



Dover School Committee

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

6:30 pm

Dover-Sherborn Middle School Library
[Livestream via Dover-Sherborn Cable Television](#)

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Community Comments

<https://meet.google.com/gre-owyp-oeu> (will close after Community Comments)

3. Superintendent Comments

4. Financial Reports

- Warrant Report
- FY26 Monthly Report

5. Discussion Items

- Continued Discussion of Proposed Elementary Schedule Shift
- Proposed FY27 Budget – Version 2.0

6. Action Items

7. Consent Items

A.R.

- Approval of DSC Minutes November 18, 2025
- Town Report
- Pre-School Tuition FY27 Rates

8. Informational Items

- Regional School Committee Minutes – November 4, 2025 & December 2, 2025
- Sherborn School Committee Minutes – October 14, 2025 & December 9, 2025

9. Items for March 5, 2026 Meeting

10. Adjourn

NOTE: The listings of matters are 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 raised for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

The Public Schools of Dover and Sherborn

157 Farm Street
Dover, MA 02030
Phone: 508-785-0036 Fax: 508-785-2239
www.doversherborn.org



Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services

TO: Dover School Committee
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
DATE: February 10, 2026
RE: FY26 Warrants

The following FY26 Accounts Payable Warrants were approved by one of the Committee's designated signers:

<u>Voucher #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Fund</u>
1049	12/4/2025	\$2,100.00	Sped 240 Grant
1050	12/4/2025	\$127,066.09	Circuit Breaker
1051	12/4/2025	\$150,704.00	General-OOD
1052	12/4/2025	\$56,646.66	General-School
1053	12/5/2025	\$148,087.09	General-School
1055	12/11/2025	\$55,448.40	Circuit Breaker
1056	12/11/2025	\$8,056.44	Food Service
1057	12/11/2025	\$53,223.41	General-OOD
1058	12/11/2025	\$29,497.99	General-School
1060	12/30/2025	\$87,416.88	Circuit Breaker
1061	12/30/2025	\$27,479.83	General-OOD
1062	12/30/2025	\$15,464.87	General-School
1064	1/12/2026	\$44,920.23	Circuit Breaker
1065	1/12/2026	\$1,600.00	Sped 240 Grant
1066	1/12/2026	\$92,936.28	General-OOD
1067	1/12/2026	\$61,664.93	General-School
1069	1/22/2026	\$20,040.30	Food Service
1070	1/22/2026	\$24,497.40	General-OOD
1071	1/22/2026	\$12,574.20	Circuit Breaker
1072	1/22/2026	\$389.14	Title I
1073	1/22/2026	\$3,110.00	Title IVA
1074	1/22/2026	\$20,543.55	General-School
1076	2/5/2026	\$1,600.00	Sped 240 Grant
1077	2/5/2026	\$126,428.61	Circuit Breaker
1078	2/5/2026	\$155,903.08	General-OOD
1079	2/5/2026	\$71,608.81	General-School

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Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services

TO: Dover School Committee
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
RE: FY26 Operating Update
DATE: February 10, 2026

Attached please find:

* Status of Appropriations as of February 6, 2026

Note: As in previous years, the financial narrative will be rolling with new/updated information in bold.

Status of Appropriations

Salaries

We have encumbered the majority of salaries for FY26. There are variances in several of the line items resulting from the following:

- *SPED Administration* reflects a savings of approx. \$15,000 based on the reallocation of responsibilities for the Pre-K Director position. The oversight of the pre-k program is now incorporated into the responsibilities of the Pine Hill SPED Coordinator and not a separate position. These savings are reflected in the FY27 Budget. **Z**
- *School Leadership-Building* reflects **\$26,000** in savings due to the retirement of an Administrative Assistant and the subsequent conversions of the position from 12-month to 10-month, aligning it with staffing in all other school buildings.
- *Educators, Classroom* reflects several post-FY26 staffing changes, unbudgeted lane changes and savings from leaves of absences resulting in a small positive variance versus the first reported negative variance of **\$47,000**.
- *Educators, SPED* reflects the addition of a .6FTE Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) to the educator matrix (position converted from a contracted service position with funds budgeted in SPED Services), several post-FY26 staffing changes and unbudgeted lane changes resulting in a negative variance of **\$50,000**.

Custodial overtime and substitute costs are expensed as incurred. We will update the committee on changes in staffing as the year progresses.

Expenditures

There are no material variances to report except as noted below.

The savings in SPED, Services reflects the movement of outside SLP services to an educator position. The FY26 heating oil bid came in at \$2.225 per gallon (budget based on \$2.75/per gallon) providing a positive variance in Utilities at this time.

The Dover-Sherborn Schools share in the mission to inspire, challenge and support all students as they discover and pursue their full potential.

