



BLUE HILLS

REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

**MINUTES OF THE DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
BHR, ROOM W-218
SEPTEMBER 16, 2025, 7:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS:

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

ABSENT:

Eric Erskine	Braintree
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ADMINISTRATION:

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

FACULTY & STAFF:

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:

Nissy Kahuha	Senior Class President
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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.

Mark Driscoll, Chair led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. INTRODUCTION OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO DSC

A new student representative to DSC, Nissy Kahuha, introduced herself to the school committee, sharing her background and goals for her senior year. She emphasized the importance of school spirit, community connection, and creating lasting memories during her high school years. She also highlighted the following items:

- The Senior Sunrise was organized during school to allow all seniors to participate, featuring activities like volleyball, cornhole, and nostalgic games, fostering community and shared memories.
- The Class of 2026 sold out tickets for their top goals fundraiser, marking their first senior fundraiser and supporting an affordable senior year experience.
- Two Spirit weeks are scheduled around homecoming with themed days, a pep rally, and

a homecoming game to enhance school spirit; sports teams have upcoming home games and matches.

- Clubs such as Drama, Yearbook, and Dungeons and Dragons are active again with bus service restored, and there is a focus on spreading kindness inspired by a teacher's initiative.

4. NEW TEACHER AND STAFF INTRODUCTION

Principal, Geoff Zini introduced Blue Hills' new faculty and staff members, highlighting their backgrounds and roles.

- Olivia Cintron – Culinary
- Shawn Dryer – Engineering
- Jules Jusiewicz – Mathematics
- Aislin Moylan – Computer Technology
- Michael Walczak – Electronics
- Matthew Westhaver – Drafting/CAD
- Jill Ferris – Vocational Director

5. ADMISSIONS DIRECTOR REPORT

On a motion made by Milton, seconded by Dedham, it was resolved to approve the Admissions Policy as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The Admissions Director's report was presented regarding the new admissions policy for the upcoming year, which must be submitted to DSC by November 1, 2025. The policy draft, incorporating elements from the current policy and DSC's template, was reviewed in the Policy Subcommittee meeting, which counted as the second reading.

6. SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR'S REPORT

6.1 STAFFING HIRING REPORT UPDATE

Jill Rossetti, Superintendent-Director provided an update, noting that the school is actively recruiting for an electrical instructor. They are also in the process of hiring an assistant business manager, a position that was previously a purchasing specialist. Interviews and hiring processes are ongoing, with some candidates still pending.

There was a discussion about the budget for an effect trainer position. It was noted that funds were previously allocated under contracted services, which were more costly and intermittent. The preference is to have a permanent hire rather than sporadic contracted work.

6.2 DECOMMISSION REQUEST

On a motion made by Holbrook, seconded by Norwood, it was resolved to approve the decommission of the **old scoring table featuring the outdated logo**. Motion carried unanimously.

6.3 PROFESSIONAL TEACHER STATUS RECOGNITION

The school nurse, La'Lena Etheart was recognized for earning professional teacher status for the fourth consecutive year. Additionally, new hires received symbolic learning lamps on their first day.

6.4 SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR GOALS FOR 2025-2026

The goals for Jill Rossetti, Superintendent-Director for 2025 and 2026 were as follows:

- A Professional Practice Goal, which is a personal goal for the director, is always standard.

- The school goal involves managing the admissions lottery, which is currently in progress.
- The director is working on the final year of the current strategic plan (2026-2029). This involves developing a new strategic plan through stakeholder engagement and protocol creation.
- The district goal is to open a new dental program. This includes facility renovations, finalizing the application process, and hiring staff to build the curriculum. The program is scheduled to begin with the ninth grade in September, with additional staff budgeting planned for November.
- The director aims to integrate AI into Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs and academics. Thirteen teachers have already signed up for this initiative, and pre meetings are scheduled to coordinate the integration of AI projects during school hours.

7. BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT

7.1 AUDITING FIRM UPDATE

On a motion made by Dedham, seconded by Westwood, it was resolved to approve the selection of Hague, Sahady & Co., CPA's P.C., as the new auditing firm for Blue Hills Regional School. Motion carried unanimously.

Elvio Ferreira, Business Manager recommended Hague, Sahady & Co., CPA's, P.C. from Fall River for auditing, replacing the previous firm due to integration challenges following its acquisition by a national conglomerate. A three-year contract was approved unanimously.

