NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

AMENDED

School Committee Business Meeting 6:30PM

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

SC Business Meeting Agenda September 9, 2026
SC Business Meeting Agenda Notes September 9, 2026
SC Warrant September 9, 2026
SC Special Business Meeting Minutes August 31, 2026
Kindergarten Bootcamp Pilot Program
NHS Overnight Field Trip – New York **
- Application
- Travel Proposal
- Itinerary
- Policy JJH – Student Overnight or Late Night Travel

2026 Summer Professional Development
2026 School Committee Goals - Draft
Superintendent's Report

Newburyport Public Schools

School Committee Business Meeting

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at 6:30PM
Senior/Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81511683901

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/. *Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can access the proceedings in real-time. In the event of a technological failure that interrupts our ability to provide remote access, the public body will pause the meeting while attempting to restore the connection. If the disruption continues, the meeting will continue in person for those physically present.*

School Committee Business Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance
2. Public Comment
3. *Consent Agenda (Warrant and 8/31/2026 Minutes) – *possible Vote*
4. Student Representative Introductions and Report
5. Kindergarten Bootcamp Pilot Program
6. *NHS Overnight Field Trip – New York – *possible Vote*
7. 2026 Summer Professional Development
8. Nock/Molin Traffic Circulation Advisory Committee Update
9. 2026 School Committee Goals - draft
10. Subcommittee Updates
    a. Finance Subcommittee – *Andrew Boger*
    b. Policy Subcommittee – *Kathleen Shaw*
    c. Teaching & Learning Subcommittee – *Breanna Higgins*
    d. SEPAC – *Kathleen Shaw*
    e. NEF – *Lauren Eramo*
11. Superintendent's Report
12. 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
September 9, 2026 at 6:30PM
Senior/Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950

AGENDA NOTES

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81511683901

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/. *Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can access the proceedings in real-time. In the event of a technological failure that interrupts our ability to provide remote access, the public body will pause the meeting while attempting to restore the connection. If the disruption continues, the meeting will continue in person for those physically present.*

School Committee Business Meeting Agenda

3. *Consent Agenda (Warrant and 8/31/2026 Minutes) – *possible Vote*
4. Student Representative Introductions and Report

   Anna Pervier, Logan MacKnight, and Audrey Roebuck will be introduced as the high school representatives to the School Committee this year, and will provide the student report.
5. Kindergarten Bootcamp Pilot Program

   Principal Jamie Sokolowski will provide an overview of the Kindergarten Bootcamp Pilot Program that was held at the Bresnahan Elementary School this summer.
6. *NHS Overnight Field Trip – New York – *possible Vote*

   In accordance with Policy JJH – Student Overnight or Late Night Travel, High School Principal Andy Wulf is seeking permission for an overnight field trip to New York City in January 2027 with Visual Arts and Performing Arts students. (attached)
7. 2026 Summer Professional Development

   Assistant Superintendent Lisa Furlong and Dr. Tom Abrams will provide an overview of professional development programs offered this summer.
8. Nock/Molin Traffic Circulation Advisory Committee Update

   School Committee member John Ricci will provide a brief summary of the traffic subcommittee's recent progress, highlighting the community's positive response to recent safety enhancements and school collaborations. Looking ahead, the update will outline initial considerations for upcoming developments, including the installation of the new traffic light and safety planning for the Recreation Center opening.
9. 2026 School Committee Goals - Draft

   Members will review the draft of School Committee Goals for August – December 2026.
10. Subcommittee Updates
    a. Finance Subcommittee – *Andrew Boger*
    b. Policy Subcommittee – *Kathleen Shaw*
    c. Teaching & Learning Subcommittee – *Breanna Higgins*
    d. SEPAC – *Kathleen Shaw*
    e. NEF – *Lauren Eramo*
11. Superintendent's Report: *Safe Routes to School Walk Audit Meeting, PROTECT Act Policy Compliance, New Teachers Mentoring Induction Program, Staff & Students Return to School, School Visits and Enrollments.*

** *next page* **

12. New Business

* possible vote

Adjournment

FYI: Upcoming Dates:

- ✓ Gr Pk - K Students 1st Day: Tuesday, September 8th
- ✓ Open House / Back To School Dates:
  - Nock: Tuesday, September 15th @ 6:00PM
  - High: Wednesday, September 16th @ 5:30PM
  - Bresnahan: Thursday, September 17th @ 6:00PM (gr PK - 1) and 7:00PM (gr 2-3)
  - Molin: Thursday, September 24th @ 6:00PM
- ✓ FINCOM meeting: Thursday, September 17 @ 9:00AM
- ✓ Nock School Council meeting: Monday, September 21 @ 8:15AM
- ✓ Policy Subcommittee meeting: Monday, September 21 @ 6:30PM
- ✓ SEPAC meeting: Tuesday, September 22 @ 6:00PM

Warrant(s)

September 9, 2026

Warrant FY27.12	$ 631,408.01
A-Warrant	$ 4,370.24
Total of Warrants:	$ 635,778.25

NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING

**** virtual ****

Monday, August 31, 2026

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Juliet Walker called the School Committee Special Business meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 7:07 PM. Roll call found all members present, except Mayor Sean Reardon and John Ricci.

Roll Call

Mayor Reardon	Absent
Juliet Walker	Present
Breanna Higgins	Present
Kathleen Shaw	Present
Andrew Boger	Present
Lauren Eramo	Present
John Ricci	Absent

Policy ACL

Members reviewed Policy ACL – Interacting with Law Enforcement Officers Engaged in Civil Law Enforcement (Protect Act) provided with guidance by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Ed (DESE), to adopt this policy by September 1st and/or on the first day of school.

