



**Shelter Island School Board of Education
PUBLIC MEETING
BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING
Monday, March 30, 2026**



Members Present: Kathleen Lynch, Margaret Colligan, Dawn Hedberg, Anthony Rando and Karina Montalvo, Molly Kendall

Others Present: Brian Doelger, Superintendent; Jennifer Rylott, Assistant Superintendent; Todd Gulluscio, Director of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Wellness & Personnel; Maryann Impastato, District Treasurer; Julie Lane, Shelter Island Reporter; Leonardo Napoles, Student Liaison; 20 faculty/staff/students and 10 community residents

Absent: Jacqueline Dunning, District Clerk

1. Call to Order

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm by President Lynch

2. Executive Session

Executive Session

A Motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Molly Kendall, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:
The Board of Education hereby votes to go into an executive session at 5:02 p.m. to discuss the employment of a particular individual in the District.
The members of the Board of Education came out of Executive Session at 5:25 p.m. President Lynch led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance

Molly Kendall read the following Shelter Island School Mission Statement – Engage, Explore, Empower:

4. Shelter Island School Mission Statement – Engage, Explore, Empower

Mission Statement

Molly Kendall read the following Shelter Island School Mission Statement
We want our students to cherish our small Island community while applying and expanding their learning about, understanding of, and engagement with the wider world. To do this they must be: ethical and moral individuals; respectful and responsible communicators; creative and analytical thinkers; knowledgeable and literate readers, writers, mathematicians and scientists; participants in and audiences for art, drama, music, athletics, and other artistic, cultural, and social activities; skilled and successful workers and consumers; and committed and active citizens.

5. Public Hearing on the Dress Code

Public Hearing

President Lynch stated the Board of Education will now conduct a public hearing at 5:38 p.m. on the Dress Code; Subsection 5300.20 of the District's Code of Conduct

5.1

- a. Brief overview of the proposed Dress Code revisions
- b. The public will have an opportunity to ask questions regarding the proposed Dress Code revisions.
- c. The Board President may seek a motion to approve and/or accept the following agenda item:

Revised Dress Code:

WHEREAS, on Monday, March 30, 2026, the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District held a duly advertised public hearing to approve the revised Dress Code; Subsection 5300.20 of the District's Code of Conduct.

At this time, President Lynch opened the floor to questions/comments. President Lynch explained that this was the third policy reading; the board planned to adopt the dress code but held a public hearing and heard many speakers. They followed a process and worked for months on the topic.

- Main concerns from students/parents:- Dress code language is vague and gendered (targets girls: "spaghetti straps," "plunging neckline," "midriff"); students feel sexualization/unequal enforcement
- Enforcement is inconsistent across teachers; students report public, embarrassing calls to the office; requests for more private handling.
- Practical/affordability issues: commonly available girls' clothing (spaghetti straps, crop tops) conflict with proposed rules; difficulty finding compliant items in local/affordable stores.
- Heat/summer practicality (different classroom temperatures), and measurement problems (fingertip rule varies by arm length/body type).

The Board responded: Dress code was drafted after multiple meetings and comparisons with surrounding districts; the goal was clarity and consistency (to reduce teacher discretion).

- Current enforcement: teachers refer violations to administration; so far mostly warnings; Nurse Mary can provide spare clothing.

- Board acknowledged shortcomings (gendered wording, specificity) and agreed to collect further student input before adoption and requested Jackson Rohrer to : Finish survey of all 95 secondary students; add specific questions on school uniform support and collect response by gender/identity breakdown.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District hereby DOES NOT adopt revised Dress Code; Subsection 5300.20 of the District's Code of Conduct at the present Meeting of March 30th 2026.

President Lynch declared the Public meeting/hearing closed on the Dress Code at 6:26 pm. The regular part of the meeting commenced.

