



# Sherborn School Committee

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**Tuesday, March 10, 2026**

**SHERBORN'S BUDGET HEARING**

**6:30 PM**

**Dover-Sherborn Middle School Library**

**[Live stream via Dover-Sherborn Cable Television](#)**

## AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Community Comment**  
<https://meet.google.com/gre-owyp-oeu> (will close after Community Comments)
3. **Financial Reports**
  - Warrant Report
  - FY26 Monthly Report
4. **Continued Discussion on FY27 Budget**

**\*\* Sherborn Public Schools – Public Hearing on the Proposed FY27 Budget\*\***

5. **Vote on FY27 Operating Budget** **A.R.**
6. **Superintendents Comments**
7. **Discussion Items**
8. **Action Items**
9. **Consent Items** **A.R.**
  - Approval of Minutes – February 3, 2026
  - Annual School Committee Vote on MA School Choice Law
10. **Informational Items**
  - Dover School Committee Minutes – November 18, 2025
  - Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee Minutes – December 2, 2025
11. **Items for May 12, 2026 (5:30 start time)**
12. **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 do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex/gender, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness.

# The Public Schools of Dover and Sherborn

157 Farm Street  
Dover, MA 02030  
Phone: 508-785-0036 Fax: 508-785-2239  
[www.doversherborn.org](http://www.doversherborn.org)



Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent  
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

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

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TO: Sherborn School Committee  
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator  
DATE: March 10, 2026  
RE: FY26 Approved 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>
1079	2/12/2026	\$43,265.49	Circuit Breaker
1080	2/12/2026	\$82,113.93	General-OOD
1081	2/12/2026	\$73,131.36	General-School
1083	2/26/2026	\$29,343.03	Food Service
1084	2/26/2026	\$14,136.54	General-OOD
1085	2/26/2026	\$3,911.13	General-School

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Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent  
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

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

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TO: Sherborn School Committee  
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator  
RE: FY26 Monthly Financial Update  
DATE: March 10, 2026

Attached for your review is the Status of Appropriations as of March 6, 2026.

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

## Status of Appropriations

### Salaries

Post-FY26 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 as we continue to adjust for the move of the Connections program to Chickering and several employee changes in positions. There is minimal budget impact from the net salary costs of these changes. In addition, we are realizing a savings (approx. \$40,000) in SPED Administration 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. We are also realizing additional salary costs for educational assistant support based on current student needs.

Substitute and Custodial overtime are reflected as incurred. These balances will continue to decrease during the school year.

### Expenditures

There are no material variances to report to date. Transportation and utilities expenses have been encumbered and reflect additional SPED in-district expenses for transportation and higher than budgeted delivery costs for utilities. We will continue to monitor these monthly.

### Out-of-District

Costs for FY26 placements known to date have been encumbered. We budgeted for 13 placements and at this time have 14. Additional placement changes occurred in December resulting in increased tuition and transportation costs. Current tuition costs are over-budget by **\$186,000** and transportation costs are over-budget by **\$94,000** resulting in a negative variance of **\$280,000** at this date.

Circuit Breaker reimbursement for FY26 (based on FY25 expenditures) has been posted. Sherborn will be receiving \$490,509, comprised of eligible tuition costs reimbursed at 75% and transportation cost at 61%. Current year expenses charged against the Circuit Breaker Fund at this time are \$477,998. We budgeted to utilize \$400,000 of CB Funds but increased the amount to help offset the negative variance. We do have additional funds of approx. \$200,000 comprised of carryforward funds to utilize. Additional adjustments will be made before yearend to balance the overall Sherborn School Budget.

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

### **Update on Pine Hill Cooling Capital Project**

The Library and Café HVAC units and the ERV unit for the Auditorium are now all up and running. We are appreciative of the Town's support for these cooling, heating and humidity control initiatives. We will provide a financial summary once the project is officially closed out.

We will be happy to answer any questions at Tuesday's meeting.

