

*Natick Public Schools  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
March 25, 2019*

The School Committee held a meeting on Monday, March 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the School Committee Room, third floor, Town Hall. Chair Tabenkin called the meeting to order and took roll call at 7:01 p.m.

Members Present: Matt Brand, Paul Laurent, David Mangan, Donna McKenzie, Lisa Tabenkin, Hayley Sonneborn, Julie McDonough

Others Present:	Anna Nolin	Superintendent
	Kirk Downing	Assistant Superintendent
	Timothy Luff	Assistant Superintendent
	Peter Gray	Director of Finance
	Rose McDermott	Recording Secretary

Chair Tabenkin moved for approval for the School Committee to enter into Executive Session:

1. To discuss complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual (open meeting law complaint filed by Ms. Corey Spaulding) in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) of the Massachusetts General Laws.
2. To discuss negotiations with Title 1 teachers in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Ms. McDonough seconded. Chair Tabenkin called for a roll call vote. All in favor of entering into Executive Session for this purpose:

Mr. Brand-Yes

Dr. McKenzie – Yes

Ms. McDonough - Yes

Mr. Laurent – Yes

Mr. Mangan – Yes

Ms. Sonneborn - Yes

Chair Tabenkin – Yes

It was unanimously approved by a vote of the seven members present, 7-0-0.

Chair Tabenkin stated that the School Committee will be returning to open session at approximately 7:15 p.m. At 7:19 p.m., the Committee returned to open session.

Mr. Jefferson Wood, Teacher Representative, Hannah Savoia and Kayleigh Hacker, Student Representatives, joined the meeting. Ms. Savoia and Ms. Hacker left the meeting at 9:15p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Johnson Elementary School Student – Quinn St. Jean led the School Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance

**Public Speak**

Chair Tabenkin asked if anyone wished to come forward for Public Speak. No one came forward.

### **Update on the Residency Policy and Changes Because of Ames. V. Wayland (2014)**

There have been many questions from visitors recently, in the last 6 months, regarding our residency policy. Dr. Nolin gave an overview of our residency policy. Prior to 2014 the state required schools to determine residency based on a “pillow count” method which meant that the town of residency was determined by the number of nights the student slept in one town vs. another. In 2014, Dr. Nolin mistakenly said 2017, a case named Ames. V. Wayland passed which changed the way residency was defined in the State of Massachusetts from the “pillow count” method to wherever the child’s center of civic and social engagement was. Dr. Nolin provided a quick overview of the documentation required to enroll your child into the Natick Public Schools. When there is a custody agreement, we would like to have a copy of that agreement.

### **Recognition of School Committee Members David Mangan and Paul Laurent**

Dr. Donna McKenzie and Hayley Sonneborn thanked and celebrated outgoing, Nine year, School Committee Member Paul Laurent and Three year, School Committee Member Dave Mangan with a list of all of the positive changes they helped to move forward. Books in their names, were donated to the NHS library.

### **Ring of Honor Request**

Mr. Mike Fair reviewed his formal request to ask the consideration of the School Committee to add Tom Lamb as the third member of the Ring of Honor that is located at the Memorial Field fieldhouse. Mr. Lamb taught and has coached for over 40 years. Mr. Lamb always set high standards that greatly affected students and student athletes throughout this community and beyond. Mr. Dick Cugini also stepped forward and spoke about Mr. Lamb going beyond being a teacher, coach and Athletic Director. He shared Mr. Lamb’s training program for the youth sport’s coaches. This training program was about coaching kids. It was about doing the right thing for kids. Chair Tabenkin discussed the naming process and that there would be a future meeting to discuss.

### **Metco Program Overview**

Ms. Rasheedah Clayton, Metco Director and Ms. Catherine Green, Academic Advisor and Liaison for the Metco Program at Wilson Middle School, presented updates about the Metco Program. The Metco Program began in 1969 by the League of Women in Natick. Students from Wilson Middle School also attended this meeting and discussed the new Metco advisory group called Crew and the discussions that occur during their meetings. The goal of Crew is to share and explore topics related to identity, core values, teamwork and community.

### **Civics Class and Senior Year Redesign Update**

Mr. Brian Harrigan, Principal of Natick High School reviewed the Profile of a Natick Graduate with a presentation. He discussed the many components and upcoming changes for redefining the senior year. Mr. Harrigan views this as a very powerful partnership with our students doing real work and making a real change. The School Committee asked questions and Mr. Harrigan answered them in detail.

### **Data Privacy and Security Overview**

Mr. Dennis Roche, Director of Technology gave a presentation about data privacy and security. He reviewed the risks involved in data privacy. Mr. Roche discussed Natick Public School’s Data Privacy and Data Security initiatives. Mr. Roche reviewed our joining, along with the Cambridge and Boston Public Schools, the Massachusetts Student Privacy Alliance in 2015. Mr. Roche recommended that our Tech Collaborative to help the Alliance with access to legal counsel and administrative help. The Massachusetts Student Privacy Alliance just recently went national. There are now 25 states in the Alliance. Mr. Roche reviewed the Data Privacy Agreement required of all vendors. Mr. Roche conveyed to the School

Committee that this is one of his most important duties, to ensure a safe, learning environment for our students. The School Committee asked questions and Dr. Nolin and Mr. Roche answered them in detail.

