

NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

AMENDED

**School Committee Business Meeting
6:30PM**

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

SC Business Meeting Agenda February 25, 2026

SC Business Meeting Agenda Notes February 25, 2026

SC Warrant February 25, 2026

SC Business Meeting Minutes February 11, 2026

Career Technical Education Presentation

2026-2027 School Calendar

Policy IC/ICA School Year/Calendar

FY27 Budget Update

Superintendent's Report

Newburyport Public Schools
School Committee Business Meeting

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 6:30PM
Senior/Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87894412587?pwd=JomACuUielGkpgfVb01E0wcTYE9miC.1>

Meeting ID: 878 9441 2587

Passcode: 332965

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.

Please note: 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. The meeting will be televised locally live on Comcast Channel 9 & streamed via <https://ncmhub.org/share/channel-9/>.

School Committee Business Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance
2. Public Comment
3. *Warrant – *possible Vote*
4. *Meeting Minutes February 11, 2026 – *possible Vote*
5. School Committee Student Representative Report
6. Career Tech Education / Chapter 74 Programming & Development
7. *Review 2026 – 2027 School Calendar – *2nd reading – possible Vote*
8. FY27 Budget Update
9. Subcommittee Updates
 - a. Finance Subcommittee – Andrew Boger
 - b. Policy Subcommittee – Kathleen Shaw
 - c. Teaching & Learning Subcommittee – Breanna Higgins
10. Superintendent's Report
11. New Business

* Possible Vote

Adjournment

** 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

School Committee Business Meeting

February 25, 2026 at 6:30PM

Senior/Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

AGENDA NOTES

Join Zoom Meeting

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School Committee Business Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance
2. Public Comment
3. *Warrant – *possible Vote*
4. *Meeting Minutes February 11, 2026 – *possible Vote*
5. School Committee Student Representative Report: *NHS student representative will provide the report.*
6. Career Tech Education / Chapter 74 Programming & Development
Principal Andy Wulf and Dr. Erin Hobbs will present a plan for additional Career Tech Education (CTE) pathways at the high school, including an overview of the programming they plan to apply for over the next few years.
7. *Review 2026 – 2027 School Calendar – 2nd reading – *possible vote*
The Superintendent has submitted the 2026-2027 School Calendar which was developed in accordance to guidelines outlined in Policy IC/ICA School Year/Calendar. (attached)
8. FY27 Budget Update
Superintendent Sean Gallagher will review the FY27 adjusted baseline budget. (attached)
9. Subcommittee Updates
 - a. Finance Subcommittee – Andrew Boger
 - b. Policy Subcommittee – Kathleen Shaw
 - c. Teaching & Learning Subcommittee – Breanna Higgins
10. Superintendent's Report: *Zero the Hero, NSSRT Legislative Meeting Prep, Yankee Homecoming Meeting with Director Carol Appleton, Update on MCIEA Governing Board Meeting, Filming Around the District, and Proposed Yurt at Bresnahan*
11. New Business

* possible vote

FYI: Upcoming Dates:

- ✓ Bresnahan School Council: Tuesday, February 24 @ 8:10AM
- ✓ School Committee Business meeting: Wednesday, February 25 @ 6:30PM
- ✓ Finance Subcommittee meeting: Thursday, February 26 @ 8:30AM
- ✓ Superintendent's Advisory Council: Thursday, February 26 @ 6:30PM
- ✓ NHS School Council: Tuesday, March 3 @ 5:00PM
- ✓ School Committee Business meeting: Wednesday, March 11 @ 6:30PM

School Committee

Warrant(s)

February 25, 2026

Warrant 8174 FY26	\$ 271,562.07
A Warrant(s)	9,871.58
Total of Warrant:	\$ 281,433.65

NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING
Senior/Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Mayor Sean Reardon called the School Committee Business meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 6:32 PM. Roll call found all members present, except Breanna Higgins.

Public Comments: none

Warrant

On a motion by Andrew Boger and seconded by Mayor Sean Reardon it was

VOTED: to approve the Warrant in the amount of \$543,911.62 as presented.

Warrant 8173 (FY26)	\$543,911.62
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Motion Passed

Breanna Higgins absent

Minutes

Motion:

On a motion by Mayor Sean Reardon and seconded by Andrew Boger it was

VOTED: to adopt the minutes for the January 28, 2026 School Committee meeting.

Motion Passed

Breanna Higgins absent

Student Representative Report

Superintendent Sean Gallagher summarized the student's report containing Bresnahan, Molin, Nock and High School news. (attached)

Update on District World Language Strategies

High School Spanish teacher Alden Metz provided a presentation that covered how the district's World Language program has grown and the progress being made since 2020. She explained the benefits of language learning and critical components for developing language performance. Alden reviewed expanded programmatic opportunities since 2020, such as an increase in Seal of Biliteracy recipients, enrollments, grant funding, assessment data and creation of a World Language Advisory Team.

John Ricci asked what courses are offered. Answer: Spanish (grades 6 -12), German (grades 9-12), and American Sign Language (2-year, online course).

Overnight Field Trip NHS – Seville, Spain 2027

The high school is seeking permission for an overnight field trip for approximately 15 students to Seville, Spain in February 2027. High School Spanish teacher Alden Metz provided a brief summary of the trip itinerary and costs.