Sherborn Public Schools  
Status of Appropriations as of March 6, 2026

	FY26	EXPENDED		TOTAL	OPERATING	% of
	BUDGET	6-Mar	ENCUMBRANCES	PROJECTED	VARIANCE/ BUD.REMAINING	BUDGET
<b>SALARIES</b>						
SUPERINTENDENT	\$146,944	\$49,793	\$99,586	\$149,379	(2,435)	- 1.66%
BUSINESS AND FINANCE	124,396	40,234	80,469	120,703	3,693	2.97%
DISTRICT INFO MANAGEMENT	84,027	28,876	57,752	86,628	(2,601)	- 3.10%
SPED ADMINISTRATION	249,785	117,130	83,364	200,494	49,291	19.73%
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP-BUILDING	356,859	254,999	100,416	355,414	1,445	0.40%
ACADEMIC LEADERS	36,785	18,400	18,260	36,680	125	0.34%
EDUCATORS, CLASSROOM	3,077,197	1,634,293	1,508,803	3,143,095	(65,898)	- 2.14%
EDUCATORS, SPED	935,806	458,949	411,749	870,698	65,108	6.96%
SUBSTITUTES	34,000	37,163	4,800	\$41,963	(7,963)	-23.42%
EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS	484,094	350,055	162,567	512,622	(28,528)	- 5.89%
LIBRARIANS & MEDIA CENTER	114,066	62,078	53,209	115,287	(1,221)	- 1.07%
BUILDING BASED PD	20,250	12,600	0	12,600	7,650	37.78%
GUIDANCE COUNSELORS	162,020	85,610	73,380	158,990	3,030	1.87%
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	122,495	65,959	56,536	122,495	0	0.00%
MEDICAL/HEALTH SERVICES	111,532	53,869	58,037	111,906	(374)	- 0.33%
CUSTODIAL SERVICES	266,350	179,998	68,417	248,415	17,935	6.73%
<b>TOTAL SALARIES</b>	<b>\$6,326,606</b>	<b>\$3,450,004</b>	<b>\$2,837,344</b>	<b>\$6,287,348</b>	<b>\$39,258</b>	<b>0.62%</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>						
SCHOOL COMMITTEE	\$6,800	\$4,963	\$1,170	\$6,133	667	9.81%
SUPERINTENDENT	19,600	18,694	0	18,694	907	4.63%
LEGAL SERVICES	8,000	5,000	0	5,000	3,000	37.50%
DISTRICT INFO MANAGEMENT	82,700	61,125	525	61,650	21,050	25.45%
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP-BUILDING	22,900	18,803	2,808	21,611	1,289	5.63%
SPED SERVICES/SUPPLIES	57,500	15,878	9,850	25,728	31,772	55.26%
LIBRARIANS & MEDIA CENTER	6,250	2,297	1,559	3,857	2,393	38.30%
COURSE REIMBURSEMENT/PD	27,600	8,810	0	8,810	18,790	68.08%
TEXTBOOKS	30,000	16,328	1,729	18,057	11,943	39.81%
LIBRARY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS	6,000	2,179	1,718	3,897	2,103	35.05%
INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT	15,200	8,022	4,957	12,979	2,221	14.61%
GENERAL SUPPLIES	49,000	26,648	2,095	28,743	20,257	41.34%
CLASSROOM INSTRUCT SOFTWARE	32,000	29,670	1,781	31,451	549	1.72%
GUIDANCE	3,500	4,918	0	4,918	(1,418)	-40.50%
MEDICAL/HEALTH SERVICES	2,275	1,277	0	1,277	998	43.86%
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	293,854	127,855	180,464	308,319	(14,465)	- 4.92%
CUSTODIAL SERVICES	21,500	15,377	1,653	17,030	4,470	20.79%
UTILITIES	145,500	57,381	98,939	156,320	(10,820)	- 7.44%
MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS	126,500	83,891	32,483	116,374	10,126	8.00%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$956,679</b>	<b>\$509,117</b>	<b>\$341,730</b>	<b>\$850,847</b>	<b>\$105,832</b>	<b>11.06%</b>
<b>TOTAL INDISTRICT OPERATING</b>	<b>\$7,283,285</b>	<b>\$3,959,120</b>	<b>\$3,179,074</b>	<b>\$7,138,195</b>	<b>\$145,090</b>	<b>1.99%</b>
<b>OOD TUITION &amp; TRANSPORTATION</b>						
TUITION TO NON-PUBLIC/OUT-OF-STATE	\$225,000	\$164,232	\$135,670	\$299,902	(\$74,902)	-33.29%
TUITION TO COLLABORATIVES/MA PUBLIC	665,000	276,080	422,278	698,359	(33,359)	- 5.02%
<b>Total Tuition</b>	<b>890,000</b>	<b>440,313</b>	<b>557,948</b>	<b>998,260</b>	<b>(108,260)</b>	<b>-12.16%</b>
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	259,000	154,823	197,716	352,539	(93,539)	-36.12%
<b>TOTAL OOD</b>	<b>\$1,149,000</b>	<b>\$595,136</b>	<b>\$755,664</b>	<b>\$1,350,800</b>	<b>(\$201,800)</b>	<b>-17.56%</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>\$8,432,285</b>	<b>\$4,554,256</b>	<b>\$3,934,738</b>	<b>\$8,488,995</b>	<b>(\$56,709)</b>	<b>- 0.67%</b>
* Total Charged to CB	400,000	228,913	249,086	477,998	(77,998)	

