



**Monomoy Regional School District - Monomoy Regional School Committee  
Meeting Agenda for Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 6:00 PM  
Monomoy Regional High School Library, 75 Oak Street, Harwich, MA 02645**

This meeting will be broadcast to Channel 22 as well as live-streamed/recorded to the [MRSC YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#)

**In accordance with M.G.L., c. 71, Section 38N, this is a Public Hearing for the proposed annual budget for the Fiscal Year 2027. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to present the FY27 Monomoy Regional School District Budget to the community for their input.**

Members present: Betty Gray, Stephen Davol, Ryan Clarke, Jackie Zibrat-Long, Ryan Edwards, Brett Fortin  
Members not present: Meredith Henderson, Brad Schiff  
Administrators present: Dr. Scott Carpenter, Superintendent, Michael Macmillan, Joy Jordan

**FY27 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

**A. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Betty Gray.

**B. FY27 Budget Presentation**

Dr. Carpenter reflected on the 13-year history of the district since regionalization, highlighting successes in improving academic programs and reducing costs.

- Emphasized the importance of retaining students in the district to prevent loss of funding; noted a significant drop in students choosing to leave for charter schools.
- Discussed the disparities in enrollment and its financial implications, particularly focusing on Harwich and Chatham.

Business Manager Michael MacMillan presented the FY27 budget of **\$52,218,395**, indicating a **6% increase** primarily due to health insurance costs.

- Key budget drivers include health insurance, staffing changes, and capital project needs.
  - Notable decrease in overall positions due to declining enrollment.
  - The FY27 Budget aims to maintain **level services** despite necessary reductions.

**FY27 Draft Budget Request**

	<b>FY27 Budget</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$52,218,395</b>
<b>Budget Change from Previous Year</b>	<b>\$2,976,822</b>
<b>Budget % Change</b>	<b>6.05%</b>

## Challenges and Next Steps

- Concerns raised about potential shortfalls if assessment increases are kept below necessary levels, potentially leading to reduced educational services.
- Discussion on the need for community engagement and potential overrides to support critical educational initiatives and capital projects.
- Plans to present options for balancing the budget while considering the impact on educational opportunities and student retention.

## C. Public Comment

Harwich community member Charles Gruska praised the transparency of the budget process and acknowledged the effectiveness of budget workshops for public understanding. He commended the finance subcommittee's serious approach to budget scrutiny and emphasized the importance of ensuring every budget dollar benefits students.

He also expressed his concerns about potential budget overrides due to town financial challenges and urged the committee to prioritize educational needs over fiscal constraints. He advocated for the courage to request a budget override if necessary, allowing voters to decide on additional investments in schools.

## D. Adjourn

MOTION: Stephen Davol moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ryan Edwards.

**UNANIMOUS:** the motion passes

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Roberta Simmons  
Recording Secretary