

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES

OF

THE METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

BUSINESS/EXECUTIVE SESSION

OF

FEBRUARY 9, 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

2026.02.09

TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED MINUTES
METHUEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS/EXECUTIVE SESSION
FEBRUARY 9, 2026

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

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Vice Chair DiZoglio called this Business Session of February 9, 2026, to order at 5:30 PM, with a quorum of Members in attendance, and listed below.

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio (P)
Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (P)
Laurie Keegan (P)
Kristen Maxwell (P)
Martha McCarthy Sirois (P)
Kenneth Willette (P)
Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., Chairperson (P)

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Nicholas DiZoglio (P)
Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (P)
Laurie Keegan (P)
Kristen Maxwell (P)
Martha McCarthy Sirois (P)
Kenneth Willette (P)
Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., Chairperson (P)

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

The Business meeting will reconvene into the open session at the conclusion of the executive session at 6:00PM

Executive Session

Executive Session Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; Formally appoint an Acting Superintendent

MOTION: Vice Chair Dizoglio made a motion to enter into executive session
Member Maxwell seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio, Vice Chair (Yes)
Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (Yes)
Laurie Keegan (Yes)
Kristen Maxwell (Yes)
Martha McCarthy Sirois (Yes)
Kenneth Willette (Yes)
Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., (Yes)

VOTE: 7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Vice Chair DiZoglio adjourned the meeting at 5:35 to executive session. The Business meeting will reconvene at 6:00PM

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Beauregard reconvened the open session of the Business Meeting to order at 6:00 PM, with a quorum of Members in attendance, and listed below.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Nicholas DiZoglio (P)
Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (P)
Laurie Keegan (P)
Kristen Maxwell (P) (Remote)
Martha McCarthy Sirois (P)
Kenneth Willette (P)
Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., Chairperson (P)

Chair Beauregard is going to take a vote on the appointment of an Acting Superintendent. He is asking for a motion to appoint Dr. Lisa Golobski Twomey to serve as Acting Superintendent of the Methuen Public Schools. This would be retro back to December 15, 2025 and effective through June 30, 2026 and authorizing council to engage in contract negotiations.

MOTION: Vice Chair DiZoglio made the motion to appoint Dr. Golobski Twomey to the Acting Superintendent.

Member McCarthy Sirois seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio, Vice Chair (Yes)

Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (Yes)

Laurie Keegan (Yes)

Kristen Maxwell (Yes)

Martha McCarthy Sirois (Yes)

Kenneth Willette (Yes)

Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., (Yes)

VOTE: 7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTION: Member McCarthy Sirois made a motion to adjourn.

Member Keegan seconded the motion.

VOTE: All Members are in favor 7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

CALL TO ORDER AND ATTENDANCE

Chair Beauregard called this Business Session of February 9, 2026, to order at 6:07 PM, with a quorum of Members in attendance, and listed below.

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio (P)

Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (P)

Laurie Keegan (P)

Kristen Maxwell (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
Colleen McCarthy, Human Resources Director
Katie Proietti, Supervising Principal, CGS
Cheryl Mancini, Supervisor of Fine Arts
Anthony Curet, Supervising Principal, MHS
Martha Tatro, School Counseling Department Chair
Joseph Harb, Science Dept. Chair, AP Coordinator
Roger Lenfest, History & Social Sci. Dept. Chair
Meredith Moore, Math Dept. Chair
Tayyab Afzal, Student Representative

Acceptance of the Agenda

MOTION: Vice Chair DiZoglio made a motion to accept the agenda for February 9, 2026
Member Maxwell seconded the Motion

Discussion: None

VOTE: All Members are in favor

7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

1. Flag Salute - CGS

2. Participation by Others

- a. SOAR Award Fine Arts & SOAR Award Band
- b. Student Council Update
- c. Public Participation - None

3. Approval of Minutes- January 8, 2026, January 12, 2026

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to approve the minutes for
January 8, 2026

Member Donovan Grassi seconded the motion

Discussion: Vice Chair DiZoglio had a discussion regarding approving minutes for sub committees that he wasn't there for. He will be voting present for this one. Other Members were in agreement that this is how it has been.