### **Approval of Additional Technology Items to Retire**

Mr. Roche discussed these items at the last School Committee meeting. Mr. Mangan moved to approve the retirement of the technology items as specified. Mr. Laurent seconded. It was unanimously approved by a vote of the seven members present, 7-0-0.

### **Budget Update**

Dr. Nolin updated the School Committee and they community that the Finance Committee unanimously approved our budget last week. She clarified the budget and wanted to make sure that the community and town members understood the funding sources. The total budget request was 5.7% and while the town is appropriating 4.4%, it will take 5.7% in order to run the school system and meet our expectations, needs and mandates. Dr. Nolin wanted to be clear that we have a budget transparency and long range strategic plan goal that was developed this year. The School District knows we will need 6.8% budget increase next year in order to open the new Kennedy Middle School and staff it appropriately. Dr. Nolin reviewed one of the budget presentations that had been presented at several other meetings.

### **Warrant Report**

Mr. Gray, in accordance with School Committee Procedures, reviewed the following warrants that were reviewed and signed by the School Committee Chairperson on March 11, 2019:

<u>Warrant Type</u>	<u>Warrant Number</u>	<u>Date Signed</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Accounts Payable	2019-38S	03/11/2019	\$1,161,456.07
Payroll	19	03/11/2019	\$ 2,106,937.22

If anyone wishes to review the details regarding any of these warrants please feel to contact Mr. Gray.

### **Subcommittee/Liaison Updates**

Mr. Luff notified the School Committee that a parent group has started to create an ELLPAC which is an English Language Learner Parent Advisory Council. They are having a meeting in April to develop their by-laws and once they open and create their bylaws, they will be looking for a liaison to that group.

### **Member Concerns**

Dr. Nolin reminded everyone of the groundbreaking ceremony at Kennedy Middle School on March 27, 2019 at 10:00am. She hopes that the School Committee and members of the community will join the various dignitaries that will be there.

Mr. Laurent commented on history repeating itself in regards to the budget. Nine years ago when he had joined the School Committee, they were faced with the same budgetary constraints and the committees worked very hard to rectify those issues. These budgets are incredibly important to make sure we keep the trajectory going.

Mr. Wood gave a shout out to his colleagues that hosted walk-ins at each one of the schools in support to fund our future campaign. It is a grassroots effort to support legislation, to adequately fund our schools at the state level.

### **To Appoint a School Committee Representative to the Brown School Interviewing Committee**

The School Committee discussed who would be available to be a member of the interviewing committee. Mr. Mangan moved to appoint Donna McKenzie to the Brown School principal interviewing committee. Ms. Sonneborn seconded. It was unanimously approved by those present 7-0-0.

### **Ratification of Contract with Title 1 Teachers**

Dr. Nolin revealed that earlier in Executive Session this was discussed with the School Committee and Marianne Davis, Human Resources Director. Ms. Davis has successfully concluded contract negotiations with Title 1 teachers. Dr. Nolin explained the federally funded grant known as Title 1. These contracts are negotiated on a yearly basis due to funding being different every year. This current contract covers the current school year. The Title 1 teachers are licensed teachers and have like-duties as general and special education teachers, but not the same duties. There is a new Massachusetts law regarding pay equity and we have addressed what has been a slight deficit in their pay schedule and to that end we are recommending a 3% raise for them this year to address those needs. Dr. Nolin asked the School Committee for their support to ratify that contract. Mr. Laurent moved approval. Dr. McKenzie seconded. It was unanimously approved by those present 7-0-0.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. McKenzie moved to approve the School Committee meeting minutes of March 11, 2019 and the Executive Session minutes of March 11, 2019. Ms. Sonneborn seconded. It was unanimously approved by those present 7-0-0.

At 9:40 p.m., Mr. Mangan moved to adjourn. Mr. Laurent seconded. It was unanimously approved by those present 7-0-0.

Anna Nolin  
Superintendent  
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Rose McDermott  
Recording Secretary

### **Documents Provided in Novus Agenda**

Approval of Additional Technology Items to Retire  
Approval of School Committee Minutes and Executive Session Minutes of March 11, 2019  
Ring of Honor Request  
Report on warrants signed  
Data Privacy and Security Overview to School Committee  
Update on the Residency Policy and Changes Because of Ames. V. Wayland (2014)  
Civics Class and Senior Year Redesign Update  
METCO Program Overview  
Budget Update  
Agenda and materials used at this meeting can be found here: [Agenda & Materials](#)