



Mayor Jonathan F. Mitchell
Chairperson, Ex-Officio
Melissa Costa
Vice Chairperson
Christopher Cotter
Joaquim B. Livramento, Jr.
William B. Markey
Von Marie Moniz
Richard Porter III

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

PUBLIC HEARING / REGULAR MEETING

Monday, April 13, 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

PUBLIC HEARING

SCHOOL CHOICE for the 2026-2027 School Year

Public Hearing and Vote for School Choice Participation for School Year 2026-2027.

(The school choice program allows parents to send their children to schools in communities other than the city or town in which they reside. Tuition is paid by the sending district to the receiving district.

Districts may elect not to enroll school choice students if no space is available.)

- Vote to OPEN the Public Hearing on School Choice Participation for the 2026-2027 School Year
- PUBLIC COMMENTS regarding School Choice
- Vote to CLOSE the Public Hearing on School Choice Participation for the 2026-2027 School Year and open the regular meeting of the School Committee

REGULAR MEETING

3. MINUTES

- Regular Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2026

4. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- A. General Updates
- B. Human Capital Services – Annual Update
- C. Budget Presentation

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 2026-2027 School Committee Meeting calendar.
- B. Vote of approval for revision to the 2026-2027 District School Year calendar.
- C. Vote of approval for the New Bedford Public School Policy manual to be fully reviewed with the support of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees as proposed by the Governance & Policy Sub-Committee.
- D. Vote of approval from the School Committee to delegate the duties of the Chairman to the Finance and Operations Sub-Committee chair for approval of warrants and transfers.
- E. Consideration and vote of approval of a MASC 2026 Resolution Submission.
- F. Approval of the creation of Assistant Operations Manager position at New Bedford High School.
- G. Out of State Conference/Overnight Field Studies (administrator/staff/students):
 - 1. Colleen Hall, NBHS Teacher, requests permission to travel with ten students and two chaperones to the Skills USA State Leadership Conference being held April 30 through May 2, 2026, in Marlborough, MA (approximate cost \$550 per student, local).
 - 2. Michael Grandfield, CDAM Physical Ed and Athletics, requests permission to travel to the NFL Play 60 Summit being held July 21 – 23, 2026, in Indianapolis, IN (approximate cost \$0 – NFL covering costs of the entire trip).
 - 3. Andrew O’Leary, Superintendent, requests permission to travel to the 2026 FRAC National Anti-Hunger Conference being held April 26-28, 2026, in Washington, DC (approximate cost – paid for by the EOS Foundation).
 - 4. Melissa Costa, School Committee Member, requests permission to travel to the 2026 National School Board Conference being held April 10-12, 2026, in San Antonio, TX (approximate cost \$2,947, local)
 - 5. Von Marie Moniz, School Committee Member, requests permission to travel to the 2026 National School Board Conference being held April 10-12, 2026, in San Antonio, TX (approximate cost \$3,297, local)

9. TABLED BUSINESS

- A. Vote of approval for School Committee member Vonmarie Moniz to participate in the Academic Achievement Sub-Committee for 2026.

10. 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 non-union personnel:
 - a. Executive Director of Special Education – Mr. Paul Bottome
 - 2. Purpose (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and negotiations with union personnel:
 - a. New Bedford Educator’s Association (NBEA) – Unit B
 - b. American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME)



11. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

- A. Ratification vote for Executive Director of Special Education contract – Mr. Paul Bottome

12. ADJOURN

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting: Monday, May 11, 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.