

*Natick Public Schools
SCHOOL COMMITTEE RETREAT MEETING MINUTES
April 1, 2019*

The School Committee held a meeting on Wednesday April 10, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in Training Room, 3rd floor Town Hall. Chair McDonough called the meeting to order and took roll call at 7:33 p.m.

Members Present: Julie McDonough
Dr. Donna McKenzie
Henry Hoagland
Hayley Sonneborn

Members Absent: Matt Brand, Lisa Tabenkin, Cathi Collins

Public Speak

Chair McDonough began with Public Speak. She asked if anyone was here for Public Speak. No one came forward.

School Committee Norms

Dr. Nolin and the School Committee reviewed and discussed the Natick School Committee values, purview, the Superintendent's purview, Natick School Committee/Administration collaborative norms, member expectations and the Natick School Committee operational norms that were updated in August of 2018. There was a discussion about setting goals for the School Committee. Dr. Nolin emphasized teamwork and staying up to date with information so we can articulate to the community better. The School Committee discussed emails that we receive from parents or the community. Chair McDonough will be the point person to respond to emails.

New School Committee Member Orientation

The School Committee reviewed and discussed all of the documents provided by MASC as well as School Committee Policy and the development process. The discussion and review continued as they read and discussed all of the documents provided. There was a discussion regarding strategies for attending other board meetings to be kept abreast of any conversations that would impact Natick Public Schools. The School Committee will consider one member of the committee attending other meetings. That determination will come during a future retreat.

Review of Strategic Plan

Dr. Nolin provided and reviewed Natick Public School's 5 Year District Improvement Strategic Plan. They discussed strategic planning terms and definitions.

Review of Superintendent Evaluation Timeline and Process

The School Committee reviewed the MASC Guide to Superintendent Evaluations. Dr. Nolin also provided her self-assessment as Assistant Superintendent for their review.

Self Reflection on School Committee's Effectiveness

The School Committee reviewed the Governance Rubric for continuous improvement. They discussed goals, operating protocols, meetings, and community engagement. The School Committee reviewed possible future dates for retreats. It was decided that the School Committee will have a folder in the Team Drives for sharing documents and information. Rose McDermott was asked to see that process through and to manage the documents being created and transferred into the folder.

FY21 Budget Landscape

Dr. Nolin and the School Committee discussed another difficult budget season again. There was a discussion regarding strategies for attending other board meetings to be kept abreast of any scenarios that would impact Natick Public Schools. Dr. Nolin will get a draft budget started and present a draft to the School Committee by May 2019.

Facilities Update

Dr. Nolin informed the School Committee of the changes made by the Town Administrator and the former Chair of the Board of Selectmen. This was done the day prior to our vote during a School Committee Meeting. The new Human Resources Director for the Town of Natick will be posting the position.

FY20 Update and Discussion of Funding Sources

Dr. Nolin and the School Committee discussed the outcome of Town Meeting that was held the evening before. There was a discussion in regards to the various funding sources, which are different from prior years.

At approximately 10:00pm, Mr. Haugland moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. McKenzie seconded. It was unanimously approved by those present 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose McDermott
Recording Secretary

Documents Provided In Novus Agenda

School Committee Norms
New School Committee Member Orientation
Review of Strategic Plan
Review of Superintendent Evaluation Timeline and Process
Self Reflection on School Committee's Effectiveness