Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee

Tuesday, October 7, 2025
6:30 pm
Dover-Sherborn Middle School Library
Livestream via Dover-Sherborn Cable Television

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Community Comments**

   https://meet.google.com/gre-owyp-oeu (will close after Community Comments)
3. **Student Council Representative's Update**
4. **Superintendent Comments**
5. **Financial Reports**
   - Warrant Report
   - FY26 Monthly Operating Update
6. **Items for Discussion**
7. **Action Items** **A.R.**
   - Approval of Competency Determination (2nd read)
8. **Consent Items** **A.R.**
   - Approval of Middle School Field Trip to Washington DC
   - Approval of Regional School Committee Minutes – September 9, 2025
   - Approval of FY26 Grants
   - Accept Gift of New Signs (Eagle Scout Project)
9. **Informational Items**
   - October Enrollment Report
   - Dover School Committee Minutes – June 3, 2025
   - Sherborn School Committee Minutes – June 3, 2025
10. **Next Meeting November 4, 2025**
11. **Adjourn**

NOTE: The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may, in fact, be discussed and other items not listed may also be raised for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

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The Public Schools of Dover and Sherborn
157 Farm Street
Dover, MA 02030
Phone: 508-785-0036 Fax: 508-785-2239
www.doversherborn.org

Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services

TO: Regional School Committee
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
DATE: October 6, 2025
RE: FY26 Approved Warrants

The following FY26 Accounts Payable Warrants were approved by one of the Committee's designated signers:

Voucher #	Date	Amount
1051	9/5/2025	$111,807.31
1060	9/19/2025	$200,100.34
1071	9/30/2025	$434,884.44
1070	10/3/2025	$331,461.75

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Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services

TO: Regional School Committee
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
RE: FY26 Operating Update
DATE: October 6, 2025

Attached please find:

a. General Fund Revenues as of September 30, 2025
b. Status of Appropriations as of September 30, 2025

Revenues

Chapter 70 and 71 revenue projections reflect the final Cherry Sheet amounts. The variance in Chapter 70 is due to increases in legislative funding in the final state budget approval (we use the Governor's Budget for our budget placeholder). We are projecting no variances in athletics, parking and activity fees at this time. Interest rates remain favorable resulting in a projected positive variance in Interest Income. We will review all activities as the year progresses and adjust projections accordingly.

Operating Expenditures

Salaries

The majority of salaries have been encumbered. Stipends have been recorded except for unfilled coaching positions. Custodial overtime and substitute costs are expensed as incurred.

There are a few salary variances due to post FY26 staffing changes. We do anticipate exceeding our Substitute budget based on known leaves to date.

Expenditures

At this time we are not projecting any material variances in operating expenses. Health insurance and utility expenses will be encumbered prior to the FY27 Version 1.0 Budget presentation in December.

FY25 Wrap-up

Our E&D certification request has been submitted to the Department of Revenue. We are estimating E&D to be certified at an amount of $926,225 or 3.18% of the FY26 Budget. This will bring us back to within the School Committee policy level of 3%-4%. We will keep the Committee updated on the certification process.

The Region's EOYR will be filed this week with DESE. We are required to undergo a compliance audit each year to ensure our data reporting is in-line with their directives. This will take place prior to the March 31st filing deadline.

Our auditors are scheduled to begin their fieldwork in the January/February timeframe. We will keep the Committee updated on their progress and the timeline for the presentation of the audited financial statements.

We will be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have at Tuesday's meeting.

Dover-Sherborn Regional School District

General Fund Revenues

as of September 30, 2025

	FY26 BUDGET	YTD RECEIVED	EST. TO BE RECEIVED	OPERATING VARIANCE	% OF BUDGET
DOVER ASSESSMENTS	$13,131,279	$3,282,819	$9,848,460	$0	0.00%
SHERBORN ASSESSMENTS	11,798,286	2,949,573	8,848,713	$0	0.00%
CHAPTER 70, net	2,848,526	728,799	2,186,135	$66,408	2.33%
CHAPTER 71 (Transportation)	719,580	0	721,468	$1,888	0.26%
H/S ATHLETIC FEES	284,750	87,435	197,315	$0	0.00%
H/S PARKING FEES	52,500	35,506	16,994	$0	0.00%
H/S ACTIVITY FEE	15,000	4,650	10,350	$0	0.00%
M/S ACTIVITY FEE	7,425	5,400	2,025	$0	0.00%
MISC REVENUE	5,000	664	4,336	$0	0.00%
BANK INTEREST	50,000	27,731	75,000	$52,731	105.46%
NON-CASH ACTIVITY	0	0	0	$0	na
E&D UTILIZATION	175,000	0	175,000	$0	0.00%
TOTAL REVENUES	$29,087,346	$7,122,577	$22,085,796	$121,027	0.42%

Dover-Sherborn Regional School District
Status of Appropriations as of September 30, 2025

