Bourne Public Schools

BOURNE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE: January 7, 2026
TIME: 6:00PM
PLACE: Bourne High School Media Center, 75 Waterhouse Rd., Bourne, MA

ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Rachel Agrillo; Chair Donel Beals; Kendellynn Gagne; Maria Heaney; Kathleen Quintal; Kerrie Scofield; Student Advisory Representative Zoe Noonan

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Kari MacRae

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT: Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent; Christine Borning, Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Teaching; Kristin Donahue, Director of Special Education and Student Services; Jordan Geist, Director of Business Service; Chris Oliver, Director of Technology

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Donel Beals calls the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Chair Beals leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PUBLIC INPUT

No public comments are made.

4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Bourne Public Schools

- **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT,** *Donel Beals, School Committee Chair*
    - Announcements - Chair Beals says there will be three open positions for school committee members in the 2026 town election. She notes that Kendellynn Gagne and herself will be running for reelection and Kerrie Scofield will not be seeking reelection. She invites anyone interested in learning more about the position to reach out to her.
- **STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT -** Student Spotlight: Bournedale Elementary School
    - Taylor Simard spotlights a wide range of December activities that took place at BES and across the district. She says BES students participated in hands-on math and science projects, including a sled-design challenge tied to a holiday theme and a candy cane crystal experiment promoting collaboration, problem-solving, and memorable learning experiences. Students also focused on kindness and confidence-building activities, such as a "Kindness Bag" project and self-affirmation rocks to encourage positive self-esteem. Art projects and seasonal crafts, including wreath-making took place during WIN classes, and one classroom recreated a "Polar Express" experience, complete with tickets, bells, and conductor hats, creating a memorable and immersive holiday moment. The Class of 2028 supported the school community by hosting a childcare-style fundraiser that allowed parents to drop off children while raising funds for their class. She notes that guest readers visited classrooms, and the PTA's Buck-a-Book program continued to give students the opportunity to purchase a book for $1 each month, promoting literacy and excitement around reading. District-wide efforts to support local families were highlighted through the annual Stuff-a-Bus program, which collected toys for Bourne families during the holiday season. At the high school, DECA hosted a Jingle Ball Bash dodgeball tournament fundraiser, raising over $500 for Stuff-a-Bus. Finally, Bourne Middle School showcased the arts with its production of Annie Jr., involving approximately 50 students across cast and crew with three performances.
- **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT,** *Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent of Schools*
    - Dr. Zhou thanks Sue Downing, the transportation department, and all who support Stuff-a-Bus, for the incredible time, care, and teamwork that make this meaningful Bourne Public Schools tradition possible.
    - Transition Update- Dr. Zhou provides an update on the districtwide transition planning, noting that the work is on schedule and moving forward confidently. She says a major focus has been staffing, with a preference survey completed for approximately 180 teaching positions, followed by faculty meetings and draft placements largely aligned with staff preferences. She expects final staff placements by mid-January, with ESP surveys to follow and anticipated vacancies posted earlier than usual to support timely hiring. She explains that staffing is closely tied to budgeting, with the FY27 administrative budget draft nearing completion, capital requests underway, and contingency planning taking place where funding was not approved. She highlights progress in facilities planning, including inventorying and repurposing furniture, security upgrades, and designating an eighth-grade wing. Scheduling and program development are advancing through extensive research, collaboration with staff, and upcoming feedback sessions, with the goal of finalizing schedules within the next month. She says ongoing communication includes community outreach, monthly building-based transition meetings, student and family engagement sessions, and a coordinated plan for transition activities throughout the remainder of the school year.

- Dr. Zhou says that in the next week or two, she will have a draft of her goals for review. She says the goals align directly with the district's goals and will be worded to support a clear evaluation process, and she will send them in advance so the committee has time to review and ask questions with the hope of a quick vote and minimal meeting time in February.
- Teaching and Learning Update, *Christine Borning, Assistant Superintendent*- Mrs. Borning says staff returned from winter break with strong engagement across all buildings. She explains that Lisa Dix and Jessee Clements have been working with teams to ensure curriculum alignment and continuity as classrooms are added and students transition, with the goal of maintaining a seamless instructional experience, particularly at the fifth-grade level. She says the district's competency determination policy has been submitted to DESE and posted on the website, and Part A applications for ICP Advanced Manufacturing, Chapter 74 Design and Visual Communication, and Early College have been approved and are moving into the next phases, including a partnership with Mass Maritime. She thanks Ann Marie Strode, Jessee Clements, Dr. Maguire, and Sean Silva, for the significant amount of work that goes into preparing those applications. She says professional development continues through the *Inspired to Learn* series, with an early release day scheduled for January 16 during which secondary educators will work with Dr. Kalise Wornum, while elementary educators will have structured time for individual and collaborative Tier 1 planning to implement prior learning. She explains that in March, this structure will flip, and in May, they will finish with one final session with Dr. Wornum along with additional collaborative work time. She says the district will also begin its second round of learning walks next week at Bourne High School.
- Budget and Facilities Update, Jordan Geist, *Director of Business Services*- Mr. Geist says capital requests will be presented again to the Select Board, with preparation underway for the upcoming budget and facilities subcommittee meeting and next month's budget hearing. He says all required documentation for the MSBA middle school roof project was submitted prior to the break and is currently under review. He notes progress on the wastewater treatment plant design, with a consultant contract signed and continued work on the Jackson Field bleacher project, including finalizing specifications and materials. He says a final decision was made on the bleacher color, selecting black with a purple tint for the risers due to availability constraints.
- Technology Update, *Chris Oliver, Director of Technology*- Mr. Oliver reports that the technology team upgraded the WiFi network at BIS, replacing 40 wireless access points and resolving most initial troubleshooting issues and replaced several classroom touchscreens under warranty. He notes website updates and ParentSquare data cleanup continue, with 40% of parents (792) having downloaded the app, 81% (1,596) opted for emails, and 21% (408) for text messages; emergency notifications will reach families via all methods regardless of preferences. He adds that the district is continuing to streamline communications through social media, the website, and local media, while strengthening cybersecurity awareness among staff. Additionally, a senior intern in the technology department repaired over 40 Chromebook screens, saving time and money for the district.
- Student Services and Special Education Update, *Kristin Donahue, Director of Special Education and Student Services*- Mrs. Donahue says that since the last meeting, the team has focused on priority areas for curriculum alignment and district designation work, and thanks Assistant Superintendent Borning and

