

**MATTAPOISETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES**

**December 10, 2024
Remote Meeting**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Carly Lavin and James Muse (remote).

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools; Howard Barber, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations (remote).

Ms. Lavin called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:

Superintendent Nelson shared the meeting today was to finish the discussion of the draft FY2026 budget started at the last meeting and determine next steps. Mr. Barber added that the current draft budget is \$8,890,618. The administration team reviewed the current draft budget by department and answered any questions Ms. Lavin or Mr. Muse asked. Specifically, a discussion was had about the increased costs to special education tuitions and regular/special education transportation.

School Committee Feedback:

Ms. Lavin shared her preference that the draft FY2026 budget reflect a level service ideology and add-ins that they must account for based on legal requirements or contractual obligations. Ms. Lavin and Mr. Muse agreed that next steps should include the administration meeting internally to incorporate the must-do items into the budget and prioritize the remaining budgetary requests and then reconvene with the subcommittee. They also supported the administration initiating informal conversations with Town Administrator Michael Lorencio to understand his expectations for the budget of the entire town. Mr. Muse asked if stabilization funding was still available. Superintendent Nelson shared that he was not aware of the stabilization amounts available at this time, however that is typically reserved for one-time expenses.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Muse

Motion Seconded by Ms. Lavin

Motion Passed 2-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael S. Nelson
Superintendent