	FY26	EXPENDED		TOTAL	OPERATING VARIANCE/	% OF
SALARIES	BUDGET	30-Sep	ENCUMBRANCES	PROJECTED	BUD. REMAINING	BUDGET
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	21,630	5,823	15,807	21,630	0	0.00%
SUPERINTENDENT	216,828	61,950	158,921	220,871	(4,043)	-1.86%
FINANCE & HUMAN RESOURCES	222,329	53,532	145,300	198,832	23,497	10.57%
DISTRICTWIDE INFORMATION MGMT	252,077	69,896	189,987	259,883	(7,806)	-3.10%
SPED/GUIDANCE ADMINISTRATION	519,869	125,374	394,171	519,546	323	0.06%
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP - BUILDING	785,462	185,348	587,857	773,204	12,258	1.56%
ACADEMIC LEADERS	157,379	978	153,501	157,379	(0)	0.00%
EDUCATORS, CLASSROOM	11,320,612	938,376	10,377,305	11,315,681	4,931	0.04%
EDUCATORS, SPED	2,013,471	152,552	1,855,649	2,008,201	5,270	0.26%
SUBSTITUTES	121,300	12,149	36,293	48,442	72,859	60.06%
EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS,SPED	517,649	45,554	472,331	517,886	(236)	-0.05%
LIBRARIANS	202,722	18,188	218,261	236,450	(33,728)	-16.64%
BUILDING BASED PD	38,250	45,000	0	45,000	(6,750)	-17.65%
GUIDANCE	1,341,947	132,619	1,217,369	1,349,988	(8,041)	-0.60%
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	208,654	16,050	192,604	208,654	0	0.00%
MEDICAL / HEALTH SERVICES	275,549	21,952	266,425	288,377	(12,827)	-4.66%
ATHLETICS	567,612	30,980	488,182	519,162	48,450	8.54%
OTHER STUDENT ACTIVITIES	218,000	0	203,200	203,200	14,800	6.79%
CUSTODIAL & GROUNDS SERVICES	866,410	196,658	610,629	807,287	59,123	6.82%
TOTAL SALARIES	**$ 19,867,751**	**$ 2,112,979**	**$ 17,583,793**	**$ 19,699,672**	**$168,079**	**0.85%**
EXPENDITURES						
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	44,500	4,518	32,400	36,918	7,582	17.04%
SUPERINTENDENT	90,000	47,686	22,470	70,156	19,844	22.05%
LEGAL SERVICES	38,000	8,931	30,769	39,700	(1,700)	-4.47%
DISTRICTWIDE INFO MGMT	106,500	83,188	33,319	116,507	(10,007)	-9.40%
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP - BUILDING	91,300	9,871	31,054	40,924	50,376	55.18%
GENERAL ED OTHER	23,600	6,344	1,042	7,385	16,215	68.71%
SPED SERVICES/SUPPLIES	71,500	29,280	60,359	89,639	(18,139)	-25.37%
LIBRARIES & MEDIA CENTER	4,775	5,559	398	5,957	(1,182)	-24.76%
COURSE REIMBURSEMENT/PD	92,900	7,485	26,915	34,400	58,500	62.97%
TEXTBOOKS & RELATED SOFTWARE	110,950	49,486	43,305	92,791	18,159	16.37%
LIBRARY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL	29,800	3,167	919	4,086	25,714	86.29%
INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT	74,100	6,018	27,014	33,033	41,067	55.42%
GENERAL SUPPLIES	162,850	41,216	26,538	67,754	95,096	58.39%
OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	20,700	6,189	12,340	18,528	2,172	10.49%
CLASSROOM INSTRUCTIONAL TECH.	188,570	82,563	26,615	109,177	79,393	42.10%
GUIDANCE	35,600	11,527	10,006	21,534	14,066	39.51%
MEDICAL / HEALTH SERVICES	6,500	2,219	116	2,335	4,165	64.08%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	1,248,000	2,725	1,187,557	1,190,281	57,719	4.62%
ATHLETICS	210,500	64,700	104,901	169,601	40,899	19.43%
CUSTODIAL SERVICES	58,000	22,462	9,364	31,826	26,174	45.13%
MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS	598,000	100,220	281,985	382,205	215,795	36.09%
MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS	63,000	22,341	15,194	37,535	25,465	40.42%
UTILITIES	641,750	31,321	19,570	50,891	590,859	92.07%
ER RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION	845,000	831,201	0	831,201	13,799	1.63%
ER INSURANCE ACTIVE EMPLOYEES	3,336,000	831,103	344,849	1,175,951	2,160,049	64.75%
ER INSURANCE RETIRED EMPLOYEES	890,000	136,907	250,000	386,907	503,093	56.53%
OTHER NON EMPLOYEE INSURANCE	137,200	138,628	0	138,628	(1,428)	-1.04%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	**$9,219,595**	**$2,586,856**	**$2,598,997**	**$5,185,852**	**$4,033,743**	**43.75%**
TOTAL OPERATING	**$29,087,346**	**$4,699,835**	**$20,182,789**	**$24,885,524**	**$4,201,822**	**14.45%**

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Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services

TO: Dover, Sherborn and Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committees

FROM: Elizabeth McCoy, Superintendent
Denny Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

DATE: October 3, 2025

RE: Proposed Competency Determination Policy (2nd read)

As discussed at the September 10, 2025 Regional School Committee meeting, districts must develop a Competency Determination Policy that details how students will meet the new Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education requirements (603 CMR 30.00) as outlined and approved in May 2025.