Curriculum Director Lisa Dix for their ongoing collaboration. She notes a root cause analysis highlighted areas for continued focus, including special education. She shares that she attended a DESE-sponsored training that covered proportionate share monitoring and integration into the new DESE data warehouse. She says Tiered Focus monitoring consultation files have been selected for the spring report, and current self-assessment indicates compliance with testing guidelines, IEP distribution, and timelines, demonstrating progress in all areas.

- Announcements & Correspondence:
  - Events: Live district calendar Past and Upcoming Events Report-
    - BMS- Mrs. Sleboda highlights event at BMS including: the *Annie Jr.* show with 56 cast and crew members, the time capsule opening, a 7th grade STEM field trip to Gillette Stadium, the first edition of the school paper (*Bourne Public Paper*), upcoming theater performances on January 14, 15, and 20, student performance of *Cat Napper* at BIS, and the Bourne to Be a Star talent showcase fundraiser on January 27 from 6:00–7:30 PM
    - BIS- Mrs. Colbert highlights BIS events including: holiday celebrations highlighting global traditions, BIS Beacon newspaper expansion with student writers exploring foods, crafts, and customs from around the world, holiday door decorating contest across all classrooms, WIN group “holiday around the world” activity with food, songs, and cultural learning, mid-year benchmark testing in ELA, math, and writing, continued Zones of Regulation social-emotional curriculum with family resources, second school store with ticket-based student rewards including items and experiences, upcoming BIS Math Detective event on January 15, and 5th-grade preview of middle school opportunities
    - BES- Mrs. Borning highlights BES events on behalf of Mrs. Carpenito including: Return from winter break and mid-year benchmarking, family math night (pirate-themed) on January 13 from 5:30–6:30 PM, full-faculty professional development on the Pyramid Model for early childhood social-emotional learning, Great Kindness Challenge activities on January 26 led by adjustment counselors, and Book Nook event on January 29 with community donations
    - BHS- Mrs. Borning highlights events at BHS on behalf of Dr. Maguire including: DECA District 8 competition for about 90 students with faculty and staff judges, Program of Studies Night for rising 9th graders on January 15 at 6:00 PM, ICP (internship) information session for rising 9th–12th graders on January 22 from 5:30–7:00 PM, annual Poetry Slam on February 3 with guest poets Anthony Febo and Ricky Horn, Canal Cup on February 7 at 8:00 PM, start of the new semester on January 26
    - District-wide-Dr. Zhou highlights a district-wide, public event celebrating Lunar New Year on January 24 from 10:00 AM–1:00 PM at BHS featuring crafts, activities, and traditional lion dancers.

- **SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUB COMMITTEE & DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS**
  - Curriculum Subcommittee- Kerrie Scofield says the subcommittee meets tomorrow at 9:00.
  - Policy Subcommittee- Chair Beals says the subcommittee did not meet.

- Budget and Facilities Subcommittee- Kendellynn Gagne says the subcommittee meets in 2 weeks.
- SEPAC- Kristin Donahue says speech/language pathologist Cheryl Silva, is planning a session on the connection between oral language and reading, focusing on language development, phonics, and strategies to support early readers. She notes that a survey will be shared to determine the best times for families to participate.
- Cape Cod Collaborative- Chair Beals say Kari MacRae will be meeting with the Collaborative on January 14th.
- District Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee- Mrs. Borning reports that the Lunar New Year celebration will take place on the 24th, the next DEIB virtual meeting on January 20 at 3:45 PM, and schools are planning activities to explore the impact and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- District Technology Committee- Chris Oliver says the committee will meet on February 3rd.
- District School Wellness Advisory Committee (SWAC)- The committee has no update at this time.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- No further discussion items

6. ACTION ITEMS

- Vote to approve Warrants and Payroll

Kerrie Scofield motions to the approve warrants and payroll; Seconded by Kendellynn Gagne; Voice vote passes 6-0-0 (Student Representative Zoe Noonan not eligible to vote)

- Vote to approve regular session minutes of: November 5, 2025, December 3, 2025, Joint meeting December 17, 2025

Kerrie Scofield motions to the approve regular session minutes of 11/5/25, 12/3/25 and joint meeting on 12/17/25; Seconded by Kendellynn Gagne; Voice vote passes 7-0-0

- Vote to approve curriculum resource for AP Research

Kerrie Scofield motions to the approve the new curriculum resource for AP Research; Seconded by Kendellynn Gagne; Voice vote passes 7-0-0

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. Budget Hearing February 4

b. High School Program of Studies
c. Continued discussion about facilities use planning
d. Student Spotlight

8. ADJOURN-*Kerrie Scofield motions to adjourn regular session; Seconded by Kendellynn Gagne; Voice vote passes 7-0-0*

Regular Session ended at 6:53 PM

List of documents and exhibits used (GL c.30A, sect 22(a))

Agenda Item	Document
0	School Committee Agenda

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Jessica Moerman
Recording Secretary