Motion:

On a motion by Vice Chair Juliet Walker and seconded by John Ricci it was

VOTED: to approve the overnight trip to Spain as presented in accordance with Policy JJH – Student Overnight or Late Night Travel.

Motion Passed

Breanna Higgins absent

FY27 Level of Service Budget Overview

Superintendent Sean Gallagher reviewed the guiding principles, five budget priorities, level-service baseline, and assumptions of the FY27 budget. Demographic trends related to enrollment, student disabilities, income, ELL and high need students were also reviewed. Finance Director Ethan Manning reviewed the source of funds used to help balance the budget. He explained various revenue sources and expenses, including the cost breakdown for special education expenses which is driving a large percentage of the overall budget increase. Ethan noted the estimated City Appropriation for FY27 is listed as a 7.9% increase, with an overall increase as 8.7%.

Vice Chair Juliet Walker suggested a discussion about user fees is needed, at either a Finance Subcommittee meeting or Business meeting. Superintendent Sean Gallagher will provide fees for other districts.

Review 2026 – 2027 School Calendar - DRAFT

Members reviewed the draft of the 2026-2027 calendar. This was the first review of the calendar; a second reading and possible vote will occur at the February 25th meeting. There are no changes at this time.

Mayor Reardon suggested looking into moving the five reserved snow days to the week before June 19th, and have the teachers start five days earlier. Superintendent Gallagher will bring the idea up to the unions.

Review School Committee Goals 2026 DRAFT

Vice Chair Juliet Walker presented the draft of the 2026 Goals. She will revise the list based on today's discussion and bring it back for further review.

Andrew Boger suggested prioritizing the goal list. He feels continued improvement in academic performance across the district should be a top priority.

John Ricci will work on a purpose statement to propose an advisory committee to evaluate ways to improve safety for school arrival and dismissal.

Superintendent Gallagher will report back to the School Committee by the next meeting regarding participants on an AI Advisory Committee.

Kathleen Shaw will work on identifying next topics with student representatives.

Mayor Reardon suggested combining the first two communication goals into one item.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Finance Subcommittee

Andrew Boger stated the February 12th meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will be held on February 26th.

Policy Subcommittee

Kathleen Shaw stated the next meeting will be held on March 2nd.

Teaching & Learning Subcommittee

Andrew Boger reported a meeting was held today. Lisa Furlong and Dr. Tom Abrams provided a great presentation on DIBELS and iReady mid-year assessments.

Superintendent's Report

Vicki Dyer Retirement: The Superintendent recognized Vicki Dyer for her recent retirement. Vicki has been the receptionist at the High School for the past 10 years.

Crossing Guard Hire: A crossing guard has been hired to cover the High Street crossing near the Bresnahan Elementary / Senior Center.

Northern Essex Community College Meeting with President Lane Glenn: Superintendent Gallagher recently met with NECC President Glenn to discuss expanding the district's partnership with the college, as well as expand college course offerings and career pathways.

Career Tech Education Meeting: Central Office administration met with Principal Wulf and his staff to plan out additional CTE pathways along with Chapter 74 Media Broadcasting and Early Childhood programming.

Update on Nock/Molin Solar Array: Roof Replacement Strategy: Superintendent Gallagher provided clarification of the process, reinstallation costs and fees involved with removing the solar array from the Nock/Molin roof during the roof replacement project.

North Shore Superintendent's Round Table Legislative Preparation: The Superintendent and Finance Director Ethan Manning attended the recent NSSRT meeting to help finalize the presentation to state officials at the Legislative meeting on February 27th. The Superintendent briefly reviewed the four critical areas that will be addressed in the presentation.

Summary of FY27 State Education Aid Update: The Superintendent provided Governor Healey's F27 budget proposal. He noted that declined enrollments statewide are problematic because towns and districts will still need to support the significant rising costs of student needs.

New Business

- After serving as the Newburyport representative on the Whittier Tech School Committee for 24 years, Brett Murphy recently announced he is not seeking re-appointment. The position will be re-posted. Letters of interest will be due by March 4, 2026.
- A Mayoral Advisory Group is being created for Whittier Tech. Any school committee member interested in participating should contact Mayor Reardon.
- ACES held their first Waste Watchers Workshop today at the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. The second workshop will be held on March 11, 2026.

- As part of a recent NEF Auction prize (Call a Basketball Game with the Mayor), two Newburyport students had the opportunity to call the Amesbury vrs Newburyport basketball game with Mayor Sean Reardon.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

On a motion by Juliet Walker and seconded by Mayor Sean Reardon it was

VOTED: to adjourn the Business meeting of the Newburyport School Committee at 8:27PM and move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing possible litigation and/or legal matters, and will not reconvene in Open Session.

Motion Passed

Breanna Higgins absent

Roll Call Vote

School Committee Member	Vote
Mayor Sean Reardon	Yes
Juliet Walker	Yes
Kathleen Shaw	Yes
John Ricci	Yes
Breanna Higgins	absent
Lauren Eramo	Yes
Andrew Boger	Yes

Student Report for School Committee

February 11, 2026

Location: Senior Center

Bresnahan News:

Bresnahan is celebrating **Kindness Week** this week! Each morning, everyone participates in Morning Meetings centered on kindness to self and others. Throughout the week, classrooms are also participating in Kindness Bingo.