Attached is a revised draft of the Competency Determination Policy for the Dover-Sherborn Schools, with edits noted in red. In line with comparable districts and with the support of the Dover-Sherborn High School administration and School Advisory Council, the revisions provide students with the opportunity to demonstrate mastery of required content across the full academic year through multiple assessments and projects, rather than a single final examination. This model emphasizes sustained growth and achievement and is consistent with the District's mission, vision, and the principles of Challenge Success.

We are happy to answer any questions from the Committee at tonight's meeting.

File: IKFE

COMPETENCY DETERMINATION

One of the requirements for graduation in Massachusetts is a determination of competency in subjects previously covered by the MCAS. In addition to other requirements for graduation, students must have been determined by the district to have achieved mastery of the common core of skills, competency, and knowledge in said areas, and satisfactorily completed coursework that has been certified by the student's district as showing mastery of the skills, competencies, and knowledge contained in the state academic standards and curriculum frameworks.

Competency Determination Requirements

A determination of competency shall include:

Demonstrating a mastery of skills in English language arts, mathematics, and science; and the satisfactory completion of relevant coursework aligned to the standards measured by the high school English language arts, mathematics, and science MCAS assessments administered in 2023.

An additional requirement for mastery in US History will apply to the graduating class of 2027, and beyond.

To show mastery, a student must successfully complete coursework certified by the District as reflecting the skills, competencies, and knowledge outlined in the Massachusetts academic standards and curriculum frameworks. In doing so, the student must earn full credit for the specified courses or portfolios as outlined below.

A student enrolled in the Dover-Sherborn Public Schools will be determined to have satisfactorily completed coursework and earned full credit in accordance with the district's grading policy and the requirements outlined below:

Content Area	**Coursework Requirements**	**Notes**
English Language Arts	The equivalent of two years of high school English language arts courses.	To satisfy this course requirement, the English Language Arts courses must be taken in grades 9-12.
Mathematics	The equivalent of one year of both Algebra I and Geometry courses, or the equivalent of one year of both Integrated Math I and Integrated Math II. Whether to follow an Algebra/Geometry or Integrated Math I/II course sequence is determined by the district, but the equivalent length of the courses must still be met.	Middle school math courses may be certified by the district as meeting the coursework requirement for the mathematics component of the CD. Districts must confirm that the course aligns to the **high school** Algebra I/Geometry/Integrated Math I/Integrated Math II standards as listed in the 2017 Massachusetts Mathematics Curriculum Framework.

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Science	The equivalent of one year of any one of the following disciplines: Biology, Physics, Chemistry, or Technology/Engineering.	To satisfy this course requirement, the science course must be taken in grades 9-12.
U.S. History (Beginning with the graduating class of 2027)	The equivalent of a one-year United States history course.	To satisfy this course requirement, the U.S. History course must be taken in grades 9-12.

Aligned Courses:

Dover-Sherborn offers the following courses in alignment with the state curriculum frameworks that meet the above requirements:

English

English 1- College Prep or Honors
English 2- College Prep or Honors

A student will show mastery in English Language Arts by successfully completing coursework certified by the District as reflecting the skills, competencies, and knowledge outlined in the Massachusetts academic standards and curriculum frameworks. In doing so, the student must earn full credit for the English 1and English 2 courses, as listed above, or by completing a subject matter portfolio aligned with the state frameworks.

Mathematics

Algebra 1- Foundations, Standard or Extended*
Algebra 1A AND Algebra 1B
Geometry 8H*
Geometry College Prep or Honors
*these courses may have been taken in the middle school

A student will show mastery in Mathematics successfully completing coursework certified by the District as reflecting the skills, competencies, and knowledge outlined in the Massachusetts academic standards and curriculum frameworks. In doing so, the student must earn full credit for two years of Mathematics courses, as listed above, or by completing a subject matter portfolio aligned with the state frameworks.

Science

Biology College Prep and Honors
Chemistry College Prep and Honors
Physics College Prep and Honors
Engineering College Prep and Honors

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A student will show mastery in Science by successfully completing coursework certified by the District as reflecting the skills, competencies, and knowledge outlined in the Massachusetts academic standards and curriculum frameworks. In doing so, the student must earn full credit for one Science course, as listed above, or by completing a subject matter portfolio aligned with the state frameworks.