Out-of-District

Tuition encumbrances are reflected for all out-of-district placements as of **February 6th**. We currently have 22 placements, five (5) more than budgeted. The total **negative variance in tuition costs** is approximately **\$745,000**. This is comprised of **\$415,000** from new placements and **\$475,000** from known placements we opted not to include in the budget based on one-year impacts, offset by **\$145,000 of savings from placement changes**. This could continue to fluctuate as the year progresses. Transportation costs are currently projected to be over budget based on the increase in placements. FY26 Circuit Breaker (CB) has been posted and Dover will be receiving \$1.9 million. Tuition costs are being fully funded at the 75% mandated rate and transportation costs at 61% at this time.

We will be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have at Tuesday's meeting.

Dover Public Schools
Status of Appropriations as of February 6, 2026

	FY26	EXPENDED		TOTAL	OPERATING	% of
	BUDGET	6-Feb	ENCUMBRANCES	PROJECTED	VARIANCE/ BUD.REMAINING	BUDGET
SALARIES						
SUPERINTENDENT	\$146,947	\$49,793	\$99,586	\$149,379	(2,432)	- 1.65%
BUSINESS AND FINANCE	124,396	40,234	80,469	120,703	3,693	2.97%
DISTRICT INFO MANAGEMENT	84,029	28,876	57,752	86,628	(2,599)	- 3.09%
SPED ADMINISTRATION	257,011	127,004	120,507	247,511	9,499	3.70%
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP-BUILDING	418,626	251,771	140,179	391,949	26,677	6.37%
ACADEMIC LEADERS	39,274	16,600	22,824	39,424	(150)	- 0.38%
EDUCATORS, CLASSROOM	3,842,274	1,825,257	2,014,804	3,840,061	2,213	0.06%
EDUCATORS, SPED	1,319,875	600,349	767,712	1,368,061	(48,186)	- 3.65%
SUBSTITUTES	45,000	43,553	3,300	46,853	(1,853)	- 4.12%
EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS	678,289	384,054	289,976	674,031	4,259	0.63%
LIBRARIANS & MEDIA CENTER	75,723	34,949	40,774	75,723	0	0.00%
BUILDING BASED PD	16,875	20,700	0	20,700	(3,825)	-22.67%
GUIDANCE COUNSELORS	201,829	93,152	108,677	201,829	0	0.00%
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	121,289	48,634	57,728	106,362	14,927	12.31%
MEDICAL/HEALTH SERVICES	108,287	44,885	64,075	108,960	(673)	- 0.62%
CUSTODIAL SERVICES	235,982	133,126	83,190	216,316	19,667	8.33%
TOTAL SALARIES	\$7,715,707	\$3,742,936	\$3,951,552	\$7,694,489	\$21,218	0.27%
EXPENDITURES						
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	\$9,000	\$5,323	\$1,359	\$6,681	2,319	25.76%
SUPERINTENDENT	18,500	18,895	206	19,101	(601)	- 3.25%
LEGAL SERVICES	9,000	5,000	0	5,000	4,000	44.44%
DISTRICT INFO MANAGEMENT	80,500	71,693	978	72,671	7,829	9.73%
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP-BUILDING	18,750	13,862	1,996	15,858	2,892	15.42%
SPED SERVICES/SUPPLIES	86,500	27,096	31,318	58,415	28,085	32.47%
LIBRARIANS & MEDIA CENTER	14,360	4,249	0	4,249	10,111	70.41%
COURSE REIMBURSEMENT/PD	34,900	9,264	804	10,068	24,832	71.15%
TEXTBOOKS & RELATED SOFTWARE	75,000	55,309	440	55,749	19,251	25.67%
LIBRARY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS	7,200	5,825	1,406	7,231	(31)	- 0.44%
INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT	17,000	8,445	5,598	14,043	2,957	17.39%
GENERAL SUPPLIES	67,050	38,604	1,582	40,186	26,864	40.07%
GUIDANCE	3,500	5,658	0	5,658	(2,158)	-61.66%
MEDICAL/HEALTH SERVICES	1,500	718	259	977	523	34.86%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	330,821	161,243	147,509	308,752	22,069	6.67%
CUSTODIAL SERVICES	25,000	13,800	2,734	16,534	8,466	33.87%
UTILITIES	247,500	110,399	118,676	229,075	18,425	7.44%
MAINTENANCE OF BUILDING	139,500	104,851	32,404	137,255	2,245	1.61%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,185,581	\$660,235	\$347,268	\$1,007,503	\$178,078	15.02%
TOTAL INDISTRICT OPERATING	\$8,901,288	\$4,403,171	\$4,298,820	\$8,701,991	\$199,296	2.24%
OOD TUITION & TRANSPORTATION						
TUITION TO MA SCHOOLS	75,000	41,635	34,570	76,206	(1,206)	- 1.61%
TUITION TO COLLABORATIVES	220,000	274,914	66,572	341,485	(121,485)	-55.22%
TUITION TO NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL	1,937,000	1,546,063	1,011,157	2,557,220	(620,220)	-32.02%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	\$320,000	\$222,269	\$247,420	469,689	(149,689)	-46.78%
TOTAL OOD	\$2,552,000	\$2,084,880	\$1,359,720	\$3,444,600	(\$892,600)	-34.98%
TOTAL OPERATING	\$11,453,288	\$6,488,051	\$5,658,540	\$12,146,591	(\$693,303)	- 6.05%
CB Reimbursement offset				(\$1,899,100)	\$1,899,100	
Est.Operating Expenses/ Surplus				\$10,247,491	\$1,205,797	

