

MARLBOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 22, 2026

Elmer Thienes-Mary Hall Elementary School – Library

6:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call by Chairperson:

Chip Morris, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

BOE Members Present: Chip Morris, Amy Kuhrt, Jean Wilson, Linda Earley, Jamie Smigel,
Louise Concodello, William Guzman

Administration Present: Dr. Holly Hageman, Superintendent
Paula Graef, Principal
Kristen Trahan, Principal
John Mercier, Director of Operations
Michele Demicco, Business Manager

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Celebrations: Principal Kristen Trahan spoke about school-spirit theme days this past month, which have been well received by both students and staff. She also noted that the Future Problem Solvers program has resumed, with a qualifying round scheduled for next week and the State Bowl taking place in March. Principal Paula Graef reported that student clubs will return this year, offering 14 different club options for students to choose from.

4. Public Comments:

Laurel Killough, 30 Chapman Road, addressed the Board regarding the music program and her concern about the length of time devoted to ensemble and lessons.

5. Additions to the Agenda: None

6. Consent Agenda

- 6.1 Minutes of 12/18/25 Regular Business Meeting;
- 6.2 Personnel Actions
- 6.3 Reports – receive and file the following document: monthly enrollment report;

L. Earley made a motion that the Board approve the following Consent Agenda items 6.1-6.3, seconded by A. Kuhrt. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

7. Oral Reports

7.1 Advisory Groups

- PTO – Paula Graef summarized upcoming PTO activities including a STEAM Assembly to be held on Monday, a PTO Karate After-School Fundraiser beginning January 27th, and the annual Family Night at the Hartford Wolf Pack game on January 30th. Kristen Trahan shared that the PTO created a *Celebrate the 100th Day* contest to celebrate the 100th day of learning. Through this initiative, the PTO invites students to submit proposals for a school enhancement project with a \$100

budget. She also shared that children's author Susan Hood will visit the school on February 26, 2026.

- SAC – No meeting/no report
- Operations, Wellness & Safety – John Mercier reported that preparations are underway in anticipation of the upcoming winter storm. He also noted that the day tank sensor associated with the boiler system, which had failed in the fall, has now been replaced and is functioning well.
- Board of Finance Liaison – William Guzman stated that the Board of Finance did not meet in December and that the January meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 26th.
- AHM – Chip Morris shared that AHM's Winter/Spring 2026 program catalog is available and that registration is open. Mr. Morris also encouraged community members to complete AHM's community survey to support prevention planning efforts <https://www.research.net/r/AHMCommunitySurvey>. He further shared that AHM will host a Cuisine for Charity event at Gina Marie's in Hebron on Sunday, February 1st, featuring a four-course meal and live music. Additional information, including ticket purchase, is available on the AHM website.

7.2 Subcommittees

- Policy-No meeting/report
- Personnel-No meeting/report
- Communications-No meeting/report

7.3 Chairperson: No report

- 7.4 **Superintendent and Administrative Team:** Dr. Holly Hageman reported that the BOS approved the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the School Resource Officer. She noted that the current agreement is set to expire on June 30th and that the renewed MOU will extend the agreement for an additional three years with no changes to the existing terms. Dr. Hageman also shared that the MES Invention Convention team is looking for a Board of Education member to serve as a judge for the local competition on February 11th. Finally, Dr. Hageman noted that a randomly selected group of 4th-grade students will participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress test on February 4th.

8. Unfinished Business

- 8.1 **MES Facilities Project Update:** Chip Morris informed the Board that the BOS began the process of establishing the MES Building Committee (MESBC). The BOS will be soliciting community members to join the committee. Amy Kuhrt and Bill Guzman volunteered to serve on the MES Building Committee on behalf of the BOE. Dr. Hageman shared that she provided a DRAFT Charge for the MESBC, per the request of the Chair of the BOS, which the BOS began to review. Dr. Hageman suggested, when asked at the BOS meeting, that the MESBC, once seated, should start meeting this spring.

9. New Business

9.1 Presentation of Superintendent's Proposed FY 2026-27 Operating Budget and Capital Requests followed by Review and Discussion:

Dr. Holly Hageman presented the Superintendent's Proposed FY 2026-27 Operating and Capital Plan Budgets. All budget documents will be posted on the MES website under the Budget tab after tonight's presentation. The Board will continue to review the Superintendent's Proposed Budget during the next Regular Meeting on January 29.

9.2 Review January Financial Report: Submitted

10. Communications:

10.1 Staff Vacancy Summary: Submitted

11. Future Meetings & Topics:

- Next Regular Business Meeting, Thursday, January 29, 2026, 6:30 p.m.
 - ❖ BOE Budget Analysis and Adoption of BOE FY27 Budget
- Board of Finance Meeting: BOE Budget Presentation, Monday, February 9, 2026, 6:30PM at Town Hall
- No Policy Committee Meeting, Thursday, February 26, 2026, 6:00 p.m.
- Regular Business Meeting, Thursday, February 26, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

REMINDER: BOE Members are encouraged to send budget questions to Dr. Hageman by Tuesday, January 27th, prior to the second Budget meeting on January 29th.

12. Public Comments: None

13. Adjournment:

L. Earley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m., seconded by A. Kuhrt. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,
Carmela Monte