U.S. History

U.S. History College Prep, Honors, or Advanced Placement

A student will show mastery in U.S. History by successfully completing coursework certified by the District as reflecting the skills, competencies, and knowledge outlined in the Massachusetts academic standards and curriculum frameworks. In doing so, the student must earn full credit for the U.S. History course, as listed above, or by completing a subject matter portfolio aligned with the state frameworks.

Additional Considerations

Students with Disabilities

The Dover-Sherborn Public Schools must both provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education to students with disabilities and must also determine that the student has met the competency determination and local graduation requirements prior to graduating that student. Students with disabilities who have been placed in out-of-district placements must meet the requirements of the competency determination policy of the placing school district. Discussion of the competency determination must be a part of the IEP Team's transition planning.

English Language Learners

The Dover-Sherborn Public Schools shall, on a case-by-case basis, determine the appropriate courses necessary for English Language Learners to both achieve language proficiency and meet the competency determination requirements.

Late-Enrolling Students

Students who enroll in a Massachusetts public high school after their ninth-grade year may be granted a determination of competency by the Dover-Sherborn Public Schools in one or more of the following ways:

- Transcript review by District Administrator(s).
- Additional course requirements as determined by District Administrator(s).
- A qualifying MCAS score of at least meeting or exceeding expectations achievement levels on the relevant high school MCAS assessment; or by meeting the standard for a substituted equivalent that the district certifies satisfies the same academic standards.

Appeals Process

Current students and/or parents/guardians may appeal the determination of competency in accordance with the following district procedures:

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1) A written request to the District Administrator(s).
2) A District curriculum expert or experts will review coursework, transcripts, or equivalent demonstrations of competency and their alignment to the DESE MA Curriculum Frameworks in ELA, Mathematics, Science, and/or U.S. History.
3) The District Administrator(s) will issue a final decision via email.

Those enrolled in the Dover-Sherborn Public Schools in the classes of 2003 through 2024 that did not earn a diploma may also appeal the decision through the following process:

1) A written request to the District Administrator(s).
2) A District curriculum expert or experts will review coursework, transcripts, or equivalent demonstrations of competency and their alignment to the DESE MA Curriculum Frameworks in ELA, Mathematics, Science, and/or U.S. History.
3) The District Administrator(s) will issue a final decision via email.

LEGAL REFS: DESE Graduation Requirements and Related Guidance
DESE Graduation and Transition Planning for Students with IEPs
DESE Competency Determination Guidance and Policy Submission Process
603 CMR 30.00
M.G.L. c. 69, § 1D

CROSS REFS: Student Handbook
IKF Graduation Requirements

SOURCE: MASC - 2025

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Dover-Sherborn Competency Determination Policy

Section 1: Competency Determination Requirements

In this section, you will:

- Explain how a student earns full credit and shows mastery in accordance with your district's grading policy.
- Describe how a student meets the Competency Determination requirements for each content area: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and U.S. History.

Submission Questions

Definitions:

In order to earn the Competency Determination, a student must meet two criteria: **satisfactorily completing coursework** and **showing mastery** in accordance with the Dover-Sherborn grading policy.

A student s**atisfactorily completes coursework** and receives full credit by earning a passing grade in a specific course.

In order to **show mastery** of a course, ~~a student will earn a passing grade on either the 1) final assessment for a course; or 2) a capstone or portfolio project; or 3) an equivalent measure identified by the District's Competency Determination Policy.~~ a student must successfully complete coursework certified by the District as reflecting the skills, competencies, and knowledge outlined in the Massachusetts academic standards and curriculum frameworks. In doing so, the student must earn full credit for the specified courses or portfolios as outlined below.

English Language Arts:

For English Language Arts, the student must satisfactorily complete and earn a passing grade through:

1) The equivalent of two years of high school English language arts courses. These courses include:
    a) English 1- College Prep or Honors
    b) English 2- College Prep or Honors

OR

2) Completing a Dover-Sherborn subject matter portfolio aligned with the MA DESE Curriculum Frameworks.

A student will show mastery in English Language Arts by ~~earning a passing final course grade on 1) final assessment for a course; or 2) a capstone or portfolio project; or 3) an equivalent measure identified by the District's Competency Determination Policy.~~ successfully completing coursework certified by the District as reflecting the skills, competencies, and knowledge outlined in the Massachusetts academic standards and curriculum frameworks. In doing so, the student must earn full credit for the English 1and English 2 courses, as listed above, or by completing a subject matter portfolio aligned with the state frameworks.

