



Mission Statement: To support and challenge all students to achieve personal and academic excellence in a student-centered environment.

BERLIN-BOYLSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

November 10, 2025 | 5:00 PM
Tahanto Regional Middle/High School
Multi-Purpose Room

Stream link <https://www.youtube.com/@bbrsdlive2893/streams>

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Due to technical issues this meeting may not always stream live, but we will make every attempt to do so and to record the meeting for future posting.

The items listed on the agenda may be discussed out of order as the Chair decides due to potential scheduling and timing requirements.

Present: School Committee: Mr. Michael Totman, Chair; Mrs. Meagan Grill, Vice Chair; Mrs. Jessica Deglialberti, Mrs. Lisa Mair; Mrs. Elisabeth Mancini; Mrs. Lori-Anne Hart, District Clerk;

Administration: Mr. Albert G. Ganem Jr., Interim Superintendent; Ms. Jennifer Fortune, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent; Mr. Aaron Osborne, Director of Finance and Operations; Ms. Renee Legendre, Director of Curriculum and Grants; Mr. Joseph Sposato, Director of Technology; Mr. Rob Pelczarski, Boylston Elementary Principal; Mr. John Campbell, Berlin Memorial Principal; Ms. Lisa Sequeira, Tahanto Regional Middle/High School Principal; Mr. Rich Cameron, Tahanto Regional Middle/High School Assistant Principal; Mr. Joseph Barnas, Tahanto Regional Middle/High School Assistant Principal

Guest: Mrs. Tracy Novick, Field Director: School Finance Massachusetts Association of School Committees
Miss Lauren Arakelian, Superintendent Search Screening Committee Chair

- I. Call to Order** -Mr. Totman called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Superintendent Search Finalist Announced** - Mrs. Tracy Novick, Field Director: School Finance Massachusetts Association of School Committees
 - *Lauren Arakelian*, Superintendent Search Screening Committee Chair

- Miss Arakelian gave a brief description of the Superintendent Search Screening Committee. She stated that they have 4 finalists, Brent Conway, Dana Labb, Tim McCormick, and Joanne Menard.
- Mrs. Novick stated that a School Committee member will need to call 3 references for each candidate. The candidates will be visiting the District the week of November 17th and 24th if needed. The School Committee members need to get Mrs. Novick dates that they are available to visit the candidates Districts as well. Between now and Thanksgiving, there needs to be a meeting between the School Committee and Mrs. Novick stated that the attorney general has determined that the creation of questions is subject to open meeting law and needs to be done in a public session, so that the School Committee can agree to what topics they would like to ask during the interviews. The week of December 1st, the interviews will take place. Mrs. Novick asked for the School Committee to let her know how they would like to do the interviews, all 4 in one evening or 2 on 2 different days.
 - i. The School Committee stated that they would like the feedback from the communities so they would like a survey to be available to be filled out regarding each candidate.
 - ii. The School Committee would like the report from Miss Arakelian to be posted to the District website.

IV. Executive Session - Will be returning to Open Meeting

- **Motion was made to enter into Executive Sessions pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), Purpose 4, to discuss the security of the Berlin-Boylston Regional School District Emergency Safety Plan if in an open meeting it could have a detrimental effect on the security of the Berlin-Boylston Regional School District by Mrs. Grill and seconded by Mrs. Mair.**

Roll Call Vote:

Lisa Mair -Aye

Beth Mancini -Aye

Lori Hart - Aye

Meagan Grill -Aye

Jessica Degliaberti -Aye

Mike Totman- Aye

V. School Committee Reorganization

- **School Committee Chair - VOTE**
 - Interim Superintendent opened up the floor for nominations:
 - Mrs. Hart nominated Mr. Totman for School Committee Chair. Seconded by Mr. Totman.
 - Mrs. Degliaberti nominated herself for School Committee Chair. Seconded by Mrs. Mancini.

Roll Call Vote:

Jessica Degliaberti - Jessica

Meagan Grill - Jessica

Lori-Anne Hart - Mike

Lisa Mair - Mike
Elisabeth Mancini - Abstain
Mike Totman - Mike

3 votes for Mike, 2 votes for Jessica, 1 abstain

Majority with 5 votes, Mike Totman has been voted as the 25-26 School Committee Chair

- **School Committee Vice Chair - VOTE**

-Mrs. Hart nominated Mrs. Mancini for School Committee Vice Chair. Seconded by Mr. Totman.

