

THE W. L. GILBERT SCHOOL CORPORATION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
THE GILBERT SCHOOL
6:30 PM
Library
MINUTES

(A portion of this meeting may be held in executive session)

The meeting will be live-streamed via YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@TGSTV/streams>

1. OPENING OF MEETING

The meeting is called to order at 6:31 by Chair Holly Cassaday. In attendance are members Scott Beecher, Holly Cassaday, Shane Centrella, Ellen Marino, Jonathan Morhardt, Frank Oliveri, Theresa Padin, Tara Sundie, Kurt Werner and Michael P. Susi (Head of School). Also in attendance are Student Representatives: Mackenzie Hale (HS), Makayla DeSanti (MS), Shelby Salius (HS) Ashlynn Glinsman (MS)

- A. Pledge of Allegiance - Kurt Werner
- B. Vision and Mission Statement - Kurt Werner

2. PUBLIC FORUM

A. General Public

The W. L. Gilbert School Corporation welcomes comments from the public.

Please state your name and address. Speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes. (Board Policy 1120).
Jeanine Thibault (218 Tarringford Street)

B. Student Representatives Report

Winter sports are winding down. Choosing courses for next year. Adams Family will be school production this year. Spirit week and themes.

3. CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

A. Commendations

- 1. Patrick Brintle (Connecticut Counselor of the Year)
- 2. Tony Sullivan (40 Year Work Anniversary)

5. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Sent

- 1. Ryan Fazio, Gubernatorial Candidate (Invitation)
- 2. Family of Roberta Scaia (Condolences)
- 3. Dwayne Ratleff (Alumni Recognition)
- 4. Tim Cronin (Tuition Estimation)
- 5. Julie Luby (Tuition Estimation)

B. Received

- 1. Jared Fritch, W.L. Gilbert Trust President (Small Gymnasium Re-naming)

Motion to rename the small gym after John Adam Groth '06 by Scott Beecher, seconded by Ellen Marino and unanimously approved.

2. Connecticut Association of Independent Schools (Membership Acceptance)
3. NEASC (Accreditation Updated)

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Frank Oliveri, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting - January 21, 2026, seconded Theresa Padin and approved. Ellen Marino abstained.

Motion Shane Centrella to approve the Minutes of Special Meeting - February 4, 2026, seconded by Tara Sundie and approved. Jonathan Morhardt abstained.

Motion to approve the Minutes of Special Meeting - February 11, 2026 Jonathan Morhardt, seconded by Shane Centrella and approved. Theresa Padin abstained.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance

1. Monthly Finance Report
2. Next Meeting - March 18, 2026

B. Policy

1. Report on Meeting - February 5, 2026
2. Next Meeting - March 5, 2026

C. Building & Grounds

1. Report on Meeting - February 18, 2026
2. Next Meeting - March 18, 2026

D. Personnel

1. Next Meeting - TBD

E. Nominating Committee (updated list of Committees)

1. Next Meeting - TBD

F. AD HOC Negotiating Committee

1. Next Meeting -TBD

8. REVISED COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS SHEET

(Handout)

9. ENHANCEMENT GRANT REQUESTS

Motion to approve the enhancement grant for a New Set of Timpani Drums for the music department, not to exceed \$3400 by Ellen Marino, seconded by Theresa Padin and unanimously approved.

B. Physical Education/Health (First Aid 'Manikins')

Motion to approve the enhancement grant for "Manikins" not to exceed \$1250 by Ellen Marino, seconded by Scott Beecher and unanimously approved.

C. Theater Tech

Motion to approve the enhancement grant for a wireless microphone for the theatre department, not to exceed \$4,000 by Ellen Marino, seconded by Jonathan Morhardt and unanimously approved.

10. OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

A. AP Calc, AP Comp Sci, & AP Stats students to Six Flags New England (5/15)

Motion to approve the out of state field trip to Six Flags New England by Theresa Padin, seconded by Jonathan Morhardt and unanimously approved.