Mathematics:

For Mathematics the student must satisfactorily complete and earn a passing grade through:

1) The equivalent of two years of Mathematics courses. These courses include:
    a) Algebra 1- Foundations, Standard or Extended*
    b) Algebra 1A AND Algebra 1B
    c) Geometry 8H*
    d) Geometry College Prep or Honors

*these courses may have been taken in the middle school

OR

2) Completing a Dover-Sherborn subject matter portfolio.

A student will show mastery in Mathematics ~~by earning a passing final course grade on 1) final assessment for a course; or 2) a capstone or portfolio project; or 3) an equivalent measure identified by the District's Competency Determination Policy.~~ successfully completing coursework certified by the District as reflecting the skills, competencies, and knowledge outlined in the Massachusetts academic standards and curriculum frameworks. In doing so, the student must earn full credit for two years of Mathematics courses, as listed above, or by completing a subject matter portfolio aligned with the state frameworks.

Science:

For Science the student must satisfactorily complete and earn a passing grade through:

1) The equivalent of one year of a high school Science course. This includes:
    a) Biology College Prep and Honors
    b) Chemistry College Prep and Honors
    c) Physics College Prep and Honors
    d) Engineering College Prep and Honors

OR

2) Completing a Dover-Sherborn subject matter portfolio aligned with the MA DESE Curriculum Frameworks.

A student will show mastery in Science by ~~earning a passing final course grade on 1) final assessment for a course; or 2) a capstone or portfolio project; or 3) an equivalent measure identified by the District's Competency Determination Policy.~~ successfully completing coursework certified by the District as reflecting the skills, competencies, and knowledge outlined in the Massachusetts academic standards and curriculum frameworks. In doing so, the student must earn full credit for one Science course, as listed above, or by completing a subject matter portfolio aligned with the state frameworks.

U.S. History (Beginning with the graduating class of 2027):

For U.S. History the student must satisfactorily complete and earn a passing grade through:

1) The equivalent of a one year high school U.S. History course. This includes:
    a) U.S. History College Prep, Honors, or Advanced Placement

OR

2) Completing a Dover-Sherborn subject matter portfolio aligned with the MA DESE Curriculum Frameworks.

A student will show mastery in U.S. History by successfully completing coursework certified by the District as reflecting the skills, competencies, and knowledge outlined in the Massachusetts academic standards and curriculum frameworks. In doing so, the student must earn full credit for the U.S. History course, as listed above, or by completing a subject matter portfolio aligned with the state frameworks.

Section 2: Additional Requirements

In this section, you will:

- List any other requirements of your Competency Determination policy in addition to those outlined in Section 1.

Submission Questions

N/A

Section 3: Additional Considerations

In this section, you will:

- Provide additional information on the implementation of your Competency Determination policy for specific student groups including students with disabilities, English learners, and late-enrolling students.

Submission Questions

Students with Disabilities:

The Dover-Sherborn Public Schools must both provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education to students with disabilities and must also determine that the student has met the competency determination and local graduation requirements prior to graduating that student. Students with disabilities who have been placed in out-of-district placements must meet the requirements of the competency determination policy of the placing school district. Discussion of the competency determination must be a part of the IEP Team's transition planning.

English Learners:

The Dover-Sherborn Public Schools shall, on a case-by-case basis, determine the appropriate courses necessary for English Language Learners to both achieve language proficiency and meet the competency determination requirements. This may include the ability for ESL 1 and ESL 2 to count towards the English Language Arts requirement.

Late-Enrolling Students:

Students who enroll in a Massachusetts public high school after their ninth-grade year may be granted a determination of competency by the Dover-Sherborn Public Schools in one or more of the following ways:

- Transcript review by District Administrator(s)
- Additional course requirements as determined by District Administrator(s).
- A qualifying MCAS score of at least meeting or exceeding expectations achievement levels on the relevant high school MCAS assessment; or by meeting the standard for a substituted equivalent that the district certifies satisfies the same academic standards.

Section 4: Appeals Process

In this section, you will:

- Explain your district's appeals process.

Submission Questions

Describe the process through which a student or parent/guardian may appeal to the district a district's determination that a student has or has not met the requirements of the Competency Determination. Include timelines, responsible personnel, and how decisions are communicated.

Current students and/or parents/guardians may appeal the determination of competency in accordance with the following district procedures:

1) A written request to the District Administrator(s).
2) A District curriculum expert or experts will review coursework, transcripts, or equivalent demonstrations of competency and their alignment to the DESE MA Curriculum Frameworks in ELA, Mathematics, Science, and/or U.S. History.
3) The District Administrator(s) will issue a final decision via email.

Section 5: Diploma Request Process for Previously Enrolled Students

In this section, you will:

- Explain your district's process for reviewing requests from previously enrolled students who may be eligible for a diploma

Submission Questions

Those enrolled in the Dover-Sherborn Public Schools in the classes of 2003 through 2024 that did not earn a diploma may also appeal the decision through the following process:

1) A written request to the District Administrator(s).
2) A District curriculum expert or experts will review coursework, transcripts, or equivalent demonstrations of competency and their alignment to the DESE MA Curriculum Frameworks in ELA, Mathematics, Science, and/or U.S. History.
3) The District Administrator(s) will issue a final decision via email. .

