

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES

OF

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING

OF

JUNE 18, 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

2026.06.18

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METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING

JUNE 18, 2026

This Special Meeting of the Methuen School Committee was held at the Methuen High School, Media Center, and was posted for 6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Vice Chair DiZoglio called this Special Meeting of June 18, 2026, to order at 7:12 PM, with a quorum of Members in attendance, and listed below.

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio (P)
Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (P)
Alejandro Baez (P)
Laurie Keegan (P)
Martha McCarthy Sirois (P)
Kenneth Willette (P, ZOOM)
Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., Chairperson (A)

Other Members in Attendance

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

Acceptance of the Agenda

MOTION: Member Donovan Grassi made a motion to accept the agenda for June 18, 2026

Member Keegan seconded the Motion

Discussion: None

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio (No)
Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (Yes)
Alejandro Baez (Yes)
Laurie Keegan (Yes)
Martha McCarthy Sirois (Yes)

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Kenneth Willette (Yes)
Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., Chairperson (A)

VOTE: **5-1-0** **Passed**

Flag Salute

1. Participation By Others

- a. Public Participation Jack Burke, 49 Canobieola Road, Methuen

2. MASC Policy Review - Approval

- a. Section I with changes

MOTION: Member Baez made a motion to approve section I as presented and rescind all previous policies regarding section I.

Member Keegan seconded the motion.

Discussion: Members had concerns moving forward with the policy. They feel they did not have enough time to look over the changes, they received the packets very late. They also expressed that it was not posted with the agenda in time. The entire Committee should be present to review and discuss. Members would like to table the approval. Member Donovan Grassi asked if this was consensus from the entire Policy Subcommittee. Member Baez explained that they had long discussions and they worked together to make the changes and that all Members of the Committee along with the Acting Superintendent and Alicia Mallon from MASC were at every meeting. It is time sensitive to get it in the handbook by August.

MOTION: Member Willette made a motion to table the approval of Section I.
Member Donovan Grassi seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio (Yes)
Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (Yes)
Alejandro Baez (No)
Laurie Keegan (No)
Martha McCarthy Sirois (No)
Kenneth Willette (Yes)
Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., Chairperson (A)

VOTE: **3-3** **Fails to Table**

Member Willette left the meeting @ 7:37 PM

Acting Superintendent Lisa Golobski Twomey reached out to the Chair Beauregard to see if he wanted to cancel the meeting. He wanted it to proceed without him.

Member Baez went through each policy with the Policy Subcommittee's recommendations.

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IA - EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY - Recommendation is to remove.

IAA - STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY OF PRIMARY EDUCATION - Recommendation is to remove.

IAA E1 and E2 - CURRICULUM GOALS AND PRIMARY CLASSROOM GUIDELINES - Recommendation is to remove.

IB - ACADEMIC FREEDOM - A MASC Policy, recommends adoption.

IC/ICA - SCHOOL YEAR/SCHOOL CALENDAR - A MASC Policy, recommends adoption.

Adopting this policy would combine the School Day and School Year policy then adopt it under the file ID School Day Policy.

ID - SCHOOL DAY - similar topics but different policies. Changes would be to add Administrator and staff hours to the website.

IE - ORGANIZATION OF INSTRUCTION - recommendation is to keep the policy.

Discussion: Members had a discussion about why preschool was not included in this policy. The Acting Superintendent suggested adding a separate line to the policy.

MOTION: Member Donovan Grassi made a motion to add preschool to the Organization of Instruction Policy.

Member Baez seconded the motion.

The Acting Superintendent will add it to the third paragraph, which is a single sentence, special education services are integrated across each grade level in all schools, including preschool.

VOTE: **Voice Vote,** **4-1** **Vice Chair voted no** **Passes**

IGA - CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT - Recommend removal of IGA and IGD and replacing with MASC's IGA/IGD.

IGD - CURRICULUM ADOPTION - The red line is changing the title to Assistant Superintendent of Student Services.

Discussion: The Committee had a discussion on why this could be changed. Voice Chair DiZoglio would like to have Alicia Mallon from MASC at the next meeting.

IGB - STUDENT SERVICES PROGRAMS - Recommend adoption, red line is for the title of the position.

Discussion: Vice Chair DiZoglio would like to make the position title generic in case the title changes.

MOTION: Member Baez made a motion to update the title of Assistant Superintendent of Student Services to Superintendent's designee.
Member Sirois seconded the motion.

VOTE: **All in Favor**

IHAM - HEALTH EDUCATION - Recommend adoption, red line in second paragraph due to current practices.

Discussion: Members talked about how this topic is tough for the community and that the school department is complying with the state. The Acting Superintendent agreed to add to the

handbook , either to the policy or part of the mission statement that the school department is complying with the requirements of the state.

