

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, May 16, 2011**

**Newburyport High School
Meeting Convened at 7:05 PM**

**Room 118
Bruce Menin Presided**

Present: Steve Cole (arrived at 7:23), Cheryl Sweeney, Bruce Menin, Mayor Donna Holaday ,
Stephanie Weaver, Nick deKanter, Dan Koen

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Donna Holaday called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. A Roll Call of members showed one member absent, Steve Cole (arrived at 7:23 PM). All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

READING OF MISSION STATEMENT:

Mayor Holaday read the Newburyport School Committee Mission Statement.

At this point Bruce Menin took over chairing the meeting.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

High School Student Representative Alex Bradley reported on the following:

- Advanced Placement Tests are finished.
- The NHS Theater Arts presented “Damn Yankees” last week.
- The Model UN leaves May 17, for the University of Southern Maine
- This is the last week for seniors. Next week is senior final exams and the following week is Senior Week.
- On May 10, a very effective *Mock Accident* was presented.

Superintendent Dr. Marc Kerble and the Committee wished Alex, who is running for Senior Class President the best of luck.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RETIRING BASEBALL COACH WILLIAM PETTINGELL:

Superintendent Dr. Kerble acknowledged NHS retiring Baseball Coach Bill Pettingell who has given 40 years of service to the students at NHS and has just accomplished his 600th win in baseball. Coach Bill Pettingell and his wife Libby came forward and the following people spoke:

- NHS Principal Mike Parent stated he was present at Coach Pettingell’s 600th win. He thanked Coach Pettingell for his years of dedication.
- Athletic Director John Daileanes presented Coach Pettingell with a blowup of the Daily News May 4th article entitled “Sweet Ride to 600” and thanked him for all his years of dedication and he was proud to have known and worked with him.
- Mayor Holaday read and presented Coach Pettingell with a citation honoring him from the City of Newburyport.

Coach Pettingell said it has been a privilege and an honor to have been allowed to teach and coach at Newburyport, and stated he was overwhelmed by this honor tonight.

NHS – SCHOOL BANK PRESENTATION BY INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS:

Superintendent Dr. Kerble introduced Mary Anne Clancy Vice President, Communications, and President & CEO Mike Jones, from the Institution for Savings who spoke regarding their plan for building and implementing the Educational School Bank branch at Newburyport High School. NHS Principal Parent stated this is a great tie in for an in-house internship/credit program which will open in January. The Institution for Savings currently operates banking offices within Ipswich and Triton Regional High Schools. These programs have two parts: a classroom component and a hands-on component. In the classroom portion students are taught the basic principles of finance and the banking system. The hands-on component is when the students are first trained and then work in a real school branch bank located in the school. These banks are currently open three hours a day when school is in session. The branch itself is an actual, FDIC approved and insured bank branch with teller counters and a safe; students and staff are encouraged to open accounts there and transact real banking transactions. The Institution for Savings would assume all expenses for the installation of the bank. This is not a huge moneymaker for the bank, but would be for the benefit of students. It would be a great program. The Superintendent recommends that the School Committee approve the plan for the IFS Educational School Bank at NHS.

Discussion:

Dan Koen commented on the program that was outlined. Ms. Clancy gave the Committee a general idea of the program (the Triton course outline) and said the actual program would be worked out. Principal Parent stated this internship program is a perfect fit to get started and would expand later into curriculum.

Student Representative Alex Bradley said he is excited about the program.

Stephanie Weaver said this is a step in the right direction and is a meaningful course.

Cheryl Sweeney said this is a wonderful opportunity and inquired if, when they designed this class, did it meet with Mass. State learning standards. Mike Jones said the school develops the course.

Principal Mike Parent said we want to mold our own course. We begin with an internship then develop the curriculum and course and get faculty buy-in.

Nick deKanter said this was an outstanding example of what we envisioned as a 21st century school. Financial literacy is needed for our kids and applauds this effort.

Bruce Menin asked if there would be an ATM machine in the school. Mike Jones said no. He said he would be interested in how this would be part of the curriculum.

Motion:

On a motion by Nick deKanter and seconded by Stephanie Weaver it was

VOTED: To support the recommendation of the Superintendent to open an Institution for Savings Branch at Newburyport High School

Motion Passed Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment at this time.

NHS MISSION STATEMENT & LEARNING EXPECTATIONS:

Superintendent Dr. Kerble introduced NHS teachers Brandon Sturma and Tom Abrams, co-chairs of the NEASC self-study committee, who presented the new proposed mission statement and learning expectations for the High School. They gave an overview of the creative process and NEASC guidelines whose visit will be in the spring. The presentation included a PowerPoint detailing the changes and additions.

The current Mission Statement is:

“The Newburyport High School learning community strives to meet the diverse education and social needs of its students. Using a variety of teaching strategies and learning options to accommodate student differences, we work to create the challenging, safe, and supportive environment necessary for the development of every student. Our mission is to educate our students to their fullest potential, equipping them with the academic, social, and civic skills necessary for lifelong learning, understanding, and participation in an ever-changing global community.”

The Proposed Mission Statement is:

“Newburyport High School strives for excellence. We believe that this quest for excellence is a partnership among all aspects of a student’s life home, community, schools, educators, and peers. NHS values the student as an independent, creative learner, and provides diverse learning environments to nurture different abilities and aspirations. NHS honors its traditions while embracing change and progress to prepare its students to succeed in a globally competitive world. Our mission is to foster a sustained passion for learning that each student will carry throughout life.”

The current Learning Expectations is:

- proficiency in a diverse collection of writing, reading, and communication techniques;
- strategies and abilities in order to solve problems and make decisions.
- skills, knowledge, and understanding of the behaviors and habits necessary for a healthy lifestyle;
- the ability to recognize and use appropriate learning and information resources;
- the knowledge, skills, and experiences to participate in and contribute to the community, the United States, and the world.

The Proposed Learning Expectations is:

Academic

- Proficiency in a diverse collection of communication techniques by
 - writing clearly, concisely, and persuasively,
 - reading widely across subject areas,
 - speaking and listening effectively, and
 - using technology responsibly to enhance education.
- Problem-solving and critical thinking by
 - making informed decisions,
 - working individually and/or collectively, and
 - using time and learning resources efficiently.

Social

- recognition and respect for individual differences.
- Behaviors and habits of a healthy lifestyle by
 - making informed personal, life, and career decisions, and
 - taking personal responsibility for the positive and negative effects of their decisions.

Civic

- awareness of their role in the community, country, and world by
 - participating in the local community,
 - acquiring knowledge of the diverse characteristics of the country and the world, and
 - understanding their potential to influence local, national, and global developments.

Discussion

Nick deKanter said this was fabulous work. The Learning Expectations rubrics have 4 key thinking skills – 3 are covered here – one is mission at this level – critical thinking. Both Mr. Sturma and Mr. Abrams responded stating where this was covered.

Steve Cole stated he saw students who participated who showed critical thinking.

Discussion ensued regarding creative thinking/values.

Mayor Holaday stated she was impressed.

Dan Koen stated this flows wonderfully – is very meaningful.
Steve Cole said parents/students/teachers were vital to this job
Bruce Menin said this was eloquent.

Motion:

On a motion by Mayor Holaday and seconded by Stephanie Weaver it was

VOTED: To accept the proposed Mission Statement and Learning Expectations as presented.