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Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services

TO: Dover School Committee
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
DATE: February 10, 2026
RE: FY27 Operating Budget– Version 2.0

New FY27 Budget Documents

The following documents are being presented along with Version 2.0 of the FY27 Budget:

- Summary of Budget Adjustments
- Operating Expense Summary

The proposed FY27 Operating Budget V2.0 reflects a reduction of **\$220,000** from V1.0, and an overall proposed decrease of **18.10%** versus **16.18%** in V1.0. As a reminder, the overall decreases reflect the change in OOD Accounting. For our discussion, however, it is important to note the change in the In-District Budget. With the presented changes, the overall increase went down from **5.1%** to **2.63%**. Several of these proposed adjustments were discussed in detail by Administration at last week's joint meeting with Sherborn School Committee.

The in-district adjustments reflect the recognition of salary savings from the reconfiguration of the Pre-K Director position, confirmed retirements, reductions in staffing for FLES and PE and additional use of Pre-K revolving funds to offset the operating budget. Additions to V2.0 include the shared costs for one district-wide Curriculum Coordinator, a .2 FTE BCBA for increased student needs at Chickering and an increase in professional development costs to support curriculum initiatives.

There are no changes to the OOD portion of the budget at this time.

We will continue to review the budget taking into consideration any new/updated information on in-district enrollment, OOD placements, etc. and share any additional adjustments at the **March 5th** meeting.

Budget Timeline

We are meeting with Dover Warrant on **February 23rd** to review V2.0 of the operating budget. Any additional budget adjustments will be presented to the Committee prior to the Public Budget Hearing on **March 5th**. The final budget will be approved at this meeting.

Dover Warrant's Open Hearing is scheduled for **March 9th at 7:30pm**. An abbreviated budget presentation will be shared for the operating budget. Dover's Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for **May 4th**.

**Dover Public Schools
FY27 Proposed Budget
Summary of Budget Adjustments**

		FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed Budget	Change \$	%
Presented November 18, 2025					
Chickering In-District		\$8,901,288	\$9,355,175	\$453,887	5.10%
OOD Tuition and Transportation*:					
Tuition		2,232,000	200,000	(2,032,000)	-91.04%
Transportation		320,000	45,000	(275,000)	-85.94%
Total OOD		\$2,552,000	\$245,000	(\$2,307,000)	-90.40%
Total Dover Public Schools		\$11,453,288	\$9,600,175	(\$1,853,113)	-16.18%
FC					
Presented February 10, 2026					
Chickering In-District			\$9,355,175		
Reallocation of Director of Pre-K responsibilities	2110		(20,000)		
Chickering's Allocation for District-wide Curriculum Coordinator (1@ 20%)	2220		28,000		Instructional Leadership
Salary savings from Educator retirements	2305		(65,000)		
Reduction of 2.2 FTE Specialist - FLES (1.8) & PE (.4)	2305		(178,000)		Elementary Instructional Time Study
Additional use of Pre-K Revolving Fund for Pre-K Staff	2310/2330		(20,000)		
Addition of .2 FTE BCBA (moved from PH)	2310		20,000		
Increase PD Contracted Services for Curriculum needs	2357		15,000		Instructional Leadership
			<u>(\$220,000)</u>		
Revised Chickering In-District		\$8,901,288	\$9,135,175	\$233,887	2.63%
OOD Tuition & Transportation*			\$245,000		
Increase in Projected Tuition costs			0		
OOD Increase (Decrease):			0		
Revised OOD		\$2,552,000	\$245,000	(\$2,307,000)	-90.40%
Total Dover Public Schools		\$11,453,288	\$9,380,175	(\$2,073,113)	-18.10%
net change as of 2/10/2026				(\$220,000)	