6. Budget Presentation

Presentation

6.1 2026-2027 Budget Presentation Dr Doelger's message was one of protecting today's programs and early learning while building financial stability for the future.

a. Budget Presentation

- Summary numbers:- Projected budget total: \$13.573 million.

- Budget-to-budget increase: 2.07%.

- Projected tax levy increase: 6.58% (below board target of 7%).

- Local impact examples:- On a \$1,000,000 house \approx +\$123/year.

- Average assessed home on Shelter Island \$1.621M \rightarrow \approx +\$200/year.

- For a \$2.2M home \rightarrow \approx +\$271/year.

- Fiscal actions and savings since March 2:- Approximately \$340,000 in identified savings (largely via attrition/position consolidation, not layoffs).

- Example breakdown of savings in the following lines: clerical \$74k, guidance/counseling/health \$52k, maintenance/custodial \$142k, special ed personnel \$54k, plus \$17k contractual — totals reported \$340k.

- The district has used attrition to reduce 8% of staff over 7 years; reserves have been prudently managed but are lower now.

- Next steps timeline: Board adoption scheduled three weeks from meeting (administration will continue to refine). Public budget hearing: May 11 (5:30 pm).

- Budget Vote and Hearing: May 19 (hours adjusted this year; polls open earlier at 10 am and close at 8 pm).

- Administration will keep monitoring state aid (state aid number typically arrives after budget filing) and pursue additional cost savings/revenue where possible. Dr Doelger further explained how the tax revenues increase about 2 percent per year but not in pace with growing expenditures. For example, health care and other expenses average a 12 percent increase per year. We have had gradual reductions in staff of about 8 percent over the past 7 years, in which we have not replaced staff members who retired. The District has also partnered up with local school Districts to save on services such as transportation that were rising from a private contractor nearly \$150,000 per year. East Hampton School District increases are nearly a flat number. This year's tax cap pierce would take us several years into the future before we need to increase over the tax cap again.

This concluded the budget portion of the meeting.

7. Visitor Questions (Specific to the agenda)

Visitor Questions

Clarification of an annual \$200 tax increase for this year only? Next year we would stay within the 2 percent cap?

The cost savings was also found in personnel in retirements and not replacing them? Another community member inquired about continuing the Boces program and if these statements are correct? Dr Doelger replied "Yes" to these questions and explained about the difficulty in maintaining a balance between levying taxpayers, student needs, and protection of employee positions. Norma Clark, a community member read aloud a letter she wrote to the board in full support of the school's mission and advocacy in supporting the proposed levy for the 26-27 year.

Another question arose regarding Universal preK and will the current program be identical to what it was before?

Dr Doelger explained that Universal prek funding is still a gray area and being researched. He stated that our prek program will return to what it was before and the District will continue its' inquiries with the state to look into the grant. The District is waiting for a new grant cycle to open to see what it would look like for the school.

8. Correspondence

Correspondence

a. Letter from Mary Fran Gleason of History Museum

9. Student Liaison Report

Leo discussed working on the building and putting up more pictures in the hallways to boost morale. He states that this time of the year not much is going on and he is in the process of developing some new ideas for everyone.

10. Presentations

10.1 Presentation Not Requiring Approval

a. The Beacon of Excellence Award – Patricia Goff was presented by Mr. Todd Gulluscio who stated. “Not only is she a fantastic mathematics teacher, and you’d be lucky to have your kids have her, but the work that she does, particularly with those kids entering the middle school age... the six graders, seventh graders are second to none. A lot of the kids are at ease in those first couple of years because Trish is one of others out there guiding them and helping them along the way. I think that’s probably the best compliment to give somebody, and that she’s such a help to those youngsters that are really just starting out in a new adventure for themselves”. He stated she handles them with ease and grace and balances mathematics on top of that. She promotes happy students in the building. President Lynch and Dr. Doelger shared the same gratitude and thankfulness for the impact Ms Goff has on our students.

