

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING**  
**School Safety and Security - Community Forum**  
**Senior Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950**  
**Monday, October 3, 2022**

**SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY - COMMUNITY FORUM**  
**6:30 PM**

**Superintendent Sean Gallagher** presented various school safety and security measures. Assistant Principal Mike Testa, Facilities Director Steve Bergholm, Student Resource Officer Kyle McElroy, and Sgt. Greg Whitney was on the panel. Building principals and School Committee members were also available for questions.

Agenda:

- Creating a Culture of Belonging
- Emergency Operation Planning
- Physical Plant Security
- Practice and Professional Development
- Partnerships
- Question & Answer session

The Community Forum adjourned at 7:25 PM

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING**  
**7:30 PM**

**Present:** Mayor Sean Reardon, Sarah Hall, Juliet Walker, Bruce Menin, Steve Cole  
**Absent:** Brian Callahan

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

**Mayor Sean Reardon** called the School Committee Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 7:30 PM. Roll call found all members present, except **Brian Callahan**. All those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

At this point **Vice-Chairman Sarah Hall** took over chairmanship of the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment at this time.

**STAFF RECOGNITION:**

Sixteen teachers were recognized for pioneering the co-teaching models at the Bresnahan. They completed a two-day training with Mary Gehring (a Co-teaching and Inclusion Specialist from the Collaborative for Educational Services). This model of teaching will transform the Bresnahan to create truly inclusive classrooms. These teachers are at the forefront: Robin O'Malley, Keri Lynch, Julie Carroll, Caitlin Marsh, Nick Bushnell, Kelsey Giovannacci, Chrissy

Platt, Becky Chapman, Alex Surro, Katara Harding, Bethany Granoth, Michaela Ayres, Janis Cahill, Julie Malchow, Anne Larnard, and Nonie Olson.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Warrants:**

**Motion:**

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

**VOTED:** To approve, receive and forward to the City Auditor for payment the following Warrant:  
Warrant 8067 FY23 \$ 411,845.01

**Motion Passed**

**Brian Callahan absent for vote**

**Minutes:**

On a motion by **Bruce Menin** and seconded by **Juliet Walker** it was

**VOTED:** To approve, receive and file the following:  
School Committee Business meeting minutes of Monday,  
September 19, 2022.

**Motion Passed**

**Brian Callahan absent for vote**

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

NHS Student Representatives Olivia Hansen & Avery Hochheiser were introduced and presented the following report:

**Bresnahan Updates:**

Kindergarten students went to Applecrest farms today - they learned about apples and tried the farm's apple cider.

Zero the Hero came last week to celebrate the 20th day of school. Our youngest students practiced number facts with him. He will come again on Day 50.

The whole school is still dedicated to PBIS. You can consistently see students modeling expected behaviors in all areas of the school.

We will have our first school assembly on Friday and Mr. RM has songs prepared for the music classes to perform together.

We just wrapped up DIBELS assessments so targeted small groups reading instruction and reading groups will begin soon in each classroom. Teachers are diving into the MyView writing curriculum and are continuing with the comprehension component of MyView and foundations.

There are groups of teachers pioneering the co-teaching models at the Bresnahan and completing the two-day training with Mary Gehring.

**Molin Updates:**

4th graders kicked off their school year with a place-based educational program on a Gundalow, which is a type of sail boat that used to roam the Merrimack and Piscataqua Rivers by the thousands from the mid 1600's until the very early 1900's. They learned about our impact on

the river/environment, about some of the critters that live in the rivers and their importance, as well as sailing and navigation tips all while sailing the rivers. Thank you to 4th grade teacher Leigh Cassidy and STEM teacher Kristen Daigle for organizing the amazing experience for our students, and thanks to the PTO for funding the buses for this trip.

### **Nock Updates:**

8th Grade students are participating in the Nock Speaker Series which shrinks our community and connects and exposes our students to many different professions and engages students listening skills, the ability to analyze information and formulate questions for the speakers. 7th Grade students will be participating in 2 PBE trips over the next 2 weeks. They will explore Maudslay and Joppa and begin to make real world connections to the science and social studies curriculum.

