

*Natick Public Schools  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
December 16, 2019*

The School Committee held a meeting on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 7:15 p.m. in the School Committee Room, third floor, Town Hall. Chair McDonough called the meeting to order and took roll call at 7:20 p.m.

Members Present: Julie McDonough, Matt Brand, Shai Fuxman, Hayley Sonneborn  
Members Absent: Cathi Collins, Henry Haugland, Donna McKenzie

Others Present:	Dr. Anna Nolin	Superintendent
	Mr. Tim Luff	Assistant Superintendent
	Mr. Kirk Downing	Assistant Superintendent
	Dr. Peter Gray	Assistant Superintendent
	Rose McDermott	Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

### **Public Speak**

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

### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Brand moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Sonneborn seconded. It was unanimously approved by a vote of the four members present, 4-0-0. Items on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of Field Trip to the CADCA Conference
2. Report on Warrants Signed
3. Donations
4. Approval of Student Account Activity Transfer of Funds

### **Budget and Complexity Presentation**

Dr. Nolin along with Erin Miller, Director of Student Services, Jordan Hoffman, Principal – Johnson School, MaryBeth Kinhead, Principal – Natick Preschool, Karen Dalton-Thomas, Department Head for Guidance and Brian Harrigan, Principal -Natick High School gave a presentation, found in Novus Agenda, that gave the Committee as well as the community the budget backdrop and budget drivers. The presentation surrounded how Natick Public Schools has changed in the last five years relative to building management and day-to-day life in the classroom. Dr. Nolin explained the difference in classrooms today and the different learning environments. She reviewed all the medical needs of students, special needs of students, needs of English language learners and the need for added psychological and learning support. Dr. Nolin infused her belief that all students should have a chance at a successful, productive adult life of their choosing and that all learners are capable of success in the Natick Public Schools. The School Committee asked several thoughtful questions to which the panel answered in detail.

### **First Draft Budget Presentation**

Dr. Peter Gray gave a presentation and he informed the School Committee that this was 36<sup>th</sup> fiscal year of budget presentations to various governmental agencies. Dr. Gray explained how the budget process has accelerated over the past couple of years and now begins in July. Typically, budgets were not started until after the holidays so the district could have clearer information as to expenses. Dr. Gray gave detailed

information on how the budget numbers were reached. The School Committee asked several questions regarding addressing complexity and personnel to manage those complexities and Dr. Gray as well as Dr. Nolin, answered them in great detail.

At approximately, 9:44pm, Mr. Michael Hickey, Chair of the Board of Selectmen entered the room and announced an evacuation of the building due to a strong gas odor on the second floor. Ms. Sonneborn moved to adjourn. Mr. Brand seconded. It was unanimously approved by a vote of the four members present, 4-0-0.

Anna Nolin  
Superintendent  
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

Rose McDermott  
Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

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

**Documents Provided in Novus Agenda** Agenda and materials used at this meeting can be found here:  
[Agenda & Materials](#)