* Reflects change in OOD Accounting - Shift to Region

Dover Public Schools

FY27 OPERATING EXPENSE SUMMARY *

FY27 OPERATING EXPENSE SUMMARY *									
Description	FY23 Expended	FY24 Expended	FY25 Expended	FY26 Budget**	V2.0	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE	% SUB BUDGET	% TOTAL BUDGET
					FY27 Proposed **				
SALARIES & OTHER COMPENSATION	6,776,587	7,141,000	7,448,808	7,715,707	7,522,944	(192,763)	-2.50%	82.35%	
OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURES	511,087	410,053	482,139	442,760	864,410	421,650	95.23%	9.46%	
GENERAL EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION	266,566	269,780	270,536	330,821	330,821	0	0.00%	3.62%	
BUILDINGS & GROUND EXPENDITURES	348,002	367,370	388,993	412,000	417,000	5,000		4.56%	
Sub-total In-District	7,902,242	8,188,203	8,590,476	8,901,288	9,135,175	233,887	2.63%		97.39%
TUITION	1,351,248	1,824,763	2,079,855	2,232,000	200,000	(2,032,000)	-91.04%	81.63%	
TRANSPORTATION	406,555	448,807	296,358	320,000	45,000	(275,000)	-85.94%	18.37%	
Sub-total OOD***	1,757,803	2,273,570	2,376,213	2,552,000	245,000	(2,307,000)	-90.40%		2.61%
TOTAL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	\$9,660,044	\$10,461,774	\$10,966,689	\$11,453,288	\$9,380,175	(\$2,073,113)	-18.10%		100.00%
CB Expenditures	\$1,151,763	\$1,289,174	\$1,215,527						
TOTAL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT w/CB	\$10,811,807	\$11,750,948	\$12,182,216	\$11,453,288	\$9,380,175				

*Based on Proposed Budget as of February 10, 2026

** Budget years include 100% of OOD costs (FY26 and FY27 CB are estimated to be approx. \$1.9 million and \$70,000, respectively)

*** Reflects change in accounting for OOD activity for FY27

DRAFT

Dover School Committee Meeting of November 18, 2025

Members Present: Goli Sepehr
Kate Cook
Jessica Hole
Kevin Bielke
Martha Castle
Sally Firnstein (METCO member, remote)

Also Present: Beth McCoy, Superintendent
Denny Conklin, Assistant Superintendent
Dawn Fattore, Business Manager

1) Call to Order

Goli Sepehr called the meeting to order 6:33 pm.

2) Community Comments - none

3) Superintendent Comments - Superintendent McCoy spoke about recent and upcoming events including a METCO bus stop party and parent safety meetings. She and Denny Conklin also provided updates on the following:

- Professional Growth Study
- Elementary Instructional Study Time Study
- Literacy Update

4) Financial Reports

- Warrant Report
- FY26 Monthly Report
 - Salaries - there are no changes since the last report
 - Expenses - there are no material variances to report
 - Out-of-District - there are 22 placements which is 5 more than budgeted. The total negative variance in tuition costs is approximately \$800,000: \$415,000 from new placements and \$475,000 from known placements not included in the budget based on one-year impacts, offset by \$90,000 of savings from placement changes. Transportation costs are also estimated to be over budget as well. FY26 Circuit Breaker has been posted and the Town will receive \$1.9 million.

5) Discussion Items

- Proposed Change to Policy ECAF: Security Cameras in Schools (1st read) - in order to promote a secure and orderly environment for all students, the administration is proposing the installation of security cameras on school buses. Cameras would strengthen the Administration's capacity to respond to safety and behavioral issues. To enable the Administration to move forward with this initiative, Policy ECAF needs to be revised to include "school transportation vehicles".

6) Action Items

- FY27 Operating Budget: version 1.0 - \$9,600,175 comprised of: in-district operating budget in crease of \$453,887 or 5.1% (FY26 increase was \$298,450 or 3.47%) and OOD operating budget decrease of \$2,307,000 or 90.4% due to change in budgeting.

DRAFT

Key Budget Drivers for In-District: enrollment of 441-448 students with 24 classroom sections; salary reserve for contractual negotiations to cover FY27-29; level staffing; increase in Technology Hardware of \$26,000 to begin replacement cycle for student devices; increase in Summer SPED Services of \$11,400 due to two Connection summer classrooms and more students accessing summer support; and increase in Building Maintenance Contracted Services of \$8,000 due to increase costs of preventative maintenance.

Out-of-District: DESE has required a change in accounting for OOD placements in order to more accurately recognize the expenses of these placements in the appropriate district for purposes of state reporting. The Regional Agreement places the financial responsibility of placement costs with the Town where the student resides. Historically, the total OOD cost has been budgeted in the Town's budgets with none at the Region. Going forward, all costs of a student's placement will be recorded in the district they would attend if they were in-district and the Region will assess the "net costs" to each Town through their annual Regional Assessment of the OOD placements in 6th grade through the age of 22. Due to this change, the Dover School Budget is seeing a significant reduction in OOD costs as there are less than three placements at the elementary level.

Martha Castle made a motion to approve the FY27 Operating Budget as presented. Kate Cook seconded.