- Mrs. Degliaberti nominated herself for School Committee Vice Chair. Seconded by Mrs. Grill.

Roll Call Vote:

Jessica Degliaberti - Jessica

Meagan Grill - Jessica

Lori-Anne Hart - Beth

Lisa Mair - Beth

Elisabeth Mancini - Abstain

Mike Totman - Beth

3 votes for Beth, 2 votes for Jessica, 1 abstain

Majority with 5 votes, Elisabeth (Beth) Mancini has been voted as the 25-26 School Committee Vice Chair

- **School Committee District Clerk - VOTE**

- Mrs. Grill nominated Mrs. Hart for School Committee District Clerk. Seconded by Mr. Totman.

Roll Call Vote:

Jessica Degliaberti - Lori

Meagan Grill - Lori

Lori-Anne Hart - Lori

Lisa Mair - Lori

Elisabeth Mancini - Lori

Mike Totman - Lori

6-0 Vote, All in favor. Lori-Anne Hart has been voted as the 25-26 School Committee District Clerk.

VI. Public Comment

- Jason Carroll, School Choice Parent (Clinton), spoke regarding the 6th graders playing varsity sports. He is opposed to 6th graders playing varsity. He has a 9th grade daughter that is on the student advisory council group. He states that his 9th grade daughter is also opposed to it. He states that she as well as he has personally watched varsity coaches, 1 in particular, comes in to

VII. Consent Agenda - A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Mrs. Hart and seconded by Mrs. Mancini.

Mrs. Degliaberti requested for an amendment section 8, very last line should be “screens” not masks and was seconded by Mrs. Mair. 6-0 Vote All in Favor. Amendment passes.

Motion to approve the consent agenda with the amendment to section 8, 6-0 Vote. All in Favor.

Motion passes.

- 10/14/2025 Meeting Minutes
- 10/27/2025 Superintendent Search Screening Committee Meeting Minutes
- Warrants

VIII. Student Liaison Report - Mr. Matthew Dowd

- *Was not present*

IX. Superintendent of Schools Report - Mr. Albert Ganem Jr.

Mr. Ganem thanked everyone for a fantastic PD day. He shared how the District had planned to have our Director of Facilities, Mr. Dan Ayala present on the cleanliness of the classrooms, when it was staged to actually have comedian, Mr. Jimmy Cash came out for the hour. This was a huge moral boost for the District.

- MCAS Update 2024/2025 (Ms. Renee Legendre, Mr. John Campbell)
 - Mrs. Legendre and Mr. Campbell went over the MCAS results for the District.

Special Education: has been around 30% population and has increased slightly. IEP goals based on standards.

Ms. Legendre's Report:

ELA/MATH: Grade 10

- ELA/Math continues to meet or exceed state benchmarks
- Reflects sustained academic growth and high instructional quality
- Demonstrates strong outcome

Middle School:

- Steady, there were some highlighted areas needing additional support
- Data indicted target

ELA: 3 primary areas "power standards"

- 1. Writing: topic development
- 2. Reading
- 3. Language
- Vertical alignment
- Build mCAS classroom
- Create MCAS review session similar to what we have for Math and Biology

Math:

- Regularly meet to examine math achievement and growth by subgroup
- Use formative data along with MCAS/IXL to identify learning needs
- Support our highest achieving students
- Incorporate open response questions into our assessments
- New curriculum
- 6th grade team make effective use of WIN block

Science Technology and Engineering:

- 8th grade- combination of 4 content area standards
- STE tests are unique in that we cannot follow cohorts.

Civics:

- We were one of the highest performing Districts
 - Harvard 513
 - Westborough 510

- Southborough 510
- Shrewsbury 509
- Berlin-Boylston Regional School District 509

Next Steps:

- Review Standards Report
- Schedule 8th grade review sessions prior to MCAS
- High School Biology review sessions held prior to exam after school or via zoom

What can the School Committee do to help us?