Section 6: Certifications

In this section, you will:

- Complete several certifications regarding the approval and posting of your Competency Determination policy.

Submission Questions

Certify that the policy has been approved by the governing board of the district

Certify that the policy has been shared with all students, families/guardians, and district stakeholders

Certify that the policy has been made publicly available in multiple languages

Provide the URL where your policy is posted on your website

Dover-Sherborn Middle School
155 Farm Street
Dover, MA 02030
Phone: 508-785-0635 Fax: 508-785-0796
www.doversherborn.org

Ann Dever-Keegan, Principal
Jennifer Santosuosso, Assistant Principal

Ellen Rowley, Director of Guidance
Jennifer Meek, Special Education Coordinator

To: Elizabeth McCoy

From: Ann Dever-Keegan

RE: Field Trip Request - Washington, D.C.

Date: October 1, 2025

The Grade Eight Team Leaders and I are requesting permission from yourself and the Regional School Committee to proceed with the planning of our Washington, D.C. Trip. Important information is included below and I am happy to answer questions at the upcoming school committee meeting.

Overview:

Dover-Sherborn Middle School's 8th grade students and staff have participated in an annual trip to Washington, D.C for over 10 years. This integral grade 8 experience fosters a strong class bond, creates a sense of community and enriches our students both academically and socially.

Tour Company:

WorldStrides, based in Charlottesville, Virginia, with an office in Washington, D.C., coordinates all reservations including flights, hotel accommodations, restaurant reservations, motorcoaches, professional tour guides and trip itinerary based on our input and requests.

Trip Dates and Costs:

Dates: Wednesday June 10 - Friday June 12, 2026

Costs: $1,599.00 All inclusive

WorldStrides offers a payment plan for families to budget out the cost. Money for scholarships is available; no student will be denied participation due to financial need.

DRAFT

Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee
Meeting of September 9, 2025

Members Present: Angie Johnson (remote)
Toa Ashk
Jeff Cassidy
Mary Lowder
Lindsay Nie
Kevin Crotty

1) **Call to Order**

Jeff Cassidy called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm in the Middle School Library.

1) **Community Comments -** none
2) **Student Council Representatives -** will attend next month
3) **Superintendent Comments -** Superintendent McCoy thanked all involved for a successful opening of school. She will give a more detailed report at the Joint meeting.
4) **Financial Reports**
   - Warrant Report
   - FY25 Closeout
     - Revenues: Total revenues exceeded budgeted revenues by $256,435 (0.89%) comprised of the following variances: Chapter 70 - $93,959 due to final budget amount vs governor's initial budget; Transportation reimbursement hight than projected Cherry Sheet by $52,264; negative variance in Athletic Fees of $39,855; favorable interest rates resulting in additional interest income of $145,573; and $175,000 of E&D applied to budget.
     - Salaries: $379,621 positive variance (1.96%) representing: savings in several function codes due to reductions in FTE's and post-FY25 Budget staffing changes offset by additions of a .3 FTE MS Wellness Educator, a .2 FTE OT, and a .2 FTE EL; savings from reduction of two EAs; and negative variance in substitute costs due to various extended leaves.
     - Expenditures: $98,368 positive variance (1.04%)
     - Summary of Results: net result of operations was a surplus of $659,424 (net of $75,000 transferred to the Unemployment Fund). The School Committee approved several uses of E&D funds for FY26 including $175,000 for the FY26 operating budget and $350,000 for the Turf Project. The estimated E&D balance is $930,609 (3.20% of FY26 operating budget).
     - Special Revenue/Revolving Funds: balances as of 6/30/25 provided.
     - End of Year DESE Report: the report due 9/30 is used by the Department of Education to determine the Region's compliance with net school spending as well as determining the current year's Chapter 71 Regional Transportation Reimbursement.
     - Capital Project Update: the first athletic contest on the new turf field will be September 26th.
5) **Discussion Items**
   - Subcommittee Assignments - interest in any open positions should be directed to the Chair.
6) **Action Items**

7) Consent Items

- 2025-26 MS School Improvement Plan (2nd read)
- 2025-26 HS School Improvement Plan (2nd read)
- Regional School Committee minutes of June 10, 2025
- Gifts: Athletics - donation of a sound system for the press box valued at $45,944.50; $1,500 from the Dover Sherborn Boosters to cover the stipends associated with the summer weight room program
- Grant: Mass Cultural Council - $5,000 for the Creative Experiences program to enhance the unit "Responsibility and Progress".

