NORTHSHORE EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 09, 2026

Present:	Beverly:	Dr. Cushing
	Danvers:	Mr. Bauer
	Gloucester:	Ms. Pasquarello
	Hamilton Wenham:	Mr. Tracy
	Ipswich:	Dr. Blake
	Lynn:	Dr. Cohen
	Lynnfield:	Mr. Geary
	Manchester Essex:	Ms. Beaudoin
	Marblehead:	Mr. Robidoux
	Masconomet:	Ms. Galante
	North Reading:	Dr. Daly
	Peabody:	Dr. Vadala
	Pentucket:	Dr. Bartholomew
	Reading:	Dr. Turner
	Rockport:	Dr. Branco
	Swampscott:	Mr. Calichman
	Tri- Town:	Dr. Morrison
	Triton:	Mr. Forget
NEC:	F. Rosenberg	L. Fleming
	K. Mahoney	KF. Mahoney
	B. Carrapichano	AFT Union President
	E. Aldrich	Director of Technology
	M. Krol	Principal,, Kevin O'Grady School
	S. Seiler	Director of Development
	L. Page	Principal, Topsfield Vocational Academy
Guest:	Colby C. Brunt, Esq.	Stoneman, Chandler & Miller LLP
	Michael Regan	AFT Representative
Absent:	Nahant:	Mr. Liebow
	Salem:	Dr. Welch

1. **Call to Order:** Mr. Bauer called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. He welcomed the new members of the Board of Directors: Ms. Amy Pasquarello of Gloucester, Ms. Heather Galante of Masconomet, Dr. Henry Turner of Reading, and Dr. Thomas Welch of Salem, who was unable to attend the meeting. Board members then introduced themselves and identified the districts they represent.

2. **Approval of Consent Agenda**
   MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Blake and seconded by Dr. Branco to approve the Consent Agenda, which included May 13, 2026 and July 8, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes, September 2026 appointments, and warrants.
   VOTE: The motion was moved unanimously

3. **Executive Director Report:** Ms. Rosenberg shared the NEC video shown at All-Staff Orientation, highlighting programs and students from the past year. She announced the Northshore Phoenix High School Ribbon Cutting on October 8 from 4:00–6:00..
   Ms. Rosenberg stated we welcomed 24 new employees for the start of the school year. She gave an update on ESY and the start of the school year, and she reviewed the draft annual goals included in the Board packet, highlighting priorities related to data, incident reporting, graduation requirements, leadership development, long-term capital planning, policy updates, and workforce development.
   Mr. Robidoux asked about the 2024–2028 goals, and Ms. Rosenberg noted that she will be asking the board to approve a new strategic planning process to develop long-range goals. There were no further comments.

   The full Executive Director's Report is available in the September Board Meeting Folder.

4. **Finance Report:** Mr. Mahoney reviewed the May, June and July Treasurer's Reports.
   In May, Mr. Mahoney reported that the Consortium paid off its line of credit. In reviewing June and the close of the fiscal year, he noted that NEC finished the year in a strong position and entered the summer with a favorable cash position. For July 2026, Mr. Mahoney reported a strong cash position, primarily due to summer tuition collections, with the cash position remaining at approximately $3 million. He also noted that there were no changes in banking arrangements and that the Treasurer's Reports will continue to be presented on a cash basis, reflecting cash collected rather than amounts billed.

   MOTION: Dr. Morrison made a motion to accept the May , June and July Treasurer's Reports, seconded by Dr. Vadala.
   VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

   Finance Update: Mr. Fleming reviewed the FY26 year-end financial report and preliminary outlook for FY27. He reported an FY26 surplus of approximately $840,000, or 2%, which was in line with the original budget. He noted the importance of maintaining a surplus to support capital needs, particularly given the Consortium's responsibility for maintaining its owned and leased properties and its limited access to outside capital funding. Mr. Fleming also highlighted grant revenue, HVAC-related rebates, transportation cost management, and overall improvements in NEC's financial health during FY26.

