

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES

OF

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

WORKSHOP/BUSINESS SESSION

OF

APRIL 27, 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:

KAREN LAWLOR, PUBLIC RECORDER

2026.04.27

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METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

WORKSHOP/BUSINESS SESSION

APRIL 27, 2026

This Workshop/Business Session of the Methuen School Committee was held at the Methuen High School, Media Center, and was posted for 6:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE, THERE WAS AN ISSUE WITH THE LIVE STREAM FOR THIS MEETING

MOTION to accept the agenda was not viewed , there was an issue with the live stream.

1. Public Participation- No live stream available.

Joyce Gagnon, 16 Brandee Lane, Methuen

Ryan DiZoglio, 1 Independence Drive, Methuen

2. SEPAC Update , There was an issue with the live stream, no update was viewed.

3. PTO Updates, There was an issue with the live stream, no update was viewed.

LIVE FEED BACK UP AND RUNNING

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio (P)

Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (P)

Alejandro Baez (P)

Laurie Keegan (P)

Martha McCarthy Sirois (P)

Kenneth Willette (P)

Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., Chairperson (P)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Lisa A. Golobski Twomey, Ed.D. Acting Superintendent of Schools

Ian Gosselin, Asst. Superintendent of Finance and Facilities

Gina Bozek, Asst. Superintendent

4. Approval of minutes - March 23, 2026, and April 13, 2026

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to accept the minutes for March 23, 2026.

Member Baez seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in Favor

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to accept the minutes for April 13, 2026.

Member Baez seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in Favor

5. Strategy for District Improvement Quarterly Update

Acting Superintendent Lisa Golobski Twomey gave the quarter three updates and had a slide presentation. She went over three objectives highlighting key actions for each one.

Objective 1. Accelerating Literacy Development and Language Acquisition Across all Subject Areas.

Highlighted Key Actions

Early Literacy High-Dosage Tutoring

MOY Benchmark-Grades 9 and 10

Our Continued Partnerships

Methuen Public Schools Literacy Night, May 6, 2026

Objective 2. Reduce Opportunity and Achievement Gaps Between Student Groups to Improve Outcomes.

Highlighted Key Actions

MTSS Revisioning Team Updates

MyCAP Planning Team Attending Convening

A Unique Opportunity: MHS Band Disney Trip

Objective 3. Enhance Partnerships with Students/Families.

Highlighted Key Actions

Bryt Program Update

DESE Student Voice Summit

College Fair, Job Fair

Parent University

Vision of a Graduate

Discussion: Member Baez spoke about the Job Fair.

There were discussions about applying for multi year grants from the federal government instead of year to year grants. Benchmark assessment data was also discussed. Members wanted to have juniors and seniors take the test to see who isn't at a sophomore reading level.

They currently do take the test, but the results are not shared due to not all of them taking it.

Acting Superintendent Lisa Golobski Twomey went over how to qualify for the AP courses offered, the variety of ways to become involved, how many are in the courses and the amount of students going into the Early College Program.

Member Donovan Grassi wanted to know where we are with the number of students who have earned the Seal of Biliteracy and when we get the information. The information will be coming out soon and the recognition will be at the Senior Awards Night.

There was also a discussion on upcoming events if there would be bilingual staff members and other interpreters to help out. There will be staff to help out .

6. Resolution to Delegation from the School Committee (Member Baez)- Approval

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion for the approval of the resolution to delegation from the School Committee.

Member McCarthy Sirois seconded the motion.

Discussion: Member Baez explained why he wrote the resolution. The letter makes it clear what type of amendments would be beneficial and helpful for the district and letting the Delegation know as well as asking for help for state aid, we're also doing our part as a Committee to make sure we are furthering the best interest of our students, educators and communities. No resource is too little or too insignificant.

Members thanked Member Baez for writing the letter. They felt he did a great job.

VOTE: All in Favor Passed

7. Methuen Public Schools Subcommittee Meeting Recording and Public Access Policy Proposal-Second Read and Approval (Member Baez)

Member Baez took the feedback from the Committee and discussed it with the Policy Subcommittee. He took into consideration some proposed amendments. He explained why he is amending two sections.

MOTION: Member Baez made a motion to amend section 3: Effective Date and strike it. The other is to amend section II under Implementation. Strike the words: consistent with applicable state record retention schedules. Replace it with: of 10 years.

Member Donovan Grassi seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

VOTE: All in Favor

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to adopt as amended.

Member Donovan Grassi seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in Favor Adopted as Amended

8. Proposed Amendment of 2025-2026 School Committee Calendar- Approval

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to accept the proposed amendment of the 2025-2026 School Committee calendar

Member Baez seconded the motion.

Discussion: Acting Superintendent Lisa Golobski Twomey wanted the Committee to know that this was updated to reflect the upcoming meeting dates.

Members felt that this was not enough time to go through everything to make any changes. The date was moved up by the Chair for City Council. They want to add a footnote to the calendar.

MOTION: Vice Chair DiZoglio made a motion to add a footnote to the calendar.

Member Baez seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in Favor

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to adopt the calendar as amended.
Member McCarthy Sirois seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in Favor Adopted as Amended

9. FY27 Budget Discussion

Acting Superintendent Lisa Golobski Twomey spent time with her central office and building administrators to go through item by item, school by school to identify where there may be areas for reduction. Trying to keep class sizes under twenty six for grades three to twelve. She provided a memo with a short list of reductions and went over the positions. A list of new positions to be added that are very important were talked about. Her team looked into programs and had different ideas on where to save. It wouldn't be enough.

Members had a discussion on cuts and what the numbers would be. The issue of free cash was also discussed. The GIC was talked about and how the city would save money if they switched over to it. There were many discussions on ideas of how they could save so many jobs from being cut. It wouldn't give the school department enough to come close to what they need. With class sizes going up, safety is an issue.

Members discussed the special education program that they want to invest in. It needs to be separate from the budget for funding. Ms. Bozak will look into it and make a presentation.

Chair Beaugard went over why we are in such a deficit. The increase is driven by contractual elements, transportation and special education costs. Federal aid has gone down and the state aid increase is not enough.

Mr. Gosselin needs to present numbers to the Lawrence Eagle Tribune to be posted. They discussed what their numbers would be.

MOTION: Member Donovan Grassi made a motion to use the numbers
Mr. Gosselin has to notify the Eagle Tribune.
Member Sirois seconded the motion.

Discussion - None

VOTE: All in Favor

10. Any Other Business from the Committee

Member Donovan Grassi wanted to know if we had a safety committee, Acting Superintendent Golobski Twomey has it on her list to do in May. She has updates to share.

Member Baez wants to add another member to the Wellness Subcommittee, there is a vacant seat due to Former Member Maxwell's resignation.

Member Keegan wants to give a shout out to the students who did the civics presentation at the High School. They did an amazing job.

Member McCarthy Sirois would like to have the City Council informed of future student events so they can see what a great job they are doing.

11. Adjournment

MOTION: Member Donovan Grassi made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Member McCarthy Sirois seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in Favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM