

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES

OF

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

BUDGET/FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

OF

JANUARY 8, 2026

SUBMITTED FOR THE APPROVAL OF:

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

AND

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

“AN OPEN MEETING ADVANTAGE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF METHUEN”

RECORDED BY:

MARY BETH DONOVAN GRASSI, SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE

2026.01.08

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METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE

JANUARY 8, 2026

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m.

Motion: Member Keegan

Second: Member Donovan

Vote: Yes – Keegan, Donovan, Beauregard

Budget Update & Discussion

Mayor Beauregard reported that the city is awaiting the release of the state Cherry Sheet and Governor Healey's proposed budget, which will provide greater clarity regarding the state's contribution to Methuen. The release is anticipated on January 21.

In preparation, Mayor Beauregard and Ms. Duprey noted that the city is currently gathering revenue information, including projections related to property taxes, federal grants, and other revenue sources.

Mr. Gosselin reported that on the school side, he and district leadership are working to finalize anticipated costs—such as leases, tuition, curriculum, and technology—by obtaining earlier quotes in order to firm up budget projections.

Dr. Golobski Twomey noted that while a projected decline in student enrollment is expected to result in reduced state aid, that loss is anticipated to be offset by increased funding generated through the expansion of the district's Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs.

Surplus School Buildings

The committee discussed potential revenue from the sale of the Currier Street and Pleasant Valley school buildings. The School Committee previously voted to deem both properties surplus and transfer them to the city, with the hope that proceeds could be used to support school building improvements.

Mayor Beauregard reported that he is seeking legal guidance regarding whether City Council approval is required for the transfer of these properties.

Revenue & Cost-Saving Strategies

The committee discussed several potential revenue-generating and cost-saving ideas, including:

- Exploring the use of MEVA for student transportation while also providing training opportunities for adult special education students. Mayor Beauregard indicated he would follow up with MEVA officials.
- Partnering with the House of Corrections and DPW to support landscaping and grounds maintenance work.
- Reviewing how residency of Methuen students attending charter schools is verified on an annual basis.
- Studying the fiscal and enrollment impact of expanding school choice options.

Motion to adjourn 4:40

Motion: Member Keegan

Second: Member Donovan

Vote: Yes – Keegan, Donovan, Beauregard