Motion Passed Unanimously

SUPERINTENDEET’S REPORT:

Superintendent Dr. Kerble reported on the following:

- AMR, Davis LeDoux and Patty Stolarz for their continued support of Newburyport Public Schools.
- Edward G. Molin Charitable Trust for the \$1,000 donation in memory of Lou Cortucci, (a friend of Edward Molin) for the choral program at the Nock Middle School.
- Buddy Lauder for his leadership in the Music Program fundraiser and grant writing
- Olin College Spring Expo – 6 students attended the Expo from Newburyport, the only school represented. The students were Catherine Ryan, Rachel Wallace, Max Lacey, Jack Brown, Lauren Douchard and Dave Arbella.
- 1st Credit for Life Fair
- 3 NHS Juniors, Nora Casey, Kate Nelson and Alexis Cole who participated in the State Science Fair at MIT last weekend, all achieved honorable mention, quite an accomplishment for a very competitive fair.
- Molin School Science Fair
- PTO Fun Run 5K – a terrific event, which raised a lot of money.
- Theater production “Damn Yankees” – a great job! Thanks were extended to Lisa Zaleski and Stephanie Williams.
- Thanks were extended to Assistant Superintendent Deirdre Farrell and Steve Bergholm for their hard work with the MSBA.

Dr. Kerble stated that the evaluation of the Superintendent and the evaluation of the School Committee must be accomplished by the end of June.

Nick deKanter commented on the theater production “Damn Yankees”- the Saturday matinee which was attended by 45 senior citizens, free of charge, was very favorably accepted.

The NEF reception for class agents was a fabulous event and was very productive. John Elwell and Mark Wright were thanked.

Stephanie Weaver reported on the Molin School production of the “Principal and the Bee”. 98 students tried out and it was a splendid event.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Assistant Superintendent Deirdre Farrell reported on the following:

- Update on MSBA – on May 3rd school representatives attended an enrollment meeting – model school building itself
- Update on School Choice – Assistant Superintendent Farrell updated the Committee on the slots offered, slots applied for and slots registered for.

- A conference call was held to discuss the schedule for the Bresnahan School – what milestones have to be met.

Mayor Holaday said it was discussed putting the Nock project on hold at the present time.

Discussion:

Cheryl Sweeney questioned the agreed upon enrollment.

Discussion ensued regarding the time-line.

Dan Koen inquired about outdoor space, playground/equipment.

Stephanie Weaver inquired if there was going to be any chance for people to discuss this.

Steve Cole inquired as to where do we stand with updated demographics. Assistant Superintendent Farrell said MSBA uses their own tool and explained further.

Discussion ensued at this point regarding data/sources.

Stephanie Weaver questioned jeopardy of projects being put on hold.

Dan Koen said replacement of Bresnahan will save us money/Nock will not – is that right? Assistant Superintendent said yes.

Stephanie Weaver questioned what portion of the Nock would be refunded. Assistant Superintendent Farrell explained.

Nick deKanter brought up several issues

- Deferring the Nock project – will deferring jeopardize the project
- The need to understand what our strategies are
- What is hold
- When will they know on configuration
- The Bresnahan has to be replaced

At the meeting on the 6th – the information will be presented then

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motions

Warrants:

On a motion by Cheryl Sweeney and seconded by Stephanie Weaver it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant:
\$9,027.81

Motion Passed

On a motion by Cheryl Sweeney and seconded by Stephanie Weaver it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following warrant:
\$256,530.86

Motion Passed

Steve Cole absent for vote

Minutes

On a motion by Stephanie Weaver and seconded by Cheryl Sweeney it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the Newburyport School Committee meeting minutes of Tuesday, April 12, 2011 as amended.

Motion Passed Unanimously

On a motion by Stephanie Weaver and seconded by Cheryl Sweeney it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the Newburyport School Committee meeting minutes of Tuesday, April 26, 2011 as amended.

Motion Passed Unanimously

On a motion by Stephanie Weaver and seconded by Cheryl Sweeney it was

VOTED: To approve, receive and file the Newburyport School Committee meeting minutes of Monday, May 2, 2011.

Motion Passed Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dr. Ralph Orlando, 4 Wm. Hall DR. CONCERN: The model school was not on the agenda – he cautioned that this has to be a community endeavor. He commented on the Senior Center and the athletic fields going away. He asked if we have the resources to make things happen. The bank doesn't come without a teacher.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion

On a motion by Stephanie Weaver and seconded by Cheryl Sweeney it was

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 9:52 PM.

Motion Passed Unanimously