

- legals -

Town of North Brookfield Notice of Public Hearing

The North Brookfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 6:15PM** at the Senior Center, 29 Forest St., North Brookfield, MA. Public opinion will be received for 32 Summer St., regarding a change from office use to residential use (Section IV.A.2.i.) per the North Brookfield Zoning Bylaws. The property is also in the Downtown Overlay District. Any person interested in being heard or seeking information should appear at the above stated time and place. A copy of the proposed permit application is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, 215 North Main St., No. Brookfield, MA.

William King, Chair
03/27, 04/03, 4/10/2026

TOWN OF NORTH BROOKFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Brookfield Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing to consider a petition to locate poles, wires, cables, and fixtures, including the necessary anchors, guys, and other such sustaining and protecting fixtures, brought before it by Massachusetts Electric Company d/b/a National Grid and Verizon New England, Inc Tuesday, **April 21, 2026 at 6:15 PM** at the North Brookfield Police Department, 55 School Street, North

Brookfield, MA 01535.

The pole locations that will be considered are as follows:

Green Rd – National Grid to install 3 JO Poles on Green Rd beginning at a point approximately 4,200’ feet northwest of the centerline of the intersection of Shore Rd and Green Rd and continuing approximately 200 feet in a northwest direction. Install three new poles # 74, 74-50, & 75-84 on Green Rd.

Ward St – National Grid to install 1 JO Pole on Ward St beginning at a point approximately 300’ feet west of the centerline of the intersection of Hines Bridge Rd. Install a new pole 71-2 for new residential home.

Said hearing will begin at 6:15 PM and continue until completion, and will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 166.

Jason M Petraitis, Chairman
Jamie Gilman
Ralph Kay
04/03, 04/10/2026



- sports -

BASEBALL FROM PAGE 7

runs were earned. He threw a total of 99 pitches and recorded a total of 13 strikeouts.

“Liam is a very good pitcher,” Guimond said. “We didn’t give him very much support defensively.”

Lapointe, who’s the Panthers starting shortstop, hit a groundball to the third baseman leading off the top of the first inning. Lapointe wound up standing on second base following a throwing error. Lapointe scored after another throwing error by the second baseman. Quaboag junior leftfield-

er Thomas Bellizzi lined a double to left leading off the bottom half of the opening frame. Both eighth grade shortstop Zach Deremian and McGrath walked, which loaded the bases with no outs.

The Cougars failed to capitalize, as Adams, who’s hoping to play college baseball, got himself out of that jam with the help of two strikeouts and a pop-up.

The Panthers, who only had four base hits in the game, stranded a runner at third base in the second inning. The visitors from Barre added two more runs in the third with the aid of

a fielding error and wild pitch.

After McGrath struck out the side in the fourth, Quabbin junior catcher Alijah Flint delivered an RBI single into right field making the score 4-0 with two outs in the fifth inning.

The Cougars battled back in the bottom half of the frame.

Eighth grade first baseman Landon Kelly drew a leadoff walk. After the next batter struck out, Deremian lined a single to center. Kelly crossed the plate when McGrath doubled to left field.

The Cougars had run-

ners on second and third base with no outs, but Brown worked out of the jam by retiring the next two batters with the help of a strikeout and a comebacker.

The two Panthers pitchers received plenty of support defensively.

Quabbin put the game out of reach by scoring eight runs against a couple of relief pitchers in the sixth inning.

Brown set down the side in order in the bottom of the sixth inning, which ended the ball game.



Connor Burgess fields a grounder inside third.



Jordyn Guilderson makes a throw from deep left field.

PIONEERS FROM PAGE 7

2026 season with a 10-2 win at Westfield Tech on March 31, Pathfinder Tech (0-2) fell to Tri-County League rival McCann Tech, 13-2, in their season opener at Legion Field.

“Seven of the 13 players listed on our roster are new players, and I’m also a first-year varsity coach,” said Pathfinder Tech head coach Dan Szostek. “We’re still getting to know each other. I thought we kept battling back in today’s game.”

The winning pitcher in last Friday’s contest was Brendan Hess, who’s one of the five seniors listed on the Panthers varsity roster. The righthander allowed five runs (3 earned) on only four base hits with five walks and

nine strikeouts during the first five innings. He threw 101 pitches.

The Pioneers took a 2-0 lead against Hess in the top of the first inning.

Senior right fielder Dayne Shanley, who drew a leadoff walk, stole second base and scored the first run of the game on a passed ball. Senior centerfielder Edward Szostek drove home the other run with a cue shot that rolled past first base for a single.

The Panthers, who were the home team, responded by scoring four runs against senior righty Andrew Sullivan in the bottom half of the opening frame. Sullivan only pitched in a couple of games as a junior before suffering a season ending

injury.

“Andrew was a pitcher for the varsity team as a sophomore,” said coach Szostek, who was an assistant coach a year ago. “He missed most of last season with an arm injury. It’s nice having him back on the mound again this year.”

With one-out, Hess blasted a run scoring triple to center field before scoring the tying run on a wild pitch that skipped to the backstop. Eighth grade second baseman Josiel Ortiz and sophomore leftfielder Liam McKee also contributed with RBI singles which gave the Panthers a 4-2 lead.

Both teams scored a run in the third inning.

The Pioneers closed the

gap to 5-4 with two outs in the fourth when junior shortstop Brody Wetnicka crossed the plate on a wild pitch.

It didn’t remain a one run game for very long, as the Panthers put four runs on the left field scoreboard in their next at-bats. Two runs scored on bases loaded walks by senior third baseman Theo Haley and senior catcher Sebastian Mayberry, who had two hits in the home opener. Another run scored when Hess hit a pop-up single to center.

Sullivan, who threw a total of 80 pitches, was replaced by freshman lefthander Zach Smith with no outs.

He retired junior first baseman Dylan Holbrook

on a ground ball out which scored Haley making the score 9-4.

“We’ve been hitting the ball very well so far this season,” Handzel said. “We scored four runs in the fourth inning, which gave us a little breathing room.”

The Panthers scored two more runs in their next at-bats.

Pathfinder Tech, who added an unearned run in the fifth, was trailing 11-5 entering the top of the seventh inning.

The Pioneers put together a rally against Palmer senior right-hander Matt Santos, who had pitched a scoreless sixth inning.

Freshman Anthony Elliott began the seventh inning with a double to

left field. Junior left fielder Emerson Boronski also doubled to left field scoring Elliott. Then back-to-back walks by Edward Szostek and freshman DH Zach Latourelle loaded the bases.

At that point, Handzel decided to make a pitching change. Ortiz, who’s a righty, replaced Santos on the mound. The Pioneers scored two more runs before Ortiz ended the game with a strikeout.

“Josiel came in with the bases loaded and got the job done,” Handzel said. “It was his first appearance on the mound this season.”

The two baseball teams are scheduled to meet again under the lights at Legion Field on May 14.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE FROM PAGE 1

school, they have seen improvements in grades eight and nine, but there are some concerns in grade 11, which saw a decline.

For reading, the school district scored in the 54th percentile over the winter with 328 students participating.

Recognitions

McCormick said each

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year, grade six students attend Outdoor Classroom, which involves a lot of fundraising to offset the costs. He said that student Micha’el Kittredge used 3D printers to create keepsakes that he sold to raise money for this important learning opportunity.

“We have a student who has shown his love of STEM education, he owns three printers, at many events this fall he was selling his homemade things,” he said. “And then gave back over \$1,000 to Outdoor Classroom.”

McCormick also thanked staff for organizing and attending the recent STEAM Night. He said it was a “very nice night for our families.”

“We’re always trying to look to make that event bigger and better, and our staff was a big part of the planning and also the implemen-

tation of it,” he said.

McCormick said the Student Council earned the Gold Council of Excellence and Top 10 Project awards at the Massachusetts Association of Student Council’s state conference last month.

“They do a lot to build the culture and just a positive influence here at the Jr./St. High School,” he said.

Curriculum grant

McCormick said the school district has the opportunity to receive a grant from the One8 Foundation to train teachers in the Investigative History, an Applied Learning curriculum.

McCormick said the school district received grant funding for Investigative History for grades three-sev-

en. “This grant sums just over \$16,000 for the next

three years,” he said.

McCormick said the grant will provide training and access to curriculum for multiple teachers across the school district.

“We love their products... we’ve done some great work with these products,” McCormick said.

The School Committee voted in favor of accepting the proposed grant funding.

Student Council update

Student Representative Noah Gillette spoke about the MASC conference held recently in Hyannis.

He said the Seniors versus Staff basketball game was held, with the Seniors team securing the win.

He said April 13-17 will be a Spirit Week with the Lip Sync competition. Students in grades six-12 will compete in the Lip Sync on April 17, with grade five stu-

dents invited to watch.

The Student Council spring conference will be held on April 15.

Rural school funding

McCormick said he has been working with representatives from the 67 rural schools across the commonwealth, to discuss funding issues these schools face.

“We’re hoping to meet with some state reps. and senators next month at Quabbin,” he said.

McCormick said rural school funding “needs to really change,” and be more consistent.

The slide presentation about rural school funding will be available on the school district’s website, www.nbschools.org.

Professional Development

McCormick said for the past years, the school dis-

trict has been working with a consultant to provide Professional Development training to staff. He said for the next school year, a training team will be formed in-house at each school, to provide Professional Development to staff.

Staff listening sessions

McCormick compiled data collected during staff listening sessions held over the winter, when the School Committee was exploring the possibility of a tuition agreement with a regional school district.

2026-2027 school calendar

The School Committee voted to approve the calendar for the 2026-2027 school year. After brief discussion, the committee members agreed to observe Good Friday as a non-school day.

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Congratulations Karly Smith! We are so very proud of you and your accomplishments. Good luck at Springfield College!



Love, Mom & Dad