

*Natick Public Schools
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
March 7, 2022*

The School Committee held a meeting on Monday, March 7, 2022, at 7:30pm via an in-person and virtual meeting. Chair McDonough called the meeting to order and took roll call at 7:55pm.

Members Present: Julie McDonough, Henry Haugland, Dr. Donna McKenzie, Catherine Brunell, Cathi Collins, Dr. Shai Fuxman, Hayley Sonneborn

Others Present: Dr. Anna Nolin Superintendent
Mr. Tim Luff Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Peter Gray Assistant Superintendent
Ms. Rose McDermott Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary
Mr. Jefferson Wood Teacher Representative (remotely)

Announcements

Ms. Sue Balboni, Director of Teaching, Learning & Innovation is a board member of Natick United and they will be having a series coming up regarding conversations surrounding race. Please register at natickisunited.org. Dr. Nolin gave a masking update. Today was the first day back with the flex mask culture in place. There was a lot of care and empathy exercised by students. Dr. Nolin congratulated Luke Steere, the librarian at Wilson Middle School. He has been chosen to serve as the co-editor of the State newsletter for the Executive Board of the Massachusetts School Library Association. This is a huge honor. Mr. Craig Chisolm, Director of Music and Teacher announced that the Natick High School Jazz Band earned a gold medal at the Massachusetts Association for Jazz Education (MAJE). Student Michael Scorpa was named Most Valuable Player Division 1.

Public Speak

Chair McDonough asked if there was anyone present who wanted to participate in public speak. Ms. Tracy Sockalosky, teacher, parent and taxpayer in Natick is discouraged from watching meetings and reading stories online. She is here to support our school administration. She feels the way Dr. Nolin has been treated is appalling. If she leaves the school district will be at a great disservice.

Review of the FY' 23 Budget and Update on Grants

Chair McDonough asked School Committee members if they had any questions they would like to ask after the Public Hearing. Members asked questions and Dr. Nolin as well as Dr. Gray answered their questions in detail. A discussion surrounding the budget's alignment with our strategic plan was had. Prepayment of Special Education tuitions were discussed. Personnel positions and the shift of positions were questioned and explained. The transportation budget was reviewed. Dr. Nolin had provided and reviewed the document overviewing what relief funds were used for, what will be retained in FY 23, and then will be updated for subsequent years. Grant funding being used to keep class sizes smaller was discussed. If a position or resource that is grant funded is desired by the School Committee, there will have to be a substitution or reduction to make this happen. To use grant funding is a temporary measure. We will have to review our student needs as we move forward.

At approximately 8:44PM Dr. McKenzie moved to adjourn. Ms. Collins seconded. It was approved by a vote of 6-1-0.

Anna Nolin
Superintendent
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

Attest: _____

Rose McDermott
Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

Documents Provided in Novus Agenda and materials used at this meeting:

Superintendent's Presentation

FY23 Budget Presentation

Grant Updates