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Elizabeth M. McCoy, Superintendent  
Denton Conklin, Assistant Superintendent

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

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TO: Sherborn School Committee  
FROM: Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator  
RE: FY27 Operating Budget – Continued Discussions and Approval  
DATE: March 10, 2026

The following documents are included for your review:

- Summary of FY27 Proposed Budget Adjustments
- FY27 Operating Expense Summary V3.0

The proposed FY27 Operating Budget V3.0 reflects adjustments related to the addition of a District-Wide Curriculum Coordinator as requested by the School Committee offset by a reduction in requested PD costs (added in V2.0) and additional use of Pre-K revolving funds to maintain an overall proposed decrease of **7%** in V3.0. As a reminder, the overall decreases reflect the change in OOD Accounting. The In-District Budget overall increase remains at **1.43%** with the presented changes.

There are no changes to the OOD portion of the budget.

The Committee's final approval of the FY27 Operating Budget of **\$7,842,291** will take place after the Public Hearing.

## Remaining Key Budget Dates

Advisory's Budget Hearing is scheduled for **Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** and Sherborn's Annual Town Meeting scheduled for **April 28<sup>th</sup>**.

We will be happy to answer any questions at Tuesday's meeting.

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

	FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed Draft	Change \$	%
<b>Presented December 9, 2025</b>				
Pine Hill In-District	\$7,283,285	\$7,605,891	\$322,606	4.43%
<b>OOD Tuition and Transportation*:</b>				
Tuition	890,000	365,000	(525,000)	-58.99%
Transportation	259,000	90,000	(169,000)	-65.25%
Total OOD	\$1,149,000	\$455,000	(\$694,000)	-60.40%
<b>Total Sherborn Public Schools</b>	<b>\$8,432,285</b>	<b>\$8,060,891</b>	<b>(\$371,394)</b>	<b>-4.40%</b>

\*Net of \$70,000 of Circuit Breaker funds

	FC			
<b>Presented February 3, 2026 V2.0</b>				
Pine Hill In-District		\$7,605,891		
Savings from reconfiguration of Pre-K Director position	2110	(\$38,000)		
Salary Reduction from Educator Retirements	2305	(\$125,000)		
Reduction of 1.0 FTE Specialist - FLES	2305	(\$66,000)	Elementary Instructional Time Study	
Addition of .4 FTE Health & Wellness Educator(shared with CH)	2305	\$26,400	Elementary Instructional Time Study	
Reduction of .2 FTE BCBA (move to CH)	2310	(\$18,000)		
Increase PD Contracted Services for Curriculum needs	2357	\$20,000	Instructional Leadership	
Additional use of Pre-K Revolving Fund for Pre-K Staff	2330	(\$18,000)		
<b>In-District Increase (Decrease):</b>		<b>(\$218,600)</b>		
<b>Revised Pine Hill In-District</b>		<b>\$7,387,291</b>	<b>\$104,006</b>	<b>1.43%</b>
<b>OOD Tuition &amp; Transportation**</b>		<b>\$455,000</b>		
Increase in Tuition cost		\$0		
Increase use of Circuit Breaker Reimbursement		\$0		
<b>OOD Increase (Decrease):</b>		<b>\$0</b>		
<b>Revised OOD</b>		<b>\$1,149,000</b>	<b>(\$694,000)</b>	<b>-60.40%</b>
<b>Total Sherborn Public Schools</b>		<b>\$7,842,291</b>	<b>(\$589,994)</b>	<b>-7.00%</b>
<b>net change as of 2/3/2026</b>			<b>(\$218,600)</b>	

