

NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS

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

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

SC Business Meeting Agenda October 14, 2026

SC Business Meeting Agenda Notes October 14, 2026

SC Warrant October 14, 2026

SC Business Meeting Minutes September 23, 2026

Solar Installation Presentation – Bresnahan

MASC Conference Delegate

MASC Resolutions

2026-2027 School Committee Meeting Calendar

High School Synthetic Turf Field Update

Superintendent's Report

Newburyport Public Schools
School Committee Business Meeting

Wednesday, October 14, 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. Student Recognition
4. *Warrant – *possible Vote*
5. *Meeting Minutes 9/23/2026 – *possible Vote*
6. Student Representative Report
7. *Solar Installation Presentation – Bresnahan Elementary School
8. *MASC Annual Conference Delegate – *possible Vote*
9. *MASC Resolutions Review – *possible Vote*
10. *Reschedule February 24, 2027 meeting date – *possible Vote*
11. Modify 2026-2027 School Committee Business Meeting Schedule
12. High School Synthetic Turf Field Update
13. 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*
 - f. Nock/Molin Traffic Advisory Committee – *John Ricci*
14. Superintendent's Report
15. New Business
16. *Executive Session – *Vote*

* 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
October 14, 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. Student Recognition:

The Certificate of Academic Excellence is designed by the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendent's (MASS) to award academic excellence and is to be given each year to a high school senior who has distinguished themselves in the pursuit of excellence during their high school career. The 2026-2027 recipient is Thomas Rich.

4. *Warrant – possible Vote

5. *Meeting Minutes 9/23/2026 – possible Vote

6. Student Representative Report

High school students will provide the student report.

7. Solar Installation Presentation – Bresnahan Elementary School

Molly Ettenborough, Recycling & Energy Manager for the City of Newburyport, will present Solect Energy's proposal for a solar installation project at the Bresnahan Elementary School. Dave Bisson, Solect Energy Business Development Director, will be available virtually for any questions.

8. *MASC Annual Conference Delegate – possible Vote

The School Committee will designate one member to act as the voting delegate at the MASC Annual Business meeting in Danvers, MA on November 6th, along with one alternate. Delegate submissions are due by October 20th. (attached)

9. *MASC Resolutions Review – possible Vote

School Committee members will review resolutions that will be presented at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees. Members will vote if they wish to support the resolution or not. (attached)

10. *Reschedule February 24, 2027 meeting date – possible Vote

Mayor Reardon is proposing to reschedule the February 24th SC Business meeting date to Tuesday, February 23rd in order to avoid a conflict with the State of the City Address on February 24th.

11. Modify 2026-2027 School Committee Business Meeting Schedule

- *Due to changes with the City's budget schedule, two adjustments need to be made on the School Committee Business meeting schedule: (1) Move the Public FY28 Preliminary Budget presentations to the February 10th business meeting, and (2) move the Public Budget Hearing to the March 10th business meeting.*
- *The Joint Meeting for City Council and the School Committee will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2026 at the Senior/Community Center.*

October 14, 2026

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12. High School Synthetic Turf Field Update
Superintendent Sean Gallagher will provide an update regarding the current condition of the synthetic field at the high school.
13. 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*
 - f. Nock/Molin Traffic Advisory Committee – *John Ricci*
14. Superintendent's Report: *Northern Essex College Informational Meeting, Safe Routes to School Site Visit, Coast Guard JROTC Update, SEPAC Meeting, and Superintendent's Executive Assistant Position Update*
15. New Business
16. *Executive Session – *Vote*
for the purpose of discussing possible litigation and/or legal matters, and will not reconvene in Open Session.

* possible vote

Adjournment

FYI - Upcoming Dates:

- ✓ Indigenous Peoples' Day – closed: Monday, October 12
- ✓ Finance Subcommittee meeting: Thursday, October 15 @ 9:00AM
- ✓ Nock School Council meeting: Monday, October 19 @ 8:15AM
- ✓ SEPAC meeting: Thursday, October 22 @ 6:00PM
- ✓ Teaching & Learning Subcommittee meeting: Friday, October 23 @ 8:00AM
- ✓ Bresnahan School Council meeting: Tuesday, October 27 @ 8:10AM
- ✓ School Committee Business meeting: Wednesday, October 28 @ 6:30PM
- ✓ NHS Parent Teacher Conferences: Wednesday, October 28 @ 5:00-8:00PM
- ✓ Early Release Day: Tuesday, November 3
- ✓ NHS School Council: Tuesday, November 3 @ 5:00PM
- ✓ NHS ONLY – Delayed Start: Wednesday, November 4 @ 11:15AM
- ✓ NHS Parent Teacher Conferences: Wednesday, November 4 @ 8:00 – 11:00AM
- ✓ FTB Parent Conferences: Wednesday, November 4 @ 3:15 – 6:15PM

School Committee

Warrant(s)

October 14, 2026

Warrant FY27.16	\$ 874,745.15
A-Warrant	<u>\$ 14,040.04</u>
Total of Warrants:	\$ 888,785.19

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

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Juliet Walker called the School Committee Business meeting of the Newburyport School Committee to order at 6:31PM. Roll call found all members present, except Mayor Sean Reardon. John Ricci arrived virtually at 6:36PM.

Public Comments: none

Warrant

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

VOTED: to approve the Warrant in the amount of \$379,615.35 as presented.

Warrant FY27.14	\$379,615.351
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Motion Passed

Mayor Reardon & John Ricci absent

Minutes

Motion:

On a motion by Breanna Higgins and seconded by Andrew Boger it was

VOTED: to accept the minutes for the August 26, 2026 and September 9, 2026 School Committee meetings.

Motion Passed

Mayor Reardon & John Ricci absent

School Committee Student Representative Report

Student representatives were unable to attend the meeting. Their report is attached.

Overnight Field Trip: Grade 7 - Camp Jewell

Principal Nick Markos reviewed the proposed cost, itinerary and general purpose of the grade 7 overnight trip to Camp Jewell in Colebrook, CT in June 2027. In addition, Principal Markos answered questions regarding cell phone procedures, chaperone coverage, plans for students that decide not to attend, and parent feedback after the trip.

Motion:

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

VOTED: to approve the grade 7 overnight field trip to Camp Jewell (June 9-11, 2027) consistent with Policy JJH – Student Overnight or Late Night Travel.

Motion Passed

Roll Call

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

Overnight Field Trip: Grade 8 - Philadelphia

Principal Nick Markos reviewed the proposed planned itinerary and costs for the grade 8 overnight trip to Philadelphia in May 2027. In addition, Principal Markos answered questions regarding vendor comparisons and parent feedback after the trip.

Motion:

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

VOTED: to approve the grade 8 overnight field trip to Philadelphia (May 19-21, 2027) consistent with Policy JJH – Student Overnight or Late Night Travel.

Motion Passed

Roll Call

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

Budget: FY2026 Year-End Close

Director of Finance Ethan Manning presented the *preliminary* FY2026 Year-End results showing FY26 operating expenses at \$44,900,769, which is 5.7% higher than FY2025. Ethan reviewed the FY26 main cost drivers. He also explained the changes in Special Education Tuition and Transportation costs, as well as balances and use of School Choice funds, Circuit breaker funds and other various revenue funds.

