

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MEETING
Tuesday, September 3, 2019**

**Senior Community Center
Meeting Convened at 6:37 PM**

Bruce Menin Presided

**Present: Nick deKanter, Steve Cole, Bruce Menin, David Hochheiser, Sean Reardon,
Brian Callahan**

Absent: Mayor Donna Holaday

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Vice Chairman Bruce Menin called the Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 6:37 PM. Roll Call found all members present except **Mayor Donna Holaday**. All those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no Public Comment at this time.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Warrants:

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

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant.
\$70,057.85

Motion Passed

Mayor Holaday absent for vote

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Nick deKanter** it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor to make payment and deduct the funds from the school's account.
\$15,947.13

Motion Passed

Mayor Holaday absent for vote

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Nick deKanter** it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant.
\$224,525.50

Motion Passed

Mayor Holaday absent for vote

On a motion by **Steve Cole** and seconded by **Nick deKanter** it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant.
\$344,392.72

Motion Passed
Mayor Holaday absent for vote

Minutes:

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

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the School Committee Business Meeting minutes of Monday, August 19, 2019.

Motion Passed
Mayor Holaday absent for vote

INTRODUCTION NEW ADMINISTRATION TEAM MEMBER:

Superintendent Sean Gallagher introduced Molin Principal Rossi, who in turn introduced Jamie Sokolowki, the new Molin Assistant Principal. Ms. Sokolowski commented on how glad she was to be part of the Molin School team.

CITY SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOL BUDGET PROPOSAL:

Bruce Menin explained that a new supplemental school budget proposal was received. He said he will ask **Mayor Holaday** to prepare a report and the City Council will try to move this at their next meeting.

Brian Callahan asked if no vote was taken would the money go away? Answer - no

Brian Callahan stated he was concerned that this was put on the agenda so late.

Sean Reardon asked if any of these increases have happened, and do people know their positions are being bumped up?

Superintendent Gallagher stated that training has started and that this funding will assist us with the budget.

Bruce Menin said that he would like a better and more transparent process.

Motion:

On a motion by **Nick deKanter** and seconded by **David Hochheiser** it was

VOTED: To approve the City Supplemental School Budget proposal and send it to the City Council.

Motion Passed
Mayor Holaday absent for vote

TEACHER OPENING DAY CEREMONY:

Superintendent Gallagher said opening day was well received and people were happy to be back.

Steve Cole commented that AFSCME representative Jessica LeBlanc made a wonderful speech about kindness. He also commented concerning a letter from a former student who said he had not taken advantage of a certain class. He is now a leader and he learned from the

skills of that teacher. He said **Superintendent Gallagher** built on the foundation of last year. He said we are in a good spot.

Superintendent Gallagher said it was a wonderful first day. High School students, the band and drum majors were there to welcome teachers. He emphasized collaborative leadership. He said they had fun. Serious issues were discussed and they will be building on initiatives.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Assistant Superintendent Angela Bik reported on the following:

- 13 new staff members - 6 moved to new positions. They met with new staff last week, training took place and the mentoring program began.
- New evaluation platform - The evaluation has not changed - just the platform has changed.

Brian Callahan inquired if there was a way to change a field. Answer - you can archive.

Nick deKanter asked if this is a manual process.

Bruce Menin introduced Sheila Reardon Spaulding to the Committee.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Gallagher reported on the following:

- He thanked the maintenance staff and the Tech department.
- High School ambassadors working with incoming freshmen
- 6th grade lockers
- Molin picnic - a great time
- Transportation - bus routes squared away
- He will ride the bus like he did last year
- Sidewalk construction
- Grade 9 enrollment: 216 students - 41 students coming in - 14 left district
This is the largest class of the 4 high school classes
- School Choice
Grade 7 8 openings 7 filled
Grade 10 10 openings 8 filled
- Schedules/distribution
- ADL partnership - worthwhile program at high school and middle school
- Late Start update - He and Nancy Lysik are working with Salter Transportation on this issue - hopefully will have a report at the next School Committee meeting or the one after that

Brian Callahan asked when do we start talking about Choice? Answer - around budget season.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance - a tentative meeting has been set

Policy - a meeting has been scheduled

Bruce Menin said at the next meeting they will discuss how we conduct our meetings.

Motion:

On a motion by **Brian Callahan** and seconded by **David Hochheiser** it was

VOTED: To adjourn the Business Meeting to Executive Session at 7:40 PM to Discuss AFSCME and IA contracts. The Committee will not be returning to regular session.

Motion Passed

Mayor Holaday absent for vote