   Discussion followed regarding salary savings, tuition revenue, staffing, and the challenges of forecasting enrollment and program needs. Mr. Fleming noted that September through November can be lean cash-flow months and that NEC may need to temporarily access its line of credit if necessary.

   Following the update , Mr. Fleming invited questions from the Board.

   Ms. Beaudoin asked about the decline in prepayments, and Mr. Fleming noted that the expiration of ESSER funding may be a contributing factor.

   There were no further questions from the Board.

5. **Policy Committee -** Ms. Rosenberg provided an update on the two policies. The Board conducted a second reading of the updated Use of Restraint and Time-Out Policy, with no additional changes proposed.

   The Board then conducted a first reading of the Protect Act Policy. Legal counsel, Colby Brunt, advised the Board that it could suspend the requirement for two separate readings and approve the policy in a single vote.

   MOTION: Mr. Robidoux made a motion to approve the 2nd reading of the Use of Restraint and Time-Out Policy seconded by Dr. Blake.
   VOTE: The motion passed unanimously

   MOTION: Mr. Robidoux made a motion and seconded by Dr. Blake to suspend the rules requiring two separate readings of the proposed policy, and approve the Protect Act Policy as presented.
   VOTE: The motion passed unanimously

   Mr. Tracy left the meeting at 8:40 am

6. **Report from Friends of NEC :** Ms. Seiler provided a brief overview of the Friends of NEC, including its history, fundraising efforts, and role in supporting NEC through grants, events, major donors, and development activities. She noted that since the creation of Friends, approximately $5.3 million has been raised to support NEC programs and services. One board member asked about whether Friends could be involved in future discussion about the possible Federal Tax Credit.

   The Board and Ms. Rosenberg thanked Ms. Seiler for the update and recognized her nearly 20 years of dedicated work supporting NEC through the Friends of NEC.

7. **Executive Director Evaluation :** Ms. Beaudoin apologized that the Executive Director evaluation report was not completed for the meeting and noted that it would be presented at the October Board meeting. Ms. Rosenberg commented that the evaluation process is an important fiduciary responsibility of the board.

   Mr. Bauer thanked Ms. Beaudoin and noted that the item would be added to the October Board agenda.

8. **Discussion of Strategic Planning Proposal :** Ms. Rosenberg reviewed the proposed NEC Strategic Planning Proposal and recommended engaging consultant Ruth Whitner to lead a formal Planning for Success strategic planning process. Ms. Rosenberg explained that, given anticipated leadership and Board transitions over the next several years, this is an important time to develop a clear strategic framework to guide future decision-making. She noted that NEC has not completed a formal strategic plan with an outside consultant during her 13-year tenure.

   Dr. Branco asked about participation and the timeline, and Ms. Rosenberg explained that Board members and SPED administrators would be involved, with the process running from October 2026 through February 2027.

   MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Morrison and seconded by Dr. Bartholomew to proceed with the Planning for Success process and commit the $8,000, contingent upon sufficient participation.
   VOTE: The motion passed unanimously

9. **Other Updates : Transportation Contract** : Mr. Fleming noted that the Transportation Contract information was included in and discussed as part of the Financial Report. He reported that student numbers are expected to remain similar, with projected cost savings for the current year.

   Northshore Phoenix Move to Cummings Center : Ms. Rosenberg reported that Northshore Phoenix High School has opened at its new location in the Cummings Center. The start of school was delayed by two days due to a delay in gaining access to the new space. A grand opening is planned for October, and members of the Board will be invited to attend.

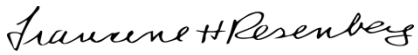
10. **Enter Executive Session to hear Level 3 Grievance and Adjourn from Executive Session**
    Mr. Bauer moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of hearing a Level 3 grievance, and not to return to open session, with the meeting adjourned at the conclusion of the Executive Session.

    MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Morrison and seconded by Dr. Blake to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of hearing a Level 3 grievance, and not to return to open session, with the meeting adjourned at the conclusion of the Executive Session
    VOTE: A roll call vote was conducted, and the Board entered Executive Session at 9:17 a.m



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Kathy Mahoney, Administrative Assistant to Executive Director



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Francine Rosenberg, NEC Executive Director