School Committee Mid-Year Self Evaluation

Vice Chair Juliet Walker led a brief discussion regarding the results of the School Committee's mid-year Operating Principles and Norms of Interaction Self-Evaluation.

School Committee Goals Prioritization Follow-up

School Committee members discussed prioritization of their goals through December 2026. District technology, academic performance, communications and student voice were rated very high. Juliet Walker will consolidate everyone's input into a final draft, and will also revise the first goal to include budget communications to a broader population. SC members will revisit the goals in January.

SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

Finance Subcommittee

Andrew Boger stated a meeting was held last week. Ethan Manning provided a presentation on the FY2026 Year-End Close. They will meet again October 15th.

Policy Subcommittee

Kathleen Shaw stated they met on September 21st. Everything is all set with the new PROTECT Act, and they will continue to look at district policies as they relate to AI.

Teaching & Learning Subcommittee

Breanna Higgins stated their meeting will be held at 8:00AM on Friday, September 25th. An annual meeting calendar has been created. The September meeting topic will be an update on School Culture at each school. Breanna created a template to be used for presentations.

SEPAC

Kathleen Shaw said the September 22nd meeting was rescheduled to October 1st at 5:30PM.

NEF

Lauren Eramo stated the NEF was also meeting tonight (September 23rd).

Nock/Molin Traffic Circulation Advisory Committee Update

Juliet Walker, along with Lauren Eramo and Superintendent Gallagher, participated in a walk about today with a representative of SRTS (Safe Route To School) to observe arrival / dismissal practices, as well as talk about challenges they are having. The representative will report back over the next few weeks.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent's report covered the following:

- ❖ **NHS, Nock and Bresnahan Open Houses**: The Superintendent attended open house events at NHS, the Bresnahan and Nock, along with the PTO and NEF. He thanked administration and staff for their efforts organizing these events. Molin open house will be held Sept. 24th.
- ❖ **Nock / Molin Water Fountain Leak**: The Superintendent thanked his facilities staff, administration and teachers for their collaborative efforts cleaning up after the water leak, and moving impacted classrooms to other locations. There was no impact on student learning.
- ❖ **Early Release Professional Development**: Superintendent Gallagher thanked Assistant Superintendent Lisa Furlong and Dr. Tom Abrams for their work organizing professional development activities for the recent early release day on September 18th. He also shared that the data collected with MCIECA over the past few years will go live before the beginning of next school year.
- ❖ **Northern Essex Community College Informational Meeting**: Superintendent Gallagher attended an informational meeting with Northern Essex leadership and area superintendents to discuss developing a pilot program geared towards expanding access to vocational programming for grade 11 & 12 students. Superintendent Gallagher will serve on the steering committee.

New Business

- Breanna Higgins congratulated the district on recently released Accountability results: (1) Progress towards attaining English proficiency jumped 20%; (2) students with disabilities taking advanced course work jumped to 50%; (3) NHS is now in the 91st percentile of high schools statewide and (4) the Bresnahan met 97% of their targets.
- Superintendent Gallagher will be sending a communication to families regarding concerns with the turf field at the high school. Though the turf is being maintained and regular testing shows it is safe to play on, the aging turf will need to be replaced in one or two years. A steering committee should be created in January.
- SC Members interested in attending the staff professional development day in January should contact the Superintendent.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

On a motion by Juliet Walker and seconded by Lauren Eramo it was

VOTED: to adjourn the Business meeting of the Newburyport School Committee at 7:52PM 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

Roll Call

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

Submitted by: Anna Pervier, Logan MacKnight and Audrey Roebuck

Location: Senior Center

Bresnahan News:

This week's Bresnahan update will focus on our recent teacher professional development. During common planning time, we are building a culture of playful learning through cooperative and dramatic play, thematic learning, and hands-on experiences. Teachers use GLT time to share lessons, materials, and expertise with their teams. Teachers who participated in the DESE grant coaching are now supporting and training colleagues, helping to spread playful learning practices throughout the school.

On Last Friday's Early Release Day, school adjustment counselors Colleen Wile and Melanie Manseau led the entire staff—including Instructional Assistants—in our introductory training for the Second Step Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) program. This session marks a key step in providing explicit Tier 1 SEL instruction across all classrooms. The rollout was made possible thanks to the dedicated staff who utilized summer curriculum hours to prepare and align materials, establishing a strong foundation for supporting our students' social and emotional development school-wide.

Molin News:

Tuesday all fourth grade classrooms will visit Spencer Pierce Little Farm to participate in the [Dirt Detectives Program](#). The hands-on experience supports the students' upcoming learning of ancient civilizations of North America. Payments for field trips will now be done online. Check permission slips for a link and/or QR code to pay for field trips. Scholarships are available.

Molin had their second whole school community meeting. This month's theme is responsibility. Each homeroom had a student share good news from their class and one student from every classroom was recognized for modeling the Molin Way and received a Golden Anchor Award. The community meetings will continue through the school year.

Nock Middle School News:

The Nock is rocking! Our 7th graders have spent the week canoeing, exploring local ecosystems, and learning outside the classroom. They'll bring that hands-on experience back into their classrooms as they connect their learning to our curriculum.

Advisory is also in full swing across all grade levels, supporting team building, social emotional learning, and strong connections across our school community.

High School News:

Last Friday night was homecoming. We want to thank the Senior Class for making this a fun and well attended activity. Ms. Cochran, Ms. Martin and the class officer went above and beyond to make sure the dance was a lot of fun. Also, the current records for our Varsity Sports Fall Teams are: Football: 1-1, Varsity Golf: 6-0, Boys varsity soccer: 4-0-1, Girls varsity soccer: 3-1-1, Varsity volleyball: 6-0, Field Hockey Varsity: 3-0, and XC 1-0

Solect Energy and PowerOptions

City of Newburyport | October 14, 2026

Solar Proposal for Contract
Bresnahan Elementary Rooftop PPA



About Solect Energy

- Leader in non-residential solar in the Northeast
- Founded in 2009; headquartered in Hopkinton, MA
- Wholly owned subsidiary of [Pattern Energy Group](#)
- Full service solar and energy storage provider
 - Design, Finance, Install, Monitor, Maintain, & Decommission
 - Solar Roofs, Canopies, Ground, Energy Storage
- 800+ installations | 150+ MW | 105+ employees
- Partnered with 100+ school districts in MA for on-site solar
- Services team monitors and manages 750+ projects
- DCAMM certified
- PowerOptions Consortium RFP Award winner
 - Solar and storage provider to towns, schools, municipal agencies, and non-profits in MA, CT, and RI



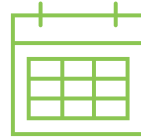
Solar and Storage Power Purchase Agreement



No upfront cost
(\$0)



