

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

The School Committee held a meeting on Thursday August 1, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Training Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Town Hall. Chair McDonough called the meeting to order and took roll call at 6:10 p.m.

Members Present: Julie McDonough  
Matt Brand  
Dr. Donna McKenzie  
Henry Hoagland  
Hayley Sonneborn  
Cathi Collins  
Dr. Shai Fuxman

Others Present: Dr. Anna Nolin Superintendent  
Tim Luff Assistant Superintendent

**Public Speak**

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

**Review and Discussion of 2019/2020 District Goals**

Discussion ensued on the District Goals. Dr. Nolin presented a dashboard format and members liked it, especially listing items by year. Discussion on goal v. objectives v. success measures v. strategies Retreat Meeting on August 12, 2019 with the principals will go through, e.g. nurturing communications with parents. School Committee norms need to be revisited so new members become familiar with them (for agenda for future meeting). Brainstorming on Goals - committee wants to stress: Student voices/agency goal, communication goal.

Discussion of writing as a goal-reminder that the audit needs to be done first. Playgrounds and fields piece is done. Best school start time for middle school and high school. Need to decide how to form a study committee and its composition. A way to measure better kids in the middle (not IEP, not gifted) (a read on kids not bleeding or screaming). More support to parents for transition to middle school? Transition to 6th grade for parents? (learning about power school which was ipass). Train leader parents and deploy them to neighborhoods? Role of Open House nights—keep or get rid of? Look again at Panorama Survey to see if the questions are still fitting. Information on what it would take to strengthen the academics at all levels, e.g. what is needed in terms of financial resources (reading, coaching and intervention will be essential to this as average classroom teacher cannot keep remediating). Follow the current 8th grade to look at the impact of larger class sizes in younger grades. Understand what is happening with our buildings and playgrounds, communication of space study when it is completed. Better understand what we are doing to make sure we are hiring and retaining the best teachers.

Micro-aggressions, ADL, etc.—when we do training we are mentioning a larger group not just LBGQT Dress codes for the schools (this is a school council decision) Last time it was updated was 10 years ago so it needs to be updated. Communicating district's commitment to educating for critical thinking.

Working with town partners re: financing house or condominium. Student learning goal and professional practice goal to be provided to committee in September.

Mr. Brand made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Ms. Sonneborn seconded. It was unanimously approved by a vote of those present, 7-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Donna McKenzie  
School Committee Clerk

**Documents Provided In Novus Agenda**

DRAFT