- Prioritize staffing
- Support evidence based on interventions
- Fund math interventions
- Invest in Professional Learning
- Ensure equitable access to materials
- Fund summer or extended learning opportunities
- Hire and additional EL teacher
- Increase budget for substitute teachers
- Budget back in positions lost at Tahanto
- Full time reading and math specialist
- Additional Special Education Teachers
- Additional English Teacher

Mr. Campbell's Report:

- MCAS testing does not measure the worth of children, teachers, schools

ELA: Grade 3

- 53% of the points, relatively flat, we came down a bit

ELA: Grade 4

- 63% of possible points, flat, average student growth

ELA: Grade 5

- ELA Teacher Ms. Tia Koogler, the past 2 years has gotten students to 80%, meeting expectations

Math: Grade 3

- 68% of possible points, meets/ exceeds expectations 67%

Math: Grade 4

- 59% meets/exceeds expectations, our numbers have slightly dropped

What can the School Committee do to help us?

- Support Teachers
- Maintain Math Coach
- Add literacy coach
- Support Special Education Students, add a teacher and special education coordinator
- Support Elementary teachers by giving them meaningful time to plan and work together
- More PD days
- 5th prep

● BeaconConnect App

- App is now live, it tracks the bus, not the student

- To sign up to use the app, you need to use the 1st number listed in powerschool which is the father's number (if given to the District) as powerschool lists father before mother in the program.
- Any issues or concerns with the app please contact Beacon first.

X. Subcommittee Updates

- Student Success and Technology Subcommittee - *Mrs. Jessica Deglialberti*
 - No Update
- Budget and Facility Subcommittee - *Mrs. Meagan Grill*
 - There was a subcommittee meeting held on 11/04/2025 regarding a potential SRO
 - There were public comments as well as comments from the Chiefs.
 - Admin is not in favor of an SRO due to budget
 - Community is mixed
 - Boylston Chief stated that this must go through the Town and be on the Town Budget.
 - Berlin Chief stated this would need to go through the Town as well, this would not be a position that would be full time at the school, only during school hours.
 - There is a question regarding SRO on the Strategic Plan Survey that we are waiting on results from.
- Policy Subcommittee - *Mr. Michael Totman*
 - No Update

XI. Second Public Comment

XII. Future Agenda Items

XIII. Business Items

- Approval of Graduation Requirements - **VOTE - Motion to approve graduation requirements made by Mrs. Grill and seconded by Mrs. Hart.**
6-0, all in favor. Motion passes
- Approval of New Math Program (iReady) - **VOTE - Motion to approve new math program, iReady made by Mrs. Mancini and seconded by Mrs. Hart.**
6-0, all in favor. Motion passes
- Tahanto Student Handbook - **VOTE (Ms. Lisa Sequeira) - Motion to approve Tahanto student handbook and athletic handbook which is embedded in a single document made by Mrs. Grill and seconded by Mrs. Hart.**
6-0, all in favor. Motion passes
- Tahanto Athletic Handbook (embedded in the Tahanto Student Handbook) - **VOTE (Ms. Lisa Sequeira) - Motion to approve Tahanto student handbook and athletic handbook which is embedded in a single document made by Mrs. Grill and seconded by Mrs. Hart.**
6-0, all in favor. Motion passes
- Nature's Classroom Dates - **VOTE Motion to approve Nature's Classroom Dates for 05/19/2026 - 05/24/2026 made by Mrs. Deglialberti and seconded by Mrs. Grill.**
6-0, all in favor. Motion passes
- BES Roof - **VOTE Motion to approve confirm the School Committee intent to pursue the proposed full Boylston Elementary School roof project through MSBA and a total estimated cost of \$4,113,068.00 in conjunction with the October 14, 2025 affirmative vote of the Town of Boylston Selectboard was made by Mrs. Hart and seconded by Mrs. Grill.**

6-0, all in favor. Motion passes

XIV. Executive Session - Will not be returning to Open Session, there is no vote, just an update.

- **Motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), Purpose (3), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining (BBRSD Custodial Staff Teamsters Local 170) if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares made by Mrs. Grill and seconded by Mrs. Hart.**

Roll Call Vote:

Lisa Mair -Aye

Beth Mancini -Aye

Lori Hart - Aye

Meagan Grill -Aye

Jessica Degliaberti -Aye

Mike Totman- Aye

XV. Upcoming Meeting

- **December 2 - Superintendent Finalists Interviews, date to be adjusted if needed**
- **December 9 - Regular Meeting**

XVI. Adjournment

- **Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mrs. Grill and seconded by Mrs. Hart**

Roll Call Vote:

Lisa Mair -Aye

Beth Mancini -Aye

Lori Hart - Aye

Meagan Grill -Aye

Jessica Degliaberti -Aye

Mike Totman- Aye

The listing of items is 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 brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

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