B. World Language Dept. students to Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (5/19)

Motion to approve the World Language Dept field trip to the Museum of Art in New York by Thresea Padin, seconded by Jonathan Morhardt and unanimously approved.

11. FOOD SERVICES

A. Motion #1: Required vote for participation in healthy food option of HFC Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, The W.L. Gilbert School Corp., Inc. dba The Gilbert School certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups. Motion made by Holly Cassaday, seconded by Ellen Marino and unanimously approved.

B. Motion #2: Required motion language for combined food and beverage exemptions: The W.L. Gilbert School Corp., Inc. dba The Gilbert School will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The "regular school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales. Motion made by Holly Cassaday, seconded by Ellen Marino and unanimously approved.

12. RESIGNATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

A. Appointments

1. Ron Williams - Math Interventionist

13 FIRST READING OF POLICIES

A. Policy #9271 - Code of Ethics

B. Policy #9271.1 - Confidentiality for Directors

C. Policy #9300 - Methods of Operation

D. Policy #9310 - Development, Distribution and Maintenance of Manual of Policies, Regulations, Bylaws

E. Policy #9311 - Policy Adoption, Revision, Reaffirmation

F. Policy #9312 - Amendments to Bylaws

G. Policy #9313 - Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Administrative Regulations

- H. Policy #9314 - Suspension of Policies, Bylaws and Regulations
- I. Policy #9320 - Public Meetings
- J. Policy #9321 - Time, Place and Notification of Meetings
- K. Policy #9322 - Public and Executive Sessions
- L. Policy #9323 - Construction of the Agenda

14. POLICIES FOR APPROVAL

- A. Policy #9020 - Public Statements

Motion to approve Policy #9020 Ellen Marino, seconded by Holly Cassaday and unanimously approved.

- B. Policy #9030 - Commitment to Democratic Principles in Relation to Community, Staff, Students

Motion to approve Policy #9030 Ellen Marino, seconded by Jonathan Morhardt and unanimously approved.

- C. Policy #9040 - Board-Related Responsibilities

Motion to approve, as amended, Policy #9040 Ellen Marino, seconded by Holly Cassaday and unanimously approved. (Item 1 the terminology should go from Superintendent to Head of School).

- D. Policy #9110 - Classes of Directors/Terms of Office

Motion to approve Policy #9110 Ellen Marino, seconded by Holly Cassaday and unanimously approved.

- E. Policy #9132 - Standing Committees

Motion by Ellen Marino to approve Policy #9132, seconded by Holly Cassaday and unanimously approved.

- F. Policy #9133 - Ad Hoc Committees

Motion by Ellen Marino to approve Policy #9133, seconded by Holly Cassaday and unanimously approved.

- G. Policy #9140 - Board Representatives

Motion to approve Policy #9140 Ellen Marino, seconded by Jonathan Morhardt and unanimously approved.

- H. Policy #9222 - Resignation/Removal from Office/Censure

Motion to approve Policy #9222 Ellen Marino, seconded by Holly Cassaday and unanimously approved.

15. CHANGE OF REGISTERED AGENT

Motion to change the Registered Agent to Michael Susi (Head of School), by Holly Cassaday, seconded by Theresa Padin and unanimously approved.

16. HEAD OF SCHOOL REPORT

- A. Michael Susi, Head of School
 1. Winchester Superintendent meeting
 2. Bus Loop Update
 3. Feature a Teacher Report
 4. Solar Project Update
 5. Retirement Consultant

17. BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

- A. Winchester

18. SCHOOL CORPORATION CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Holly Cassaday

19. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Head of School Mid-Year Evaluation

Motion to enter Executive Session at 7:34PM by Ellen Marino, seconded by Jonathan Morhardt and unanimously approved.

Exited Executive Session at 8:03PM

20. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:04PM by Scott Beecher, seconded by Tara Sundie and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Jones Dombrowski