



NEWTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

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 12, 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, Davis, 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, Alyssa Baringer, Budget Analyst

The School Committee held a Special Meeting on April 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom, the Chair and vice chair being present. No minutes were presented for approval.

The chair opened the meeting and asked Liam Hurley for the third quarter Fiscal and Operational Update.

Liam presented the third quarter Fiscal and Operational Budget which was received and placed on file. The detailed report covered projected positive and negative balances in several major categories including Salaries and benefits, Utilities, Maintenance, Contracted Services, Tuition, Transportation, Supplies and Equipment, Budget Reserve and COVID-19 Expenses. In addition, he updated the Committee regarding Food Services and the National School Lunch Reimbursement (NSLR) initiative as well as Grants in the pipeline.

The Committee members had no questions, so the Chair asked Liam to present the Facilities Update which was received and placed on file. Assistant Superintendent Hurley reported on the status of several projects including the Newton Childhood Education Program, (NECP), Lincoln-Eliot, Countryside, Horace Mann, Franklin, Underwood and Ward, and the Phase 3 Solar Panel Project. He also briefed the Committee on a few road/traffic updates including COVID -19 traffic trials and Albemarle Rd. He then gave a brief update from the Parks and Recreation Commissioner Nicole Banks which included Cabot Outdoor Classroom, Field Lighting, Tennis Courts @NNHS, Albermarle field improvements, and the Burr School fields.

The Chair thanked Liam and his team and asked for questions from the members.

Questions, answers and discussion followed including Use of School Buildings (USB), FTE’s and reserves, need for a motion to increase Charter Maintenance, where is the restoration money coming from, the need for careful fiscal management.

Chair Olszewski addressed the issue of increasing the Charter Maintenance allocation in the FY23 Budget by Paul Levy and the need for a motion. She opined that the way to fix it wasn’t to hold the budget hostage, but rather to create a Finance sub-committee to review the process and make recommendations that will address the issue. She suggested that Emily Prenner and Paul do this work and report to the Committee quarterly.

After further discussion regarding the inadequate maintenance budget and suggestions on moving forward with a sub-committee the Chair asked for a motion to approve the FY23 Budget with the restoration of 22.38 FTE’s.

Motion: Davis
2nd: Parlikar

The Chair asked if there were any additional questions or comments.

Paul Levy stated that he would not make an amendment. He stated that the even after many meetings and hundreds of hours of work the budget process and the results are deficient.

The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote to approve the FY23 Budget:

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

Motion to approve the FY23 Budget with the restoration of 22.38 FTE's is approved 8-1-0.

The Chair thanked everyone for their hard work and collaboration.

Chair Olszewski then asked for a motion to approve Friday, June 24, 2022 as the last day of school.

Motion: Prenner

2nd: Shen

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	

Motion to approve Friday, June 24, 2022 as the last day of school is approved 9-0-0.

The Chair then asked for a motion to approve a 1-Day Liquor License for the Cabot PTO Fundraiser.

Motion: Shen

2nd: Levy

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 9-0-0 to approve the Cabot PTO 1-Day Liquor License.

The Chair announced that this concludes the posted business for tonight and the next School Committee meeting will be on May 9, 2022. She thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting @7:49 pm.

Lisa Mazzola

Date: September 7, 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](#).