

S.C. MINUTES

Hoosac Valley Regional School Committee
School Committee Meeting
Monday, November 17, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.
Hoosac Valley High School, Resource Center, 125 Savoy Road, Cheshire, MA

PRESENT: Erin Milne, John Duval, Robert Tetlow, Fred Lora, Tracey Tierney, Jen Solak

ABSENT: Adam Emerson

OTHERS: Aaron Dean

104386 **Call to Order**

Chairman Erin Milne called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

104387 **Public Comment or Questions**
None

104388 **Approval of Minutes - October 20, 2025**

MOTION: On Motion of Fred Lora and second by John Duval
VOTED: to approve the October 20, 2025 School Committee minutes. The vote was unanimous.

104389 **Report of Business Manager**
A. Receipt of \$6,500 donation from General Dynamics
Business Manager received the donation from General Dynamics Historically it is split amongst the district for our science programs.

MOTION: On Motion of Tracey Tierney and second by Jen Solak
VOTED: to approve donation from General Dynamics for \$6,500. The vote was unanimous.

B. Receipt of 3D printer donated by the BIC
Alex Rebello received a donated printer and it helps students be more enthusiastic in their work.

MOTION: On Motion of Erin Milne and second by John Duval
VOTED: to approve the Donated 3D Printer. The vote was Unanimous

104390 **Report of Sub Committees**
A. Maintenance Meeting set for Monday, November 24, 2025
The Maintenance Sub Committee will have updates on the basketball hoops amongst other things. Chad and his crew have done a lot of great work on the fields and all of our facilities this year.
B. Policy Meeting set for Wednesday, December 17, 2025
Sub Committee set up a date with MASC revamping the Policy Manual.

104391 **Communications**
A. Request for Approval for Grade 6 Nature's Classroom Trip - Postponed until December meeting.

MOTION: On Motion of Erin Milne and second by Jen Solak
VOTED: to postpone till December meeting The vote was Unanimous

B. Spotlight on Applied Learning - Kristen Palatt
Keith Wright, Cori Scauduto and Lindsey MCGinnis, High School Science Teachers Recognition. We are putting a spotlight on three amazing teachers, they have won huge state awards.

Lindsay MCGinnis, High Environmental Studies teacher. Lindsay was the winner of the Massachusetts State College Assoc, Educator Alumni Award. Keith Wright, Chemistry and Capstone teacher. Founder and leader of Student and Adult Advisory Board. Winner of the Massachusetts Association of Science Teachers State Science teacher of the State Award. Cori Scauduto Biomedical Science, has single handedly increased enrollment in our Biomedical pathway by 45%.

She was the winner of the Moderna Massachusetts Science and Engineering Fair Educators Excellence Award. Kristen Palatt is service oriented leader, looks at what is needed and gets involved. Project Lead the Way - Kristen has taken this on and moved it in a great direction. A state consultant brought this forward and she had no idea she had won this high level award. Kristen stated because of these great teachers we get recognized at this level. [Fred Lora](#) stated he would like to see opportunities to see science outside the classroom to see the end results of science. There are many companies on the list for students to visit. The teachers have taken the students to MIT. Field trips and job shadow experiences field trip are happening as well. December 11 is the career fair. Looking forward to additional opportunities for students. Always looking for mentors and internship opportunities.

104392

Report of Superintendent

- A. **October 1 Enrollment and Overview of District Programming and Data - The District Administrative Team will review enrollment data, trends, and other relevant metrics to provide insight into current status, highlight areas of success, and identify where resources may need to be adjusted to address challenges.**

PRESENTATION Available

We want our story to be that Hoosac Valley is looked at as providing an opportunity for success for all of our students. Shelly, Jacky and Monica presented the attached presentation with links for our State Accountability Data.

A blend of Technical and adaptive leadership & response. We are working to recognize what the challenge is so we have a plan of response. We must come together to meet the needs of students and families that walk through the doors.

MCAS - growth and achievement (Middle school) 5th grade science great achievement, as well as 8th grade math. 6th grade ELA we had 2 students with perfect scores.

The district did have a decrease in high school accountability. We can't compare ourselves to other districts.

The district is increasing our attendance and decreasing our absences.

Enrollment - The number has increased since this presentation. Data is impacted by the Transiency of the district. We need to problem solve to get students in the door to get an opportunity.

Fluidity of housing is causing the transient

Shelly spoke - Pre school is always moving in and out. We have a model program for preK. Funding will shift and we will need to make other decisions. PreK is addressing needs upon arrival so they get what they need earlier. Our PreK staff goes above and beyond. Funding will shift so the district will need to make other decisions.

All students deserve to get what they need so they have a chance.

Monica stated We always make sure we take care of what our kids need. The secondary level is decreasing because we are improving with a lot of training and contracting services, the state and the new IEP process we have learned a lot.

Access to Curriculum in Diverse settings - we have School Setting programs, Outplacement programs and Residential.

We have made progress to meet the needs of all learners. Access to the programs is key.

Today we are spotlighting 3 this meeting. CPPI, NECC and MYCAP.

We keep growing, great things happening. We have 4 full day Preschools. Parent plus is amazing, and they bring curriculum in so that the children can bring it home. Jacky writes a great grant and we always get \$1M.

Last year the state reached out to us and Lowell to pilot the transition prek toolkit. Jacky went to Headquarters for training with a team and we did so much more than Lowell. Officially the toolkit will be rolled out this fall.

Kindergarten TTK - improvement, worked real hard, great team or teachers.

NECC - provide high level program within a school setting. Structured and data driven. They do extensive training with out para's and all students have 1:1's. MYCAP career and academic plan - POG & Pathways. Grades 6,7,8.

Portrait of a graduate and portrait of a learner in middle schools. Career pathway and designation. Once designated by state we are ready. We need to expand to our students what other opportunities there are in education. We are building it and it is on its way.

CPPI Funding for lead teachers will be our biggest hurdle, because of changes. Big consideration as we look towards next year and we need to plan to meet the needs for this programming. NECC - we should consider a second for secondary level. It has the potential to serve our students in the district and not go outside the district. Aaron stated that our most vulnerable students deserve an education amongst their peers. We should collaborate with other districts. How can we help each other out.

Social, emotional and mental health support are very real and want to service them well and not just in our school. We need to try and see how we will plan and resource.

Pathways are opening doors to students that never had them before. We have to continue to make these investments.

Tracey asked do the teachers and staff have what they need and the response was, the district is doing a great job with what we have. Tracey was disappointed in rural aid.

Tracey would like to hear more about attendance and MTSS and that Positive movement should be commended.

Erin thanked them for putting together such a comprehensive presentation and looking out for the students in a holistic way as well as compliance metrics.

104393

Chairman's Report - none

104394

Unfinished Business - none

104395

New Business

A. Update from DEIB advisory meeting and annual appointment of members to the group

This has been postponed and rescheduled for next Tuesday.

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Action Items - none

104397

For the Good of the Order -

John Duval wished Erin a Happy Birthday. Shout out to preschool from Jen, Tracey wanted to congratulate all the sports teams. Fred stated that trunk or treat was heart warming and it was hilarious. A tradition we need to keep doing. Veterans walkthrough was heartfelt and has become a tradition. 2 well attended events. Robert went to Plunkett school and a student read to him, he was very impressed. They all were very attentive.

MOTION:

On Motion of Robert and second by Jennifer Solak :

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Dean, Superintendent

Mary Lisa Irizarry, Recording Secretary

[Hoosac Valley Regional School District: Not a Single Story](#)