



BLUE HILLS

REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

**MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
BLUE HILLS REGIONAL ROOM W-218
AUGUST 18, 2026, 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS:

Carl Walker	Avon
Mark Driscoll	Canton (Chair)
Eric Erskine	Braintree
Kevin Connolly	Norwood
Thomas Polito	Dedham
Taryn Mohan	Holbrook
Marybeth Joyce	Milton
Karen Graves	Randolph
Sheila Vazquez	Westwood

ADMINISTRATION:

Jill Rossetti	Superintendent-Director
Elvio Ferreira	Business Manager
Geoff Zini	Principal

Minutes prepared by Jolene de Jager of Minutes Solutions from a recording.

1. CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum present, and adequate and proper notice of the meeting having been given, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Mark Driscoll.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

4. SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR'S REPORT

4.1 Donation from Katherine Slack

Superintendent-Director Ms. Jill Rossetti reported that Katherine Slack donated \$50 in memory of her late son John and husband George, both of whom attended Blue Hills Regional.

On a motion made by Holbrook, seconded by Norwood, it was resolved to accept a \$50 donation from Katherine Slack. Motion carried unanimously.

4.2 Hiring Update

Ms. Rossetti provided an update on hiring, noting that several positions had been filled, including Math, Electrical, Cooperative Education/Continuing Education, Construction Tech, Cosmetology, Metal Fabrication, Graphics, Drafting/CAD, third-shift Custodian, Dental Assisting, Guidance Counselor, Director of Admissions and Guidance, and Special Education. She noted that Electronics, Auto Collision, Computer Information Systems, an Instructional Learning Aide, and building substitute positions remained in progress. Ms. Rossetti added that Chapter 74 teachers remain difficult to find, with limited applicants and many candidates requiring waivers.

4.3 Admissions Update

Ms. Rossetti reported no significant changes to the admissions lottery update and that the status remained largely stagnant, though minor changes may occur next month.

5. DSC CHAIR REPORT

5.1 Ad Hoc Remote Participation Subcommittee Meeting

The subcommittee discussed adding language limiting remote participation to no more than 90 days or three consecutive months. A committee member also requested language requiring remote participants to be clearly visible to those present at the meeting, noting that similar provisions appear in other municipalities' policies. The matter was referred to the subcommittee for further review, with the policy expected to return in September 2026.

5.2 Policy Subcommittee Meeting

The Policy Subcommittee met to review proposed changes to the 2026–2027 admissions policy. Updates included adding Laura Serpa as the admissions and guidance contact, changing the ninth-grade admissions timeline deadline from January 1 to January 15, streamlining communication to parents regarding incomplete applications, and revising language related to the appeals process, exploratory process, and program-specific admissions. Legal counsel reviewed the changes, and the subcommittee voted to approve the proposed admissions policy changes for presentation at the September 2026 meeting.

5.3 MASS/MASC Joint Conference November 4-6, 2026

Chair Driscoll reminded members to complete registration and reservations for the MASS/MASC Joint Conference individually. He noted that the committee would vote at the September 2026 meeting to designate an official delegate.

5.4 Elections, District Clerk, Recording Secretary

Chair Driscoll reported that August 18, 2026, was the deadline for candidates to submit nomination papers. The four incumbent candidates running this year submitted their papers, which the appointed District Clerk received and recorded. The certified candidate list would be sent to the elections office before the August 25, 2026, deadline.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT AND WARRANT

The report was prepared by Treasurer Patricia Leonhardt and read by Secretary Marybeth Joyce.

On a motion made by Norwood, seconded by Holbrook, it was resolved to approve the following warrants for FY26:

- **Warrant #67 for \$48,337.71 – Voucher Numbers 1180-1181**
- **Warrant #68 for \$33,492.53 – Voucher Numbers 1182-1183**
- **Warrant #69 for \$42,079.92 – Voucher Numbers 1184**

Motion carried unanimously.

On a motion made by Braintree, seconded by Randolph, it was resolved to approve the following warrants for FY27:

- **Warrant #3 for \$67,498.44 – Voucher Number 1005**
- **Warrant #4 for \$290,319.01 – Voucher Numbers 1006-1007**
- **Warrant #5 for \$293,226.21 – Voucher Numbers 1008-1010**
- **Warrant #6 for \$453,847.16 – Voucher Numbers 1011-1013**
- **Warrant #7 for \$169,393.46 – Voucher Numbers 1014-1015**

Motion carried unanimously.

7. MINUTES APPROVAL

The School Committee reviewed the minutes of the District School Committee meeting held on July 21, 2026.

On a motion made by Norwood, seconded by Holbrook, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the District School Committee meeting held on July 21, 2026, as presented. Motion carried.

8. BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

8.1 Q4 Report

Business Manager Dr. Elvio Ferreira presented the FY26 Quarter 4 report. He reported a salary-line surplus of \$388,854.47 and an expense-line surplus of \$1,718.83. He noted a deficit in the 4000 maintenance series due to overtime related to winter weather and additional expenses associated with the curbing project at the rear of the campus. The 3000 series was over budget primarily due to homeless transportation costs. The 8000 debt service series was short by \$0.02. Dr. Ferreira explained that supply purchases were made from the FY26 budget to offset reductions made in the FY27 budget, while overall spending remained within the approved budget.

8.2 Transfer Requests

On a motion made by Dedham, seconded by Braintree, it was resolved to approve the following transfer requests:

- **\$125,000 from 5000 to 4000 series**
- **\$55,000 from 5000 to 3000 series**
- **\$0.02 from 5000 to 8000 series**

Motion carried.

8.3 Public Employee Committee (PEC) Agreement

Dr. Ferreira reported that the district's Public Employee Committee agreement had expired. The district is working with legal counsel and union representatives to schedule meetings in the fall to update the agreement. Once completed, the district will bring the updated agreement back to the committee for approval.

8.4 DESE EOYR 2026 Update

Dr. Ferreira reported that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education end-of-year report for 2026 is due in September 2026. The district received the file and began preparing the submission.

8.5 DOR EOYR 2026 Update

Mr. Ferreira reported that the Department of Revenue end-of-year report is due in October 2026 and is necessary to certify excess and deficiency. He stated that he would continue to update the committee as information becomes available.

9. ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

9.1 Principal's Report

9.1.1 Opening of School

Principal Geoff Zini reported that school opening activities were underway. New teacher orientation was scheduled in the school library; Grade 9 Parents Night was scheduled for August 26, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.; convocation/opening day for teachers was scheduled for September 2, 2026; Grade 9 orientation was scheduled for September 3, 2026; and all students would return on September 8, 2026, following the Labor Day weekend.

9.1.2 Hockey Coop

Mr. Zini requested approval to pursue a possible girls' hockey cooperative partnership with Stoughton High School, with Stoughton serving as the host school. He reported that five Blue Hills families had expressed strong interest. He noted that the cooperative agreement would also require approval from Stoughton High School, the MIAA, and the League.

On a motion made by Norwood, seconded by Randolph, it was resolved to approve pursuit of the girls' hockey cooperative partnership with Stoughton High School. Motion carried unanimously.

9.1.3 Out-of-State Field Trip Request: Girls Soccer Program

Mr. Zini requested approval for the girls' soccer program to travel out of state on September 20, 2026, to attend a Boston Legacy National Women's Soccer League game at Centreville Stadium in Rhode Island. The trip would be funded through team fundraising.

On a motion made by Norwood, seconded by Westwood, it was resolved to approve the out-of-state field trip request for the girls' soccer program. Motion carried unanimously.

10. FUTURE BUSINESS

The next District School Committee meeting is September 15, 2026.

11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion made by Avon, seconded by Dedham, and roll call vote, Avon, Dedham, Braintree, Canton, Holbrook, Milton, Randolph, and Norwood voted in favor of entering executive session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(3), to discuss strategy regarding collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting might have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body. Motion carried. The Committee entered executive session and did not return to open session.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion duly made and carried, it was agreed that there was no further business to transact; the meeting was closed after executive session.

DISCLAIMER

The above minutes should be used as a summary of the motions passed and issues discussed at the meeting. This document shall not be considered a verbatim copy of every word spoken at the meeting.

Chair

Date