

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS**

**School Committee  
Business Meeting**

**Monday, May 17, 2021**

**6:30 PM**

**SC Packet Checklist: SC Business Meeting Agenda May-17-2021  
SC Meeting Agenda Notes May-17-2021  
SC Business Meeting minutes 2-23-2021  
Public Gifts to the Schools (KCD) (version from 3-15-2021)  
School Committee Meeting Schedule 2021-2022 (DRAFT)**

**Newburyport Public Schools**  
**Newburyport, MA**  
**School Committee Business Meeting**  
**Monday, May 17, 2021**

**6:30 PM, Senior/Community, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950**

General Public - remote

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87943565166?pwd=Vm5vWi9lVCTFaWRtbDFqanhLanNVZz09>

*The Mission of the Newburyport Public Schools, the port where tradition and innovation converge, is to ensure each student achieves intellectual and personal excellence and is equipped for life experiences through a system distinguished by students, staff, and community who: - practice kindness and perseverance - celebrate each unique individual - value creativity; experiential, rigorous educational opportunities; scholarly pursuits; and life-long learning - provide the nurturing environments for emotional, social, and physical growth - understand and embrace their role as global citizens.*

**\*\*NOTE:** Only committee members will meet in person for this meeting. The general public will continue to participate remotely. Meeting will be televised locally live on Comcast Channel 9 or via <https://ncmhub.org/share/channel-9/>.

**Business Meeting Agenda:** The listing of matters is those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment (remotely)
3. Student Recognition – *MA Association of School Superintendents Award*
4. \*Consent Agenda (Warrants and minutes of 2-23-2021) – *possible Vote*
5. NHS Student Representative Report
6. \*Appoint Newburyport School Committee Representative for Whittier Regional VOTEC – *possible Vote*
7. Policy Subcommittee: Shiela Spalding
  - a. \*Public Gifts to the Schools Policy (KCD) – *2nd Reading & possible Vote*
  - b. Communications Policy – *1<sup>st</sup> Reading*
8. School Committee Meeting Schedule 2021-2022 DRAFT – *1<sup>st</sup> Reading*
9. Superintendent’s Report: *Summer School Planning, Hiring Update, Potential Vaccinations for 12+years and up, and District End-of-Year Activities*
10. New Business

Adjourn

\*\*The School Committee reserves the right to call **executive session**, as provided under Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2), of the General Laws to discuss strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations collective bargaining and/or potential litigation.

**Newburyport Public Schools**  
**Newburyport, MA**  
**School Committee Business Meeting**  
**Senior/Community Center, 331 High, Street, Newburyport**  
**Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:30PM**

**AGENDA NOTES**

General Public - remote

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The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. **\*\*NOTE:** Only committee members will meet in person for this meeting. The general public will continue to participate remotely. Meeting will be televised locally live on Comcast Channel 9 or via <https://ncmhub.org/share/channel-9/>.

**Business Meeting Agenda:** The listing of matters is those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

3. Student Recognition: *The Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents award is given to a senior high school student that has distinguished themselves in the pursuit of excellence with a strong, consistent academic performance during their high school careers. This year the recipient of this award will be Caroline Desimio-Maloney.*
4. \*Consent Agenda (Warrants and minutes of 2-23-2021) – *possible Vote*
5. NHS Student Representative Report – *Sierra Leahy*
6. \*Appoint Newburyport School Committee Representative for Whittier Regional VOTEC – *possible Vote*  
*Newburyport's School Committee Representative position for Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School has been vacant since March 31, 2021 as Ben Fichera's term expired. Joseph Haberland of Newburyport has expressed interest in filling this vacancy.*
7. Policy Subcommittee - Sheila Spalding
  - a. \*Public Gifts to the Schools Policy (KCD) – *2nd Reading & possible Vote*  
*First reading was completed on February 1, 2021. On March 15, the Public Gifts to the Schools Policy (KCD) was withdrawn from a final vote on the revisions and sent back to the Policy Subcommittee for further clarification.*
  - b. Communications Policy – *1<sup>st</sup> Reading*
8. School Committee Meeting Schedule 2021-2022 *DRAFT* – *1<sup>st</sup> Reading*  
*A first draft of next year's meeting schedule is enclosed.*
9. Superintendent's Report: *Superintendent Sean Gallagher will provide an update on Summer School Planning, Hiring Update, Potential Vaccinations for 12+years and up, and District End-of-Year Activities*