\*\*Net of \$70,000 of Circuit Breaker funds

<b>Presented March 10, 2026 V3.0</b>				
Pine Hill In-District		\$7,387,291		
Pine Hill's Allocation for District-wide Curriculum Coordinator (1@ 20%)	2220	28,000	Instructional Leadership	
Decrease PD Contracted Services for Curriculum needs (V2.0)	2357	(\$10,000)	Instructional Leadership	
Additional use of Pre-K Revolving Fund for Pre-K Staff	2330	(\$18,000)		
<b>In-District Increase (Decrease):</b>		<b>\$0</b>		
<b>Revised Pine Hill In-District</b>		<b>\$7,387,291</b>	<b>\$104,006</b>	<b>1.43%</b>
<b>OOD Tuition &amp; Transportation**</b>		<b>\$455,000</b>		
Increase in Tuition cost		\$0		
Increase use of Circuit Breaker Reimbursement		\$0		
<b>OOD Increase (Decrease):</b>		<b>\$0</b>		
<b>Revised OOD</b>		<b>\$1,149,000</b>	<b>(\$694,000)</b>	<b>-60.40%</b>
<b>Total Sherborn Public Schools</b>		<b>\$7,842,291</b>	<b>(\$589,994)</b>	<b>-7.00%</b>
<b>net change as of 3/10/2026</b>			<b>\$0</b>	

\*\*Net of \$70,000 of Circuit Breaker funds

**Sherborn Public Schools**

**FY27 OPERATING EXPENSE SUMMARY**

V3.0

Description	FY23 Expended	FY24 Expended	FY25 Expended	FY26 Budget	FY27 Proposed	\$ CHANGE	% CHANGE	% SUB BUDGET	% TOTAL BUDGET
SALARIES & OTHER COMPENSATION	5,837,191	6,035,294	6,116,673	6,326,606	6,077,402	(249,204)	-3.94%	82.27%	
OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURES	382,334	367,614	335,871	369,325	711,925	342,600	NA	9.64%	
GENERAL EDUCATION TRANSPORTATION	247,555	251,117	249,353	293,854	294,464	610	0.21%	3.99%	
BUILDINGS & GROUND EXPENDITURES	269,227	279,323	335,103	293,500	303,500	10,000	3.41%	4.11%	
Sub-total In-District	6,736,308	6,933,348	7,036,999	7,283,285	7,387,291	104,006	1.43%		94.20%
TUITION*	722,669	795,356	754,009	890,000	365,000	(525,000)	-58.99%	80.22%	
TRANSPORTATION	154,009	168,748	287,598	259,000	90,000	(169,000)	-65.25%	19.78%	
Sub-total OOD**	876,678	964,104	1,041,607	1,149,000	455,000	(694,000)	-60.40%		5.80%
TOTAL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	\$7,612,985	\$7,897,452	\$8,078,606	\$8,432,285	\$7,842,291	(\$589,994)	-7.00%		100.00%
<b>CB Funds Used/Budgeted</b>	<b>\$458,620</b>	<b>\$393,908</b>	<b>\$406,334</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>				

Based on Proposed Budget of March 10, 2026

\* Net of utilized Circuit Breaker funds

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

## DRAFT

### Sherborn School Committee Meeting of February 3, 2026

Members Present: Becca Hammond  
Megha Kadiyala  
Bill Albano  
Nathaniel Jackson  
Kate Manzolini

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

#### 1) Call to Order

Becca Hammond called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm in the DSMS Library.

#### 2) Superintendent Comments

- Proposed Shifts to Elementary Instructional Schedule - Superintendent McCoy reported the key findings and planned changes based on the study which addressed how the school day can better support academic achievement and social-emotional development while meeting MA DESE instructional requirements. The updated schedule would standardize elementary specials (6 specials, 1x/week), strengthen social-emotional learning, enhance alignment with math and ELA programs, refine WIN blocks, and create a more cohesive and predictable daily structure. The changes reduce transitions, strengthen core instruction, and improve coverage of required instructional frameworks. The elementary Spanish program will transition from a proficiency-based model (FLES) to an exploratory model (FLEX).
- Instructional Leadership Study - this study assessed whether current leadership structures provide sufficient instructional support, meaningful supervision and evaluation, and job-embedded professional learning by drawing on feedback from K-12 educators, research on effective instructional leadership, and practices in comparable districts. The proposal based on the key findings of the study refocuses elementary coaches on classroom practice, provides additional time and compensation for middle and high school instructional leaders, and adds two K-12 Curriculum Coordinator positions (STEM and Humanities). These roles are intended to strengthen vertical alignment, support curriculum coherence, coach instructional leaders and educators, and ensure sustained instructional improvement aligned to District goals. Superintendent McCoy informed the Committee that due to the fiscal constraints facing both Dover and Sherborn, the Administration will postpone the addition of the Curriculum Coordinators to FY28.

