

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE NORWELL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**September 15, 2025**

A meeting of the Norwell School Committee was held on Monday, September 15, 2025. The School Committee met in the large meeting room at the Norwell Public Library. Ms. Lisa DiFrisco called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Present were Chair Kristin McEachern, Scott Dyke, Lisa DiFrisco, and Superintendent Matthew Keegan. Vice Chair Christina Kane arrive at 6:37 p.m.

At 6:33 p.m., Ms. DiFrisco moved that the meeting go into executive session for purposes of strategizing on collective bargaining and non-union personnel strategy, and to return to open session at the conclusion of executive session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dyke and passed unanimously on a roll-call vote: McEachern, Aye, Dyke, Aye, and DiFrisco, Aye. The Committee moved to the study room. Executive session ended at 7:00 p.m. The Committee returned to regular session in the large meeting room.

Ms. Kane moved, seconded by Ms. DiFrisco, to approve the consent agenda including the minutes of the Executive and Regular sessions of the Norwell School Committee meeting on August 18, 2025, accounts payable and refund warrants #8, 9, 10 and 11 signed by Ms. Kristin McEachern, as proposed. The motion was approved unanimously: McEachern, Aye, Dyke, Aye, DiFrisco, Aye, and Kane, Aye.

Director of Teaching, Learning & Technology Meredith Erickson informed the Committee of proposed new policy LBA: Middle School Pathway Exploration. Ms. Erickson had met with the Director of South Shore Regional Vocational Technical School, and access for information on SS Voc. Tech. will be on Norwell Public Schools' website for students and parents. Ms. Kane moved, seconded by Ms. DiFrisco, to approve Policy LBA for first reading, as proposed. The motion was approved unanimously: McEachern, Aye, Dyke, Aye, DiFrisco, Aye, and Kane, Aye.

Mr. Keegan introduced Isabel (Izzy) Belisle, the elected student government representative to the School Committee. A bio from the school counselor as well as an email from Izzy to the Committee was included in agenda packets. Ms. Belisle updated the Committee on the many fall activities planned for Norwell High.

Ms. Erickson and Mr. Keegan updated the Committee on schools' reopening. Principals' welcome letters, the first week of school's newsletters, and the Norwell Neighbors Superintendent's article for October 1 regarding the Strategic Plan were in the Google folder. A standing item regarding the Strategic Plan will be on the agenda going forward to discuss how it is evolving and progressing. The second page of the school calendar includes the dates of fall open houses, curriculum nights and other important dates.

A copy of CBIZ CPA's *Independent Accounts' Report on Applying Agree-Upon Procedures Over Compliance Applicable to MA School Districts End of Year Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024* was included in agenda packets. Director of Finance, Operations & Technology Warren MacCallum reviewed the process and answered questions related to the 2024 Audit.

The Committee was asked to review and provide input for the dates and topics on the *Proposed FY'27 Budget Development Process Timeline* included in agenda packets. The Leadership Team will review the timeline on September 23, and the final version will be presented to the Committee on October 20, 2025.

The *FY'25 End of Year Budget Report* was included in agenda packets. Using Power Point the Director of Finance, Operations & Technology Warren MacCallum presented the report. Questions and answers ensued regarding the budget process and a long-term plan. Congress of Councils is scheduled for October 21, 2025.

Mr. Keegan will include the *State of the Schools* as an agenda item throughout the year. The topics discussed will be regarding the result and impact of the non-override on the 2025-2026 school year. It is early in the process of making sure schedules and classes are correctly assigned, and the areas will be examined in depth during the October meeting. Mr. Keegan encourages the Committee to raise topics of comparison between last year and this year so that they can be examined at all the meetings.

Committee members shared their thoughts on the recent Open Houses. Reading a prepared statement, Chair McEachern clarified School Committee meeting protocol.

Chair Kane requested public comment on non-agenda and hearing none, requested public comment on agenda items. Ms. Kara Vautour, 256 Pine Street, addressed a question to Mr. MacCallum regarding the change last year of the percentage of funds received from the state for transportation.

Information included in the Google folder and distributed at the meeting from Superintendent Keegan included correspondence regarding September 5, 2025 Enrollment and Average Class Size reports; MA General Laws 2025 book; MIAA Tournament Pass and the Salary Scale Movement schedule for Fall 2025. There will be a dedication ceremony for the Middle School outdoor classroom from the John Hughan Foundation on September 22 at 2:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the Norwell School Committee will be held at the Norwell Public Library on October 20, 2025 which include presentations from the High School.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, at 7:48 p.m. Ms. McEachern made a motion to adjourn.

  
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Kristin A. McEachern, Chair

October 20, 2025

  
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Alison L. Link, Clerk

October 20, 2025