Motion:

On a motion by Lauren Eramo and seconded by Andrew Boger it was

VOTED: to adopt Policy ACL – Interacting with Law Enforcement Officers Engaged in Civil Law Enforcement in accordance with guidance issued by DESE effective immediately and to dispense with the sequence of readings to meet emergency conditions consistent with Policy BGB (Policy Adoption).

Roll Call

Mayor Reardon	Absent
Juliet Walker	Yes
Breanna Higgins	Yes
Kathleen Shaw	Yes
Andrew Boger	Yes
Lauren Eramo	Yes
John Ricci	Absent

Motion Passed
Mayor Sean Reardon absent
John Ricci absent

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

On a motion by Breanna Higgins and seconded by Lauren Eramo it was

VOTED: to adjourn the Special Business meeting of the Newburyport School Committee at 7:16PM.

Roll Call

Mayor Reardon	Absent
Juliet Walker	Yes
Breanna Higgins	Yes
Kathleen Shaw	Yes
Andrew Boger	Yes
Lauren Eramo	Yes
John Ricci	Absent

Motion Passed
Mayor Sean Reardon absent
John Ricci absent

KINDERGARTEN BOOTCAMP PILOT PROGRAM

Easing the Transition & Building Confidence at Bresnahan

Robin O'Malley & Samantha Maguire

Program Creators and Teachers

Special Thanks

The Swasey Fund Supporting Teacher Development

ESSENTIAL KINDERGARTEN SKILLS PRACTICED

Our bootcamp focused on three core pillars of early childhood readiness to ensure a smooth transition into the school year:

- **Classroom Community:** Students practiced following group plans, listening to teacher directions, raising hands to speak, and taking turns.
- **Social Connections:** Activities were designed to help children make new friends, share materials, and engage in collaborative problem-solving.
- **Transitions:** A major focus was placed on moving smoothly between different activities and confidently exploring new learning materials.

A Day in the Life of a Bootcamper

A typical half-day session blends structured classroom expectations with play, laughter, and exploration.

- **Daily Routines:** The schedule is anchored by foundational kindergarten activities, including Morning Meeting, Calendar Time, Choice Time, and Story Time.
- **Hands-On Learning:** Students engage in targeted activities designed to promote fine motor skill development, creative play, and physical movement.
- **Balanced Environment:** Children learn the rhythms of a typical school day in a low-pressure, highly engaging format.

Key Outcomes & Impact

The pilot yielded significant positive outcomes for our incoming students, setting them up for long-term success.

FAMILIAR ENVIRONMENT

The program introduced students to a warm, predictable space with familiar staff before their first day.

EARLY RELATIONSHIPS

Students established early relationships, building new friendships over blocks, art projects, and cooperative play.

Parent Feedback

"Hi all,
I know I said it today, but I just wanted to reiterate a huge thank you for this wonderful program! Everyone I have mentioned it to has absolutely loved the idea, and it was such a well executed week. My daughter is a kiddo who can be slow to warm, and I think this gentle introduction has completely changed the way this year will start off. My daughter loved the entire week and is THRILLED to be starting Kindergarten this year! So thank you, thank you for all the time and effort that went into putting this together and for taking such good care of our kiddos! We are really looking forward to starting the school year in a few weeks!"

"Hi Mrs. O'Malley and Miss. Sam,

A quick thank you for doing such a nice job with this program. My son is genuinely so excited for kindergarten now, and it really helped us both feel at ease about the transition."

"Thank you so much for a wonderful week at Kindergarten Bootcamp! My daughter absolutely loved it and came home excited every day. It made such a difference in helping her feel ready and confident for her first day of kindergarten. We really appreciate all the work you put into making it such a positive experience for the kids."

IMPACT & GRATITUDE

"We began Bootcamp hoping to help children feel more prepared for kindergarten. We ended it feeling equally grateful for what the experience taught us as educators."

- **Teacher Development: Thank You:** This pilot was generously funded by the Swasey Fund Supporting Teacher Development. We are looking to build this into the Bresnahan School Budget for the 27-28 school year and beyond.

- **Looking Ahead:** We are looking forward to seeing how bootcamp helps our incoming Kindergarteners as they start their year!

Addendum A

APPLICATION FOR A FIELD TRIP

Field trip requests must be turned in at least 10 school days before the trip. The names of students attending the trip must be made known to the faculty at least five school days before the scheduled trip.

1. Date of Trip Jan 8, 9, 10, 2027
2. Class NHS Visual & Performing Arts
3. Teacher Phillips, Annicchiarico, Cohen, Shepard, Parasti, Smith
4. Number of Students 60 - 80
5. Destination NYC
6. Method of Transportation Coach bus & vans
7. Estimated Student Cost $850.00 PA / $650.00 VA
8. Time of Departure 5:45 AM
9. Time of Return 9:30 PM
10. Academic Objectives Workshops, museums, shows
11. Number of Teachers 6 Names of Teachers (please see above)
    based on student interest, we add chaperones as needed

NOTE: If substitutes are required, the front office must be informed after request if approved.

12. Date of Application 9/1/26
13. Inform Health Office of a list of students attending the trip; pick-up Alerts and first aid supplies.