\*Possible Vote

**FYI: Upcoming Dates:**                   **13<sup>th</sup> Annual NEF Open Golf Tournament**, Monday, May 24 at 1PM  
**Scholarship Awards Night**, Wednesday, May 26 at 6:30pm  
**School Committee Business meeting**, Monday, June 7 at 6:30pm  
**School Committee Business meeting**, Monday, June 21 at 6:30pm

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING  
Tuesday, February 23, 2021**

**Meeting Convened at 6:35 PM**

**Mayor Donna Holaday / Brian Callahan Presided**

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

**CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**Mayor Donna Holaday** called the Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 6:35 PM. Roll Call found all members present. All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

At this point Vice-Chairman **Brian Callahan** assumed chairmanship of the Business Meeting.

**MA SCHOOL NURSE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD PRESENTATION:**

**Superintendent Sean Gallagher** introduced Doreen Crowe, President and Kathy Hassey, Award & Scholarship Chair of the MA School Nurse Organization, who presented Cathy Riccio, Director of Health Services, the Massachusetts School Nurse Administrator of the Year Award.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

<b>Ulrika Gerth, Arlington St.</b>	She urged the Committee to bring all grades back to school full time. She asked the Superintendent to clarify the vaccine question.
<b>Monica Studer, 7 Whites Ct.</b>	She urged the Committee to revise the school reopening plan to full time.
<b>Kaitlyn Brosnan, 11 Forrester St.</b>	She advocated for a full time learning schedule.
<b>Amy LeBlanc, 18 Woodman Way</b>	She advocated for a full time learning schedule.
<b>Hayley Knutsen, Columbus Ave.</b>	She advocated for a full time learning schedule.
<b>Cyndi Doyle, 62 Middle St.</b>	She said, bring kids back full time.
<b>Sharif Zeid, Water St.</b>	He wants contingency planning to bring kids back full time.
<b>C. J. LeBlanc, 18 Woodman Way</b>	Bring kids back full time.
<b>Katie Accardi, Merrimac St.</b>	Wants open communication. Bring kids back full time.
<b>Eric Scorcia</b>	Bring kids back full time. He asked how are we going to access kids as to what they have learned. Wants open communication.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Warrants:**

**Motions:**

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: **\$11,029.65**

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Sheila Spalding** it was

**VOTED:** To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant: **\$465,262.17**

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Sean Reardon** it was

**VOTED:** To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor to make payment and deduct the funds from the school's account: **\$14,880.48**

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Sheila Spalding** it was

**VOTED:** To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant.  
**\$11,029.65**

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

**Minutes:**

On a motion by **Mayor Holaday** and seconded by **Sean Reardon** it was

**VOTED:** To approve, receive and file the School Committee Business Meeting minutes of Monday, December 7, 2020 and Monday, December 21, 2020.

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

On a motion by **David Hochheiser** and seconded by **Sean Reardon** it was

**VOTED:** To approve, receive and file the School Committee Business Meeting minutes of Monday, February 1, 2021.

**Discussion:**

**Motion:**

On a motion by **Bruce Menin** and seconded by **Sheila Spalding** it was

**VOTED:** To table the Monday, February 1, 2021 Business Meeting Minutes until the next School Committee Meeting.

**Roll Call Vote:**

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

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

**David Hochheiser** suggested that it be mentioned that people refrain from discussing children in the Public Comments.

**NHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

NHS Student Representative Sierra Leahy reported on the following:

- The Theater Arts Department will present “Arsenic and Old Lace” on March 11, 12, 13.
- Arts Honor Society
- Season 2 - moved
- Cape Ann League Championships
- Newburyport Daily News published an article on sports at NHS
- PSAT - 100 Juniors taking

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE VACANCY / Whittier Regional VOTECH:**

Newburyport has two representatives on the regional district school committee for Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School. The current term of SC Representative Ben Fichera will expire on March 31, 2021, and he does not wish to be reappointed.