Fixed per-kWh price for
20 years



20 Year Power Purchase
Agreement (PPA)



PowerOptions as an advisor,
advocate, and facilitator



Select to install, finance, operate
and maintain system



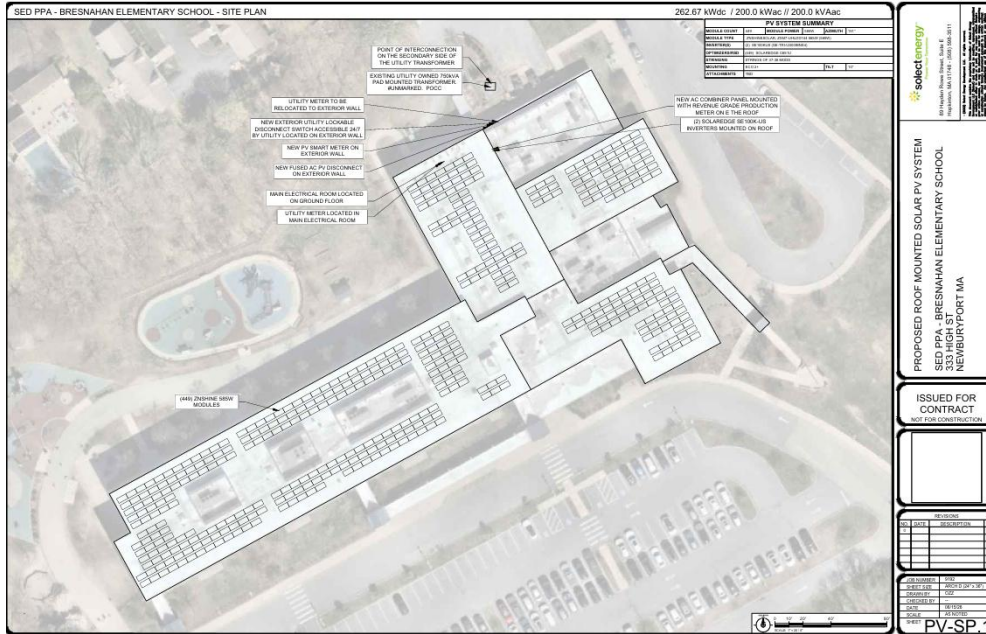
Pre-negotiated favorable
contract terms and conditions



Public entities may participate
without conducting individual
procurement
(MGL Ch. 164, Sec. 137)



Bresnahan Elementary School – Rooftop



PV System Capacity (kW DC)	262.665
Year 1 PV Output (kWh)	325,000
Percent of Usage	66%
Avoided kWh Electric Cost	\$0.19051
Solar PPA kWh Rate	\$0.04885
PPA Rate Escalator	0.0%
Term (Yrs)	20
SMART Incentive Amt (\$/kWh)	\$0.16876
Year 1 Forecast Savings	\$46,100
Term Savings	\$1,270,000
Annual Avoided CO ₂ (lbs)	312,000
Term CO ₂ Avoided (tons)	3,000

Avoided kWh Electric Cost includes upcoming competitive supply contract of \$0.13770 / kWh (updated 10/07/26)

Price includes the final cost of the Interconnection Services Agreement (ISA) issued by National Grid on 9/21/2026.

Price includes Prevailing Wages.

Grid-Delivered Electricity Cost escalates at 3.0% per year.

Bresnahan – Detailed PPA Financials

Year	Solar Production (kWh)	Grid-Delivered Electricity Cost (\$/kWh)	Electric Savings	Solar PPA Rate (\$/kWh)	PPA Payment	Net Savings
1	325,103	\$0.19051	\$61,935	\$0.04885	\$15,881	\$46,054
2	323,315	\$0.19623	\$63,443	\$0.04885	\$15,794	\$47,649
3	321,537	\$0.20211	\$64,986	\$0.04885	\$15,707	\$49,279
4	319,768	\$0.20818	\$66,568	\$0.04885	\$15,621	\$50,947
5	318,010	\$0.21442	\$68,188	\$0.04885	\$15,535	\$52,653
6	316,261	\$0.22085	\$69,847	\$0.04885	\$15,449	\$54,398
7	314,521	\$0.22748	\$71,547	\$0.04885	\$15,364	\$56,183
8	312,791	\$0.23430	\$73,288	\$0.04885	\$15,280	\$58,008
9	311,071	\$0.24133	\$75,071	\$0.04885	\$15,196	\$59,876
10	309,360	\$0.24857	\$76,898	\$0.04885	\$15,112	\$61,786
11	307,659	\$0.25603	\$78,770	\$0.04885	\$15,029	\$63,741
12	305,966	\$0.26371	\$80,687	\$0.04885	\$14,946	\$65,740
13	304,284	\$0.27162	\$82,650	\$0.04885	\$14,864	\$67,786
14	302,610	\$0.27977	\$84,661	\$0.04885	\$14,783	\$69,879
15	300,946	\$0.28816	\$86,722	\$0.04885	\$14,701	\$72,020
16	299,290	\$0.29681	\$88,832	\$0.04885	\$14,620	\$74,212
17	297,644	\$0.30571	\$90,994	\$0.04885	\$14,540	\$76,454
18	296,007	\$0.31488	\$93,208	\$0.04885	\$14,460	\$78,748
19	294,379	\$0.32433	\$95,476	\$0.04885	\$14,380	\$81,096
20	292,760	\$0.33406	\$97,800	\$0.04885	\$14,301	\$83,498
					Total	\$1,270,005

Thank you!



Dave Bisson
Director, Business Development
dbisson@solect.com
781-281-8474 mobile





MASC Official Delegate Form

Nominations must be received by October 20, 2026

Below is the Official Delegate Form for registering your voting delegate for the MASC annual business meeting. This year's meeting will be in Danvers during the joint conference. The form must be received by October 20, 2026.

MASC adopts its formal positions from decisions made by our membership. The resolution process is the primary vehicle for measuring feedback and developing legislative positions and action.

In order for your school committee to have a vote at the annual business meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, it is necessary that an official delegate be designated in pursuance of Article IX, Sec. 6 of the By-Laws, as follows:

All members of the Association, and all members of school committees which are active members of the Association, may attend and speak at any meeting of the Association. Only active members shall be entitled to vote on the election of officers or on any other matter as to which members of the Association shall have the right to vote and each active member shall have one vote. No later than seven days prior to each meeting of the Association each active member shall, by written notice to the Executive Director, designate one of its members as its voting delegate and may by such notice designate one of its members as its alternate voting delegate. All ballots and other votes cast by an active member at any meeting of the Association shall be cast by and only by its voting delegate or if the delegate be absent, by its alternate voting delegate if one shall have been designated.

PLEASE NOTE:

- An official delegate is only that delegate whose school committee has complied with annual dues regulations as spelled out in Article IV of the MASC By-Laws.
- Deadline for receipt of delegate forms by the Executive Director for the 2026 annual meeting is October 20, 2026.