Endorsed: Curriculum Advisor

Signature of Teacher Initiating Request

Approved: Principal

Not Approved: Principal

Travel Proposal Cover Page

Educational purpose of the trip

- Connection to curriculum, course objectives, or district goals
- Expected student learning outcomes
- Opportunities for cultural, historical, linguistic, artistic, scientific, or civic learning

Educational value of the trip:

This placed-based educational trip will afford Theatre, Dance and Music students the opportunity to work directly with working Broadway professionals on the acquiring of new skills and honing of current skills in their art form. Students will have a Broadway Conductor/Music Director work with them on vocal selections previously prepared from the upcoming spring musical. They also will be taught original choreography by a current Dance Captain on Broadway. In a third workshop our Band, Chorus and Orchestra will learn a piece of music from a Broadway musical in real-time led by a current Broadway Musical Director. We have been taking some iteration of this trip since 2007–and just last year (2026) added the Music students to the trip. When we returned from this experience seven instrumental music students joined NHS Chorus as they learned the value of working in all modalities to become better musicians. It also had an enormous impact on the culture of our Performing Arts program at NHS.

Students will attend three very different professional productions: Broadway Musical, Broadway Play (starring NHS Alumni Joe Keery in his Broadway debut), and a long-form sketch comedy Improv Show. The Music students will attend the NY Philharmonic.

On our final day students will be immersed in American Musical Theatre history as we will visit the newly opened Museum of Broadway. Walk through Broadway's history, starting in 1732 with the first documented performance in NYC, and go backstage learning about your favorite Broadway stars as well as how a show is made. As you walk the timeline, you'll come upon exhibits dedicated to groundbreaking moments in Broadway's history - those that pushed creative boundaries, challenged social norms, and paved the way for those who would follow. The Museum of Broadway was designed by internationally renowned artists, designers, and theatre technicians.

NHS Visual Art students will attend multiple museums including The Whitney, the Met, the Moma and/or the Museum of Illusion. They will also participate in a workshop with a professional artist–last year we studied Graffiti Art and this year we are looking to work with an NHS Art alum in a drawing/painting workshop. Visual Art will join Performing Arts for one dinner and the Broadway Musical.

Organizer of the Trip: Stephanie Phillips & Mary Rakoski
Working with Broadway.com Group Sales Office, Broadway Imagined!, The Museum of Broadway, Gayle's Broadway Rose, John's Pizza Manhattan, Marriott Marquis Manhattan Times Square and Premier Coach Company.

Projected Total Cost of the Trip: $650-850
The cost of the trip includes...

- **round trip transportation from NHS to NYC via bus/NHS Athletic Vans**
- **2-night hotel at Marriott Marquis New York Times Square**
- **1 Broadway Show**
- **1 Broadway Play or NY Philharmonic**
- **1 Improv Show**
- **3 workshops taught by current working Broadway professionals through Broadway Imagined!**
- **2 Dinner (Gayles Broadway Rose & John's Pizza)**
- **1 Entry to the Museum of Broadway**
- **Art museum entries where applicable**
- **Artist Workshop**

Each student is responsible for their own breakfasts, lunches, snacks and spending money. Parents often ask how much to bring. That is very dependent on each student and their needs and desires. I would talk to your student about what they typically eat when out at fast-service restaurants (Starbucks, Panera, Deli, etc...) and then err on the side of prices in NYC being slightly higher than in NBPT for some goods.

Families/students needing financial support have been encouraged to reach out to the trip organizers so that all students who want to attend can have the opportunity to do so. Multiple fundraising opportunities are afforded all students and families raging from Car Wash, Playbill Ad Sales and Restaurant Partnership nights.

~~Vendor Comparison Matrix~~ We do not go through a vendor.

Criteria	~~Vendor A~~	~~Vendor B~~	~~Vendor C~~
Total Cost	$650.00 Visual Art $850.00 Performing Art (shows and workshops account for the additional cost)		
Hotel Accommodations	$239.00 per room/per night–QUAD Occupancy @ Marriott Marquis Manhattan Times Square		
Tips included	YES: Meal Gratuities and Bus Driver		
Meals Included	Dinner only. Students pay for their own breakfast and lunch.		
Travel Insurance Available	No.		
Is There Shared Transport with Other Schools?	No.		
Student-to-Chaperone Ratio	6:1-8:1 Depending on Student Support needed.		
Advisor Compensation or Benefits	No compensation. Chaperones pay for their own breakfast and lunch as students do.		

2026 NHS VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS NYC TRIP

Friday, January 8 @ 5:45 AM to Sunday, January 10 @ approx. 8:30-9:30 PM, 2027

Detailed Itinerary:

Friday, 5:45 AM: Students report to NHS, students should have had breakfast, or bring breakfast and a snack for the ride (approx. 4.5 hours). *We will be traveling in (2) 15-passenger vans, and one COACH bus (Students have been assigned which vehicle they will ride in in advance).*
Students must pack ONLY ONE CARRY-ON SIZED BAG (NOT a full sized suitcase)–if they have a tote, small backpack, purse or wallet in addition to that, that is fine–but whatever they have in addition to their carry-on sized bag they will need to carry around NYC. Students with instruments will have them transported to the workshop so they will not need to carry them.
*****Will make at-least one brief rest stop en route to the city, but students should pack nut-free snacks for the ride (and pack a breakfast if they did not eat before coming to school).***
WE WILL DEPART AT 6:00 AM SHARP–WE WILL NOT WAIT FOR STUDENTS AS WE HAVE TIMED WORKSHOPS AND MUSEUM ENTRIES TO GET TO.

