training session on Friday, students Charlie Grossman and Lindsay Neilson along with teachers Jill Moran and Tom Abrams were interviewed on WJOPs morning show by host Mary Jacobsen. This interview highlighted the work they are doing with the Anti-Defamation League's Peer Training Program as we work to become a No Place for Hate Zone.
- Boys Basketball - 11-1 CAL, 1st Place
Boys Basketball finished 1st place in the CAL, with an 11-1 record. Qualified for MIAA Playoffs. Defeated Masco 83-55
- Girls Basketball - 7-4 CAL, 9-4 Overall, 3rd Place
Girls Basketball finished 3rd in the CAL, with a 7-4 record. Defeated Hamilton-Wenham 53-50, Defeated Masco 45-42
- Hockey - 4-3-1 CAL, 4-8-1 Overall, 4th Place
Hockey finished 4th place in the CAL. Tied Masco 2-2
- Boys Track - 3-0-1, 1st Place
Cape Ann Kinney Division Champions Defeated North Reading 51-35

- Girls Track - 4-0, 1st Place
Cape Ann Kinney Division Champions, Defeated North Reading 61-25
- At Wednesday's Poetry Soup, there will be auditions for this year's NHS representative in the National Poetry Out-Loud contest. 7 PM - Room 118. Poetryoutloud.org for more information.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP:

NHS teacher Erin Hobbs reported that 59 students have signed up from grades 10, 11, and 12 and will go on an overnight field trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands from April 16, 2020 to April 24, 2020

Sean Reardon asked if they have done this trip before? Answer - No

Sheila Spalding asked how do the students get selected. Answer - they sign up

Motion:

On a motion by **Mayor Holaday** and seconded by **Sheila Spalding** it was

VOTED: To approve the overnight field trip to the Galapagos Islands from April 16, 2020 to April 24, 2020.

Motion Passed Unanimously

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:

Director of Facilities Steve Bergholm presented the Capital Improvement Projects for the school district to the School Committee. They include the following:

1. NHS Science Wing Addition & Renovation
2. NHS Roof Replacement
3. NHS Exterior Woodwork Project
4. NHS Exterior Painting
5. NHS Engineering Services
6. NHS Bleacher Seat Replacement
7. NHS Furniture Replacement
8. NHS Lighting Upgrades
9. Pick-up Truck with Plow
10. Toro Groundsmaster 3500-D
11. Nock Molin - Walkway/Sidewalk Repairs and Repaving
12. Nock Molin Tennis Court Renovation
13. Nock Molin Furniture Replacement
14. Nock Molin Gym & Auditorium Roof Replacement
15. NHS Carpet Replacement
16. NHS Ground Floor Vestibules
17. NHS School Auditorium Plaster Repairs

David Hochheiser spoke of the furniture replacement - we should find people to do research on this.

Mayor Holaday asked Mr. Bergholm if he needed a couple of weeks to do research.

Motion:

On a motion by **David Hochheiser** and seconded by **Sheila Spalding** it was

VOTED: To approve the Capital Improvement Plan.

Motion Passed

Sean Reardon voted No

REPAIR TENNIS COURTS NEAR JOHNSON STREET:

Friends of Nock Tennis Court would like to request that the school district allow them to repair the courts next to Johnson Street, as well as expand them towards the school roughly 2 feet so that they are regulation sized.

Mayor Holaday said she wanted to make sure there would be no parking on the court as it is being renovated.

Bruce Menin asked who would apply for CPA Grants. Answer - Parks

Mayor Holaday - work with Parks - design, organize

Motion:

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

VOTED: To support the efforts of the Friends of Nock Tennis Court to raise funds for the Tennis Courts at the Nock/Molin Schools.

Motion Passed Unanimously

2020-2021 DRAFT CALENDARS:

Superintendent Gallagher presented two versions of the 2020-2021 Draft Calendars (First Reading), one showing 2 Late Starts and the other showing 4 Late Starts. **Superintendent Gallagher** gave information on attendance - beneficial to late start and moving it to Friday - information also on chronic absences.

David Hochheiser asked are we sure that the kids who are chronically absent would not be affected.

Superintendent Gallagher explained how the calendars were developed.