For the School Committee of *

The official voting delegate is *

First Name

Last Name

The alternate voting delegate is

First Name

Last Name

Name of Individual Submitting this form *

First Name

Last Name

Email of individual submitting this form (district email address) *

example@example.com

By signing below, you certify that you are authorized to submit this form and that the School Committee you represent has complied with the delegate appointment procedure outlined in Article IX, Section 6 of the MASC By-Laws. *

Draw	Type

luna 

Clear

Submit

Report of the resolutions committee

Members of the Resolutions Committee met on June 22, 2026 to consider resolutions proposed by member districts for consideration at the 2026 Annual Meeting of the Association. Members present were: Beverley Griffin Dunne, MASC President-Elect, (Peabody/Essex Voc.) Chair Ex Officio, Paul Schlichtman (Arlington), Bridget Garabedian, Chair-Division I (Tewksbury), Barbara Davis, Chair-Division III (Holbrook), Charlie Ellis, Chair-Division VIII (Nashoba Reg. Voc. Tech.), Steve Miller (Mt. Greylock Regional), Melissa Costa, Chair-Division IX (New Bedford), Stephanie Clougherty, MASC Vice President (Carver), Laura Often, Chair-Division IV (Grafton), Michael Boudreau (Hamden-Wilbraham Regional), Sean Kennedy (Hamden-Wilbraham Regional), Lawrence MacDonald (Nashoba Reg. Voc. Tech.).

ALSO PRESENT: Patrick Francomano, esq., MASC General Counsel, Glenn Koocher, MASC Executive Director

The following resolutions were moved forward by the Resolutions Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

RESOLUTION 1: SAFE ZONES

(Submitted by the New Bedford School Committee)

WHEREAS it is the right of every child, regardless of immigration status, to access a free public preK-12 education and for the District to welcome and support all students; and

WHEREAS the District has a responsibility to ensure that all students who reside within its boundaries, regardless of immigration status, can safely access a free public preK-12 education; and

WHEREAS federal immigration law enforcement activities, on or around District property and transportation routes, whether by surveillance, interview, demand for information, arrest, detention, or any other means, harmfully disrupt the learning environment to which all students, regardless of immigration status, are entitled and significantly interfere with the ability of all students, including U.S. citizen students and students who hold other legal grounds for presence in the U.S., to access a free public K-12 education; and

WHEREAS through its policies and practices, the District has made a commitment to a quality education for all students, which includes a safe and stable learning environment, means of transportation to and from school sites, the preservation of classroom hours for educational instruction, and the requirement of school attendance; and

WHEREAS parents and students have expressed to the District fear and confusion about the continued physical and emotional safety of all students and the right to access a free public preK-12 education through District schools and programs; and

WHEREAS educational personnel are often the primary sources of support, resources, and information to assist and support students and student learning, which includes their emotional health;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MASC recommends to school districts to adopt a model policy that includes the following:

The District shall interact with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), state or local law enforcement agencies acting on behalf of ICE, and any agents or officers of federal, state, or local agencies seeking to enforce federal

immigration laws, strictly in accordance with the Massachusetts Attorney General's Guidance for Massachusetts Public Schools on Protecting Immigrant Students (incorporated into this Resolution), to ensure that the District fulfills its legal and moral obligation to provide all students, regardless of immigration status, access to a free public K-12 education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee declares the District to be a Safe Zone for its students, meaning that the District is a place for students to learn, to thrive, and to seek assistance, information, and support related to any immigration law enforcement that interferes with their learning experience.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District shall, within 30 days of the date of this Resolution, create a Rapid Response Team to prepare in the event a minor child attending school in the District is deprived of adult care, supervision, or guardianship outside of school due to a federal law enforcement action, such as detention by ICE or a cooperating law enforcement agency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any request by ICE or other agencies to visit a school site should be presented to the Superintendent's Office for review as to whether access to the site is permitted by law, a judicial warrant is required, or any other legal considerations apply; this review should be made expeditiously, but before any immigration law enforcement agent or officer appears at a school site.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in its continued commitment to the protection of student privacy, the District shall review its record-keeping policies and practices to ensure that no data is being collected with respect to students' immigration status or place of birth; and cease any such collection as it is irrelevant to the educational enterprise and potentially discriminatory.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, should ICE or other immigration law enforcement agents request any student information, the request should be referred to the Superintendent's Office to ensure compliance with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), student constitutional privacy, standards for a judicial warrant, and any other limitation on disclosure; this review should be conducted expeditiously, but before any production of information is made.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the District shall post this Resolution in the main office of every school and at all school sites, distribute it to District staff, students, and parents using the District's usual means of communication, and ensure that it is translated into all languages spoken in students' homes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the District shall make resources—such as Red Cards, mock warrants, and mock subpoenas—available in the main offices, guidance offices, wraparound centers, and administrative buildings, and shall ensure that these resources are regularly restocked and shall include links to these resources in its published versions of the policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the District shall offer “Know Your Rights” trainings and family preparedness sessions in collaboration with immigrant advocacy organizations and with links to these resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the District shall offer a Q&A session for all District employees on the Attorney General's Guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee directs the Superintendent to review District policies and practices regarding bullying, harassment, and discrimination and report back to the Committee at its next meeting and communicate to staff, students, and parents the importance of maintaining a bullying/harassment/discrimination-free environment for all students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the District shall work with department heads on integrating immigration-related content across disciplines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the District shall minimize the presence of unfamiliar individuals—such as non-educators, police, security personnel, and other outsiders—on school sites.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Committee affirms that licensed educators in the District have the academic freedom to discuss this Resolution during class time provided it is age-appropriate; and students are to be made aware that District counselors are available to discuss the subjects contained in this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that after-school providers and other vendors and service providers who contracted with the District shall be notified of this Resolution within 30 days and be required to abide by it; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent shall report back on compliance with this Resolution to the Committee at its next meeting.

RESOLUTION 2: VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL REPRESENTATION ON THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

(Submitted by the Nashoba Valley Technical School Committee)

WHEREAS the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education has broad powers to set education policy and enact regulations for Massachusetts public schools; and

WHEREAS the Massachusetts core curriculum is applied at Chapter 74 schools in a different manner than most comprehensive schools; and

WHEREAS Chapter 74 programs have extensive technical specifications as well as OSHA regulations; and

WHEREAS vocational/technical expertise is required for the safe and effective application of policies and regulations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees calls upon the Governor and the Legislature to add a seat to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education board specifically for a representative with vocational/technical experience.

RESOLUTION 3: VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL REPRESENTATION ON THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY BOARD

(Submitted by the Nashoba Valley Regional Technical School Committee)

WHEREAS the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) is the established organization that assists public schools in the Commonwealth with building and renovation projects; and,

WHEREAS, vocational/technical schools have experienced an exponential increase in applications that far outpaces the current capacity of buildings; and,

WHEREAS Chapter 74 programs require physical spaces that can accommodate their program specifications as well as OSHA regulations; and,

WHEREAS the requirements of such programs are often drastically different from comprehensive school requirements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees calls upon the Governor and the Legislature to add a seat to the MSBA board specifically for a representative with vocational/technical experience.