IHAM-R - HEALTH EDUCATION - MASC only. Recommend adoption.

IHAMA - PARENTAL/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION RELATIVE TO SEX EDUCATION - Policies are nearly identical. Reference update only.

IHAMB - TEACHING ABOUT ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND DRUGS - MASC only, Recommend adoption. The word delay is in the original policy and the policy subcommittee wants to strike the word delay and add prevent. The goal is to prevent not to delay.

IHB - SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS AND ACCOMMODATIONS - MASC only, Recommend adoption. The programs are for students with special needs. There were significant changes to the policy with the language. The Members would like the wording for disability in some sentences to be changed to special needs and be more consistent in the policy.

MOTION: Member Baez made a motion to strike in sentences: students with disabilities and insert students with special needs.

Member McCarthy Sirois seconded the motion.

VOTE: **All in Favor**

IHBA - STUDENT SERVICES PROGRAM - MASC only, Recommend adoption.

IHBAA - OBSERVATIONS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS- MASC model policy was updated. Recommend adoption and rescind ours. The change is, the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services will communicate expectations of observers prior to the observation. Member Keegan explained what the policy subcommittee discussed and the reason for the changes they recommended.

Discussion: Vice Chair DiZoglio would like to see the policy looked at to make it more consistent in the wording. He talked about the law and DESE regulations in section three. Members and the Acting Superintendent discussed how parents could be denied or restriction they would have by observing a classroom. Combining paragraphs and being more clear on the law should be looked at further and make some changes to this policy.

IHBD - COMPENSATORY EDUCATION (MASC) - MASC only. Recommend adoption.

IHBEA - ENGLISH (MULTILINGUAL) LEARNER EDUCATION (MASC) - MASC only, Recommend adoption.

Discussion: Member Baez mentioned that the subcommittee had lengthy discussions and questions for MASC regarding this policy. Members discussed how the policy needs to be detailed more and much much clearer for families to understand and that it is a DESE regulation. They would like to see it changed and added to the registration packet with the home language survey.

IHBE - HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION (MASC) , MASC only. Recommend adoption and rescinding the homeschooling policy and adopting a new homeschooling policy.

Discussion: There was a discussion regarding the number of days out of school before the student was provided a tutor. The red line is to change a note provided from a medical doctor to a licensed medical provider.

IHBG - HOME SCHOOLING (MASC), MASC model policy was updated in 2023. Recommend MASC version.

Discussion: The Subcommittee wanted to identify if a remote learning academy was considered a homeschooled program or not. Vice Chair DiZoglio wanted to know if the district had financial obligations for homeschool children. Only if they play a sport or extra curricula in the district. We don't collect per pupil fees.

IHBGA - HOME EDUCATED STUDENTS – REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC PROGRAMS (M), It's procedural, and recommends reallocation to the handbook.

IHBH - ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAMS (MASC) MASC only. Recommend adoption.

IHBHE - REMOTE LEARNING (MASC), MASC only. Recommend adoption.

Discussion: There was a discussion on how this would affect collective bargaining. It would have to be extenuating circumstances only and have the ability to go to remote learning. DESE does not allow us to count single snow days remote learning days.

IHCA - SUMMER SCHOOLS (MASC), MASC only. Recommend adoption.

Discussion: Students at all instructional levels were stricken due to discussion on current practices and what we do offer. Acting Superintendent Golobsky Twomey explained why that was stricken. There are different types of programs offered and they wanted to be sure that they were representing all of the offerings.

Vice Chair DiZoglio wants the line stricken that states all summer school programs will be subject to annual approval by the School Committee. They have never done this in the past.

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to strike the sentence.
Member Baez seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in Favor

IIB - CLASS SIZE (M) Methuen only. Recommend removal.

Discussion: Member Baez explained why they wanted it removed. The subcommittee didn't see the necessity of the policy and it's outdated.

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to table the meeting
Member Baez seconded the motion.

Member McCarthy Sirois had a question, the motion was withdrawn by Member Keegan and Member Baez.

Discussion: Member McCarthy Sirois wanted to know where they start at the next meeting. It will be picked up where it was left off. A clean copy of the changes made was recommended to have for the next meeting.

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to table the policy meeting.
Member Baez seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio (Yes)

Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (Yes)

Alejandro Baez (Yes)

Laurie Keegan (Yes)

Martha McCarthy Sirois (Yes)

Kenneth Willette (A)

Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., Chairperson (A)

VOTE: 5-0 Tabled

3. Business From The Committee

Member Keegan wanted to know if the posting for the meeting was done in the 48 hour deadline.

Yes it was, both the meeting and executive meeting postings were done in time.

Vice Chair DiZoglio would like the stamped version of the meeting posted on the website.

4. Adjournment

MOTION: Member Baez made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Member Keegan seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in Favor

Adjourned at 9:00PM