25-14 VOTE: 5 - 0

7) Consent Items

- Approval of Minutes: October 21, 2025

Kate Cook made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Martha Castle seconded.

25-15 VOTE: 5 - 0

8) Informational Items

- Regional School Committee minutes of October 7, 2025
- Sherborn School Committee Minutes - September 16, 2025
- TEC Collaborative Q1 October 2025
- TEC Collaborative Q4 May 2025
- ACCEPT Collaborative Q1 October 2025
- ACCEPT Collaborative Q4 May 2025

9) Items for January 13, 2026

10) Adjournment at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis

Report of the **Dover School Committee**

Golrokh Sepehr, Chair
Jessica Hole, Secretary
Martha Castle
Kate N. Cook
Kevin Bielke

The members of the Dover School Committee (DSC) are elected by Dover's residents. The Committee works with the Superintendent and Administration to oversee the operation and education program of Chickering Elementary School and works jointly with the Sherborn School Committee and the Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee (DSRSC) on matters impacting all three districts. The DSC is composed of five members elected on a rotating basis of one or two members each year for three-year terms.

Membership

In 2025, the DSC welcomed new member Kevin Bielke, who was elected to a three-year term in May. Golrokh "Goli" Sepehr, was re-elected to a three-year term in May as well. Sally Firnstein was welcomed as a liaison member for METCO. We extended our sincere thanks to Jeff Cassidy who completed his term on the DSC.

District Leadership

In 2025, Superintendent Elizabeth McCoy and Assistant Superintendent Denton Conklin continued their strong leadership at the district level. As evidenced by data from multiple stakeholders, Dover continues to be valued for its commitment to academic excellence, focus on the whole child, and service to the community. We remain grateful for the continued leadership of Principal Deborah Reinemann and Assistant Principal James Carnes at Chickering Elementary School, as well as the dedication and commitment of our highly qualified and talented teachers and staff.

Academics

Chickering Elementary School strives for academic excellence and continues to rank as a top-performing Massachusetts elementary school in the research publication of *U.S. News & World Report*. At the same time, we value students' social and emotional needs and recognize the unique talents of each student. The DSC sets policies to achieve its defined goals and seeks to accomplish them in a fiscally prudent manner.

Finance

The DSC works hard to deliver the highest quality education in the most efficient way possible by reviewing its operations and allocating resources to best serve student needs. Salaries are the biggest budget items. The educator contract negotiation process started in 2025 and will continue into 2026.

We continued to receive federal and state grants and approval was granted by the Dover School Committee for the receipt of IDEA-SPED 240 Grant, Early Child SPED 262 Grant, Title I, Title II, and Title IV grants for the 2026 fiscal year.

In 2025, enrollment remained steady. We continue to match classroom sections to adhere to our long-standing classroom size policy of between 17 and 22 students. We will continue to monitor real estate trends and census data and adjust staffing levels to meet the community's changing needs.

The out-of-district Special Education Budget, which covers students aged 3 to 22 years who are enrolled in schools outside the Dover Public School system, is a significant part of the overall budget. This year we had 22 out-of-district placements. However, the Town is reimbursed by the State of Massachusetts for a percentage of the tuition costs that exceeds a calculated base amount. This reimbursement, referred to as the "circuit breaker," offsets these costs.

Facilities

We continue to perform maintenance required to keep the school building in top condition. We rely on a long-range, 20-year Capital Needs Assessment, initially prepared by an outside consultant in 2012 and updated in 2017, to guide our annual Capital Budget requests. During 2025, we replaced the final sections of the original school flooring (2001).

Appreciation

The DSC extends its sincere gratitude to the members of the Chickering community whose continued dedication supports the school's tradition of excellence. We thank the Dover taxpayers and the PTO for their essential financial support, and we offer special appreciation to Chickering's educators, leadership, and administrative staff for their professionalism, vision, and steadfast commitment to student success, which together sustain a strong and thriving school community.

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Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator
Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services

TO: Dover School Committee

FROM: Kate McCarthy, Director of Student Services
Jennifer Truslow, Pre-K Coordinator
Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator

DATE: February 10, 2026

RE: FY27 Pre-K Tuition Rates

For FY27, we will continue to offer two options for our Pre-K integrated program: a 3-day or 5-day enrollment. Wednesdays are half-days for both program choices. We will have one Pre-K section next year, consistent with FY26.

We are proposing a 4% increase, and the corresponding rates will be:

- 3-day rate (M,W,F) \$6,720
- 5-day rate \$11,900

These rates are competitive with other surrounding districts' integrated programs. We are requesting that the Committee approve these rates for FY27.

Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee

Meeting of November 4, 2025

Members Present: Angie Johnson
Jeff Cassidy
Lindsay Nie
Kevin Crotty

1) Call to Order

Angie Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the Middle School Library.