Thursday (2/12) marks the **100th Day of School**. Kindergarten students will celebrate with a special guest, **Zero the Hero**. Students will bring in their jars of 100 items, spend time counting with Zero, and cheer him on as he makes a grand arrival by firetruck. Thank you to the NBPT Fire Department for helping make this celebration extra special!

Molin News:

5th graders wrote **informational essays about space** and headed to the Museum of Science to explore and visit the planetarium.

In our second year of **Discovery Fridays**, we're continuing to offer curriculum-aligned experiences that build two Portrait of a Graduate pillars: creative, collaborative problem solvers and students prepared for life after graduation. Using the Pedagogy of Play model, Discovery Fridays give students time to explore, create, and learn in a more playful, less structured way. Thus far our students have explored building stations, logic puzzles, light, and mindfulness.

High School News:

Sophia Adam, Calli Taffel, Rachel Kinney, and Vee Shields read original **poetry at the International Holocaust Remembrance Day** event, receiving a standing ovation.

Additionally, Calli Taffel, Vee Shields, Lucius Nelson, Milla Baptiste, and Talia Porter recently assisted Poetry Soup teacher Ms. Deb Szabo in leading a **poetry writing workshop for adults**.

Joshua (Taehyeon) Kim, senior bass, Nora Baker, sophomore alto, and Nathan Lagueux, junior bass, all received scores high enough to be selected for the **Massachusetts All State Chorus**, which is a huge honor. Each of these students earned some of the highest scores in the entire state! Massachusetts is known for having one of the most competitive All State music programs in the country, making this achievement especially impressive.

Six students have been selected to participate in the **MMEA Junior Districts Festival**, a highly prestigious opportunity. Congratulations to: Miles Lynch (7th grade, trombone), Emerson Reynolds (8th grade, jazz piano), Maddie Shapiro (8th grade, soprano), Ella Hamilton (freshman, soprano), Dean Williams (freshman, tenor) and Julia Curtis (freshman, soprano),

Junior Harrison Gijbers and Global Citizenship teacher Aileen Maconi were nominated to pitch an idea to the Newburyport Chapter of the Awesomeness Foundation. With Junior Harrison Gijbers help, they presented an idea on growing outreach for the **4th Annual International Cultural Festival**. This was the winning pitch of the night and **Maconi was awarded \$1,000 cash!** Working with her students, they will decide how best to use this money to make this year's festival reach more of the community. The Newburyport chapter of the Awesomeness Foundation is looking for more teachers, administrators and school community members who have awesome ideas for impacting the Newburyport community to apply!

<https://www.awesomefoundation.org/en/chapters/newburyport>



CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION



GOALS OF NHS (STRATEGIC PLAN)

GOAL

Develop pathways to offer more accessible advanced and technical coursework. that lead to licensure opportunities in career areas and allow students to be dually enrolled in license courses and high school

now

- Environmental ICP Pathway (2024-25)
- Partnership with Peterson Trade School (2024-25)
- Advanced Manufacturing and Healthcare and Social Assistance ICP (2025-26)

NEXT

- Explore Ch. 74 Career Technical Education programming (2025-26)
- Begin the application process for 2-3 Ch. 74 CTE programs (2026-27)

INNOVATION CAREER PATHWAYS



ENVIRONMENTAL AND LIFE SCIENCE

2024 - 25



ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

2025 - 26



HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

2025 - 26

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ICP AND CH74 CTE

ICPs

- State approved ICP Designation
- Requires 2 technical courses, 2 advanced courses & 100hr internship
- Taught by teachers qualified to teach high school

Ch74 CTE

- State approved Ch. 74 Designation
- Requires 900 hours of targeted coursework, skill development & internship
- Taught by a certified Ch. 74 CTE instructor in the industry

WHAT IS CHAPTER 74 CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Ch74 CTE

- Hands-On Learning
- Industry Recognized Skill development
- Career Exploration
- Real World Experience
- Academic Rigor

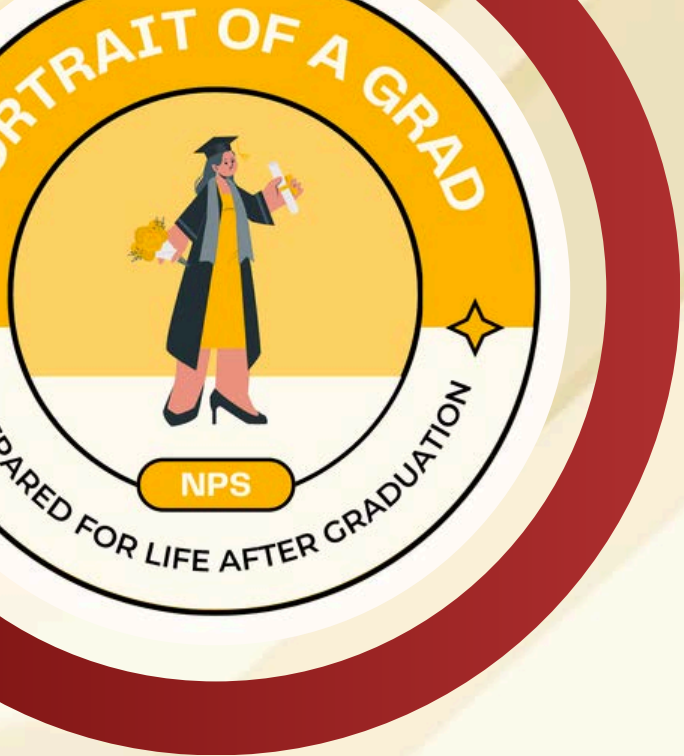
Benefits

- College & Career Readiness
- Higher Earning potential
- Earned Industry Credentials & certifications
- Increased Student Engagement
- State financial support