**Brian Callahan** stated that the School Committee will post the vacancy.

**Mayor Holaday** said she will do a press release, and this will go out next week.

**David Hochheiser** asked if this was open to anyone or did you have to have a child attending Whittier VOTECH. Answer - open to anyone.

**SCHOOL ENROLLMENT RESIDENCY POLICY (JBCA) REVISION - *first reading & Vote:***

**David Hochheiser** stated that this policy needs to be revised due to recent updates made to the Homeless Student and Foster Care policies. Specifically, page 5, part “c” of Section V. Exceptions, change to read: Students who are *in foster care or who are* entitled to attend.....

**Sheila Spalding** said she will add the verbiage to the policy.

**Motion:**

On a motion by **Mayor Holaday** and seconded by **Sean Reardon** it was

**VOTED:** To approve the change in the School Enrollment Residency Policy (JBCA) to add the verbiage as stated.

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Sheila Spalding</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>David Hochheiser</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mayor Holaday</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Steve Cole</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Bruce Menin</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Brian Callahan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sean Reardon</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

## **COVID RE-ENTRY PLANS & VACCINE DISCUSSION:**

**Superintendent Gallagher** reported on the following:

- Medical Advisory Team are doing great work
- Did testing for the staff
- Today - practice test - over 20 practice run
- Will do another Friday AM
- March 7 - increasing comprehensive testing program
- Vaccinations - on back end of phase 2 - Cataldo postponed that
- Target date - March 15      Second shot - April 12
- Learning Model Plan - re-entry - Leadership Team - spoke about phase 2 - phase 3
- Will be sending out a survey - will get data
- Our re-entry plan is on line

**Bruce Menin** inquired - Has DESI changed any protocols?

**Superintendent Gallagher** said he is waiting for an update on a Thursday conference call.

**Sheila Spalding** spoke about Governor Baker's announcement - return by April.

**Superintendent Gallagher** said he is looking at guidelines - bring in a phased-in approach.

**Sean Reardon** asked if there have been any positive cases since January 20.

**Superintendent Gallagher** said a staff member - dropping in the school system. April 26 - back.

**David Hochheiser** asked what are we thinking about the 6 ft. to 3 ft. - are we looking at that?

**Superintendent Gallagher** said he is working with the Leadership Team on that.

**David Hochheiser** asked if there is a way people can find out about the Thursday Governor's conversation.

**Superintendent Gallagher** said he will send out to parents on Friday.

**Brian Callahan** asked about the following:

- Vaccine - staff
- Medical Team update - can we send out to parents?
- Eating - will work out

**Sean Reardon** asked if we could opt out of MCAS

**Superintendent Gallagher** explained the modified MCAS testing.

**Steve Cole** inquired re: pool testing - is that a measure for Newburyport? Answer - Absolutely

## **FY22 PRELIMINARY BUDGET PRESENTATION:**

**Superintendent Gallagher** gave an overview on the following:

- The Port Where Tradition and innovation converge
- NPS Strategic Vision
- The 2021-22 budget moves NPS onward and forward
- 7 Strategies guide our decision making

**Mayor Holaday** said she appreciated the overview - separate out percentages - ESSER 11 funding is traditional revenue. She worries about positions (ESSER Grant) - is the Superintendent continuing funding those positions. Chapter 70.

**Sean Reardon** said positions aren't School Committee funded.



**Superintendent Gallagher** said a lot are part of LEA.

**Brian Callahan** questioned Chapter 70. **Mayor Holaday** explained.

**David Hochheiser** asked the following questions:

- PSAT - Sophomores taking - allocated money - have we done this before?  
**Superintendent Gallagher** said no - it is a good opportunity to assess Gr. 10.
- Can we post new positions as anticipated? Answer - working on 2 positions.
- Can we see a work chart? Answer - Yes
- Get #'s grade level to the Committee

**Sean Reardon** questioned the foreign language presentation - what's the curriculum look like?

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

**Superintendent Gallagher** reported on the following:

- March 1 - Principal's School Improvement Plans
- InForce 911 staff training - emergency within the building
- Safe dialogue - Just Mercy - great opportunity