Friday, 11:00AM: We will arrive at our hotel Marriott Marquis New York Times Square 1535 Broadway. ***We will drop off our bags with the bell service, but NOT check-in to our rooms yet. Students*** will be able to grab a quick bite in chaperone groups at this time. *As a reminder lunch and breakfast is paid for by the students. NYC is an expensive location so you should budget what a typical lunch might cost your student in a grab-and-go location (cafe, deli, coffee shop, pizza shop) and then add $5-$10 to the top for NYC pricing.*

Friday, 12:00 PM: Walk to Boulevard Carroll Studios 625 West 55th Street, 6th Floor **(30-minute walk)** Studio 2 (Choir) Studio 4 (Band/Orchestra). *Instruments will be transported to the studio for the students.*

Friday, 1-2:30 PM: Participate in a ***Wicked*** **Vocal and Instrumental Workshop** with two Broadway Music Directors/Conductors through *Broadway Imagined*!

Friday, 2:45 PM: The bus and vans will pick-up the group and bring them to the hotel (instruments will stay stored in the bus, unless a student feels it needs to go to their room with them–they will not be needed again)–our hope is that the rooms will be ready for check-in at that time and students can get changed and ready for dinner and the theater.

Friday, 5:00 PM: Walk back to John's Pizzeria for dinner 260 W 44th St **(5 minute walk).**

Friday, 7:30 PM: Walk to the Magnet Theatre 254 W. 29th Street (20-minute walk) for **Premiere the IMPROV MUSICAL**

Friday, 9:30 PM: Walk back to our hotel Marriott Marquis New York Times Square 1535 Broadway **(3-minute walk)**

Friday 10:30 PM: Room check, lights out

Saturday, 8:00AM: Room check & breakfast. Students can access Starbucks on the bottom floor of the hotel, the next door deli for bagels and breakfast sandwiches, or they can purchase the hotel breakfast in the lobby restaurant (pricey).

Saturday, 9:30AM: Walk to Pearl Studios 500 8th Avenue, 12th Floor, Studio 1212 for our workshops. **(15-minute walk)**

Saturday, 10:00-11:30 PM: Participate in a ***Les Miserables*** **Vocal Experience (just singing) Workshop** through *Broadway Imagined*! with the incredible Adam Cole Klepper–who we worked with the last two years–he is a music genius (both instrumental and vocal) and Broadway Musical Director/Conductor.

Saturday, 12:00-1:30 PM: Lunch in chaperone groups at a location of choice between Pearl Studios and the hotel.
***At this time students along with their chaperones should plan to visit the FAMOUS Drama Book Shop 266 W 39th Street (between Pearl Studios and the hotel). This is the specialized bookstore where Lin Manuel Miranda wrote Hamilton (and he*

*now owns the shop)! It has music, scripts, books on the business, the performing arts, history–and a coffee shop! It's a MUST SEE if you haven't been.***

Saturday, 2:00 PM: Meet in the lobby of Winter Garden Theatre - 1634 Broadway, for Shakespeare's ***Much Ado About Nothing***

Saturday, 4:45: Meet downstairs at the Marriott Marquis New York Times Square to walk to dinner at **Gayle's Broadway Rose**, 228 W 47th Street for dinner **(3-minute walk)**

Saturday, 6:30 PM: Students will have 45-minutes, in chaperone groups, to shop in Times Square.

Saturday, 7:30 PM: Walk to Hudson Theatre - 141 West 44th Street to see the ALUMNI JOE KEERY in the Broadway play ***Other Desert Cities*** **(3-minute walk)**.

Saturday, 10:30 PM: Walk to hotel Marriott Marquis New York Times Square 1535 Broadway, Room check, lights out (8-minute walk)

Sunday, 8:00 AM: Room check & breakfast (same as Saturday) and check-out of the hotel (Bell Service will hold our bags until we depart).

Sunday, 10:00-11:30 AM: Participate in a ***CHICAGO*** **Ensemble Experience (singing and dancing) Workshop** through *Broadway Imagined*! We will be working with an artist from the Broadway production that we will be performing at NHS later this year!

Sunday: 11:30-1:30 PM: Lunch in chaperone groups at a location of choice between Pearl Studios and the hotel.
At this time students along with their chaperones should plan to visit the FAMOUS Drama Book Shop 266 W 39th Street (between Pearl Studios and the hotel). This is the specialized bookstore where Lin Manuel Miranda wrote Hamilton (and he now owns the shop)! It has music, scripts, books on the business, the performing arts, history–and a coffee shop! It's a MUST SEE if you haven't been.

Sunday 1:30 PM: Walk to The Palace Theatre 160 West 47th Street (10-minute walk) to see Tony Award Winner ***The Lost Boys*** the musical.

Sunday, 4:00 PM: Depart for Newburyport, expected arrival 8:30-9:30 PM–students will text parents when we are 30 mins. out. We will stop enroute for a quick lunch.

REMINDER: Each student is responsible for their own breakfasts, lunches, snacks and spending money. *Parents often ask how much to bring. That is very dependent on each student and their needs and desires. I would talk to your student about what they typically eat when out at fast-service restaurants (Starbucks, Panera, Deli, etc…) and then err on the side of prices in NYC being slightly higher than in NBPT for some goods.*

All NHS rules apply per the Clipper Compass, students who do not comply with school rules may need to be picked-up by their parents, and appropriate consequences will be determined by NHS Administration upon return.

All Performing Arts students will be participating in <u>all</u> of the workshops regardless of what ensemble they are a part of (Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Theatre, etc...).

