

Suffield, Connecticut

Approved by Bd. of Ed. 04/06/2026

Suffield Board of Education
Special Meeting
Held via Zoom
March 9, 2026

Call to Order

Board Chair Sattan called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Present: Board of Education members Debra Dudack, Melissa Finnigan, Brian Fry (joined at 12:20 p.m.), James Mol, Gianna Rossi, Maureen Sattan, and Sam Toskin; and Superintendent Matt Dunbar and Business Manager Eric Remington

Absent: Dustin Rose, Greg Sparzo

Discussion/Action Items

Superintendent Dunbar and Business Manager Eric Remington explained that the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) recently made changes to how roofing projects that include photovoltaic components should be categorized for state school construction grants. Previously, the roof and photovoltaic components were considered a single project, but DAS is now indicating they may need to be treated as separate projects.

To ensure the district remains eligible for grant funding and does not delay the project timeline, the Board has been asked to approve motions separating the roof and photovoltaic portions of the project.

A. Discussion and Possible Approval of Educational Specifications for the Suffield High School Roof Project

MOTION #26-50: Mol moved, Toskin seconded that the Suffield Board of Education approve the Educational Specifications dated February 26, 2026 for the partial roof replacement at Suffield High School. All members voted in favor. The motion passed **6-0-0**.

B. Discussion and Possible Approval of Educational Specifications for the Suffield High School Photovoltaic Project

MOTION #26-51: Mol moved, Dudack seconded that the Suffield Board of Education approve the Educational Specifications dated February 26, 2026 for the photovoltaic (PV) solar system project at Suffield High School. All members voted in favor. The motion passed **6-0-0**.

C. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Resolution for Suffield High School Photovoltaic Project to approve submission of a state Building Grant to the State Department of Administrative Services

Mr. Remington explained that the Board had previously approved a similar motion in December for the overall roof project. This resolution allows the district to submit a separate grant application specifically for the photovoltaic portion of the project.

MOTION #26-52: Mol moved, Dudack seconded that the Suffield Board of Education approve the submission of a state Building Grant to the State Department of Administrative Services for the construction and installation of a photovoltaic system at Suffield High School. Board members questioned whether separating the projects could affect the timeline and questioned the reimbursement piece. All members voted in favor. The motion pass **6-0-0**.

D. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Resolution for Suffield High School Photovoltaic Project to appoint the Permanent Building Committee as the building committee for the project

MOTION #26-53: Mol moved, Finnigan seconded that the Suffield Board of Education appoint the Permanent Building Committee as the Building Committee for the photovoltaic project at Suffield High School. Board members questioned appointing the Permanent Building Commission and whether it should include a Board of Education representation. Mr. Remington explained that it is standard procedure for projects of this nature and the Permanent Building Commission is established through the town charter and appointed by the Board of Selectmen and the district works collaboratively with the committee throughout the process. All members voted in favor. The motion passed **6-0-0**.

E. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Resolution for Suffield High School Photovoltaic Project to request that the Suffield Board of Selectmen authorize the Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services for a Grant and to authorize the schematic drawings and outline specifications for the proposed photovoltaic project

MOTION #26-54: Mol moved, Sattan seconded that the Suffield Board of Education request that the Suffield Board of Selectmen 1) authorize the Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services for a Grant 2) authorize the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the proposed construction and installation of a photovoltaic system at Suffield High School and 3) appoint the Permanent Building Commission as the Building Committee for the photovoltaic project at Suffield High School.

MOTION #26-55: Mol moved, Sattan seconded to amend the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion passed **6-0-0**.

Brian Fry joined the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

MOTION #26-56: Mol moved, Sattan seconded that the Suffield Board of Education authorize Superintendent Matt Dunbar, if necessary, to request that the Suffield Board of Selectmen 1) authorize the Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services for a Grant 2) authorize the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the proposed construction and installation of a photovoltaic system at Suffield High School and 3) appoint the Permanent Building Commission as the Building Committee for the photovoltaic project at Suffield High School. All members voted in favor. The motion passed **7-0-0**.

Adjournment

Finnigan moved, Mol seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:24 p.m. All members voted in favor.

Minutes are subject to approval at the regular meeting of April 6, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Gianna Rossi
Secretary