



Springfield Public Schools
Office of the School Committee
1550 Main Street, 2 FLR
Springfield, MA 01103-1410

SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, March 30, 2026

LOCATION

Springfield Public Schools, 1550 Main Street, 2FLR, New England Boardroom, Springfield, MA

I. CALL TO ORDER – SPECIAL MEETING – ROLL CALL

Mayor Sarno, Chair called the Special Meeting to order at 5:18 PM.

Roll Call Attendance:

Ms. Valentin - Present
Ms. Crawford - Present
Ms. Hurst - Absent
Mr. Gomez, Jr. - Present
Ms. Gresham - Present
Ms. Monroe-Naylor (Vice Chair) - Present
Mayor Sarno (Chair) - Present

A. Invocation

A moment of silence was held.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Sarno.

II. VOTING ITEMS:

A. Vote to approve the petition to hold a public hearing on March 30, 2026, at 5:30 PM pursuant to M.G.L. c.71 §92, on the following:

- i. Proposed High School of Commerce Innovation Plan
- ii. Proposed Aspire Academy Innovation Plan (program within Commerce)
- iii. Proposed Discovery Polytech Early College Innovation Plan (program within Commerce)
- iv. Proposed Springfield Honors Academy Innovation Plan (program within Commerce)
- v. Proposed Rise Prep Early College Innovation Plan (program within Commerce)
- vi. Proposed Chestnut Accelerated Middle School (TAG) Innovation Plan
- vii. Proposed John J. Duggan Academy Innovation Plan
- viii. Proposed Van Sickle Academy Innovation Plan



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Superintendent Dr. Dinnall addressed the school committee, thanking the principals and Mr. Calvanese for their work in advancing the innovation plans to this stage. The superintendent noted that the proposals had received overwhelming support and stated that detailed data would be presented at a future meeting by Mr. Calvanese. Dr. Dinnall formally recommended approval of the petition to hold the public hearing on all the proposed innovation plans.

On a motion made by Ms. Monroe-Naylor and seconded by Ms. Crawford, a roll-call vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Valentin - Yes
Ms. Crawford - Yes
Ms. Hurst - Absent
Mr. Gomez, Jr. - Yes
Ms. Gresham - Yes
Ms. Monroe-Naylor (Vice Chair) - Yes
Mayor Sarno (Chair) - Yes

Motion passes to approve the petition to hold a public hearing on March 30, 2026, at 5:30 PM pursuant to M.G.L. c.71 §92 on the proposed innovation plans.

On a motion made by Ms. Monroe Naylor and seconded by Ms. Valentin, it was voted to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Roll Call Vote to Adjourn:

Ms. Valentin - Yes
Ms. Crawford - Yes
Ms. Hurst - Absent
Mr. Gomez, Jr. - Yes
Ms. Gresham - Yes
Ms. Monroe Naylor (Vice Chair) - Yes
Mayor Sarno (Chair) - Yes

The Special Meeting adjourned at 5:21 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Triny Vargas
Executive Assistant to the School Committee