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Mayor Holaday** reported on vaccines - regional vaccination center - Amesbury taking lead

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion:**

On a motion by **Mayor Holaday** and seconded by **Sean Reardon** it was

**VOTED:** To adjourn the Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee at 8:51 PM.

**Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Brian Callahan</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mayor Holaday</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Bruce Menin</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Steve Cole</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>David Hochheiser</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sheila Spalding</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Sean Reardon</b>	<b>Yes</b>

# PUBLIC GIFTS TO THE SCHOOLS

<b>Section K: Community Relations</b>	<b>File: KCD</b>
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The Superintendent and School Committee will have authority to choose to accept any gifts and offers of equipment or money from groups outside of the recognized long-term organizations (eg NEF, PTO, Alumni Association) for the schools in the name of the Committee when the gift is valued at more than \$5000. Any gift being made under that value will be at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.

No extensive advertising or promotion may be involved in any donation to the schools without School Committee approval. For the purpose of this policy, "extensive" will mean something that community members can be exposed to both consistently and prominently.

Gifts that would involve changes in school plants or sites will be subject to School Committee approval.

Gifts will automatically become the property of the school system. Any gift of cash, whether or not intended by the donor for a specific purpose, will be accepted by vote of the School Committee, handled as a separate account and expended at the discretion of the Committee, as provided by law.

The Committee directs the Superintendent to assure that an appropriate expression of thanks is given all donors.

SOURCE: MASC October 2016

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. [71:37A](#)

## Version Control

Action	Date
First Reading	10/16/2017
Second Reading	11/6/2017
Adopted	11/6/2017
<b>Revised First Reading</b>	12/21/2020
<b>Second/Adopted</b>	

# PUBLIC GIFTS TO THE SCHOOLS

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Adopted	11/6/2017

## School Committee Meeting Schedule July 2021 – June 2022

Voted/Approved \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT

**NOTES:**  
 School Committee Meetings are held on the **1st and 3rd Mondays of each month** at 6:30 PM at the Senior/Community Center; (by city Charter, SC meetings shall not meet on the same day as a regular city council meeting, except in case of an emergency.)  
 \*Exceptions to the rule: \*Tuesday, September 7 due to Labor Day; \*Tuesday, November 16 - Joint FY22 Budget meeting; \*Tuesday, January 18 due to MLK holiday; and \*February 28 & April 25 meetings are on the fourth Monday of the month due to school vacation weeks, and not to conflict with City Council meetings.

DATE	TIME	INFO		DATE	TIME	INFO
SUMMER RETREAT Wednesday, July 29, 2021	9:00 AM- 1:00 PM	RETREAT		Monday, January 3, 2022	6:30 PM	Inauguration Organizational/Business Meeting
August 2, 2021	6:30 PM	Business Meeting		*Tuesday, January 18, 2022	6:30 PM	<i>RETREAT</i> Central Office, 70 Low St.
August 16, 2021	6:30 PM	Business Meeting		February 7, 2022	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
*Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2021	6:30 PM	Business Meeting		February 28, 2022 <b>Public FY23 Budget Forum</b>	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
September 20, 2021	6:30 PM	Business Meeting		March 7, 2022	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
October 4, 2021	6:30 PM	Business Meeting		March 21, 2022	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
October 18, 2021	6:30 PM	Business Meeting		April 4, 2022	6:30 PM 7:00 PM	<b>Public Hearing on Budget</b> Business Meeting
November 1, 2021	6:30 PM	Business Meeting		April 25, 2022	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
November 15, 2021	6:30 PM	Business Meeting		May 2, 2022	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
*Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2021 6:30 PM	City Council & School Committee Joint Meeting FY22 Budget			May 16, 2022	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
December 6, 2021	6:30 PM	Business Meeting		June 6, 2022	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
December 20, 2021	6:30 PM	Business Meeting		June 20, 2022	6:30 PM	Business Meeting

\*\* Meeting dates, times and/or locations may be changed, added or deleted, throughout the year.