2) Community Comments - none

3) Student Council Representative Update - postponed to next month

4) Superintendent Comments - Superintendent McCoy spoke about the dedication of the Turf as well as upcoming musical, drama, and post-season athletic events. There are safety meetings planned for interested families over the next week. Educator Contract Negotiations are underway.

5) Financial Reports

- Warrant Report
- FY26 Monthly Update
 - Revenues: Chapter 70 and 71 revenue projections reflect the final Cherry Sheet amounts.
 - Salaries: the majority of salaries have been encumbered. There are a few salary variances due to post FY26 staffing changes.
 - Expenditures: estimated health insurance costs have been encumbered. These costs are based on Calendar Year (CY) not FY. The FY26 Budget was developed using a 9% estimated increase. The CY26 rates for retiree plans were approved at 12.4% (Medex) and 11.9% (HPHC Medicare Enhanced).

6) Discussion Items

- FY27 Budget Guidance - the FY27 first draft budget will be presented at the next meeting (December). The Administration asked for input from the Committee members on their priorities.

7) Action Items

- FY27-FY31 Five-Year Capital Plan - The FY27 Roof Replacement project estimate has been amended to \$2 million.

Jeff Cassidy made a motion to approve the Five Year Capital Plan with the changes discussed. Lindsay Nie seconded.

25-19 VOTE: 4- 0

8) Consent Items

- Regional School Committee minutes of October 7, 2025
- Approval of HS Field Trip - Harvard Model UN Program, January 29 - February 1, 2026

Approved 12.2.25

- Approval of Cross Country Field Trip - overnight prior to MIAA Divisionals Meet in Northfield, MA, November 7 - 8, 2025.

Kevin Crotty made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Lindsey Nie seconded.
25-20 VOTE: 4 - 0

9) Informational Items

- Sherborn School Committee Minutes - September 16, 2025
- Dover School Committee Minutes of September 16, 2025
- TEC Collaborative Quarterly Report, October 2025
- TEC Collaborative Q4 May 2025
- ACCEPT Collaborative Quarterly Report
- ACCEPT Collaborative Q4 May 2025

10)Next Meeting December 2, 2025

11)Adjournment at 7:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Davis

Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee

Meeting of December 2, 2025

Members Present: Angie Johnson
Jeff Cassidy
Lindsay Nie
Kevin Crotty
Mary Lowder

1) Call to Order

Angie Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the Middle School Library and suggested amending the agenda to move Item #6 to after Item #3.

Jeff Cassidy made a motion to amend the agenda. Mary Lowder seconded.

25-21 VOTE: 5 - 0

2) Community Comments - Amelia Landau, Sherborn Sustainability Manager, introduced herself to the Committee members and looks forward to working with the Committee on savings through energy efficiency, grants, etc.

Several Sherborn parents were in attendance to voice their frustrations with the frequency of the Wednesday early releases at the elementary schools.

3) Student Council Representative Update

4) Superintendent Comments - Superintendent McCoy spoke about contract negotiations and the recent safety meeting for parents.

- Professional Growth Study
- Grade 9 Technology Pilot - the Administration is proposing extending the Middle School 1:1 device program to next years 9th grade class. There was consensus from the Committee to approve the pilot.

5) Financial Reports

- Warrant Report
- FY26 Monthly Update - will be provided to the Committee next week, there are no significant changes to report.

6) Discussion Items

- Proposed Change to Policy ECAF: Security Cameras in Schools (1st read) - Security Cameras in Schools (1st read) - in order to promote a secure and orderly environment for all students, the administration is proposing the installation of security cameras on school buses. Cameras would strengthen the Administration's capacity to respond to safety and behavioral issues. To enable the Administration to move forward with this initiative, Policy ECAF needs to be revised to include "school transportation vehicles".
- Draft HS 2026-27 Program of Studies - John Smith provided a summary of changes to the Program of Studies and answered questions.
- Policy IKF: Graduation Requirements - the Administration asked for member input on what information is needed to make a decision on new requirements since the MCAS exam is no longer required by the State.

Approved 2.3.26

- Student Proposal for HS Therapy Dog - the steps to proceed were discussed including fundraising options. The Committee members gave the student group consensus approval to continue with research of costs and feasibility of the program.

7) Action Items

- FY27 Operating Budget version 1.0 - \$30,550,188 or 5.03%.
Key Budget Drivers: salary reserve for contractual negotiations to cover FY27-29 and 15% increase placeholder for healthcare. The excess revenue from FY26 of \$150,000 has been allocated to decrease the budget amount.
Out-of-District: DESE has required a change in accounting for OOD placements in order to more accurately recognize the expenses of these placements in the appropriate district for purposes of state reporting. The Regional Agreement places the financial responsibility of placement costs with the Town where the student resides. Historically, the total OOD cost has been budgeted in the Town's budgets with none at the Region. Going forward, all costs of a student's placement will be recorded in the district they would attend if they were in-district and the Region will assess the "net costs" to each Town through their annual Regional Assessment of the OOD placements in 6th grade through the age of 22.