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio, Vice Chair (Present)

Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (Yes)

Laurie Keegan (Yes)

Kristen Maxwell (Yes)

Martha McCarthy Sirois (Yes)

Kenneth Willette (Yes)

Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., (Yes)

VOTE: 6-0-1 APPROVED

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to approve the minutes for
January 12, 2026

Vice Chair DiZoglio seconded the motion

Discussion: None

VOTE: All Members are in favor

7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

4. Staff Reports

a. Acting Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Update

1. Higher Education Partnership Expansion

Discussion: Acting Superintendent Golobski Twomey updated the Members about programs that Merrimack College, UMASS Lowell and Northern Essex offer to staff members to take courses and become certified in areas of need. Chair Beauregard also discussed the early college programs for our students that UMASS Lowell and Northern Essex offer.

Member Donovan Grassi was inquiring about the cost for these programs. The Acting Superintendent explained how the programs work and the costs that go along with it.

Vice Chair DiZoglio expressed what a great opportunity the Early College Program is for our students and is interested in how many students are currently enrolled. Martha Tatro and Chair Beauregard explained how the program works and how they get the information out to the students. There was also a discussion about the CAGS program we used to offer.

2. Update: Effectiveness of Behavioral Positions at Grammar Schools

a. CGS Crisis Interventionist

b. Marsh Crisis Interventionist

c. Tenney RISS Coordinator

d. Timony RISS Coordinator

Discussion: Acting Superintendent Lisa Golobski Twomey explained how each school decided which program best fit the needs of their school. Principal Proietti explained the benefits and disadvantages in each type of program and what works for her school. Members had a discussion

of how they could possibly get both programs in all the schools. How the program works once they have an incident and the qualifications for the staff member.

b. Maintenance/Custodial Updates

1. Health and Safety Task Force Update

Discussion: Member Donovan Grassi and Chair Beauregard gave an update on the new exterminator company with their findings for each school and the action plan. Chair Beauregard would like to include DPW to work with the school dept on repairs and maintenance for capital improvements. Members had a discussion with Mr. Gosselin regarding the Marsh School heat situation and any reimbursement of any materials lost. Member McCarthy Sirois would like to thank the custodial staff at the Marsh. They did a fantastic job cleaning it up. Members also wanted to know if the day the Marsh lost had to be made up.

2. Status of the Accelerated Repair Program Application Update

Discussion: Mr. Gosselin gave his update. He still hasn't heard back from the state on this program, he will follow up again. The state did receive the initial paperwork and would get back to us on the status. He has not had any updates on the status. Members would like to reach out to the Legislature for help with this.

3. MPS Serving as a Potential Project/Job site for GLTS Students Update

Discussion: Acting Superintendent Lisa Golobski Twomey gave her update. She did reach out to the GLTS Superintendent and hasn't received a response yet. She will reach out to the Asst. Superintendent.

Member Willette would like a follow-up and he will help out by reaching out to other people to get a response.

There was a discussion regarding insurance and liability for the students.

c. Student Enrollment Data Report

Discussion: Vice Chair DiZoglio would like a breakdown by grade level. There was a discussion regarding if we had a map of the city that would have the bus routes and streets listed. There was a request for enrollment data for grades K-1 for the last three years for all the schools.

1. Homeschool Count

Discussion: Student Representative Tayyab Afzal wanted to express his opinion and concerns regarding a few matters. One is the disappointment in the drama with politics and leadership. Also, students feel that they are being excluded in decisions. They would like to have more involvement and a voice when it comes to decisions involving the High School.

2. Reported Exit Status of Unenrolled MPS Students

Numbers have decreased over the past few years.

3. MPS Attrition Rates Posted by DESE (searchable by school/district)

Discussion: None

d. Assistant Superintendent of Student Services Rep

Discussion: None

e. Director of Human Resources Staffing Report

Discussion: None

f. MPS Discipline Report

Discussion: None

5. Old Business and Other Pending Matters- None

6. New Business

a. MHS 2026-2027 Program of Studies-Approval

MOTION: Member Keegan made a motion to approve the MHS 2026-2027 Program of Studies.

Member McCarthy Sirois seconded the motion.

1. Memo

2. Proposed MHS Program of Studies 26-27

Discussion: Vice Chair DiZoglio thanked the Department Chairs and Mr. Curet for being there so late. There was a discussion about courses being added and taken out.

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio, Vice Chair (Yes)

Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (Yes)

Laurie Keegan (Yes)

Kristen Maxwell (Yes)

Martha McCarthy Sirois (Yes)

Kenneth Willette (Yes)

Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., (Yes)

VOTE: 7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

b. Superintendent Search Firm Selection- Approval

MOTION: Member Donovan Grassi made a motion to approve a firm for the Superintendent search.