NYC TRIP January 8-10 2027

VISUAL ART ITINTERARY

Chaperones: Mary Rakoski ([redacted], Andy Smith ([redacted]
Please be at the school by 5:45 AM
Depart NHS: 6:00 AM @ NHS January 8th
Return: Approximately 7:00 PM @ NHS January 10th (students will call from bus for pick up)

Included:

All transportation luxury coach bus provided by Premier Coach Company
Hotel for 2 nights (quads) Marriott Marquis Times Square 1535 Broadway, NY, NY
Phone: (212) 398-1900
Admission to museums and tickets to Broadway show are included.
Not Included: Breakfast (Starbucks in the lobby of the hotel), lunch Friday & Saturday & Sunday, & spending money.

Friday - January 8th

6:00 AM SHARP! Depart NHS via coach bus (students can bring a bag lunch or buy lunch at rest stop in CT - $15-$20 (student responsibility)
11:30 - 1:30 PM Whitney Museum of Art --(included) **Gansevoort between 10th Ave & Washington**
Free time (groups of 3 or more) in Chelsea. Lunch: in Chelsea (student responsibility) Chelsea Market is a great indoor place for lunch and has many options.
****Meet at Highline Stairs / corner of Gansevoort & Washington St, near the Whitney. Walk to the Museum of Illusion together.**
The Museum of Illusion at 3:00- 4:30 77 8th Ave, New York, NY 10014
4:30 pick up by coach bus and head into Times Square-drop off at John's Pizza to eat dinner together- 260 W 44th St, New York, NY (students may have some free time to souvenir shop after dinner)
Dinner at John's at 5:00 PM - followed by time in chaperone groups in Times Square
Return to hotel at approximately 8:30 PM

Saturday January 9th

Breakfast is at 8:30 AM- student responsibility
BUS LEAVES 10:15 for MOMA
10:30- 12:30-Coach bus takes us to the MOMA-Museum of Modern Art 11 West 53rd
12:45 Bus departs MOMA. Transport to Bryant Park (42nd St, between 5th & 6th Avenue)
12:45- 2:30 Free time in groups of 3 or more
SATURDAY SITES after dropoff in Bryant Park:
– NY Public Library iconic lions to pose with for photos. Explore this iconic building, and view the Century Of New Yorker magazine & art exhibition, and browse the NYPL shop.
– Explore Times Square (Broadway btwn 42nd St & 50th St) ← avoid creepy mascots!
2:30 PM Bus departs Bryant Park (42 St between 5th/6th Ave) to Home Kitchen for an early dinner (3:00PM) at 155 East 84th st between Lexington Avenue and 3rd Avenue
4:30- walk or bus- depends on the weather to the MET together (if walk, visit Levain's Bakery)
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM Metropolitan Museum of Art - 5th Ave at 81st Street
Return to Hotel 8:30/9:00 PM Bus Transport

Sunday - January 10th

8:15 AM - 9:15 AM – BREAKFAST student responsibility **Rooms emptied** (please leave a small cash tip for cleaning staff)**, Checkout of Hotel and load luggage/belongings onto/under bus.**

9:45 Depart hotel for Artist Workshop

Room check & breakfast (same as Saturday) and check-out of the hotel. After you eat, you need to grab your bag and **report to the vans/bus by 10:00 AM** in the same location where we were dropped off on Friday.

10:30-12:30:00 Artist Workshop

Includes a short art tour followed by an award winning art class. This is a unique art class led by local artists.

1:30 Broadway Musical: Lost Boys

3:30 Board bus to return home. Stop at a rest-stop on the way home for a quick dinner $15-$20 (student responsibility). Get home at around 7:00/7:30 PM. Students will text when we are getting close to home for pick up!

REMINDER: Each student is responsible for their own breakfasts, lunches, snacks and spending money. *Parents often ask how much to bring. That is very dependent on each student and their needs and desires. I would talk to your student about what they typically eat when out at fast-service restaurants (Starbucks, Panera, Deli, etc…) and then err on the side of prices in NYC being slightly higher than in NBPT for some goods.*

All NHS rules apply per the Clipper Compass, students who do not comply with school rules may need to be picked-up by their parents, and appropriate consequences will be determined by NHS Administration upon return.

JJH STUDENT OVERNIGHT OR LATE NIGHT TRAVEL

SERIES J - STUDENTS

All student trips which include late night or overnight travel must have prior approval of the School Committee. Initial approval by the School Committee is required before engaging students in fundraising activities. The School Committee will also consider the educational value of the trip in relation to the cost prior to granting initial approval. Overnight trips should offer significant educational benefits to students that clearly justify the time and expense of the trip. Such trips should be appropriate for the grade level.

Final approval will not be granted until all preparations for the trip have been completed including, but not limited to, all logistical details involving transportation, accommodation arrangements and fundraising efforts. The School Committee requires that final approval be sought no less than 30 days prior to the scheduled trip dates.

Teachers and other school staff are prohibited from soliciting for privately run trips through the school system and in the schools. The School Committee will only review for approval school-sanctioned trips. The School Committee will not review or approve trips that are privately organized and run without school sanctioning.

Policy References:

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 69:1B; 71:37N

CROSS REFS.: IJOA, Field Trips

Adopted: June 19, 2017
Revised: February 27, 2024

Summer 2026 Professional Development

Newburyport Public Schools
Teaching & Learning

Over 125 educators participated in our 2026 Summer Professional Development Programs. Summer projects and courses allow NPS educators to continue their professional development and provide paid time for developing lessons, units and courses for the 2026-27 school year.

NPS Summer PD Programs are generously supported by the Swasey Fund.