10.2 Presentation Not Requiring Approval

a. Science Department Presentation - Mr. Williams; and students: Michael Kotula, Lexi Bartilucci, Natalie Mamisashvili and Eli Green:

- Nanopore sequencing program added this year.- Enables rapid in-school DNA sequencing (USB-size nanopore device); students now get timely data (tens of thousands of reads) instead of waiting months.
- Student projects: carnivorous plant sequences; investigation of purported mammoth hair samples
- Eli Green developed processing pipelines and quality-scoring tools to identify high-quality reads assisted by AI.
- Mr. Williams explained how educational value is emphasized with student-driven inquiry, coding, and real research experience done in-house at far lower cost than outsourcing.

10.3 Presentation Requiring Approval

a. Class of 2027 Representative: Sadie Green-Clark, Juliana Medina and Jackson Rohrer re: Prom 2026

- Students are expecting attendees of approximately 67; tickets cost \$95/student (funded by class fundraising); chaperone ratio 11:1; and out-of-district and guests require an administrative form.

A big thanks to Ms. Suzanne Walsh who waived venue fee.

For students who want to attend but have financial constraints, there is confidential assistance available through Nurse Mary.

10.3 Prom 2026 The Board President requests a motion to approve Prom 2026 to be held on Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm, at Shelter Island House.

A motion was made by Dawn Hedberg, seconded by Margaret Colligan, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board hereby approves the following:

Prom 2026 to be held on Saturday, May 9, 2026, from 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm, at Shelter Island House.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Anthony Rando, seconded by Karina Montalvo, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board hereby approves the following:

11.1 Approval of Minutes

- a. Budget/Regular Meeting of February 9, 2026 Addendum BP11.1.A
- b. Budget Workshop of March 2, 2026 Addendum BP11.1.B
- c. Special Meeting of March 18, 2026 Addendum BP11.1.C

Motion carried unanimously

12. Consent Agenda Personnel

A motion was made by Molly Kendall, seconded by Anthony Rando, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Personnel actions: 12.1

A motion was made by Dawn Hedberg, seconded by Margaret Colligan, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Personnel actions: 12.2 to 12.4

12.1 Resignation of Personnel

a. Accept the resignation of Meghan Lang, Clerk Typist, for the purpose of retirement, effective September 11, 2026. Addendum BP12.1.A

President Lynch stated that Meghan has been a parent, aid and guidance secretary. She has been a vital person here for a long time. We are going to miss her and she was instrumental in getting college trips and things like that off the ground years ago. Ms Lynch stated that her highest compliment to Meghan is that she is a mom in the building, so she "moms" everybody up.

Consent Agenda
Personnel

12.2 Personnel Agreements

Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement: The Board President may seek a motion to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the Shelter Island Faculty Association covering the School Related Professionals Unit concerning a one-time retirement incentive. Addendum BP12.2.A

a. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of Shelter Island Union Free School District, having received and reviewed a Settlement Agreement and General Release concerning an employee known to the Board, hereby approves such Settlement Agreement and General Release and authorizes and directs the Board of Education President and Superintendent of Schools to execute such Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Board. Addenda BP12.2.B.1, BP12.2.B.2

12.3 Leave of Absence

a. Accept the Medical leave of Absence of Jacqueline Dunning, District Clerk, from March 25th 2026 through June 30th, 2026 Addendum BP12.3.A

12.4 Personnel Appointment

a. Approval of an Appointment: Effective 3-10-26 the district appoints Mallory Clark as Account Clerk at a rate of \$51,281

Motions carried unanimously.

