



NEWTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| RUTHANNE FULLER– EX OFFICIO | |
| Newton School Committee Members | |
| WARD | |
| I | Rajeev Parlikar |
| II | Christopher Brezski |
| III | Anping Shen |
| IV | Tamika Olszewski, Chair |
| V | Emily Prenner |
| VI | Paul Levy |
| VII | Kathy Shields, Vice Chair |
| VIII | Cove Davis |

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING – FY23 BUDGET Minutes

Date: April 11, 2022

Location: Special School Committee meeting via **ZOOM**

Time: **6:30 pm** School Committee Meeting

Members Remote: Fleishman, Parlikar, Brezski, Shen, Olszewski, Prenner, Shields, Levy, Mayor

Students Remote: ~~Nabeshima, Shen, Sawhney, Weissell, Feng, Currid~~

Staff Remote: Toby Romer, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education; Ayesha Farag, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, Renee McCall, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning, Liam Hurley, Assistant Superintendent/Chief Financial, and Administrative Officer, Jill Murray, General Counsel, Steven Rattendi, Director of IT and Library Services

Other Staff/Presenters: Sean Mannion, Director of Finance, Stephanie Gilman, Director of Planning, Project Management and Sustainability, Amy Mistrot, Director of Business Operations Steven Rattendi, Director of IT and Library Services, Jill Murray, General Counsel, Maureen Lemeiux, Chief Financial Officer, Alissa Giuliani, City Solicitor, Josh Morse, Commissioner of Public Buildings, Nicole Banks, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation & Culture and Luis Perez Demorizi, Director of Parks & Open Space at Parks, Recreation & Culture, representatives from Hill Associates and Arrowstreet.

The School Committee held a Regular Meeting on April 11, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom, the Chair and vice chair being present. Minutes were presented for approval and placed on file.

The chair opened the meeting and asked Dr. Fleishman for his update. Dr. Fleishman stated that he would be introducing Casey Ngo Miller later this evening, and that he has worked with fantastic teams over the last twelve years (he had announced earlier in the day that he would be leaving NPS at the end of the year).

Chair Olszewski expressed her deepest gratitude for Dr. Fleishman’s 12 years of service to NPS.

The Chair then called for a discussion regarding the Stipend MOA’s which were received and placed on file. She introduced Maureen Lemeiux and Ali Giuliani who explained their understanding of the permissible uses of ARPA funds under Categories A and C.

The Chair thanked them and asked for questions from the members.

Questions, answers and discussion followed.

Chair Olszewski stated that the City Solicitor and CFO, as well as guidance from School Committee General Council, were firmly resolute that the stipends were appropriate to distribute/allocate. She asked for a motion to authorize the stipends.

Motion to ratify the MOA’s with the NTA NESA and Custodians

Motion: Shields

2nd: Prenner

Roll Call Vote:

| | | |
|----------|----------|---------|
| Ward 1 Y | Ward 5 Y | Mayor Y |
| Ward 2 N | Ward 6 Y | |
| Ward 3 Y | Ward 7 Y | |
| Ward 4 Y | Ward 8 Y | |

Motion to approve the MOA’s with the NTA, NESA and Custodians carries 8-1-0

The Chair thanked Maureen and Ali and said that they would be staying for the discussion regarding the high schools field lights.

A memo from Jill Murray regarding the High School Athletic Field Lights was received and placed on file.

She explained that there had been confusion regarding whether or not the School Committee had the authority to vote on high school athletic field lights. The correct answer is no, this falls under Parks and Recreation per City Ordinance as well as historical past practices, i.e. baseball nets, playground equipment, etc. Ali Giuliani added that the School Committee would only vote on a change of use, such as playground to a dog park for example.

Chair Olszewski asked if there were any questions. There were none. She opened the meeting to Public Comment.

There was one request:

Jenny Klein Sosa – Arnold Rd. – SEPAC

The Chair closed Public Comment and moved on to the Lincoln-Eliot Project. A document/presentation was received and placed on file.

Stephanie Gilman, along with representatives from Hill and Arrowstreet presented an update on the project which included, siteplan/landscape renderings, parking and circulation and Option D.

Chair Olszewski thanked the team and asked for questions.

Questions, answers and discussion followed.

The Chair moved on to the FY23 Budget Discussion regarding the impact of the additional \$1.674 million. The FY23 Budget Update and related documents were received and placed on file.

Dr. Fleishman said that he would cover the FTE's and Liam would cover the funding sources. They then outlined their recommendations with the help of Ayesha Farag and Toby Romer.

Question, answers and discussion followed.

Paul Levy stated he had two motions to make. Chair Olszewski asked that he hold his motions and discussion continued.

At the conclusion of the discussion the Chair announced that the FY23 Budget vote will be held tomorrow, they would not vote on it tonight.

Dr. Fleishman then introduced Casey Ngo Miller to the Committee. They welcomed her and asked a few questions. The Chair then asked for a motion to approve appointment of Casey Ngo Miller as Assistant Superintendent for Special Education and Student Services.

Motion: Levy

2nd: Davis

Vote by Roll Call

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|----------|----------|---------|
| Ward 1 Y | Ward 5 Y | Mayor Y |
| Ward 2 Y | Ward 6 Y | |
| Ward 3 Y | Ward 7 Y | |
| Ward 4 Y | Ward 8 Y | |

The motion passed to appoint Casey Ngo Miller 9-0.

The Chair then asked Paul Levy for his motions. He stated he had three motions he would be proposing tomorrow night:

- 1) Increase the Maintenance Budget \$300,000
- 2) Similar motion to include in the budget the elementary positions
- 3) Request that the year to year way of developing a budget be changed to a multi-year plan and ask that a subcommittee be formed to evaluate the idea with a timeline of 60 days to finish its work

Chair Olszewski stated that item three is not a motion. She further stated that she and Kathy Shields have already discussed the need for developing a better budget process and can definitely put together a finance group.

She then asked for a motion to approve the minutes submitted for 12/20/21, 1/10/22, 1/18/22, 1/24/22, 2/7/22, 2/9/22, 3/1/22 and 3/7/22 and if there were any questions or corrections.

Chris Brezski emailed a correction to Lisa earlier in the day and the correction was made.

Tamika asked for a motion to approve.

Motion: Parlikar

2nd: Dais

Vote by Roll Call:

Ward 1 Y Ward 5 Y Mayor Y

Ward 2 Y Ward 6 Y

Ward 3 Y Ward 7 Y

Ward 4 Y Ward 8 Y

The motion passed to approve all minutes presented.

The Chair announced that this concludes the posted business for tonight. A Special meeting will be held tomorrow night and there will be no Public Comment. The Committee will vote on the FY23 Budget. She thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting @8:56 pm.

Lisa Mazzola

Date: August 26, 2022.

School Committee Secretary

Documents and Closed Captioning transcript for this meeting are available [here](#) (or copy and paste: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1bfojwwbHeNjI3DPe27JwF75kFYTxUK7O>

Video recording is available [here](#).