How it works

- School would have a state designated Ch 74 CTE pr.
- 900 hours of coursework and related experiences
- Multi-year coursework that can begin in 9th or 10th grade
- Often includes internship

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR LIFE AFTER NHS



State-Approved (Chapter 74) Program Overview

Early Education and Care

Early Education and Care professionals support the development, safety, and well-being of young children—providing a meaningful service that has a profound impact on our economy.



Licenses & Certifications

Programs will prepare students to earn industry-recognized credentials, and typically students will be able to complete one or more before they graduate from high school. Examples:

- Adult/Infant and Child CPR w/AED
- Heartsaver Adult/Pediatric First Aid
- OSHA 10 hour - General
- Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care Infant/Toddler and Preschool Teacher Licensure Preparation

Options After High School

State-Approved (Chapter 74) programs provide precise training needed for entry-level employment. Here are some possible career opportunities for Early Education and Care program graduates.

High School Diploma

- Infant/Toddler Teacher
- Preschool Teacher

Associate Degree (2 Years)

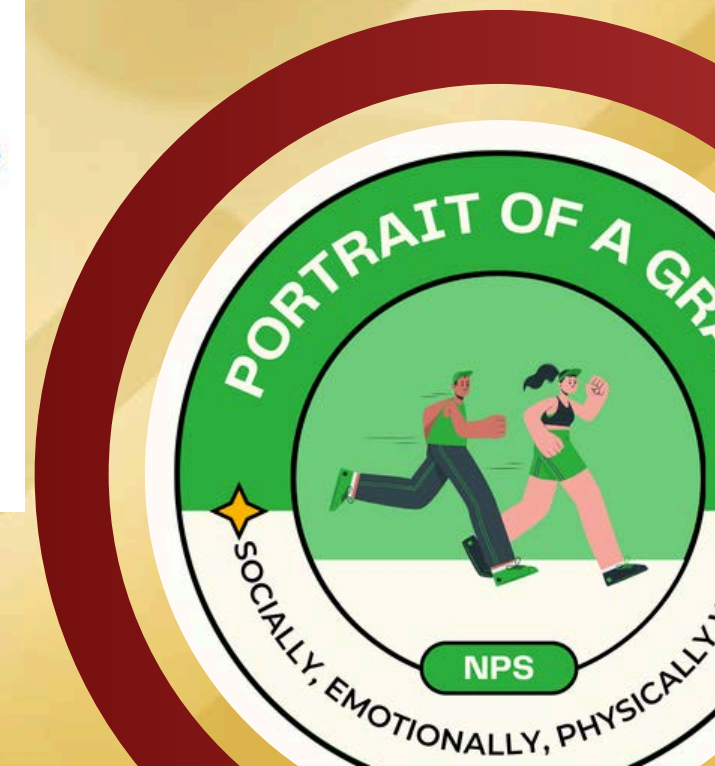
- Public School Paraprofessional

Bachelor's Degree (4 Years of College)

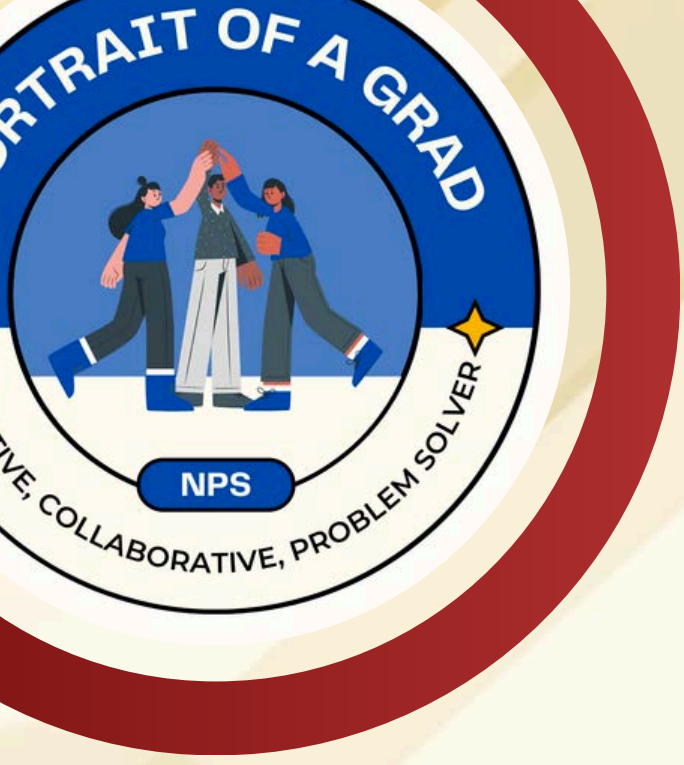
- EEC Lead Teacher
- EEC Center Director
- Public Elementary School Teacher

Advanced Degree

- Social Worker
- Child Psychologist
- Occupational or Physical Therapist



PREPARING STUDENTS FOR LIFE AFTER NHS



State-Approved (Chapter 74) Program Overview

Health Assisting

Trained Health Assistants offer support to individuals with disabilities, elderly people, and patients requiring care in a range of home and healthcare settings.



