
**BOE PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026
NHS NORTH BOARD ROOM**

The Board of Education held a public hearing at the NHS North Board Room on Tuesday, February 17, 2026. Ms. Bishop called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

Present: Ms. Giglio, Ms. Prinn, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Raymond, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Salvi, Ms. Lamphier, and Ms. Bishop

Also Present: Dr. Andrade, Mr. Poska, Dr. Scarpati, Ms. De Gray

The BOE Public Hearing focused on open enrollment and its impact on Nashua schools.

Alicia Houston, Westwood Drive, Nashua

- Ms. Houston raised questions about open enrollment and its impact on Nashua schools.
- She seeks a clear plan to retain families using existing resources without additional tax dollars.
- Dr. Andrade explained the strengths of Nashua's High Schools, including AP courses and CTE pathways, and implementation of the strategic plan to improve communication and community trust.
- Ms. Houston asked about the number of empty seats and the financial impact of open enrollment.
- Dr. Andrade explained the policy allowing 25 students to exit and 25 to enter, aiming for a financial balance.
- Ms. Houston inquired about strategic plans to offset revenue losses if students leave.
- Discussion on the district's reactive versus proactive approach and the need for community engagement.
- Ms. Houston highlighted the importance of improving proficiency rates and curriculum programs.

Meghan O'Keefe, Sudbury Drive, Nashua

- Ms. O'Keefe shared her experience with variances and the impact of open enrollment on her son's schooling.
- Dr. Scarpati explained the difference between open enrollment and intra-district transfers.
- Ms. O'Keefe sought clarification on the new process and its implications for her son's future schooling.
- Discussion on the importance of retaining students and the need for proactive measures.
- Ms. O'Keefe expressed her desire for her son to stay in Nashua schools despite the challenges.

Linda Hodges, Melissa Drive, Nashua

- Ms. Hodges represented her grandson, expressing concerns about the open enrollment process.
- Ms. Hodges asked about the priority of students on variances and the receipt confirmation process.
- Dr. Scarpati reassured her that the form submission should be confirmed, and she can check with the assistant superintendent's office.
- Ms. Hodges expressed her frustration but appreciates the opportunity to voice her concerns.

The public hearing concluded.

Ms. Giglio moved, seconded by Ms. Prinn, to adjourn at 5:58 pm. Motion passes 8-0.

Submitted by Tara C. Kinsella