Jeff Cassidy made a motion to approve the FY27 Operating Budget version 1.0 as presented.

Kevin Crotty seconded.

25-22 VOTE: 5- 0

- FY27 ACED Recommendations - the Advisory Committee for Extra-Compensatory Duties (ACED) met on November 13, 2025, reviewed all submissions and voted to move the following proposals forward for funding consideration:
 - Educator Mentor: ratio 0.75; \$1,200/mentor (grant funded)
 - Senior Project Advisor: ratio increase to 4.0; \$1,600 increase
 - DECA: ratio 3.0; \$4,800 addition
 - Medical Club: ratio 1.0; \$1,600 addition
 - Boston Trip Coordinator: ratio 0.5; \$800 addition
 - Green Team: ratio increase to 1.0; \$800 increase
- TOTAL: \$9,600
- Additionally, the HS Department Chairs submitted a proposal to increase their stipend ration from 5.5 to 7.0. The ACED vote was 3-3. The job responsibilities and compensation for Department Chairs is part of the larger conversation around the District's K-12 Instructional Model involving the Professional Growth Study/audit, and changes may be recommended by Administration in the coming months.

Jeff Cassidy made a motion to approve the ACED Appendix C Recommendations totaling \$9,600 as presented. Kevin Crotty seconded.

25-23 VOTE: 5- 0

8) Consent Items

- Regional School Committee minutes of November 4, 2025

Approved 2.3.26

- Approval of HS Athletics Overnight Field Trips - Boys ice hockey to Martha's Vineyard over February vacation for a tournament.
- Approval of Advisory Committee adding Volleyball as a Fall Sport in 2026 - Volleyball will be self-funded for two seasons: JV2 level for Fall '26, JV1 level for Fall '27, and Varsity for Fall '28 (full funded by athletic department budget).
- Approval of DS Gridiron Donation - \$8,200 for two football coaches.

*Lindsey Nie made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mary Lowder seconded.
25-24 VOTE: 5 - 0*

9) Informational Items

- Dover School Committee Minutes of October 21, 2025
- TEC Collaborative Q1, October 2025
- TEC Collaborative Q4 May 2025
- ACCEPT Collaborative Q1 October 2025
- ACCEPT Collaborative Q4 May 2025

10)Next Meeting February 3, 2026

11)Adjournment at 9:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Davis

Approved 12.9.25

Sherborn School Committee
Meeting of October 14, 2025

Members Present: Becca Hammond
Megha Kadiyala
Bill Alfano
Nathaniel Jackson (remote)
Kate Manzolini
Also Present: Beth McCoy, Superintendent
Denny Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

1) Call to Order

Becca Hammond called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the DSMS Library.

Megha Kadiyala made a motion to move the CSA Co-Presidents update to before the Superintendent Comments. Bill Alfano seconded.

25-13 VOTE: 4 - 0

2) Community Comments - none

3) Superintendent Comments - Superintendent McCoy spoke about recent the dedication of the new turf/track project, the start of Educator Contract Negotiations, and an upcoming update to parents on Safety/Drilling. Assistant Superintendent Conklin reviewed the recently released MCA test results from the prior school year for the District.

4) CSA Co-Presidents - activities and initiatives for the coming school year were reviewed.

5) Financial Reports

- Warrant Report
- FY26 Monthly Report
 - Salaries: post FY-26 Budget staffing changes include an addition of a .2 FTE ELL Educator due to current student needs, a reduction of a 1.0 FTE SPED Educator for the Connections program, and several employee changes in positions. There is minimal net budget impact.
 - Expenditures: there are no material variances to report to date. Transportation and utility expenses have been encumbered and reflect additional SPED in-district expenses for transportation and higher than budgeted delivery costs for utilities.
 - Out-of-District: FY26 placements known to date have been encumbered. Tuition costs are currently over-budget by \$140,000 and transportation costs are over-budget by \$77,500 resulting in a negative variance of \$217,500. Sherborn will be receiving \$490,509 in Circuit Breaker reimbursement, comprised of eligible tuition costs reimbursed at 75% and transportation costs at 61%. Current year expenses charged against the CB Fund at this time are \$387,281. The budgeted amount in CB Fund of \$400,000 will likely need to be increased (there are additional available monies in the CB Fund).

6) Discussion Items

Approved 12.9.25

- FY27 Budget Development Guidance Discussion - the FY27 first draft budget will be presented at the next meeting (December). The Administration asked for input from the Committee members on their priorities.