6th Grade students will be working with Project Adventure at the end of this month and engage in team building activities that support the growth of the whole child.

Students across the whole building have begun collecting socks for our Annual SOCKtober drive along with many students participating in Cross Country, the intro to running club as well as preparing for the Nock Fall Play.

### **High School Updates:**

Ben St. Lawrence was part of the annual National Down Syndrome Time Square video presentation and Buddy Walk. He has done work to raise money to support the Down Syndrome community and through his participation in the Buddy Walk this coming Saturday, he was selected to have his picture displayed throughout Times Square.

Jennifer Masone and Sasha Leydon have done extensive work to destigmatize mental health. Through working with the Bring Change to Mind organization, they will be kick-starting our local chapter so that students have peer groups and resources to receive support around mental health needs.

Lyza Marion and Kellan Dermott were recognized for being named as commended students in the 2023 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Last Monday, Co-sponsored with the Institution for Savings, the College and Career Center held the regional college and career fair. There were 95 colleges and universities present, 18 community organizations, over 250 students and families, and they represented 16 different high schools. Students and families engaged with the college admission reps and community organizations, arming them with information and materials to move forward in their process for life after high school. NHS thanks the Institution for Savings, Spindrift Sparkling Water, Aroma Joes Coffee House in Salisbury, Stone Crust Pizza, Pomodori Pizza, the Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce, Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant, as well as the Class of 2023 families who donated food and water for the reps to enjoy. It was a tremendous success.

NHS athletics has earned the Boston Globe Division 3 Dalton Award for the second consecutive year. This award is given to the most successful high school athletic program in the state of Mass. NHS has won two times in the 46-year history of this award. Congratulations to our athletes, coaches and Athletic Director Kyle Hodsdon for earning this great honor.

Current records for this year are:  
Boys Soccer: 9-0 CAL 1st Place  
Girls Soccer: 9-1 CAL 1st Place  
Volleyball: 10-1 CAL 1st Place  
Field Hockey: 6-1-1 CAL 1st Place  
Girls Cross Country: CAL 3-0 1st Place  
Boys Cross Country: CAL 3-0 1st Place  
Golf: 9-3 CAL 2nd Place  
Football: 2-2 CAL 2nd Place

### **PROPOSED EF CUBA TRIP 2024 / OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP:**

NHS Principal Andy Wulf provided information for a proposed field trip to Cuba during April vacation in 2024.

**Juliet Walker** explained the transportation policy.

**Bruce Menin** inquired re: subsidies.

### **Motion:**

On a motion by **Juliet Walker** and seconded by **Bruce Menin** it was

**VOTED:** To grant preliminary approval consistent with the SC policy JJH for the school to plan a student trip to Cuba in April 2024 with the understanding the final details (including logistics, timing and cost) will be brought back before the School Committee for final approval.

### **Motion Passed**

**Brian Callahan** absent for vote

### **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:**

#### **Finance Subcommittee:**

**Steve Cole** said they have not met.

#### **Policy Subcommittee:**

**Juliet Walker** said they will meet on October 24th.

#### **Joint Education Subcommittee:**

**Bruce Menin** had no information to present at this time.

#### **Transportation Subcommittee:**

**Juliet Walker** said they will meet one more time.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

**Superintendent Gallagher** reported on the following:

- **Sheila Spalding** has resigned from the School Committee. **Mayor Reardon** said they will be taking resumes to replace Ms. Spalding.  
**Juliet Walker, Bruce Menin, Steve Cole and Superintendent Gallagher** spoke regarding Ms. Spalding's work with the community, CPAC and that she was a great leader and will be greatly missed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sarah Hall** spoke regarding the MASC meeting on the 2nd through the 5th. Six resolutions will be voted on. They will be discussed at the next School Committee meeting. **Bruce Menin** discussed past resolutions.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion:**

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

**VOTED:** To adjourn the Business Meeting of the Newburyport School Committee  
at 8:05 PM.

**Motion Passed**

**Brian Callahan absent for vote**