

MARLBOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 25, 2025
Elmer Thienes-Mary Hall Elementary School –Library @ 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call by Chairperson

Chip Morris, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm

BOE Members Present: Chip Morris, Amy Kuhrt, Angela Colantonio, , Jean Wilson, Linda Earley
and Jamie Smigel

Administration Present: Dr. Holly Hageman, Superintendent
 Paula Graef, Principal
 Kristen Trahan, Principal

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Celebrations:

Principals Paula Graef and Kristen Trahan presented a slideshow showcasing students engaged in daily school activities over the last month.

4. Public Comment: None

5. Additions to the Agenda: None

6. Consent Agenda:

- 6.1 Minutes of 8/28/25 Special Meeting, the 8/28/25 Policy Committee meeting;
- 6.2 Personnel Actions – none;
- 6.3 Reports – receive and file the following document: monthly enrollment report.

A.Colantonio made a motion that the Board approve Consent Agenda items 6.1 - 6.3, seconded by L. Earley. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Oral Reports:

7.1 Advisory Groups

- PTO – Paula Graef reported that the PTO opened the year with events such as a Hartford Athletic soccer game and participation in the Open House, where they hosted a recruitment table and provided bagged dinners for staff. Upcoming activities include volunteer support for School Pictures (Sept. 30–Oct. 1), the Scholastic Book Fair (Oct. 6–9), the Ice Cream Social (Oct. 9), and Trunk or Treat/ 6th Grade Haunted House (Oct. 24).
- SAC – Kristen Trahan stated that no meeting has been held yet; however, notices were included in the Family and Staff Newsletters to recruit committee members and invited families to submit discussion topics if they are unable to serve on the committee. The first meeting is scheduled for October 21.

- Operations, Wellness & Safety – Dr. Holly Hageman informed the Board that she would provide updates under 8.1 - Facilities Project Update
- Board of Finance Liaison – Linda Earley reported that the Budget Kick-Off Meeting will be held on October 1st.
- AHM – Chip Morris informed the Board that openings remain in AHM's Family Resource Center, Theater, and Health Matters programs. He also noted that AHM is seeking child and adult artists to participate in its first Fall Into Art show, which will be featured at the Hebron Moon Fest on October 18th from 1:30–6:30 p.m. The community is invited to attend.

7.2 Subcommittees

- Policy - Dr. Holly Hageman reported that the Policy Committee met earlier that evening and that the policies reviewed will be presented to the Board at the October meeting for a first read.
- Personnel - None
- Communications - None

7.3 Chairperson

Chip Morris welcomed Jamie Smigel, recently appointed by the Board of Selectmen to fill a vacancy. He also thanked the MES staff for an outstanding Open House.

Dr. Holly Hageman expressed appreciation to Angela Colantonio for her four years of service on the Board, noting that this was her final meeting.

7.4 Superintendent and Administrative Team

- First Month of School Highlights - Dr. Holly Hageman commended the staff for their dedication and noted how smoothly the school opens each year. Kristen Trahan highlighted activities including district and regional Invention Convention meetings and the Professional Development Day on September 19th. Paula Graef reported that fall assessments have begun, Open House was well attended, and she recognized the contributions of new teachers and staff.

8. Unfinished Business:

8.1 MES Facilities Project Update

Dr. Holly Hageman reported that the October BOE meeting will include an HVAC presentation on the recent inspection. She also noted that Requests for Proposals (RFPs) will be initiated for the egress and water infiltration studies which were noted as needed in the comprehensive Facility Study conducted last year. Dr. Hageman anticipates submitting both projects in the BOE's FY27 Capital request.

9. New Business:

9.1 Review September Financial Report - Submitted. Jean Wilson asked clarifying questions which Dr. Hageman responded to.

9.2 Proposed Policy Changes

The Board reviewed and discussed the required policy changes:

P#: 5131.911 - Connecticut School Climate Policy, P#: 5144.12- Challenging Behavior Prevention: Restorative Practices Response in Student Discipline - Dr. Holly Hageman informed the Board that both policies are mandated and that districts are required to adopt the CAFE version of the Connecticut School Climate Policy.

A.Colantonio made a motion that the Board approve the adoption of the required policies as presented: 5131.911 - Connecticut School Climate Policy and 5144.12- Challenging Behavior Prevention: Restorative Practices Response in Student Discipline, seconded by J. Wilson. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

- 9.3 Strategic Continuous Improvement (SCIP) Presentation** - Paula Graef and Kristen Trahan delivered a presentation highlighting the key goals and action steps in the annual Strategic Continuous Improvement Plan . The full plan is posted on the school district website.
- 9.4 Receive, Review, Revise and Adopt FY 2026-2027 Budget Guiding Principles and Tentative Budget Timeline** - Dr. Holly Hageman reviewed the FY26 Budget Guiding Principles and tentative timeline. She stated that during the BOE's December meeting, she will outline major budget aspects and the BOE will seek input from the community. Dr. Hageman also noted that the Tentative Budget Timeline will be updated on the BOE website as new information becomes available relative to BOF meeting dates.

L. Earley made a motion that the Board accept the FY 2026-2027 Budget Guiding Principles and the Tentative Budget Timeline as presented, seconded by A. Kuhrt. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

10. Communications:

10.1 Staff Vacancy Summary - Submitted

11. Future Meetings & Topics:

- BOS All Boards Meeting, Tuesday, September 30, 2025, 6:30 p.m.- Senior Center
- BOF Budget Kick-Off Meeting, Wednesday, October 1, 2025, 6:30 p.m. - MES Library
- Policy Subcommittee Meeting, Thursday, October 23, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
- Next Regular Business Meeting, Thursday, October 23, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
- BOE Regular Business Meeting, Thursday, November 20, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
- CAFE/CAPSS Convention, November 21-22, 2025

12. Public Comment:

Louise Concodello, 70 Millstone Dr. - Thanked Dr. Hageman and the MECCA leadership for presenting the MECCA-funded playground plans to the BOS.

13. Adjournment:

A.Colantonio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m., seconded by L. Earley. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,
Carmela Monte