7) Action Items

8) Consent Items

- Approval of Minutes: September 16, 2025
- Approval of FY26 Grants: IDEA-SPED 240 \$95,834; Early Child SPED Entitlement 262 \$2,828; Title I \$13,098; Title IIA \$4,751; Title IVA-ESSA \$10,000; and REAP \$51,620.
- Gift: \$175.29 from the Brookline Bird Club for DIY Bird House kits.

*Megha Kadiyala made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Bill Alfano seconded.
25-14 VOTE: 5 - 0 via roll call*

9) Informational Items

- October Enrollment Report
- Dover Sherborn Regional Committee minutes of September 9, 2025
- Dover School Committee Minutes of June 3, 2025

10) Items for December 9, 2025 - FY27 draft budget

11) Adjournment at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis

Sherborn School Committee
Meeting of December 9, 2025

Members Present: Becca Hammond
Megha Kadiyala
Bill Alfano
Nathaniel Jackson (remote)
Kate Manzolini
Kemberlie Grant (METCO member, remote)

Also Present: Beth McCoy, Superintendent
Denny Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

1) Call to Order

Becca Hammond called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the DSMS Library.

2) Community Comments - Amelia Landau, Sherborn Sustainability Manager, introduced herself to the Committee members and looks forward to working with the Committee on savings through energy efficiency, grants, etc.

3) Superintendent Comments - Superintendent McCoy spoke about recent and upcoming events including a METCO bus stop party and parent safety meetings. She and Denny Conklin also provided updates on the following:

- Professional Growth Study
- Elementary Instructional Study Time Study
- Literacy Update

4) Financial Reports

- Warrant Report
- FY26 Monthly Report
 - Salaries: there are no changes to report.
 - Expenditures: there are no material variances to report.
 - Out-of-District: Additional placement changes have occurred resulting in increased tuition and transportation costs. Current tuition costs are now over-budget by \$200,000 and transportation costs are over-budget by \$100,000 resulting in a negative variance of \$300,000 at this date. Sherborn will be receiving \$409,509 Circuit Breaker reimbursement for FY26. Current year expenses charged against the CB Fund at this time are \$477,281. There are additional funds of approximately \$200,000 comprised of carry forward funds to utilize.

5) Discussion Items

- Proposed Change to Policy ECAF: Security Cameras in Schools (1st read) - in order to promote a secure and orderly environment for all students, the administration is proposing the installation of security cameras on school buses. Cameras would strengthen the Administration's capacity to respond to safety and behavioral issues. To enable the Administration to move forward with this initiative, Policy ECAF needs to be revised to include "school transportation vehicles".

6) Action Items

- FY27 Operating Budget: version 1.0 - \$8,060,891 a decrease of \$371,394 comprised of: in-district operating budget increase of \$322,606 or 4.43% over FY26 and OOD operating budget decrease of \$694,000 or -60.40% over FY26 due to change in budgeting.

Key Budget Drivers for In-District: salary reserve for contractual negotiations to cover FY27-29; level staffing; increase in Technology Hardware to begin replacement cycle for student devices; and increase in Building Maintenance Contracted Services due to increase costs of preventative maintenance.

Out-of-District: DESE has required a change in accounting for OOD placements in order to more accurately recognize the expenses of these placements in the appropriate district for purposes of state reporting. The Regional Agreement places the financial responsibility of placement costs with the Town where the student resides. Historically, the total OOD cost has been budgeted in the Town's budgets with none at the Region. Going forward, all costs of a student's placement will be recorded in the district they would attend if they were in-district and the Region will assess the "net costs" to each Town through their annual Regional Assessment of the OOD placements in 6th grade through the age of 22. Due to this change, the Sherborn School Budget is seeing a significant reduction in OOD costs.

Megha Kadiyala made a motion to approve the FY27 Operating Budget as presented. Bill Cassidy seconded.

25-15 VOTE: 5 - 0 via roll call

- FY27-32 Capital Budget - the Administration is requesting \$300,000 in FY27 for replacement of the water tank at Pine Hill.

Megha Kadiyala made a motion to approve the FY27-32 Capital Budget as presented. Kate Cook seconded.

25-15 VOTE: 5 - 0 via roll call

7) Consent Items

- Approval of Minutes: October 14, 2025

Megha Kadiyala made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Bill Alfano seconded.

25-17 VOTE: 5 - 0 via roll call

8) Informational Items

- Dover Sherborn Regional Committee minutes of October 7 & November 4, 2025
- Dover School Committee Minutes of September 16 & October 21, 2025
- TEC Collaborative Q1 October 2025
- TEC Collaborative Q4 May 2025
- ACCEPT Collaborative Q1 October 2025
- ACCEPT Collaborative Q4 May 2025

9) Items for February 3, 2026 - FY27 budget

Approved 12.3.26

10)Adjournment at 7:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis