

Mayor Jonathan F. Mitchell

Chairperson, Ex-Officio

Christopher Cotter

Vice Chairperson

Melissa Costa

Joaquim B. Livramento, Jr.

Vonmarie Moniz

Richard Porter III

TBA

NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

PAUL RODRIGUES ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

455 COUNTY STREET NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

TELEPHONE: 508.997.4511



Andrew O'Leary

*Superintendent of Schools
Secretary, School Committee*

REGULAR MEETING (REVISED 1/8/26)

Monday, January 12, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.

Keith Middle School, Steven De Rossi Community Room
225 Hathaway Blvd., New Bedford, Massachusetts

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

- Pledge of Allegiance

2. ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- a. Election: Vice Chairperson for 2026
- b. Election: 2026 School Committee Designee for Southeastern Massachusetts Education Collaborative (SMEC)
- c. Election: 2026 School Committee Designee for People Acting in Community Endeavors (PACE)
- d. Sub-Committee Assignments 2026

3. MINUTES

- Regular Meeting Minutes – November 10, 2025
- Regular Meeting Minutes – December 8, 2025

4. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- A. General Updates
- B. Fine Arts Updates
- C. Physical Education Updates

5. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

6. OTHER REPORTS

- A. Finance & Operations Reports
- B. Personnel Report
- C. Sub-Committee Reports
- D. School Committee Reports

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Vote of approval for the 2026 School Committee Sub-Committee meeting dates.
- B. Vote of Approval for the 2026-2027 District School Year Calendar.



C. Request approval for Out of State Conferences/Out of School Time Field Studies:
(students/administrator/staff)

1. Requests approval for the following staff to travel to the Multistate Association for Bilingual Education (MABE) annual conference. The conference will be held March 7, 2026 in Willimantic, CT
Attending Staff: Julie Miller, Lina Louro-Cunha, Roberto Santa Cruz Gutierrez, Francisco Tejada, Carlos Guardiola, Ana Maria Gea Jimenez, Martha Romero, Lucia Romano Rey, Cristina Garcia Marugan, Maria Zak, Glen Santos, Amanda Pontes, Monica DaSilva, Leila Diaz Calero, Martin Quirk, Terry McVay, (approximate cost \$560 each local budget, one member \$120).
2. Mark Souza, FA Director and teacher Thomas O'Leary, NBHS, requests approval to travel to Musack Recording from April 24 – 26, 2026 in Los Angeles, CA. There will be 10 students and two chaperones. (approximate cost \$1000 per student, grants and fundraising).
3. Matthew Pacheco, teacher, NBHS, requests approval to travel to WGI Corning Regionals with 45 students and 10 chaperones. Regionals will take place February 14 and 15, 2026 in Corning, NY (approximate cost per student \$200 from NBHS Band Boosters and fundraising).
4. Matthew Pacheco, teacher, NBHS, requests permission to travel with 45 students and 10 chaperones to WGI Winds and Percussion International Championships. Championship to be held April 15-19, 2025 in Dayton, OH. (approximate cost per student \$700 from NBHS Band Boosters and fundraising).
5. Sonia Walmsley, Executive Director, Educational Access and Pathways, requests permission to travel to the Spain Ministry of Education Madrid – Visiting Teachers from Spain Recruitment. Interviews with candidates will be held April 13 – 19, 2026 in Calle Lopez de Hoyas, Madrid Spain (approximate cost \$1,695 local budget).

D. Superintendent Evaluation

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

For the following purposes:

- A. Motion and vote to meet in executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws chapter 30A, section 21(a), for the following purposes:
 1. Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and negotiations with union personnel:
 - New Bedford Educators Association (NBEA) – Unit B
 - New Bedford Support Specialist Union (NBSSU)

10. ADJOURN

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting: Monday, February 9, 2026

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if accommodations needed, please contact **Marjorie Fernandes** at 508-997-4511, Ext. 14552 (mjfernandes@newbedfordschools.org) or **MassRelay 711**. Requests should be made as soon as possible but at least **48 hours** prior to scheduled meeting.