Toa Ashk made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Lindsay Lie seconded.
25-16 VOTE: 6 - 0 via roll call

8) Informational Items

- Sherborn School Committee Minutes - May 6, 2025
- Dover School Committee Minutes of May 13, 2025

9) Next Meeting October 7, 2025

10) Adjournment at 6:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Davis

The Public Schools of Dover and Sherborn
157 Farm Street
Dover, MA 02030
Phone: 508-785-0036 Fax: 508-785-2239
www.doversherborn.org

Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services

TO: Regional School Committee
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
RE: FY26 Grant Approval
DATE: October 6, 2025

We are requesting approval for the following Federal/State entitlement grants received by the Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee. These grants have been applied for and approved by the appropriate grant authority. These grants were factored into the FY26 Budget approval process. See attached Memo from the FY26 Budget Book for more information on how these grants are utilized.

IDEA- SPED 240 Grant - Receive annually based on SPED demographics

- FY26 grant is **$273,604** *($11,764.97 allocated to Private School/Home School Use based on SPED student enrollment)*

Title I Grant - Receive annually if low income % exceeds 2%

- FY26 grant is **$35,884**

Title IIA Grant – Receive annually

- FY26 grant is **$14,232**

Title IVA – ESSA Grant - Receive annually

- FY26 grant is **$10,000**

METCO Grant – Receive annually based on enrollment, combined for all three Districts

- FY26 grant is **$373,966** (Primarily covers METCO Administration, student support staff and transportation)

Comprehensive School Health Services (CSHS) – Receive annually, covers nursing operations in all three Districts

- FY26 grant is **$21,550**

Dover-Sherborn Regional School District
FY26 Budget
Summary of Anticipated Grants

IDEA- SPED 240 Grant

- Funds salaries of special educational assistants
- Receive annually based on SPED demographics
- FY25 grant is **$287,725** *($6,700 restricted to support private school IEP students)*

Title I Grant

- Funds used for Title I staff coverage, professional development and instructional materials
- Receive annually if low income % exceeds 2%
- FY25 grant is **$42,235**

Title IIA Grant

- Funds used to cover cost of mentoring program
- Receive annually
- FY25 grant is **$12,746**

Title IVA – ESSA Grant

- Funds to build capacity and ensure that all students have access to a high quality educational experience
- Priorities are to support safe and healthy students and support effective use of technology
- FY25 grant is **$10,000**

METCO Grant (*covers all Districts*)

- Funds cost of METCO Director, transportation costs including bus monitor and other miscellaneous operating expenses for all three districts
- Receive annually based on our participation in the program
- FY25 grant is **$339,882**

Circuit Breaker

- Reimburses in-district SPED costs for individual students whose education costs exceeds required threshold
- Based on prior year operating expenses
- Funds used to cover primarily special education assistants and other specific student related costs
- FY25 reimbursement, based on FY24 expenditure filing is **$0**

Nursing Grant (*covers all Districts*)

- Partial funding of Nurse Leader stipend, coverage for screenings/other district staffing nursing needs and professional development
- FY25 grant is **$14,000** *(increased to $24,000 mid-year)*

Dover-Sherborn High School
9 Junction Street
Dover, MA 02030
Phone: 508-785-1730 Fax: 508-785-8141

John G. Smith, *Principal*
Timothy O'Mara, *Assistant Principal*
Ellen Rowley, *Director of Guidance*
Emily Sullivan, *Athletic Director*
Victoria Sulser, *Special Education Coordinator*

September 30, 2025

Elizabeth McCoy

Superintendent of Dover Sherborn Public Schools

Dear Superintendent McCoy:

I am respectfully requesting that the Regional School District accept the gift of three hand made DS signs designed, manufactured and installed on our campus. The third sign is complete but we are waiting for the turf and track project to be 100 percent complete before it is installed. These signs which point out various locations on campus were created by senior Jacob Popiel as part of his Eagle Scout Project. Jacob fundraised for the materials as required by his Scout Troop and had assistance from other scouts to complete this project. We are very proud of Jacob and believe these signs will benefit our community and those who visit the regional campus for years to come.

Sincerely

John G. Smith

Principal

The Public Schools of Dover and Sherborn do not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, sex/gender, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness.

DSHS October 1 Enrollment 2025

Grade	Dover	Sherborn	Boston	Total
9	83	80	1	164
10	72	61	2	135
11	60	73	3	136
12	87	87	5	179
Total	302	301	11	614

DS Middle School October 1 Enrollment 2025

Grade	Boston	Dover	Sherborn	Totals
6	4	90	74	168
7	7	77	67	151
8	5	76	59	140
Total	16	243	200	459

Approved 9.16.25

Dover School Committee

Meeting of June 3, 2025

Members Present:	Goli Sepehr
	Kate Cook
	Jessica Hole
Also Present:	Beth McCoy, Superintendent
	Denny Conklin, Assistant Superintendent
	Dawn Fattore, Business Manager

1) **Call to Order**

Beth McCoy called the meeting to order 5:30 pm.

