
**FINANCE & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026
NHS NORTH BOARD ROOM**

A meeting of the Finance and Operations Committee was held at NHS North on Monday, July 20, 2026. Ms. Lamphier called the meeting to order at 4:06 pm.

Present: Ms. Lamphier, Mr. Salvi, and Ms. Lewis (4:30 pm)

Also Present: Ms. De Gray, Dr. Andrade, Mr. Beer, Dr. Vincente

Also Present: Members of the Public, Channel 22 Videographer

Athletics Uniform Agreement Approval

- Ms. Gingras explains the agreement with BSN Sports and Under Armor, highlighting the benefits and obligations.
- Ms. Lamphier and Mr. Salvi discuss the details of the agreement, including the financial aspects and previous agreements.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to approve the five-year rewards agreements with BSN Sports and Under Armor. Motion passes 2-0.

Curriculum Purchases and Grant Updates

- Dr. Scarpati provides an overview of the federal grant applications and planned activities for the coming year.
- Specific activities under Title IV include professional development for teachers, literacy coaching, and curriculum development support.
- Ms. Lamphier and Mr. Salvi ask questions about the programs and their implementation.
- Dr. Scarpati proposes purchasing the SIPPS literacy curriculum, a tier-three literacy intervention for students that are significantly below level in reading. The purchase includes the curriculum materials, student books, and professional development from collaborative classroom for use as a tier-three intensive reading intervention.
- SIPPS was piloted that at three of the buildings this past year, and this would be to outfit the remaining nine elementary schools.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to approve the purchase of SIPPS Literacy Curriculum from Collaborative Classroom at a cost not to exceed \$43,200.00. Funding to be charge to Operating Budget under Curriculum. Motion passes 2-0.

- Dr. Scarpati proposes continuing our contract with Newsela at the secondary level for the formative digital platform, which is an all-in-one instructional tool that teachers use to build interactive lessons, check student understanding instantly, and provide real-time feedback. This platform has been in use at Nashua High North and South for the past few years.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to approve the 2026-27 contract with Newsela for Formative Digital Platform for the high schools at a cost not to exceed \$32,442.56. Funding to be charge to Operating Budget under Curriculum. Motion passes 2-0.

Mosaic Storytelling Program Approval

- Dr. Andrade explains that Mosaic Storytelling Program is an interactive AI tool for storytelling that aligns with the district's strategic plan.
- The program aims to improve communication and showcase the excellence happening in schools.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to approve the Superintendent to enter into a one-year agreement with Leaders Atlas to implement the Mosaic Storytelling Program for the 2026–2027 school year at a cost not to exceed \$18,000.00. Motion passes 2-0.

Special Education Contracts

- Mr. Beer and Dr. Vicente provide details on the two requests for proposals for the two separate ABA programs explaining the need for new bids and the results of the technical and cost comparisons.
- The committee questioned the past year and the cost comparison.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to award Constellations the Staffing and Management of Alternative Program with ABA for the 2026-27 school year at a cost not to exceed \$1,150,436.00. Funding to be charged to the Operating Budget under Out-of-District Tuition. Motion passes 3-0.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to award Constellations the Self-Contained ABA Program for the 2026-27 school year at a cost not to exceed \$2,399,698.00. Funding to be charged to the Operating Budget under Contracted Services. Motion passes 3-0.

- The remaining special education contracts for school psychologists, bilingual school psychologist, speech services, physical therapy, and occupational therapy are discussed and approved.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Ms. Lewis, to approve the contract with White Birch for staffing one full-time psychologist for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost not to exceed \$162,000.00. Funding to be charged to the Operating Budget under Contracted Services. Motion passes 3-0.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to approve the contract with White Birch for staffing one full-time APPIC Fellow and one Doctorate-Level School psychologist for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost not to exceed \$124,032.00. Funding to be charged to the Operating Budget under Contracted Services. Motion passes 3-0.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Ms. Lewis, to approve the three-year contract with Leap Learning for staffing one full-time Bilingual psychologist for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost not to exceed \$168,750.00. Funding to be charged to the Operating Budget under Contracted Services. Motion passes 3-0.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to approve the contract with Champion Speech Therapy for speech services at McCarthy Middle School during the 2026 ESY at a cost not to exceed \$14,033.25. Funding to be charged to the Operating Budget under Out-of-District Tuition. Motion passes 3-0.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Ms. Lewis, to approve the contract with ABC Physical Therapy for the 2026-27 school year at a cost not to exceed \$270,000.00. Funding to be charged to account 91.1.022160 53614. Motion passes 3-0.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to approve the contract with Clark Associate for the 2026-27 school year at a cost not to exceed \$976,522.50. Funding to be charged to account 91.1.022160 53614. Motion passes 3-0.

Proactive Staffing Approval

- Ms. De Gray introduces a memo regarding proactive staffing approval for special education teacher vacancies. The memo requests the ability to engage with contract services agencies to fill vacancies proactively.
- Ms. Lamphier and other board members express concerns about the lack of parameters and the need for transparency.
- Dr. Andrade mentions the next board meeting is not until August 23. The District needs to have the ability to fill the 14 required positions (district hire or contractor) prior to that meeting.
- The committee discusses the importance of having qualified staff in front of students and the need for proactive measures and agrees to allow the administration to engage with agencies to fill vacancies, with a limit of \$25,000 per contract and all contracts to be approved by the board.
- Ms. De Gray confirms that the positions are budgeted in wages within the FY 27 budget.
- Ms. Lewis suggests adding language to the motion to clarify the need for staff before the school year begins.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to authorize Chief Operating Officer to contract with additional qualified staffing agencies, if necessary, after August 1, 2026, to fill remaining special education teacher vacancies for 2026-27 school year, with updates on any resulting contracts provided to the BOE. Motion passes 3-0.

Credit Card Report

- Ms. De Gray introduces the quarterly credit card report, noting the use of credit cards for immediate purchases.

Budget Transfer

- Ms. De Gray mentions a budget transfer for fiscal year 26 and asks for questions.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Mr. Salvi, to approve the FY26 June Transfer Report. Motion passes 3-0.

Fiscal Year 26 Budget Update

- Ms. De Gray presents a draft of the FY 26 budget spreadsheet to date, noting that the city has not closed the books yet.
- The district is expected to use 99.72% of the overall budget, with an estimate of returning \$1.3 million in benefit money to the city of Nashua.
- After benefits, the district will have about \$166,892 remaining, with a \$160,000 needed for a food service supplemental appropriation.
- Contract services for special education are over budget by about a million dollars, with a total spend of \$6.7 million.
- Ms. De Gray mentions that out of district tuition will end up costing about 6.5 million dollars, with additional funds from special revenue.
- Electricity costs were higher than budgeted, resulting in an overage of about \$80,000 in property services.
- Regular education transportation had a surplus, but special education transportation and McKinney-Vento costs were under budget.

- Based on the current forecast, a supplemental appropriation for special revenue related to special education may not be needed. Waiting to final close of FY26 to solidify.
- Ms. Lamphier apologizes for any misunderstandings earlier in the meeting.

Ms. Lamphier moved, seconded by Ms. Lewis, to adjourn at 5:35 pm. Motion passes 3-0.

Submitted by Tara C. Kinsella