

Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District

Budget Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2025

Members in Attendance

Gerald Finn of Millville
Tyler Bartlett of Upton
James Mitchell of Sutton
Joseph Hall of Bellingham

Anthony E. Steele II, Superintendent-Director
Matthew Connors, Assistant Superintendent
Nicole Ferguson, Business Manager
Christopher Pilla, District Treasurer
Jaime Patriarca, Assistant Business Manager

Members Absent

Jacquenette Raad, Assistant Business Manager
Joseph Broderick of Blackstone

Guests in Attendance

Michele Denise, Principal

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 4:59 p.m. by Mr. Mitchell in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

Approval of minutes from prior meeting

Mr. Mitchell asked members to review minutes from the December 11, 2025 meeting.

Motion: On a motion moved by Mr. Finn seconded by Mr. Hall; the motion was voted and approved with one abstention from Mr. Pilla, as he was not in attendance at said meeting.

Agenda items

Ms. Ferguson presented an article from Massachusetts Department of Revenue to the Subcommittee for review. The article indicated that state revenues were higher than anticipated for the month of November and that 9C cuts were unlikely to occur in FY26. Mr. Steele presented an article from Massachusetts Municipal Association. He indicated this article was a follow up to prior article detailing statewide municipal financial deficits. The article analyzed the fiscal deficits and offered possible state-level solutions.

Then Mr. Pilla updated the Subcommittee on Federal Reserve interest rates and the potential effect on the District's investments. Ms. Ferguson asked if this would affect the initial department request for FY27 short-term interest expense. Mr. Pilla suggested further review in February to determine if the initial projections could be adjusted.

The Subcommittee discussed the foundation budget and minimum contributions and how member town assessments are impacted by state and local budgets. The next scheduled meeting is set for January 8, 2026 at 4:30 in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

Adjournment

Motion: to adjourn made by Mr. Hall at 5:45 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Bartlett; voted and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jaime Patriarca, Recording Secretary