

School Council Meeting Minutes

Date: March 13, 2026

Time: 8:15 AM – 9:16 AM

Location: Nock Middle

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Principal Nick Markos at 8:15 AM. The council reviewed the agenda and approved the order of business for the meeting.

2. Update on Grading / Report Card Process

Mr. Markos provided an update on the school's current grading practices and report card process. Discussion focused on ensuring grading practices remain consistent, equitable, and aligned with district expectations and curriculum standards.

Key points included:

- Teachers continue to utilize common grading expectations across grade levels and content areas to support consistency for students and families.
- Emphasis remains on grading as a reflection of student learning, growth, and mastery of standards.
- Ongoing conversations are taking place regarding communication with families around academic progress, work completion, and student accountability.
- The timeline for report card preparation and distribution was reviewed, including deadlines for teachers and anticipated release dates for families.
- Staff members are continuing to review feedback from families and educators regarding report card readability and effectiveness.

Council members asked questions regarding grading categories, late work expectations, and how report cards communicate both academic achievement and work habits. Feedback centered around maintaining high expectations while also ensuring transparency and support for students.

3. Update on Curriculum Work

Mr. Markos shared an overview of ongoing curriculum initiatives taking place across the school and district.

Discussion included:

- Continued work aligning curriculum to Massachusetts curriculum frameworks and grade-level standards.
- Collaboration among teachers and instructional teams to strengthen instructional practices and student engagement.
- Review of current instructional resources and materials being utilized in classrooms.
- Ongoing professional development opportunities focused on curriculum implementation, differentiation, and student-centered instruction.
- Efforts to provide meaningful learning experiences that encourage critical thinking, student voice, and real-world application.

Additional updates were shared regarding interdisciplinary opportunities, curriculum pacing discussions, and the importance of maintaining rigor while supporting all learners.

The council discussed next steps for continued curriculum review and implementation heading into the next school year.

4. Budget Update – FY 2027

Mr. Markos provided an overview of the FY27 budget process and current planning considerations.

Topics discussed included:

- Preliminary budget planning timelines and district-level processes.
- Maintaining support for student programming, staffing, intervention services, and student wellness initiatives.
- The importance of balancing fiscal responsibility with the academic and social-emotional needs of students.
- Consideration of operational costs, instructional resources, and future programming priorities.
- Ongoing advocacy for maintaining opportunities that directly impact student learning and school culture.

Council members discussed budget priorities and the potential impact of future financial decisions on programming and school operations. Continued communication and collaboration throughout the budget process were emphasized.

5. New Business

Council members discussed additional items including:

- Continued focus on student engagement and school culture.
- Opportunities for increased family communication and community involvement.
- Planning considerations for upcoming school events and end-of-year activities.

Members also discussed the importance of maintaining positive school-community relationships and supporting student success both academically and socially.

6. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 AM.

Next Meeting Date: May 15, 2026