Overview of Courses

Course Type	Enrollment	Description
Guided Curriculum Development	69	20 hour courses provided 10 hours of face-to-face facilitated coursework followed by 10 hours of educator-directed curriculum development. These guided courses allow us to support educators in developing curricula and assessments
School-based Program Development	19	These projects range in length from 5-10 hours per person and allow small teams of educators to further develop programs such as an upper elementary standards-based report card and a high school graduation portfolio & capstone
Educator-Proposed Curriculum Projects	63	Educators can propose curriculum development projects. This year projects included revising courses (e.g., advanced industrial design, sophomore Social Studies and AP Statistics) and furthering unit development (e.g., Grade 8 Drumline, middle school writing, and place-based middle school science).
PD Inservice	108	Inservice classes allow educators to dive deeply into a range of topics that support our district's teaching & learning goals. From book studies (e.g., *Figuring Out Fluency in Mathematics Teaching and Learning* by Jennifer M. Bay-Williams, John J. SanGiovanni & *The Writing Revolution 2.0* by Judith C. Hochman) to courses on cultivating sustainable practices, science of reading and learning to fail, educator-led classes provide opportunities for our faculty to learn together.

Guided Curriculum Development

Project	Enrollment	Description
Effective Math Teaching Practices	10	Teacher workshop hours focused on best practices for elementary math instruction and provided 10 hours for teachers to plan using the iReady math program.
K-5 Literacy Planning	25	K-5 educators had an opportunity to dig into the new resource (10 hours of guided coursework) and start planning their first unit (10 hours of planning).
Guided Assessment Development	15	Under the guidance of Principal Andy Wulf, discipline-based high school teacher teams worked on enhancing their course common assessments.
Independent Development Center	5	K-12 team of teachers who lead our Independent Development Center worked collaboratively to further develop their literacy program.
MCIEA Performance Assessment Development	15	Led by the Massachusetts Consortium for Innovative Education Assessment, this 2-day workshop provided middle and high school educators with an opportunity to develop a performance assessment and submit it for review by the MCIEA state-wide panel.

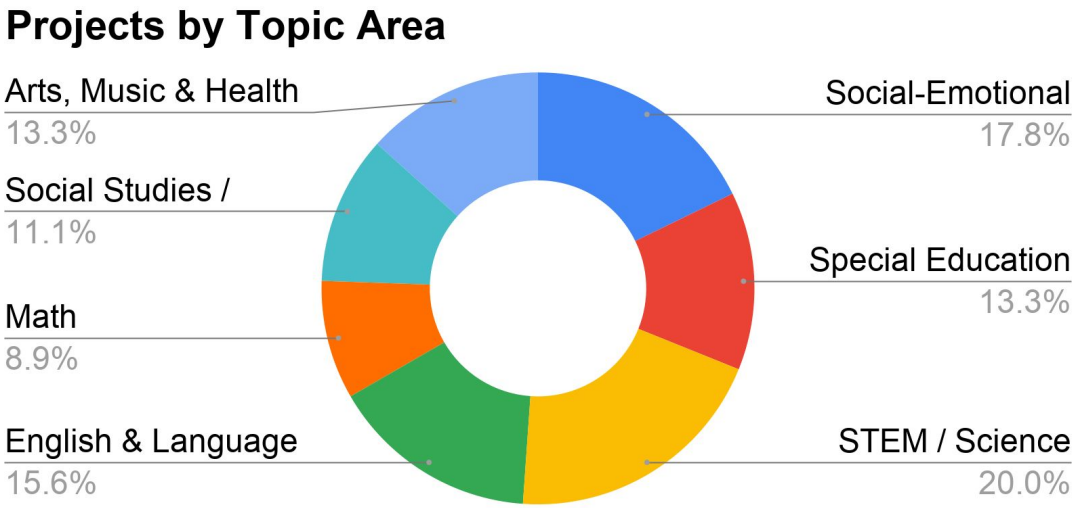
School-based Program Development

Program	Enrollment	Description
Molin Standards-based Report Card	5	Educators worked collaboratively to establish a structure for a standards-based report card.
NHS Instructional Leadership Team	9	The NHS Instructional Leadership Team worked collaboratively to continue Portrait of a Graduate work, plan for portfolio/capstone requirements, and establish year-long professional development plans.
NHS Portfolio & Capstone	5	A multidisciplinary team of high school educators attended a portfolio/capstone workshop to begin planning for NHS graduation requirements.
Kindergarten Readiness Program	2	A preschool and kindergarten teacher team developed and implemented a *K Boot Camp* pilot program for kindergarten students to prepare for school.

Curriculum Projects

Educators worked on a range of curriculum projects over the summer including:

- Mystery Melodies – grade three music
- Advanced Industrial Design – NHS
- US History I – NHS
- Living Classroom – K-3 special/science
- Integrating Literature to Support SEL Skills – K-3 general education/library
- Building Freshman Readers through Innovative Approaches to Book Choice – grade 9 ELA/Library
- Ed Gems Pilot Math Unit Development – grade 7 math