Member Keegan seconded the motion.

Discussion: Ms. McCarthy gave her report on the scores of the RFP along with recommendations to which company they could go with. The Committee had a discussion on the firms and bringing them in. Also, if they should table picking a company. Colleen will reach out to both firms to see if they could come in to discuss what they can offer the Committee.

MOTION: Vice Chair DiZoglio made a motion to table picking a firm for the Superintendent search.

Member Donovan Grassi seconded the motion.

VOTE: All Members are in favor

7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

7. Finance and Operations

a. Expenditure Report/Revolving Funds Report – December

Discussion: Mr. Gosselin had a discussion with Members about the utility bills and other unexpected expenses that have been going up this year. Vice Chair Dizoglio would like a report on where the funds are coming from that go into the facilities line. He would like to see the auditorium used more to produce more revenue for the schools. Mr. Gosselin explained that we don't donate a lot of the spaces. For local groups, they are required to cover the custodial rate. He explained how the revolving accounts and student activity accounts work in the schools as well as the circuit breaker funds.

b. Grants Report – December

Discussion: None

c. Student Activity Accounts – December

TENNEY

TIMONY

CGS

MARSH

MHS

Discussion: Member Maxwell had some questions on the student activity accounts and what it can be used for. Mr. Gosselin explained how it works.

d. Food Services Report (Memo)

Discussion: Chair Beauregard hasn't seen a req. come through yet in MUNIS for the MHS cafe work, he will follow up. There was a discussion about featured lunch menus and if they are in all the schools. The students would like to have some feedback on the cafe renovations. Chair Beauregard mentioned that the may need to be rescheduled for April break. He will look into having the students give some feedback and to talk to Mr. Frati.

e. Warrants Approved Since Last Meeting:

1. January 8, 2026
2. January 16, 2026
3. January 23, 2026
4. January 30, 2026

Discussion: None

f. Contract Awards- none

g. Acceptance of New FY26 Grant Awards - None

Discussion: Chair Beauregard mentioned that he will go forward with trying to get more state and federal grants. He is looking to see if there is an opportunity to combine city and schools for grants.

8. Notification of Appointments and Other Personnel Matters

a. Request for one (1) Program Assistant, Pathways Resource Room, CGS

MOTION: Vice Chair DiZoglio made a motion to approve one program assistant in the Pathways Resource Room at the CGS.

Member Keegan seconded the motion.

Discussion: Acting Superintendent Lisa Golobski Twomey explained why this position is needed.

VOTE: All Members are in favor

7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

9. Business from the Committee

a. Facility Rental Rates- Vice Chair DiZoglio

Discussion: Vice Chair Dizoglio commended Student Representative Tayyab Afzal for speaking up tonight about the city politics and student concerns.

Mr. Gosselin would like the Facility Policy looked at, it's very outdated.

b. Consolidation of the school and city IT departments - Member Willette

Discussion: The Committee had a lengthy discussion on exploring the possibility of consolidating some departments with the city. It could be a cost savings in the system. Looking at a management consulting Firm was also discussed.

Member McCarthy Sirois mentioned that she had a great time at the science fair and the kids did a great job. A few Members toured the grammar schools and saw what a great job Vanessa Guthrie did decorating the media centers. Student Rep Tayyab Afzal also commented how nice the media centers looked. Member McCarthy Sirois would like to thank Kim and Ed Quinn for

all their support with the backpack program. Donations are still needed and can be dropped off at the Nevins Library and 9 Branch Street.

c. Requirement for subcommittee meetings to be televised and on Zoom-
Discussion-Member Willette

Discussion: Member Willette to explore options to have subcommittee meetings televised or having access to Zoom.

10. Executive Session

- Executive session Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares– Custodian Negotiations
- Executive Session Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(4); To discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto

ROLL CALL

Nicholas DiZoglio, Vice Chair (Yes)

Mary Beth Donovan Grassi (Yes)

Laurie Keegan (Yes)

Kristen Maxwell (Yes)

Martha McCarthy Sirois (Yes)

Kenneth Willette (Yes)

Mayor David Beauregard, Jr., (Yes)

VOTE: 7-0-0 UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss in the open session of the meeting, Chair Beauregard moved to adjourn and enter executive session @ 8:30 PM

We will NOT reconvene into the open session at the conclusion of the executive session.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Lawlor, Public Recorder
Methuen Public Schools