The Administration took questions and comments from members of the Committee. There was consensus to have the Administration consider adding one of the Curriculum Coordinator positions for FY27. The budget impact would be \$28,000 for PH and Chickering, \$56,000 for the Region.

#### 3) Community Comments - the members took comments about the proposed changes.

#### 4) Discussion Items

- FY27 Operating Budget version 2.0

## DRAFT

- The proposed changes to the budget reflect a reduction of \$218,000 from V1.0 and an overall decrease of 7% vs 4.4% (the overall decrease is a result of the change in OOD accounting). The FY27 In-District Budget increase is now 1.43% vs 4.43% in V1.0.
- Salary savings are a result of the reconfiguration of the Pre-K Director position (\$38,000), confirmed retirements (\$125,000), reduction of 1.0 FTE Specialist - FLES (\$66,000), addition of .4 FTE Health & Wellness Education (\$26,400), reduction of .2 FTE BCBA (\$18,000), increase PD Contracted Services for Curriculum needs (\$20,000), and additional use of Pre-K Revolving Fund for Pre-K Staff (\$18,000).
- There are no changes to the OOD portion of the budget at this time.

### 5) Financial Reports

- Warrant Report
- FY26 Monthly Report
  - Salaries: savings of approximately \$40,000 in SPED Administration based on reallocation of responsibilities for the Pre-K Director position. The oversight of the pre-k program is now incorporated into the responsibilities of the PH SPED Coordinator vs a separate position. These savings are reflected in the FY27 Budget. This savings is offset by additional salary costs for educational assistance support based on current student needs.
  - Expenditures: there are no material variances to report.
  - Out-of-District: additional adjustments will be made before year-end to balance the overall Sherborn School Budget.

### 6) Action Items

### 7) Consent Items

- Approval of Minutes: December 9, 2025
- Approval of FY27 Pre-School Tuition rates - 4% increase of FY26

*Megha Kadiyala made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Bill Alfano seconded.  
26-01 VOTE: 5 - 0 via roll call*

### 8) Informational Items

- Dover Sherborn Regional Committee minutes of December 2, 2025
- Dover School Committee Minutes of November 18, 2025

### 9) Items for February 24, 2026 - bus update, schedule change feedback, FY27 Budget 3.0

### 10) Adjournment at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Davis

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

---

TO: Dover, Sherborn and Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committees  
FROM: Elizabeth McCoy, Superintendent  
DATE: March 2, 2026  
RE: Annual School Choice Vote

Under the Massachusetts Interdistrict School Choice Law, Massachusetts public school districts may choose each year whether to participate in the state's interdistrict School Choice program. The law permits families to enroll their children in public schools outside of their district of residence, provided that the receiving district elects to participate and has available seats. Participation is voluntary; however, districts are presumed to continue participation unless the School Committee takes an affirmative vote to withdraw. Accordingly, the Committee is asked annually to determine whether the district will participate in School Choice for the upcoming school year and, if so, to establish the number of seats available at each grade level or school.

Under the statute, funding follows the student. The receiving district is paid a per-pupil tuition amount established annually by the Commonwealth (\$5,000), while the sending district's Chapter 70 aid is adjusted accordingly. Districts retain local authority to determine the number of seats offered, taking into account enrollment trends, class size guidelines, staffing levels, facility capacity, and programmatic considerations. If applications exceed the number of seats made available, the district must conduct a random lottery. Families are responsible for transportation to and from the receiving district.

As the Committee considers its annual vote, relevant factors may include current and projected enrollment, fiscal implications related to tuition revenue and potential outflow, class size and staffing stability, and long-term planning priorities for the district.

In accordance with state law, I respectfully request that the School Committee take its annual vote regarding participation in the Massachusetts Interdistrict School Choice program for the upcoming school year and, if applicable, determine the number of School Choice seats to be made available. Taking this action ensures compliance with statutory requirements and provides clarity for families and district planning.

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

**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.

## Approved 2.10.26

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

**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