RESOLUTION 4: REGARDING CLARIFICATION OF SECLUSION STANDARDS WITHIN EMERGENCY BEHAVIORAL RESPONSE PROCEDURES (603 CMR 46.00)

(Submitted by the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School Committee)

WHEREAS Massachusetts public schools are committed to fostering safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environments in which preventive, proactive, and trauma-informed behavioral supports are the foundation of student success; and

WHEREAS school districts prioritize the use of preventive strategies, including de-escalation techniques, co-regulation supports, sensory and environmental accommodations, and other positive behavioral interventions designed to support students before behavior reaches a crisis level; and

WHEREAS despite the effective use of preventive and supportive interventions, there are rare circumstances in which a student may experience acute dysregulation and may present an imminent risk of serious physical harm to self or others, requiring immediate emergency response; and

WHEREAS 603 CMR 46.00 permits emergency interventions such as time-out, seclusion, and physical restraint only as a last resort in such limited circumstances, and requires that all less restrictive alternatives be attempted or deemed inappropriate based on the situation; and

WHEREAS clear understanding and consistent application of the definition of emergency seclusion—specifically involuntary confinement of a student alone in a room or area from which they are physically prevented from leaving—is essential to ensuring student safety, regulatory compliance, and protection of civil rights; and

WHEREAS districts would benefit from further clarity distinguishing emergency seclusion from supportive, supervised, and voluntary or staff-guided time-out practices used to assist students in regaining emotional regulation and returning to learning; and

WHEREAS the amended regulations regarding Physical Restraint, Timeout, and Emergency Seclusion become effective August 17, 2026 and as of June 1st, 2026, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has provided no training to districts; and

WHEREAS the amended regulations do not offer the clarity required for successful implementation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees urges DESE to provide additional clear guidance reinforcing the nuanced differences between time-out and emergency seclusion and in the Department's viewpoint types of situations/scenarios that would warrant both; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that MASC supports DESE in further clarifying the distinction between time-out, and emergency seclusion, including the use of practical, real-life

examples and decision-making tools for school personnel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that MASC encourage ongoing in-person statewide training and professional development to ensure staff are equipped to implement preventive strategies effectively and to respond appropriately when those strategies are not sufficient to prevent escalation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department make available entitlement grants for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that provide financial support to provide ongoing professional development to faculty, staff, and families in preventive behavior regulation strategies that include de-escalation, trauma informed practices, as well as appropriate reactive strategies for when students engage in activities that present an imminent risk of serious physical harm to self or others; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that MASC reaffirm its commitment to student dignity, safety, and access to education, and support policies that ensure emergency interventions are rare, clearly defined, consistently applied, and always secondary to preventive and supportive behavioral practices.

RESOLUTION 5: ALLOWING REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEES TO ACCESS SPECIAL EDUCATION RESERVE FUNDS BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(Submitted by the Nashoba Valley Technical School Committee)

WHEREAS Special Education Reserve Funds can help districts defray the costs of extraordinary or unexpected special education costs; and

WHEREAS Special Education costs have increased exponentially in recent years; and

WHEREAS Circuit Breaker reimbursement lags behind typical budget processes; and

WHEREAS school committees are the municipal legislature of the school district; and

WHEREAS Massachusetts General Laws currently require that districts seek approval from both the select board/city council and the school committee to access the funds; and

WHEREAS this puts an undue burden on multi-member districts that may have to seek approval from up to eight separate municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees calls upon the Governor and the Legislature to approve the proposed budgetary amendment allowing districts to seek approval from the school committee only.

REAUTHORIZATION OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED RESOLUTIONS

The 2023 Delegate Assembly approved an amendment to the By-Laws that resolutions will expire at the conclusion of the Delegate Assembly three years after their adoption. Expiring resolutions may be reconsidered and readopted by the delegates at the annual meeting at which the resolutions would expire. The rationale for the amendment was that it:

- Permits three years of focus on resolutions which overlaps with two legislative cycles.
- Provides an additional opportunity for school committees to be involved in the resolution process by championing resolutions that are set to expire.
- Allows the Association to affirm what's important to the current membership by re-adoption.
- Clears expired, less relevant, or no longer supported resolutions for new priorities.

Following are the three resolutions set to expire this November unless reauthorized by a vote of the Delegate Assembly.

- Regarding Investigations and Recommendations for Transportation Bidding Procedures
- Full, Stable Funding for METCO
- Massachusetts School Building Authority Assistance Programs

REGARDING INVESTIGATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRANSPORTATION BIDDING PROCEDURES

(Originally sponsored by the Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical School Committee; Submitted for reauthorization in 2026 by the Mendon-Upton Regional School Committee)

WHEREAS school districts across the commonwealth are struggling with the problem of transportation services and the bidding and purchasing of these services; and

WHEREAS a stunning number of districts find that, after soliciting multiple bids, it is a frequent occurrence that only a single bidder submits a proposal; and

WHEREAS in light of the paucity of submissions, the single bidder is able to propose significant increases over previous years exacerbating not only financial matters, but also skepticism about the integrity of the bidding process.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the MA Association of School Committees prevail upon the Office of the State Auditor to investigate the bidding practices of school transportation providers, and to present such findings and recommendations as may be necessary to contain costs and make more efficient transportation services available for public schools.

MASC status update on this resolution:

MASC successfully lobbied the legislature, via an FY25 Supplemental Budget, to direct the Office of the Inspector General to produce a Special Education Transportation Study. The findings of that study were published in February 2026. Among the findings are: (1) Massachusetts is an outlier in its use of a reimbursement model to fund student

transportation, which puts significant administrative and financial burdens on local districts; (2) Vendors are not required to provide school districts with detailed invoices, making it impossible for districts to understand what they are paying for; and (3) There is no central repository for school transportation bids and contracts, depriving districts of helpful information when procuring these services. The report makes recommendations to address these issues and others. It also makes note that school transportation costs have been studied at least four times in the last 20 years with varying levels of success on follow-through of those studies' recommendations.

FULL, STABLE FUNDING FOR METCO

(Originally sponsored by the Arlington School Committee)

WHEREAS in 1966 the first 220 students rode buses from Boston neighborhoods to schools in seven suburbs; and

WHEREAS in 1968 the Massachusetts Legislature passed the Racial Imbalance Act, in which the Commonwealth accepted financial responsibility "for any town that wishes to enroll students from outside the district for the purpose of racial integration (subject to appropriation); and

WHEREAS in 1968 the Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity (METCO) assumed responsibility for implementing the provisions of the Racial Imbalance Act, providing support for students, families, and receiving districts; and

WHEREAS METCO's mission is to provide students with a strong academic foundation rich in cultural, educational, ethnic, socioeconomic, and racial diversity and foster the opportunity for children from Boston and from neighboring suburbs to develop a deeper understanding of each other in an integrated public school setting; and

WHEREAS over the last half century, METCO has reached tens of thousands of students, supporting 3,100 families annually in 31 participating suburban school districts and 190 public schools, with graduation rates and college attainment far above state averages; and

WHEREAS METCO creates environments where students, parents and teachers of different backgrounds can appreciate diversity, find common ground through shared experiences, build lifelong inter-racial friendships, and strive toward the mutual goal of preparing young people to become global citizens; and

WHEREAS METCO districts have expressed an interest in welcoming more METCO students into their schools; and

WHEREAS METCO has been recognized as the nation's most successful school integration program in the United States; and

WHEREAS requiring METCO funding to be subject to appropriation results in METCO families and partner districts spending considerable time and energy to lobby for fund-

ing to maintain the current level of services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees calls upon the Governor and the Legislature to create a stable funding structure to support METCO and its partner districts that fully funds the support provided by METCO, and the cost of providing services delivered by METCO's partner districts.