7.2 DENTAL ASSISTING SPACE RENOVATION

An agreement was established with Habeeb and Associates for pre-design field investigations and design development of the dental assisting space renovation, with ongoing coordination on program applications. The renovation is funded by an anonymous donation, with a lump sum fee of \$99,480 agreed upon for payment. Clarifications were made regarding budget inclusion and payment terms. The renovation will utilize the former small gym and part of the health assisting classroom, with no additional approval required.

7.3 TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT FORMS

Travel reimbursement forms were distributed for signatures.

8. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

8.1 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

On a motion made by Norwood, seconded by Randolph, it was resolved to approve two travel requests: one for the girls' soccer team to travel to Providence College and another for a teacher to attend an overseas training session in Spain. Motion carried unanimously.

Geoff Zini, principal provided an update on upcoming school activities, athletic schedules, accreditation visits, and competency determination policies. The school shared key fall dates and athletic schedules, advising to check for updates due to possible changes. An accreditation visit is scheduled for October 14-15, 2025, which will include a collaborative conference and a two year growth plan.

A working group is reviewing assessments aligned with 2023 MCAS exams and the US history curriculum to finalize a competency determination policy by December 31, 2025, based on a model policy from MASC.

Approval was granted for the girls' soccer team to travel to Providence College for a game and for a teacher to attend an overseas training session in Spain, with no cost to the school,

except for the cost of a substitute teacher.

The home team decides the timing of the Thanksgiving game, which this year is scheduled for a Wednesday night, taking into consideration field availability and the possible use of alternative fields, such as Taunton High School.

9. TREASURER'S REPORT AND WARRANT

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

FY25:

Warrant #30 for \$35,463.36, Voucher No. 1132

Warrant #31 for \$50,000, Voucher No. N/A Wire Transfer

FY26:

Warrant #12 for \$626,772.97, Voucher No. 1015-1018

Warrant #13 for \$423,693.08, Voucher No. 1019-1020

Warrant #14 for \$104,555.58, Voucher No. 1021

Warrant #15 for \$516,804.76, Voucher No. 1022-2023

Motion carried unanimously.

Read by Ms. Marybeth Joyce, Secretary

Patricia Leonhardt, District Treasurer covered the Treasurer's report, focusing on the approval of multiple warrants for fiscal years 2025 and 2026. It was suggested to provide the Treasurer's Report at the beginning of meetings.

10. MINUTES APPROVAL

On a motion made by Dedham, seconded by Norwood, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2025, District School Committee meeting as amended. One abstention from Westwood. Motion carried.

On a motion made by Dedham, seconded by Norwood, it was resolved to approve the minutes of the June and July 2025 District School Committee meetings as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

The group reviewed the minutes from August 19, 2025, and noted minor edits. It was agreed to include presenters' names along with their titles in the minutes to improve public understanding.

11. DSC CHAIR REPORT

11.1 RECORDING SECRETARY/CLERK DISCUSSION

On a motion made by Norwood, seconded by Randolph, it was resolved to accept the updated job description for the recording secretary and to post the job with the specified hours. Motion carried unanimously.

Thomas Polito reported that the recording secretary job description was revised to remove outdated duties and add current responsibilities, including updating the website, maintaining the policy manual, coordinating committee functions, and serving as the district clerk for elections. The role requires experience with Google Suites and minutes-taking, with an hourly wage range of \$20-\$25 for 10-15 hours per week. A committee will be formed to screen applicants.

11.2 SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Preliminary subcommittee lists were distributed, aiming to maintain continuity and build experience across the board, ensuring at least one member from prior committees remains

involved.

11.3 SUPERINTENDENT-GENERAL CONTRACT APPROVAL

On a motion made by Dedham, seconded by Norwood, it was resolved to approve the ratified contract for the superintendent director. Motion carried unanimously.

After multiple subcommittee meetings and lawyer review, the superintendent director's contract was successfully ratified and approved unanimously, pending final signatures.

11.4 MISCELLANEOUS

On a motion made by Dedham, seconded by Norwood, it was resolved to approve the cafeteria and custodial contracts as previously ratified. Motion carried unanimously.

Maintenance, clinical, custodial, and cafeteria clerical contracts were approved earlier but await final attorney review and formal retyping into cohesive documents.

12. NEXT MEETING

The date of the next District School Committee meeting is October 21, 2025.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee did not enter an executive session.

14. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Dedham, seconded by Randolph, and carried unanimously, it was agreed that there was no further business to transact; the meeting closed at 7:51 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