Licenses & Certifications

Programs will prepare students to earn industry-recognized credentials, and typically students will be able to complete one or more before they graduate from high school. Examples:

- First Aid/CPR/AED
- OSHA 10 hour - General
- Home Health Aide Certificate
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Exams: EKG, Phlebotomist, EMT, Medication Administration

Options After High School

Here are some career options that may be available for graduates of Health Assisting programs.

High School Diploma

- Home Health Aide
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Phlebotomist
- Emergency Medical Technician

Additional Training or Associate Degree

- Physical Therapy Assistant
- Surgical Technician
- Paramedic
- Licensed Practical Nurse

Bachelor's Degree (4 Years of College)

- Registered Nurse
- Nutritionist
- Pre-Medicine

Advanced Degree

- Physician's Assistant
- Midwife
- Physical/Occupational Therapist
- Doctor



STATE APPROVAL WILL PRIORITIZE IN DEMAND INDUSTRY SECTORS

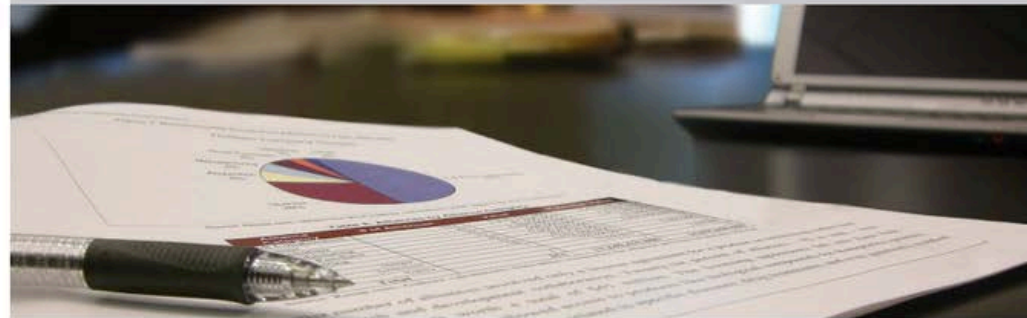
THE TOP OCCUPATIONS OR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS IN WHICH THE REGION IS FACING THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EMPLOYEE SHORTAGES

According to the state's regional occupational list, the occupations that are priority and in "5-star" demand in all three workforce regions include the following:

- Carpenters
- Electricians
- General and Operations Managers
- Industrial Machinery Mechanics
- Nurse Practitioners
- Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters
- Sales Representatives of Services, Except Advertising, Insurance, Financial Services, and Travel
- Software Developers

**Northeast Massachusetts
Regional Labor Force
Blueprint 2023-2027**

June 2024



UMassAmherst

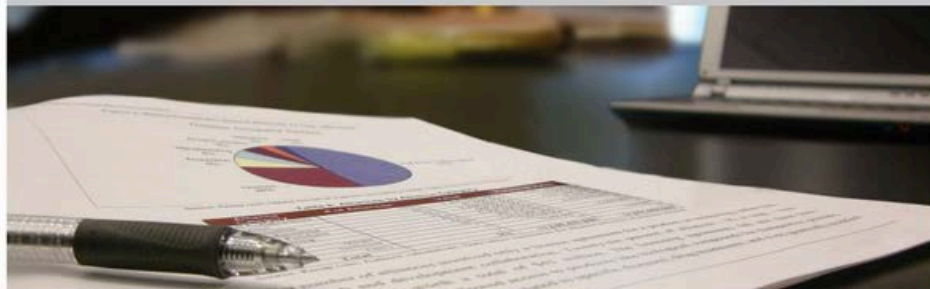
Donahue Institute
Economic and
Public Policy Research

Blueprint

THE INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATIONAL PRIORITIES FOR THE NORTHEAST

Northeast Massachusetts Regional Labor Force Blueprint 2023-2027

June 2024



UMassAmherst

Donahue Institute
Economic and
Public Policy Research

Priority Industries & Occupations

TOP THREE REGIONAL WORKFORCE PRIORITY INDUSTRIES BY 2-DIGIT NAICS

1. Manufacturing (31-0000)
2. Health Care and Social Assistance (62-0000)
3. Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (54-0000)

LIST OF NOTABLE INDUSTRIES BUT NOT PRIORITY INDUSTRIES

1. Clean Energy or Climate Tech industries (hybrid of industries)
2. Construction (23-0000)
3. Education (61-0000)

LIST 3-5 PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS OR OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS BY SOC CODE FROM THE "HIGH DEMAND" LIST