Mayor Holaday encouraged community/students to reach out to the School Committee to discuss the calendar.

Superintendent Gallagher said he will go back with suggestions and review.

DISTRICT FUNDRAISING DISCUSSION:

Bruce Menin asked the Superintendent to list funding by the school.

David Hochheiser asked how much is being raised in each school.

Mayor Holaday asked if there were other fundraising done by other groups.

Steve Cole asked if there were going to be any guidelines.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT ANGELA BIK'S REPORT:

Assistant Superintendent Angela Bik reported on the following:

- **Seal of Biliteracy:** NPS will participate in this Massachusetts initiative of DESE. This is an award given in recognition of students who have attained a high functional level of

proficiency in speaking, reading, writing, and listening in 2 or more languages in school or in another setting by high school graduation.

- Edgenuity: partners with schools and districts to provide K-12 online and blended learning solutions that propel student success and empower every teacher to deliver more effective instruction.

SUPERINTENDENT SEAN GALLAGHER'S REPORT:

Superintendent Gallagher reported on the Strategic Plan, which included the following:

Strategy 1: Reimagining Teaching and Learning

- Skills-based instruction (also hits Strategy Two, Plan 3...competency-based learning)
- Blended Learning Committee
- NHS College and Career Pathway development
- Elementary Literacy
- Teacher Instructional Leadership Team Development (support relations and learning communities among teachers and administrators)

Strategy II: We will offer an array of opportunities for self-discovery & personal achievement.

Strategy III: We will maximize all internal & external resources

Strategy IV: We will optimize our organizational design & operations

Strategy V: We will create a dynamic community among all stakeholders

- Student Voice
- Community Voice
- Expanded Teacher Leadership and Teacher Voice

Strategy VI: We will create a culture that cultivates the best of everyone

- Contract Stability
- Leadership Team Development
- Budget Development
- District Systems

Strategy VII: We will provide supports so all students are ready and able to learn

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Joint Ed - Sean Reardon said they met today - MCAS presentation

Policy - David Hochheiser said they met Saturday - update on policy

Mayor Holaday reminded the Committee that the State of the City will take place on Thursday at 7:00 PM.

Motion:

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

VOTED: To adjourn the Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee at 9:00 PM.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Motion:

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

VOTED: To open the Organizational Meeting for this coming term.

VIVA-VOCE VOTE FOR 2-2- VICE-CHAIR:

Motion:

On a motion by **Mayor Holaday** and seconded by **Brian Callahan, Sean Reardon** was nominated for the Vice-Chair.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Motion

On a motion by **Mayor Holaday** and seconded by **Steve Cole, Bruce Menin** was Nominated for the Vice-Chair.

Motion Passed Unanimously

Brian Callahan stated that **Bruce Menin** has done a good job; **Sean Reardon** can do a good job too.

Sean Reardon stated that **Bruce Menin** has done a good job.

Roll Call Vote:

Steve Cole	-	Bruce Menin
Mayor Holaday	-	Bruce Menin
David Hochheiser	-	Sean Reardon
Brian Callahan	-	Sean Reardon
Sean Reardon	-	Sean Reardon
Bruce Menin	-	Bruce Menin
Sheila Spalding	-	Bruce Menin

VOTE - **Bruce Menin - 4 Votes**
Sean Reardon - 3 Votes

Bruce Menin is elected to serve as the Vice-Chair.

ORGANIZATION:

Mayor Holaday recommended the following committee assignments:

Finance:

Chair - Steve Cole
Bruce Menin
Brian Callahan
Mayor Holaday

Policy:

Chair: David Hochheiser
Sean Reardon
Sheila Spalding

Joint Education:

Chair: Sean Reardon
Bruce Menin
Brian Callahan

Superintendent Evaluation

Bruce Menin
Mayor Holaday

Liaison to NEF: Sean Reardon

Special ED PAC: Sheila Spalding

Brian Callahan stated that the Committee doesn't get the Agenda early enough

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion:

On a motion by **Sean Reardon** and seconded by **Brian Callahan** it was

VOTED: To adjourn the Organizational Meeting at 9:12 PM.

Motion Passed Unanimously