Inservice Classes

Course	Enrollment	Description
Figuring out Fluency	7	Using John San Giovanni's text, *Figuring Out Fluency in Mathematics Teaching and Learning, K-8*, K-6 educators met to develop a common understanding of fluency and how to enhance instruction to promote fluent thinkers.
NPS GreenWave	11	Our GreenWave PLC focused on engaging staff in district and city sustainability goals including: continuing, improving, and expanding recycling and composting programs, visiting local sites to increase education and awareness (like the Recycling Center and Black Earth Compost) and creating school Green Teams.
The Writing Revolution	20	An introduction to the principles and practices of *The Writing Revolution* and its application within the NPS curriculum. Participants explored how explicit, sentence-level instruction strengthens students' writing, deepens comprehension, and supports all learners across content areas.
Learning to Fail	21	Based on the work of Dr. Aaron Dinin from Duke University, educators explored how to facilitate learning that creates psychological safety around failure, allowing students to take more academic risks and focus on engaging students.
The Science of Reading	15	A review of the science of reading and exploration of effective literacy instruction that highlighted models like *Scarborough's Reading Rope* and the *Simple View of Reading*, along with research on memory and the importance of oral language as a foundation for reading and writing.
Playful Learning	19	Practical strategies that support student curiosity, collaboration and deeper understanding while working on academic standards. Educators also explored connection to SEL and trauma responsive practices.
Creating Spaces and Systems for Emotional Regulation	16	Educators increased their awareness of possible barriers for emotional regulation, basic tools for how to respond to emotional challenges, strategies for emotional regulation, and resources for setting up spaces in a classroom that promote emotional regulation.

Evaluation – Inservice Courses

- **95%** of all educators *strongly agreed* that the course **facilitators were respectful, responsive and prepared**
- **98%** of educators **would recommend the instructor to others**
- **100%** of educators agreed that the course **helped them build connections with colleagues**
- **97%** of educators agreed that the course helped them **develop new instructional skills or strategies**
- **95%** found that the courses **introduced them to new educational research**
- **98%** found that the course provided them with **resources to support their teaching**

**All course participants must complete the evaluation to receive credits, resulting in a 100% return rate.*

DRAFT School Committee Goals for August to December 2026

Description	Recommended Action	Desired Outcomes	Priority (High, Med, Low)
Establish regular line of communication with City Council and District families and students	● SC Finance Subcommittee to continue to host joint budget mtg with CC Finance Committee ● Vice Chair/Mayor or other SC Member to attend monthly or bi-monthly CC Gen Government Sub-Committee meetings ● Continue to distribute SC newsletter to CC members ● SC to send representatives to CC meetings we think are critical ● District/families/students – see Budget-related Goals	● Improved understanding between CC and SC ● Increased awareness about District initiatives, goals ● Increased participation in budget process	
Support continued improvement in academic performance across the district	● Teaching and Learning (TLS) Subcommittee to continue to coordinate with staff to identify areas of weakness and strategies for improvement ● TLS to work with staff to identify annual performance goals and measures of success for academic performance ● TLS to provide more details on metrics and key take aways in report backs to SC	● Consistent focus on reporting and measuring academic goals and assessments ● Strengthen report outs from TLS to SC to help inform discussions and decisions	
Focus on creating a supportive school learning environment for all students	Review outcomes from MA Consortium for Innovative Education Assessment (MCIEA) Quality Measures surveys	● Report out from MCIEA	

Description	Recommended Action	Desired Outcomes	Priority (High, Med, Low)
Provide opportunities for elevating student voice	Continue meeting with NHS Student Council on a periodic basis	Regular communication lines between SC and student representatives	
District Technology literacy practices/policies ● Evaluate potential harms of technology use in the classroom and school-wide. ● Build understanding of technology tools and appropriateness of their application at different grade levels. ● Encourage/support non-tech options.	● Continue receiving report outs on AI Advisory Committees recommendations from Spring 2026 ● Work with staff to evaluate effectiveness of 1:1 tablet practice at NHS	Report outs to School Committee	
Evaluate ways to improve safety for school arrival and dismissal	● Implement recommendations from Nock/Molin Traffic Advisory Committee ● Encourage collaboration with MassDOT SRTS program		

School Committee
September 9, 2026

Superintendent's Report

Back to school Staff Member Kelly Garbarino and her daughter

Safe Routes to School Walk Audit Meeting

Newburyport Livable Streets and regional Safe Routes to School Coordinator Cecilia Lujan reached out to the schools regarding a proposed walk audit near the Nock/Molin School. Lisa Furlong and I met with School Committee Vice Chair Juliet Walker to discuss how the school department can assist with the implementation. The school department is looking forward to partnering on this initiative with the city. In addition, we will be looking to assign a dedicated school liaison to be the point person representing the district.

PROTECT Act Policy Compliance

In response to state legislation signed on August 5, 2026, and subsequent guidance issued by DESE on August 21, the School Committee held an emergency special meeting on August 31st to adopt the required PROTECT Act model policy prior to the September 1st deadline. While the district has operated under aligned guidelines and policies from the MA Attorney General's Office for the past 18 months, this formal adoption ensures full state compliance. The Policy Subcommittee will meet on September 21st with legal counsel guidance to review Policy ACL, refine accompanying procedures, and ongoing operations to align with the new law.

New Teachers Mentoring Induction Program

Assistant Superintendent Furlong, Dr. Abrams and the mentoring team completed the in-person, comprehensive 3-day Induction Program for our new teaching staff. We welcomed our new educators to the district. The mentoring program began Tuesday, August 26 and concluded on Thursday, August 28. Ms. Furlong collaborated with mentor leaders, and they organized a very interactive mentoring program for our new staff, adding some great new team building activities, along with Portrait of a Graduate work / strategic planning. I would like to recognize and thank Ms. Furlong for her efforts.