1. Software Developers (15-1252)
2. Industrial Machinery Mechanics (49-9041)
3. General and Operations Managers (11-1021)
4. Behavioral health occupations
 - a. Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors (21-1018)
5. Nursing occupations (with emphasis on a nursing career pathway)
 - a. Nurse Practitioners (29-1171)
 - b. Registered Nurses (29-1141)
 - c. Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses (29-2061)

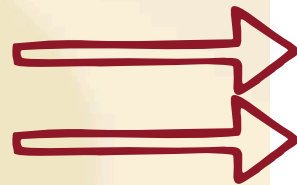
LIST OF NOTABLE OCCUPATIONS BUT NOT PRIORITY OCCUPATIONS

1. Construction occupations (47-0000)
 - a. Carpenters (47-2031)
 - b. Electricians (47-2111)
 - c. Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters (47-2152)

NORTHEAST DATA TO CONSIDER PROJECTED GROWTH

Table 15: Projected Job Growth by Occupation Group, Merrimack Valley, 2023 to 2033

SOC	Description	2023 Jobs	2033 Jobs	Projected net new jobs (2023 – 2033)	Projected % Change (2023 – 2033)
41-0000	Sales and Related Occupations	22,770	26,308	3,538	16%
53-0000	Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	14,138	17,195	3,057	22%
11-0000	Management Occupations	21,047	24,100	3,052	15%
13-0000	Business and Financial Operations Occupations	16,668	19,499	2,831	17%
31-0000	Healthcare Support Occupations	10,971	13,496	2,525	23%
43-0000	Office and Administrative Support Occupations	19,779	21,837	2,057	10%
25-0000	Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	12,276	14,287	2,011	16%
35-0000	Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	12,243	13,745	1,502	12%
51-0000	Production Occupations	12,754	14,159	1,405	11%
47-0000	Construction and Extraction Occupations	10,487	11,765	1,278	12%
39-0000	Personal Care and Service Occupations	8,103	9,156	1,053	13%
29-0000	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	10,001	11,044	1,043	10%
37-0000	Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	6,875	7,878	1,002	15%
27-0000	Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, and Media Occupations	7,658	8,490	832	11%
49-0000	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	5,766	6,596	830	14%
15-0000	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	5,900	6,727	827	14%
21-0000	Community and Social Service Occupations	4,059	4,806	748	18%
17-0000	Architecture and Engineering Occupations	4,726	5,203	477	10%
19-0000	Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	2,294	2,642	347	15%
33-0000	Protective Service Occupations	2,610	2,887	277	11%
23-0000	Legal Occupations	2,078	2,294	216	10%
45-0000	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	292	374	82	28%
55-0000	Military-only occupations	365	416	51	14%
	Total	213,985	245,055	31,069	15%



CHAPTER 74 CTE PROGRAMMING REQUIREMENTS

CURRICULUM

Chapter 74 CTE programs blend rigorous academics with technical training, requiring coursework aligned with state frameworks, often involving 900+ hours, work-based learning, and leading to industry credentials (like OSHA 10).

HEALTH & SAFETY

Massachusetts Chapter 74 CTE health and safety requirements for high school programs mandate core safety training like OSHA 10-hour certification, CPR, and First Aid, alongside technical skills.



CTE PROGRAMMING REQUIREMENTS

INDUSTRY

Chapter 74 CTE programs must have an advisory committees with industry members to ensure labor market relevance. Spaces must be outfitted with industry standard equipment to ensure authentic learning opportunities.

SPACE

Massachusetts Chapter 74 CTE programs have strict guidelines for teacher-student ratios and space requirements. In addition, furniture, lighting and other space requirements are specified for each program.



FUNDING DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ICP AND CH. 74 CTE

ICPs

- \$50,000/year for 4 years
 - (2 more years of funding)
- Eligible for state & federal funding
 - Perkins Grants
 - Skills Capital Grant (\$80,000/yr/2ICPs)

Ch74 CTE

- Aprox. \$6,000/student annually to municipality
- Eligible for state/federal Funding
 - Perkins Grants
 - Skills Capital
 - Lab Modernization grants (\$1,000,000/yr/2CTEs)

TIMELINE

PHASE 1 (January to June 2026)

Step 1: Community leadership engagement

Step 2: Form a steering committee

- Conduct Audit/Needs Assessment - Identify community need and student interest
- Identify Chapter 74 programs to apply for

Step 3: Submit Newburyport's intent to apply in June

Phase 2 (Next year 26-27)

Step 1: Apply for ch 74 programs

Step 2: Build out and set-up spaces aligned to Ch. 74 requirements

Step 3: Align schedule and graduation requirements

Step 4: Address staffing needs to support program

Phase 3 (27-28)

Step 1: Implement new Chapter 74 programs

Step 2: Develop exploratory program

Step 3: Identify future CTE programs



THANK YOU



NEWBURYPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

read #2 - Feb. 25, 2026
School Calendar
2026-2027

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	H	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	T					

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		SD	FDS	3	NS	5
6	H	PK-K	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	ER	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

19 days

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	ER	10
11	H	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

21 days

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	ER	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	H	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	ER	H	H	28
29	30					

18 days

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	ER	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	ER	H	H	26
27	V	V	V	V		

17 days

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					H	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	SD	16
17	H	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

18 days

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	ER	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	H	V	V	V	V	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