MASC status update on this resolution:

MASC has repeatedly made it known to the Governor and Legislature that METCO deserves a stable funding structure. Similarly, we have supported METCO's advocacy efforts for funding in the annual budget via line item 7010-0012. In the FY26 Budget we joined them in their effort to be fully funded at \$33 million.

MA SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

(Originally submitted by the Wachusett Regional School Committee)

WHEREAS the School Building assistance program is the oldest capital grant program operated by the Commonwealth, as established in MGL Chapter 70B section 1; and

WHEREAS the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) is charged with promoting the thoughtful planning and construction of school facility space in order to ensure safe and adequate facilities for public schools, and with assisting municipalities in meeting the cost thereof; and

WHEREAS the MSBA has improved the learning facilities of over 600,000 students across the Commonwealth by working with local communities to create affordable, sustainable, and energy efficient schools; and

WHEREAS the MSBA is limited in funding as stated in MGL 70B section 7, to \$1,200,000,000 plus either the rate of growth in the dedicated sales tax revenue amount as defined in subsection a of section 35BB of chapter 10, or 4.5%; and

WHEREAS the MSBA has declared a pause on their Accelerated Repair Program and limits on their Core Projects due to rising costs and inflation, and the need to stay within the Annual Cap as referenced in the Memorandum of October 19, 2022 from the MSBA Deputy Treasurer and Executive Director; and

WHEREAS each year the Accelerated Repair Program is delayed results in an increase in application backlog among the Commonwealth's existing backlog of school building needs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees calls upon the Massachusetts Legislature to amend MGL ch.70B, section 7 by removing the \$1,200,000,000 cap; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees calls upon the Massachusetts School Building Authority to reinstate the Accelerated Repair program for 2024 applications; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees calls upon the Massachusetts Legislature to allow public preschools to be included in the Accelerated Repair Program and Core Program.

MASC status update on this resolution

The MSBA reinstated the Accelerated Repair Program and maintains an alternating schedule to have Statements Of Interest every two years. Public Preschools may be included in the Accelerated Repair Program and Core Program so long as the building does not exclusively serve Preschool. The cap has remained at \$1.2 billion (not taking into account year over year adjustments as outlined in MGL 70B section 7). In the FY24 budget, the legislature made adjustments related to the cap. This included raising the cap to \$1.2 billion (up from \$800 million); ensuring funding for the accelerated repair program would not count towards this cap; and allowed for the cap to rise year over year by as much as 6.5% up from 4.5%.

School Committee Business Meeting Schedule 2026 - 2027

Revised June 26, 2026

Voted - April 29, 2026

NOTES:

School Committee Business Meetings are generally held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Meeting date pattern will change if the date conflicts with City Council, a holiday or school vacation week. (By city Charter, SC meetings shall not meet on the same day as a regular City Council meeting, except in case of an emergency.) Meetings are held at the Senior/Community Center, unless otherwise noted in the calendar.

*Exceptions to the rule: Monday, November 9th due to Veteran's Day holiday; Monday, November 23rd due to Thanksgiving; no meeting on December 23 due to Holiday Break.

DATE	TIME	INFO	DATE	TIME	INFO
Thursday, August 20	5:00 - 8:00PM	Summer Retreat at NHS Library	January 13, 2027	6:30PM	Business Meeting
August 26, 2026	6:30 PM	Business Meeting at NHS Library	January 27, 2027	6:30 PM	Business Meeting / Retreat
September 9, 2026	6:30 PM	Business Meeting	February 10, 2027	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
September 23, 2026	6:30 PM	Business Meeting	February 24, 2027	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
October 14, 2026	6:30 PM	Business Meeting	March 10, 2027 <i>move TOPIC TO FEB 10</i>	6:30 PM	Business Meeting Public FY28 Preliminary Budget Presentations
October 28, 2026	6:30 PM	Business Meeting at NHS Library	March 24, 2027	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
Monday, November 9	6:00PM & 7:00 PM	Budget Listening Session & Business Meeting	April 14, 2027 <i>move TOPIC TO march 10</i>	6:30 PM	Public Hearing on Budget Business Meeting
November date TBA 6:00 PM	Joint Meeting City Council & School Committee FY27 Budget (location = Senior/Community Center)		April 28, 2027	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
Monday, November 23	6:30 PM	Business Meeting	May 12, 2027	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
December 9, 2026	6:30 PM	Business Meeting	May 26, 2027	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
			June 9, 2027	6:30 PM	Business Meeting
			June 23, 2027	6:30 PM	Business Meeting

* Meeting dates, times and/or locations may be changed, added or deleted throughout the year.

NOV
17 =



Synthetic Turf Field Update

Performance / Maintenance / Longevity Strategy

Field History Usage Overview

Opened November 2015:

Completed as part of primary stadium construction project.

11 Years of use:

Continuous multi-sport use across fall, spring and summer High School & Youth programs.

Anticipated Lifecycle:

Turf is reaching the timeframe of replacement.



Specialized Maintenance

TurfOptix Partnership:

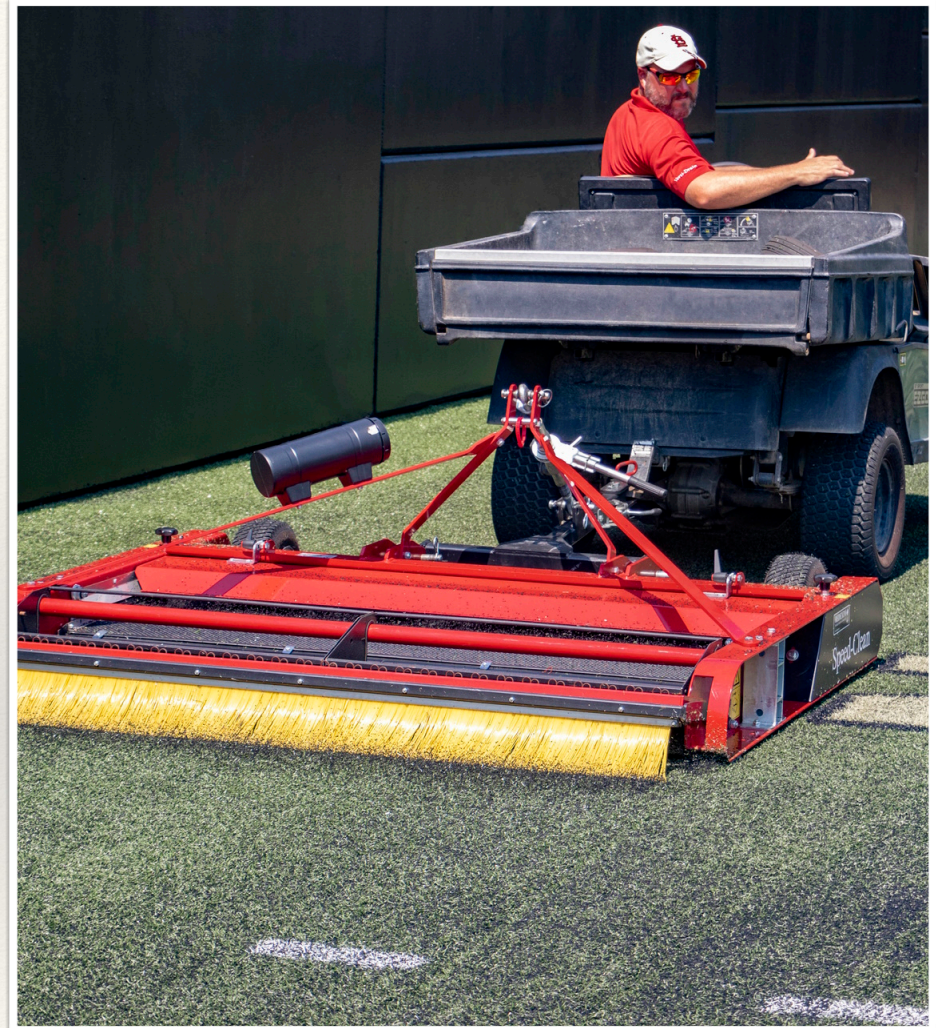
Annual service & surface condition testing. Routine deep grooming & infill decompaction.