NPS Staff Returns To School

We had a positive first day back with faculty and support staff on Monday (9/1). School Committee member Lauren Eramo welcomed the staff back on behalf of the school committee. As a former teacher, Ms. Eramo's message resonated with the faculty and support staff. Kathleen Shaw, John Ricci and Andy Boger were also in attendance. I had the opportunity to welcome everyone back to school and reiterated how we will continue to work together and do what is best for our students and families. There was a lot of enthusiasm among the faculty and support staff on the first day back.

Students First Day / Riding the Molin / Bresnahan Buses

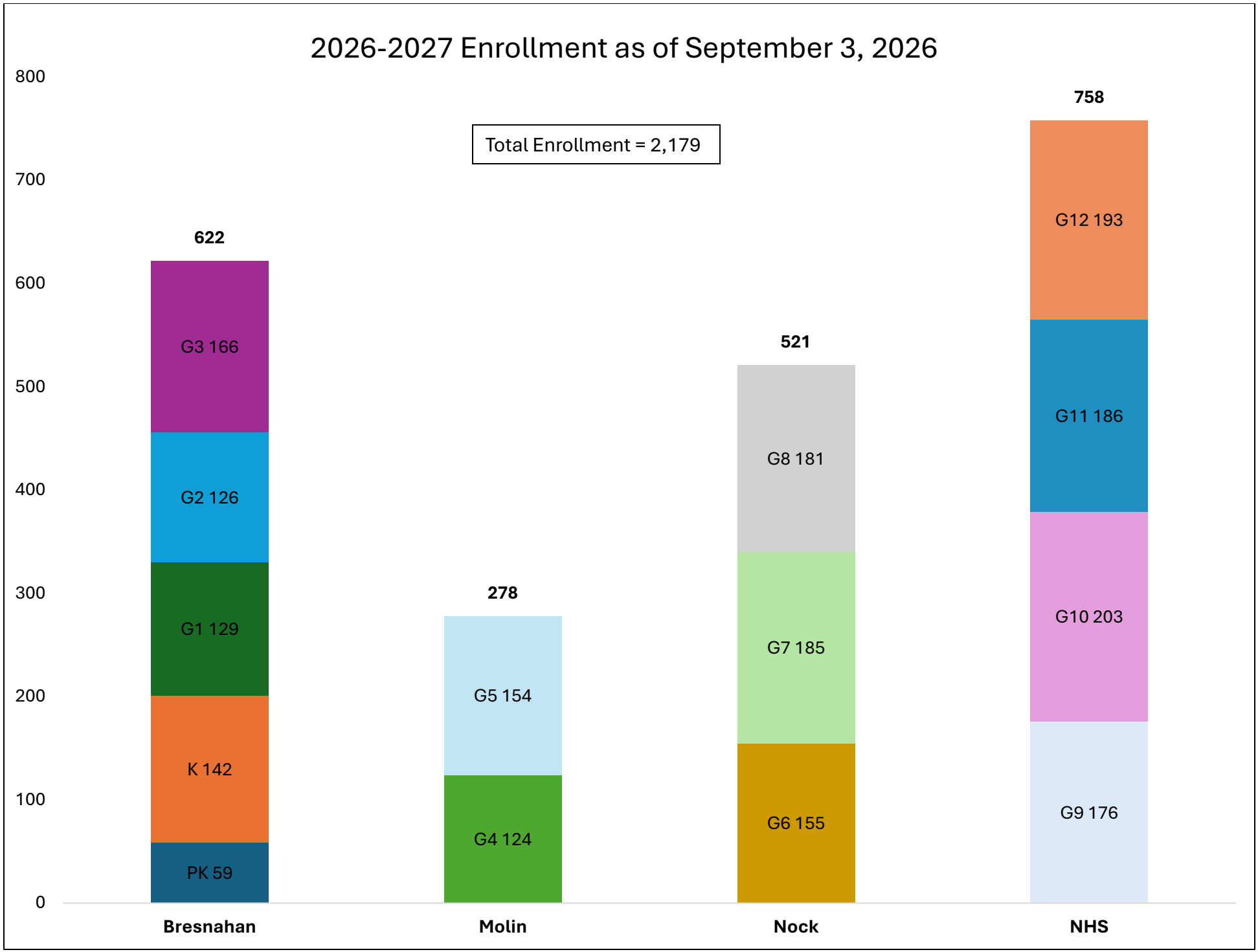
On Wednesday, I had the wonderful opportunity to ride the buses in the morning with our younger students for the first day of school. At each stop, I welcomed our students back and greeted parents/guardians. The students on the bus had fun and were very excited to begin the school year. I also had the privilege of riding the bus with Sharon Bresnahan, our Instructional Assistant Union President, as she was a bus monitor on bus #4. Students appeared to have a great opening day as I saw a lot of positive energy in the schools and classes I visited throughout the day. Once again, the Coach Bus Company representatives were on site monitoring the arrival and dismissals at each school. They have been a great partner the past few years.

School Visits

I had the opportunity to visit all of our schools over the past couple of days. I visited classrooms where I saw a lot of enthusiasm and students who were eager to learn. Of course, I got to tell a few stories to the students to make them laugh, or at least they were polite enough to laugh. I feel that we have a lot of positive momentum and enthusiasm this week. It was very nice to welcome our staff and students back to school.

Student Enrollment Update

District-wide enrollment currently stands at 2,179 students across all schools. (attached)


2026-2027 Enrollment as of September 3, 2026
Total Enrollment = 2,179
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
622
758
521
278
G3 166
G2 126
G1 129
K 142
PK 59
G5 154
G4 124
G8 181
G7 185
G6 155
G12 193
G11 186
G10 203
G9 176
Bresnahan
Molin
Nock
NHS