15 days

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	ER	27
28	29	30	31			

23 days

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	ER	17
18	H	V	V	V	V	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

17 days

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	ER	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	H					

20 days

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	ER	5
G	7	8	9	10	PK-K	12
13	14	15	PLD [17]	H		19
20	[21]	[22]	[23]	[24]	25	26
27	28	29	30			

12 days

T = Teachers First Day SD = Staff Development Day
 FDS = First Day Students NS = No School - closed
 H = Holiday ER = Early Release Day
 V = Vacation PLD = Projected Last Day

Mon., Aug. 31 First Day Teachers
Tue., Sept. 1 Staff Development Day (no students)
Wed., Sept. 2 First Day Students Grades 1-12
Fri., Sept. 4 No School (students & staff)
Mon., Sept. 7 Labor Day
Tue., Sept. 8 First Day for Grades Pk-K
Oct. 12 NO SCHOOL - Indigenous People Day
Nov. 11 NO SCHOOL - Veteran's Day
Nov. 26 & 27 NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 24 thru Jan. 1 NO SCHOOL - Holiday Break
 Jan 4 SCHOOL RESUMES
Jan. 15 - NO SCHOOL Students - Staff Deve Day
Jan. 18 NO SCHOOL - MLK, Jr. Holiday
Feb. 15 thru 19 NO SCHOOL - Winter Break
Mar 26 1/2 Day AFSCME Union (GOOD FRIDAY)
April 19 thru 23 NO SCHOOL - Spring Break
May 31 NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
June 6 Graduation Day - Class of 2027
June 11 Projected Last Day (Pk & K students)
June 16 Projected Last Day (Grades 1-12) - ERD
June 17 Projected Last Day (Teachers)
June 18 NO SCHOOL - Juneteenth Observed
 June 17 thru 24 Snow Make-up Days - [if needed]

ER - Early Release Days (for staff development)
 September 18, October 9, November 3, December 11,
 February 12, March 26, April 16, May 7, and June 4

ER - Other Early Release Days (staff & students)
 Wed., November 25 Thanksgiving Break
 Wed., December 23 Holiday Break

G = Graduation Day - on Sunday, June 6th @ 11AM

(180 days - students) (184 days - teachers)

IC/ICA SCHOOL YEAR / CALENDAR

SERIES I - INSTRUCTION

Nov 29 2023

Updated Apr 25 2025

The school calendar for the ensuing year will be prepared by the Superintendent and submitted to the School Committee for approval annually. The number of days or instructional hours scheduled for the school year will be determined in accordance with the following standards set by the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education:

- Elementary school will operate for a minimum of 180 days. Schools shall ensure that every elementary school student is scheduled to receive a minimum of 900 hours per school year of structured learning time, as defined in regulation. Time which a student spends at school breakfast and lunch, passing between classes, in homeroom, at recess, in non-directed study periods, receiving school services, and participating in optional school programs shall not count toward meeting the minimum structured learning time requirement for that student.
- Secondary schools will operate for a minimum of 180 days. Schools shall ensure that every secondary school student is scheduled to receive a minimum of 990 hours per school year of structured learning time, as defined in regulation. Time which a student spends at school breakfast and lunch, passing between classes, in homeroom, at recess, in non-directed study periods, and participating in optional school programs shall not count toward meeting the minimum structured learning time requirement for that student.

For the information of staff, students, and parents, the calendar will set forth the days schools will be in session; holidays and vacation periods; in service days; and parent conferences.

Newburyport School Calendars will always follow these guidelines with regards to setting a starting date for school:

- The Friday before Labor Day will always be a no-student day and a non-work day for educators.
- Before the full beginning of the year, time will be set up to allow students in transition years (1, 4, 6, and 9) time in their new buildings to become acclimated before all students arrive.
- New-teacher orientation and otherwise stipended days are not considered “regular faculty days” and can therefore take place outside of this policy.
- In years when Labor Day falls between September 1- 4, school will start after Labor Day,
 - Regular faculty days will also start after Labor Day unless specifically requested for approval by the Superintendent and applicable labor unions.
 - All students grades 1-12 will have at least 1 complete school day during this first week of programming.

- In years when Labor Day falls between September 5-7, we will start school during the week before Labor Day.
- Regular faculty days will not start before the Monday before Labor Day.
- All students grades 1-12 will have at least one complete school day during this first week of programming.

Policy References:

LEGAL REFS.:

M.G.L. 4:7; 69:1g; 71:1; 71:4A; 71:73;136:12
603 CMR 27.00

Adoption Date: 06/19/2017

Revision History: 6/19/2017, 12/06/2021, 11/20/23



NEWBURYPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FY27 Adjusted Baseline Budget

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Source	FY26 Budget	FY27 Budget	\$ Change 26/27	% Change 26/27
City Appropriation	39,436,665	41,966,446	2,529,781	6.4%
Circuit Breaker Program	2,250,000	3,000,000	750,000	33.3%
School Choice	971,913	1,350,000	378,087	38.9%
IDEA Grants	587,000	623,000	36,000	6.1%
ESSA (Title I-A/D, II-A, IV-A) Grants	125,000	125,000	0	0.0%
1:1 Program	73,758	95,000	21,242	28.8%
Adult Education*	75,000	0	(75,000)	-100.0%
Athletics	210,686	331,000	120,314	57.1%
International/Other Tuition	55,000	100,000	45,000	81.8%
Preschool Tuition	240,000	190,000	(50,000)	-20.8%
School Lunch*	399,600	23,250	(376,350)	-94.2%
Transportation	140,000	235,000	95,000	67.9%
Total	44,564,622	48,038,696	3,474,074	7.8%

*FY26 included revolving-funded staff in the operating budget; FY27 budget reflects prior practice of not including revolving-funded staff in the operating budget.