FieldTurf Official Inspection:

Comprehensive seam drainage & high use zone checks. Direct manufacturer testing & fiber wear auditing.

Internal Ground Supervision:

Field management / maintenance by NHS facilities team throughout the year.



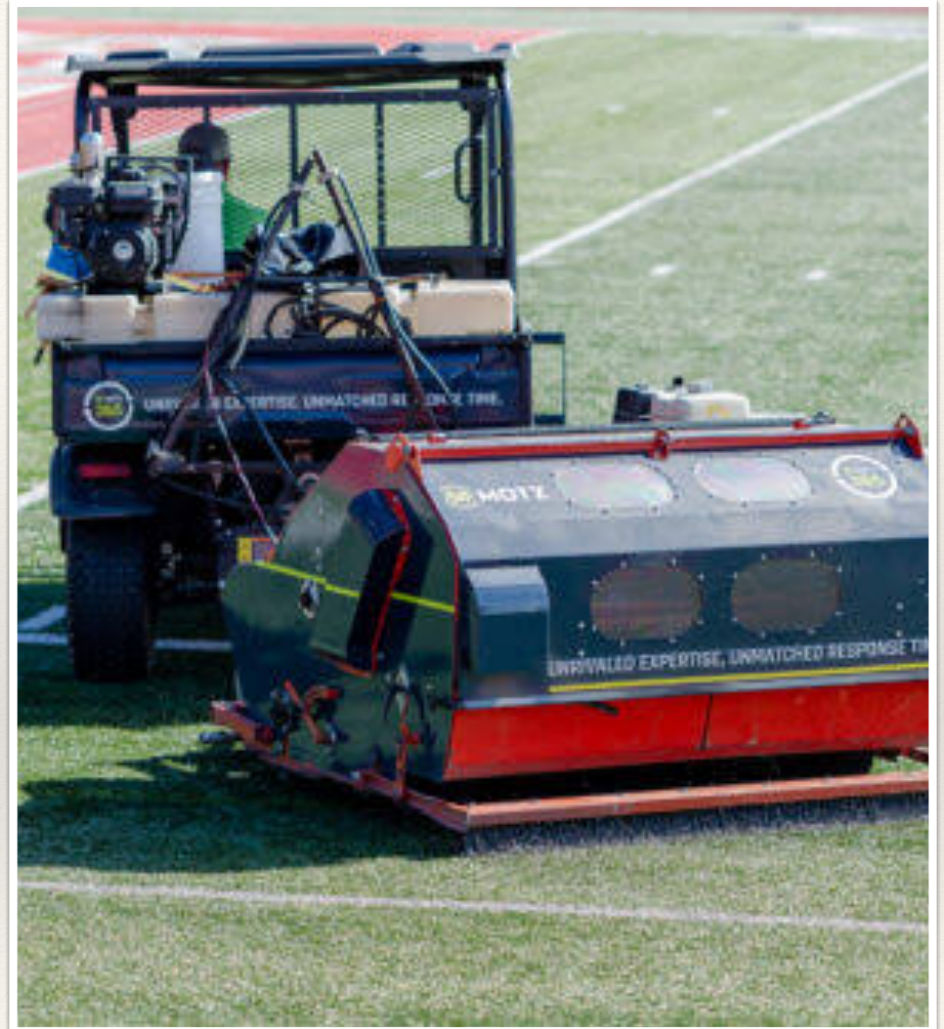
Specialized Maintenance

Mechanical Grooming & Deep Cleaning:

Towed rotary sweepers decompress infill, lift flattened fibers, and extract fine debris across high-use areas. (Fall and Spring)

Power Brooming:

NPS hand-operated power brooms are used near field boundaries, end zones, or heavily worn areas to keep fibers standing upright and ensure uniform infill depth. Also perform a magnet drag to pick up metals.





Field Turf Co:

6-16-23 (grooming / cleaning)
3-14-24 (grooming / cleaning)
10-4-24 (grooming / cleaning)
4-16-25 (grooming / cleaning)
9-11-25 (grooming / cleaning)
10-1-25 (grooming / cleaning)

TurfOptix

4-15-26 (testing)
4-21-26 (NPS grooming / cleaning)
8-24-26 (grooming / cleaning)
10-5-26 (grooming / cleaning)
10-15-26 (grooming / cleaning)

