

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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January 20, 2022 - Heathsville, VA The Northumberland County Public Schools' School Board met in-person for a closed meeting and Budget work session #1. The meeting was open to the public through Zoom audio conference calling as a result of COVID-19 guidelines and in-person.

Closed Meeting Action Items

The School Board approved Ms. Sheila Brooks as a substitute teacher pending background checks and training.

Other Actions:

Northumberland County Public Schools will monitor the Governor's Executive Order Number Two (EO2) and will revisit the topic at the January 27, 2022 special called meeting, which will take place at 9:30 AM at the Heathsville School Board Office and by virtual meeting. Here is the [Link for EO2](#). At this time, **there are no changes in NCPS current COVID-19 protocols:**

- consistent and correct wearing of face coverings for students and staff;
- physical distancing when possible;
- frequent hand sanitizing and respiratory etiquette;
- temperature checks;
- staying home when sick;
- disinfecting and sanitizing of school campuses; and
- contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine.

22-23 Budget Updates

Finance director Mr. Jason Bellows and Superintendent Dr. Holly Wargo presented the 22-23 draft budget including a 5% raise for all staff. The School Board reviewed the following [Budget Supporting Documents](#). The School Board and Superintendent identified the following priorities:

- Inclusion of a 5% salary increase for all employees plus a step (1.25%) as applicable;
- Evaluate paraprofessional salary scale in comparison to neighboring school divisions;
- Addition of a secondary Reading Specialist;
- Additional funding for instructional supplies and other operational items due to the increase in cost and current inflation;
- Changing Administrative Assistants from 11 to 12 month employees at NES, NMS, and NHS;

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- Evaluate stipends for sports and activities in comparison to neighboring school divisions.

Next Meeting: Special Called Meeting at 9:30 AM on Thursday, January 27, 2022, for student, personnel, and legal matters.

Next Budget Worksession: February 14, 2022, at 3 PM at NHS prior to the regularly scheduled School Board Meeting on February 14, 2022, at 6 PM in the NHS & NMS auditorium.