Summary of Adjustments

Following the Level Service presentation, we applied a number of adjustments to establish an Adjusted Baseline Budget that reduces the overall increase and provides a more realistic starting point for discussion prior to presenting the Preliminary Budget on March 11, 2026. These adjustments reduced the City Appropriation need by **\$590,661**.

The FY27 Adjusted Baseline Budget reflects the following changes:

Staffing and compensation changes (Subtotal: \$228,578)

- Staffing reallocation & attrition (\$172,578)
- Retirement savings (\$56,000)

Non-personnel reductions and funding shifts (Subtotal: \$180,083)

- Facilities supplies/materials reduction (\$31,250)
- District/School-wide supplies/materials reductions (\$39,408)
- Technology budget reduction (\$35,775)
- Technology costs shifted to Technology funds (\$60,000)
- Multiple line-item adjustments (\$13,650)

Use of other available resources (Subtotal: \$182,000)

- Charge grease trap inspections to Food Service Revolving Fund (\$12,000)
- Use of Preschool Revolving Fund balance (\$10,000)
- Use of Transportation Revolving Fund balance (\$10,000)
- Use of School Choice fund balance (\$150,000)

Superintendent's Report



"Zero the Hero" 100th Day at Bresnahan

"Zero the Hero" 100th Day at Bresnahan

This week marked the 100th day of the school year for our Kindergarten students. As part of the great tradition at the Bresnahan Elementary School, students celebrated the 100th Day accomplishment with "Zero the Hero", Newburyport's very own Superhero! He arrived by fire truck to start off the day and was able to meet and greet the students and staff. The students were so excited to share their 100th day collections with "Zero the Hero". This was a wonderful school community event.

North Shore Superintendent's Round Table Legislative Preparation

Ethan Manning and I will be presenting at the NSSRT Legislative meeting on Friday, February 27th. The critical area that we will be speaking about is the Transportation & MSBA capital project overview. Just a reminder, other topics will include Sustainable and Equitable Chapter 70 Funding, Special Education Costs / and Circuit Breaker Stability.

Carol Appleton Yankee Homecoming Director

I met with the new Yankee Homecoming Director Carol Appleton. She provided me with some historical background on Newburyport's Yankee Homecoming. It began in 1958 and at that time, there were 29 similar yankee homecoming festivals across the nation. Today, Newburyport is not just one of the oldest, but it is the only Yankee Homecoming festival remaining, making it a truly unique tradition. The new director is eager to increase student participation and shared several exciting ideas, including: Music Department: increased performance presence throughout the week; Media Lab: possibly utilizing students to create short promotional videos; and Student Organizations: inviting groups from athletics, musicals, and theater to march in the parade. This new role is deeply personal for Carol as her father was once a Yankee Homecoming director himself. She is incredibly excited to be part of the festival and takes great pride in following in his footsteps as the director.

Update on MCIEA Governing Board Meeting

I attended the Massachusetts Consortium for Innovative Education Assessment (MCIEA) Governing Board meeting. The session focused heavily on upcoming legislative advocacy, specifically regarding a proposed graduation requirement involving capstones and portfolios. We also reviewed significant policy updates concerning Winchester's Performance Assessment (PA) model and received updates from the School Quality Measures (SQM) steering committee to the team. The current funding landscape: MCIEA has been included in Governor Healey's budget for \$247,500. These discussions were vital as we continue to explore more holistic, performance-based ways to measure student success and school quality across the Commonwealth.

Around The District

We filmed a new episode of *Around The District*. This show is dedicated to highlighting the many success stories within the Newburyport Public Schools. This program will serve as one of the platforms to celebrate our teachers, student achievements, and administrative milestones. The show is being filmed, produced, and directed by students within the new Cindy Johnson Video Lab at the high school. This initiative provides our students with invaluable hands-on professional experience while offering the district a modern, engaging way to share the "great happenings" of our schools with the wider community. I also want to recognize Central Office

staff member Julia Olson who has put a lot of time and effort into the organization of the details involved with filming this show. We are truly grateful for her assistance.

Yurt Outdoor Classroom Proposal

Proposal of Yurt Outdoor Classroom at the Bresnahan School. The project idea is possibly being championed and sponsored through the generous fundraising efforts of our PTO. The installation of a yurt is a circular, semi-permanent structure that offers a unique, weather-protected space for students to immerse themselves in the local environment year-round. This will serve as a key element for our Place-Based Education initiatives, along with our playful learning grant. This outdoor classroom space will be located right on the campus of the Bresnahan School. This initiative aligns with our Strategic Plan and NHS pathways program to provide authentic, real-world learning experiences, ensuring that from preschool to graduation, our students are not just studying science, they will be living it.