Sports LAB

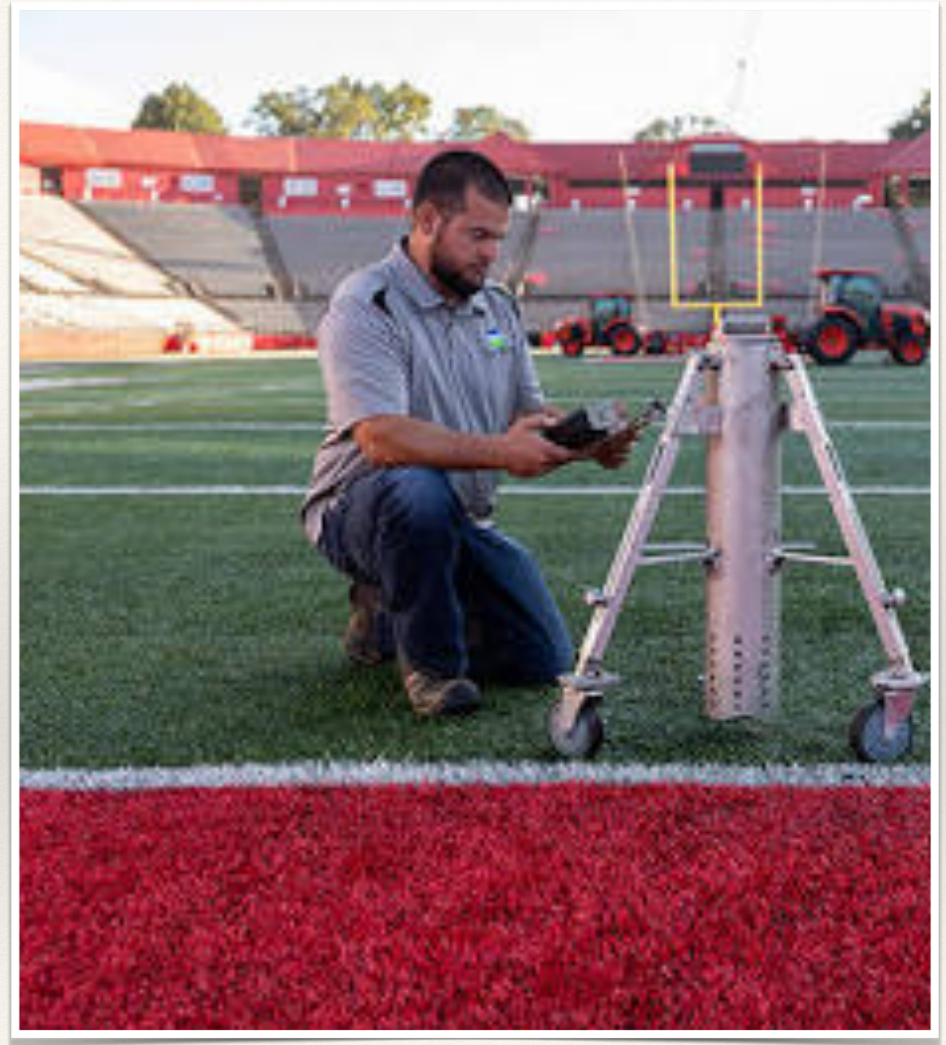
9-29-26 (testing)

GMAX Testing

The inspections consider a range of factors, including fiber wear, infill levels and distribution, compaction, seams, high-use areas, drainage, and overall surface condition.

One standard that is measured during an inspection is called Gmax. This test is conducted to ensure the field remains soft enough to safely absorb impacts during play.

Industry standards recommend a Gmax score of less than 165, with 200 being the point at which a field would be deemed unsafe to play.



April 2026 Gmax Testing Results

APRIL 2026 TEST AVERAGE

155 Gmax Score (Safe)

Evaluated across 49 distinct field locations

MAXIMUM TEST READING

< 200 Zero Unsafe Readings

No test point approached the unsafe threshold

Gmax Standards Benchmark Chart

NHS April 2026 Check

155 Avg

Industry Target Standard

165 Score

Unsafe Playing Limit

200 Max

*Gmax measures surface shock absorption during impact. Lower scores represent softer, safer impact buffering for student-athletes.

October 2026 Gmax Testing Results

OCTOBER 2026 TEST AVERAGE

141 Gmax Score (Safe)

Evaluated across 10 distinct field locations

MAXIMUM TEST READING

< 200 Zero Unsafe Readings

No test point approached the unsafe threshold

NHS October 2026 Check

141 Avg

Industry Target Standard

165 Score

Unsafe Playing Limit

200 Max

Sports LAB
9-29-26 (testing)

*Gmax measures surface shock absorption during impact. Lower scores represent softer, safer impact buffering for student-athletes.

Next Steps

11-17-26 Fall grooming / cleaning
3-2026 Spring grooming / cleaning

Synthetic Turf Replacement Steering
Committee (January)

Mayors Office / City Planning of
future replacement



School Committee
October 14, 2026

Superintendent's Report



Bresnahan Specials Class Living Classroom

Northern Essex Community College Informational Meeting

Assistant Superintendent Furlong, Dr. Erin Hobbs, Ethan Manning and I attended an informational meeting alongside other regional superintendents and leadership from Northern Essex Community College (NECC) to discuss expanding student access to career-connected learning. Newburyport will join the working group, with Ethan Manning, Dr. Hobbs, and myself representing our district. Serving on this steering committee presents an exciting opportunity to align local higher education resources directly with our high school pathway and Chapter 74 development. This initiative complements Newburyport's ongoing investments over the past few years, including our expanding Career Technical Education (CTE) offerings, Chapter 74 program development, and vocational partnerships (i.e., Peterson School). This potential programming strengthens our commitment to providing flexible, hands-on and technical learning opportunities for our students.

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Site Visit

A productive site visit was completed with State Coordinator Cecilia Leung to evaluate traffic circulation and pedestrian safety at the Nock/Molin campus. The walk-through covered key areas including parking lot flow, the bus loop, Low Street drop-off zones, campus grounds, and nearby intersections, while also taking into account the future Newburyport Recreation and Youth Center development. Ms. Leung provided valuable input and will synthesize her findings into a formal advisory report after she spends some time observing arrival and dismissal. Additionally, Ms. Leung met with District Wellness Coordinator Amy Heath to discuss the integration of the bike and pedestrian safety curriculum into high school programming. Special thanks to Vice Chair Walker, John Ricci, Lauren Eramo and Principal Markos for their assistance in coordinating and participating in this visit.

Coast Guard JROTC Update

As you are aware, Newburyport High School has been officially selected as a host institution for a Coast Guard JROTC unit launching in the 2027–2028 school year. Following our application acceptance, and the School Committee's strong support, our administrative team recently held a very productive kickoff meeting with Program Director Clay Cromer and his leadership team. We discussed next steps, including finalizing the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), setting up instructor recruitment, and planning course integration. Principal Andy Wulf and Guidance Director Lauren Gee are actively preparing to incorporate the new Maritime Science courses into upcoming student registration and outreach. Notably, the Coast Guard will cost-share 50% of instructor salaries, providing a significant financial benefit to Newburyport Public Schools. We will continue our coordination with the Coast Guard team over the coming months and look forward to delivering this exceptional program to our students.

SEPAC (Special Ed Parent Advisory Council) Meeting

Brad Brooks hosted a Special Education Meet and Greet at the Nock Middle School Library on 10/1. The meeting provided parents and caregivers a valuable opportunity to connect directly with our district's special education administrators, coordinators, and Team Facilitators, as well as to receive an overview of our special education programming. I would like to extend a thank you to Gillian Guidetti-Meyers, Amy LeBlanc, and Emily Stroehrer for taking on a leadership role for this year's SEPAC. In addition, thank you to School Committee member Kathleen Shaw for participating in our productive discussion.

Superintendent's Executive Administrative Assistant Position Update

Following the announcement of Executive Assistant Joanne Yelle's upcoming retirement, an interview committee met with several very qualified candidates for the position last week. I am pleased to announce that Melissa Cody will step into the role of Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent. Ms. Cody has been an integral part of our school district for the past 10 years, serving in multiple roles. In addition to her time with the Newburyport Public Schools, Ms. Cody has an extensive background as an executive assistant in corporate, municipal, and community organizations. Throughout her time at NPS, Melissa has demonstrated exceptional expertise, professionalism, and deep operational knowledge. Her familiarity with district administration and strong connections across our community will ensure a smooth and seamless transition. Please join me in welcoming Melissa Cody into her new role!