2) Welcome School Committee Member Kevin Bielke

3) Reorganization

Jessica Hole made a motion to nominate Goli Sepehr as Chair of the Dover School Committee. Kate Cook seconded.
25-06 VOTE: 3 - 0

Goli Sepehr made a motion to nominate Jessica Hole as Secretary of the Dover School Committee. Kate Cook seconded.
25-07 VOTE: 3 - 0

4) Community Comments - none

5) Dover PTO - a member of the PTO walked through highlights of the PTO events this past year and provided a look ahead to next year.

6) Superintendent Comments - Beth McCoy updated recent and upcoming meeting/events in the District the remaining events on the 2024-25 calendar and thanked faculty, staff, students, and parents/guardians for a successful year.

7) Financial Reports

- Warrant Report
- FY25 Monthly Report
  - Salaries - there are no changes to report since the last meeting
  - Expenditures - there are no changes to report since the last meeting
  - Out-of-District - there are currently 21 placements, which is two more than budgeted. The total negative variance in tuition costs is approximately $1,076,000, comprised of $870,000 from new placements and $430,000 from changes in placements (offset by $225,000 of savings from students leaving and graduating early).

8) **Discussion Items**

- FY26 Projected Enrollment - Kindergarten enrollment is larger than expected, a fourth section has been moved to that grade.
- 2025-26 School Improvement Plan: 1st Read

9) Action Items

- Appoint METCO Liaison to School Committee - Beth McCoy and the chairs of the school committees will work over the summer to find ways to grow and improve the role of METCO Liaison and bring the appointment back in a fall meeting.

10) Consent Items

- FY26 Non-Resident Student Tuition
- Approval of Minutes: May 13, 2025

Kate Cook made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Jessica Hole seconded.
25-08 VOTE: 3 - 0

11) **Informational Items**

- Subcommittee Assignments
- Regional School Committee minutes of March 4 & May 6, 2025

12) Literacy Presentation - Denny Conklin and the Literacy Coaches reviewed the process to date. The criteria to evaluate programs have been determined and that work will be done over the summer. Piloting a new program (if necessary) will start in the fall of 2026 with full implantation planned for the 2027-2028 school year.

13) Adjournment at 6:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis

Approved 9.16.25

Sherborn School Committee
Meeting of June 3, 2025

Members Present:	Megha Kadiyala
	Becca Hammond
	Nathaniel Jackson (remote)
	Kemberlie Grant (remote)
Also Present:	Beth McCoy, Superintendent
	Denny Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

1) **Call to Order**

Beth McCoy called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm in the DSMS Library.

2) **Literacy Presentation -** Denny Conklin and the Literacy Coaches reviewed the process to date. The criteria to evaluate programs have been determined and that work will be done over the summer. Piloting a new program (if necessary) will start in the fall of 2026 with full implantation planned for the 2027-2028 school year.
3) **Welcome Katherine Hayes Manzolini and William Alfano**
4) **Reorganization**

Megha Kadiyala made a motion to nominate Rebecca Hammond as Chair of the Sherborn School Committee. Nathaniel Jackson seconded.
25-08 VOTE: 3 - 0 via roll call

Rebecca Hammond made a motion to nominate Megha Kadiyala as Secretary of the Sherborn School Committee. Nathaniel Jackson seconded.
25-09 VOTE: 3 - 0 via roll call

5) **Community Comments -** none
6) **Superintendent Comments -** Beth McCoy updated recent and upcoming meeting/events in the District including the remaining events on the 2024-25 calendar and thanked faculty, staff, students, and parents/guardians for a successful year.
7) **Financial Reports**
   - Warrant Report
   - FY25 Monthly Report
     - Salaries: there are no changes to report since the last meeting.
     - Expenditures: the costs of an additional consulting contract with the engineering firm for a potential change order for the HVAC project (to include improvements to the HVAC system in the Auditorium) has been encumbered. The Town approved use of current year funds to cover the cost.
     - Out-of-District: there are no changes to report since the last meeting.
8) **Discussion Items**
   - 2025-26 School Improvement Plan: 1st read
   - FY26 Capital Projects - the Administration is pursuing a change order to improve the ventilation and heating in the Auditorium at the request of the Town.
9) **Action Items**

Approved 9.16.25

- Appoint METCO Liaison to School Committee - Beth McCoy and the chairs of the school committees will work over the summer to find ways to grow and improve the role of METCO Liaison and bring the appointment back in a fall meeting.

10) Consent Items

- Approval of Minutes: May 6, 2025

Megha Kadiyala made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Becca Hammond seconded. 25-10 VOTE: 3 - 0 via roll call

11) **Informational Items**

- Subcommittee Assignments
- Dover Sherborn Regional Committee minutes of May 6, 2025
- Dover School Committee Minutes of March 5, 2025
- FY26 Projected Enrollment

12) Adjournment at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis