



BLUE HILLS

REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

BHR, Room W-218

JUNE 17, 2025, 7:00 P.M.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Eric Erskine	Braintree
Thomas Polito	Dedham
Kevin Connolly	Norwood
Taryn Mohan	Holbrook
Marybeth Joyce	Milton
Karen Graves	Randolph
Sheila Vazquez	Westwood

ABSENT:

Carl Walker	Avon
Mark Driscoll	Canton

ADMINISTRATION:

Jill Rossetti	Superintendent-Director
Geoff Zini	Principal
Jill Brilhante	Business Manager
Stephanie Alvernaz	Director of Admission and Post-Secondary Education
Mark Aubrey	Assistant Principal
Angelo Dimitriou	Director of Special Services

FACULTY & STAFF:

Jonathan Pryor	School to Careers Coordinator
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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:

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 7:08 p.m.
Mr. Zini led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee entered an executive session from 7:12 p.m. to 7:41 p.m.

On a motion made by Taryn Mohan, seconded by Marybeth Joyce, it was resolved to enter an executive session. Motion carried.

4. SCHOOL TO CAREERS

Jonathan Pryor presented the year-end report, noting that the focus for the year was expanding the program over districts. The year's highlights were reviewed. The PACK challenge was expanded

out of the Midwest and can now be accessed throughout New England. The proposed ambulance simulator can be used across the district at any school through the Schools to Careers program. A summary of the performance of content on LinkedIn was provided.

The Committee asked for further details on the applied learning showcase. It was explained that this showcase is similar to a science fair and students can move forward to a regional final. This was the first year for engaging elementary schools in the career path. The project for the ambulance simulator will be funded by Norwood, with no funding from the district. A brief summary of how the schools use the district was provided, noting that each area has different requirements and finds suitable ways to reach its goals.

5. END-OF-YEAR REPORT

5.1 STUDENT DISCIPLINE AND ATTENDANCE REPORT

ACTION – Mark Aubrey, Assistant Principal will provide the Committee with the number of suspension days handed out in the 2024 to 2025 school year.

Mark Aubrey, Assistant Principal presented the memorandum dated June 4, 2025, outlining the attendance and discipline outcomes for the 2024-25 school year. It was noted that attendance and discipline remained strong throughout the year. Attendance was at 95.8% for the year, which was approximately 5% above the state average.

Incidents and suspensions decreased over the previous two years. Saturday detentions were higher among the Grade 11 and 12 students due to tardiness. There were no expulsions during the school year. The Committee recommended that the administration keep the discipline report from next year for future comparison as the state will be taking over admissions for the 2026 to 2027 school year.

5.2 REVIEW AND VOTE ON THE PARENT STUDENT HANDBOOK

Mark Aubrey, Assistant Principal presented the Parent Student Handbook for review and vote. He noted that all changes had been made with oversight from the district lawyers.

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve the Parent Student Handbook as presented. Motion carried.

6. SPECIAL SERVICES REPORT

Angelo Dimitriou, Director of Special Services presented the special services report, with no major changes since the last update. The report focused on Guidance, noting the curriculum was concentrated on freshmen and included information on communication, social emotional learning, social media presence, and career planning. Wellness and prevention, career planning, and post-secondary planning were reviewed. It was noted that special education students enter post-secondary education at a rate that is similar to the school average.

7. SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR'S REPORT

7.1 VOCATIONAL ADMISSIONS PRESENTATION

Jill Rossetti, Superintendent-Director and Stephanie Albernaz, Director of Admission and Post-Secondary Education presented the vocational admissions presentation with a focus on the admissions policy transition and the weighted lottery. The point system was reviewed. The new DESE regulations were reviewed and the changes were outlined. The lottery will be livestreamed, and students will be given two weeks to respond for attendance. A weighted lottery simulation was conducted to prepare for the changes in the DESE regulations.

Blue Hills is prepared to send messaging that staying in the school will be more difficult than getting into the school. Concerns were expressed over student behavior under the new DESE regulations

as students with behavior issues are currently not admitted to the school.

It was noted that a vocational task force is required to review the DESE regulations to ensure the admission system remains fair and equitable. The Committee was encouraged to contact the government to lobby for the task force. The impacts of the new regulations will remain uncertain until the first year they are used. It was noted that new supports will be required due to the changing needs of students under the new regulations. The preparations required prior to the implementation of the new regulations were discussed.

7.2 LUCA UPDATE

Jill Rossetti, Superintendent-Director reported that Luca passed his therapy dog training and his vest is pending.

8. BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

8.1 APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION FOR AWARDING A 14-PASSENGER MFSAB

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve the recommendation for awarding the lowest bid to Anderson Blue Bird Bus Sales for a 14-passenger Multi-Functional School Activity Bus (MFSAB) for the Construction Program in the amount of \$113,455. Motion carried.

A budget surplus was reported.

8.2 APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDING 330 STUDENT DESKS AND CHAIRS

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve the recommendation for awarding the lowest bidder to DEMCO for 330 student desks and chairs in the amount of \$98,911.12. Motion carried.

8.3 MISCELLANEOUS

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to add to the agenda a discussion on the flooring replacement for the culinary department. Motion carried.

Jill Brilhante noted that the amount was \$44,125.77 for the furniture in the library.

The quote for the building insurance was received with a 6% increase, which is equal to \$14,000.

8.4 APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION FOR AWARDING CULINARY DEPARTMENT FLOORING REPLACEMENT

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve the recommendation for awarding the bid for the culinary department flooring replacement in the amount of \$103,351. Motion carried.

It was noted that the budget surplus is a result of unspent funding for equipment and programs. The culinary department requires a flooring replacement, and quotes were collected. It was requested that the quote of \$103,351 be included in the current budget. The Committee discussed the issues with the previous flooring replacement.

9. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

9.1 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Geoff Zini presented the school improvement plan, which is aligned with the school strategic plan. The pillars of success were reviewed along with the goals for the upcoming year.

9.2 FINAL DAY OF SCHOOL: FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2025

Geoff Zini noted that June 20, 2025, is the last day of school for students and staff.

9.3 SKILLSUSA TRIP TO ATLANTA, GEORGIA

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve the costs associated with sending two students to Atlanta, Georgia as finalists and one chaperone for the SkillsUSA competition. Motion carried.

Geoff Zini reported that two students made the finals for SkillsUSA. The approximate cost for the two students with one chaperone will be \$8,000.

10. TREASURER'S REPORT AND WARRANT

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve

Warrant 21, including Vouchers 1103-1109 for a total of \$1,114,213.54. Read by Taryn Mohan.

Motion carried.

11. MINUTES APPROVAL

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the District School Committee meeting held on May 17, 2025, as presented. Motion carried.

12. DSC CHAIR REPORT

12.1 EVALUATIONS FOR SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR AND DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON SUPERINTENDENT DIRECTOR'S CONTRACT AND COMPENSATION

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve the 4% compensation increase for the Superintendent-Director to take effect for June 2025. Motion carried.

Taryn Mohan presented the evaluation for the Superintendent-Director. The Superintendent-Director contract is currently under legal review; therefore, no vote was taken at this time.

12.2 SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR NON-UNION ADMINISTRATORS

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve the salary adjustments for the non union administrators at an increase of up to 4%. Motion carried.

Taryn Mohan reported that the range for salary adjustments for non-union administrators was received.

12.3 DSC REORGANIZATION

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to close the nominations for the Chair of the DSC. Motion carried.

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to elect Mark Driscoll as Chair of the DSC effective July 1, 2025. Motion carried.

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to close the nominations for the Vice Chair of the DSC. Motion carried.

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to elect Taryn Mohan as Vice Chair of the DSC effective July 1, 2025. Motion carried.

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to close the nominations for the Secretary of the DSC. Motion carried.

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to elect Marybeth Joyce as Secretary of the DSC effective July 1, 2025. Motion carried.

The Chair turned the meeting over to Taryn Mohan to open the nominations for Officers of the 61st District School Committee to be effective July 1, 2025. Mark Driscoll was nominated as Chair, Taryn Mohan was nominated for Vice-Chair and Marybeth Joyce was nominated for Secretary.

13. CUSTODIAN CONTRACT

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to add to the agenda a discussion on the custodian contract. Motion carried.

On a motion duly made, it was resolved to approve the three-year custodian contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

14. DSC SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

14.1 APPOINTED AD-HOC NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE

Taryn Mohan presented a brief report noting that the Ad-Hoc Negotiation Committee held its first meeting. Discussions were held on how to proceed with meeting documentation upon the departure of Jill Brillhante. Further meetings will be held.

15. NEXT MEETING

The date of the next District School Committee meeting is July 8, 2025.

16. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made and unanimously carried, it was agreed that there was no further business to transact; the meeting closed at 9:30 p.m.

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.

Director

Director

Date

Date