13. Consent Agenda Program

Consent Agenda
Program

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Molly Kendall, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Program Action:

13.1

13.1 CSE Recommendations for the 2025-2026 School Year

a. Committee on Special Education Addenda BP13.1.A, BP13.1.B

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Consent Agenda Finance

Consent Agenda
Finance

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Dawn Hedberg, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Finance Actions:

14.1 –14.2

14.1 Financial Reports

a. Treasurer's Report – January 2026 Addendum BP14.1.A.1, February 2026 Addendum BP14.1.A.2

b. Extra Class Report – January 2026 Addendum BP14.1.B.1, February 2026 Addendum BP14.1.B.2

c. Appropriations Status Report Addendum BP14.1.C

d. Revenue Status Report Addendum BP14.1.D

e. Claims Audit Report – February 2026 Addendum BP14.1.E

f. Payroll Audit Report – February 2026 Addendum BP14.1.F

14.2 Journal Entries and Budget Transfers

a. Accept and approve Journal Entries Report and Budget Entries for the period of February 4, 2026 through March 25, 2026, that in accordance with Board Policy, the Superintendent has approved. Addenda BP14.2.A, BP14.2.B

Motion carried unanimously.

15. Consent Agenda Business

Consent Agenda
Business

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Molly Kendall, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Board of Education hereby accepts the recommendations of the Superintendent on the following Business Action:

15.1 - 15.3

15.1 Contracts

a. Approve the agreement between the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District and Family Service League, of Huntington, NY, for student services. The period of said agreement is July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027; and authorize the Board President to execute said agreement. Addendum BP15.1.A

15.2 Donations

a. Authorize the Shelter Island School District to accept a grant of \$2,400.00 from the Shelter Island Educational Foundation for the Long Island Musical Festival Field Trip; and authorize an increase to the budget line of Field Trip Fees A.2110.419.0000, in the same amount.

b. Authorize the Shelter Island School District to accept a grant of \$3,160.00 from the Shelter Island Educational Foundation for the Music Department’s Broadway Field Trip; and authorize an increase to the budget line of Field Trip Fees A.2110.419.0000, in the same amount.

Consent Agenda
Business

15.3 Joint Bidding Addendum BP15.3.A

a. WHEREAS, various educational and municipal corporations located within the State of New York desire to bid jointly for generally needed services and standardized supply and equipment items; and WHEREAS, the Shelter Island Union Free School District, an educational/municipal corporation (hereinafter the "Participant") is desirous of selectively participating with other educational and/or municipal corporations in the State of New York in joint bidding in the areas mentioned above pursuant to General Municipal Law § 119-o and Education Law Section 1950; and

WHEREAS, the Participant is a municipality within the meaning of General Municipal Law § 119-n and is eligible to participate in the Board of Cooperative Educational Services, First Supervisory District of Suffolk County (hereinafter Eastern Suffolk BOCES) Joint Municipal Cooperative Bidding Program (hereinafter the "Program") in the areas mentioned above; and

WHEREAS, the Participant acknowledges receipt of the Program description inclusive of Eastern Suffolk BOCES' standard bid packet and the general conditions relating to said Program; and

WHEREAS, with respect to all activities conducted by the Program, the Participant wishes to delegate to Eastern Suffolk BOCES the responsibility for drafting of bid specifications, advertising for bids, accepting and opening bids, evaluating bids, awarding via Eastern Suffolk BOCES Board approval, and reporting the results to the Participant. BE IT RESOLVED that the Participant hereby appoints Eastern Suffolk BOCES to represent it and to act as the lead agent in all matters related to the Program as described above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Participant hereby authorizes Eastern Suffolk BOCES to place all legal advertisements for any required cooperative bidding in Newsday, which is designated as the official newspaper for the Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Participant Meeting shall be held annually consisting of a representative from each Program Participant. Notice of the meeting shall be given to each representative at least five (5) days prior to such meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an Advisory Committee will be formed consisting of five to ten representatives of Program Participants for a term of three (3) years as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Agreement with the Participant shall be for a term of one (1) year as authorized by General Municipal Law §119-o.2.j.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Participant agrees to pay Eastern Suffolk BOCES an annual fee as determined annually by Eastern Suffolk BOCES to act as the lead agent for the Program.

Motion carried unanimously.

16. Facility – None

Facility

17. Items for Consideration - None

Items

18. Old Business – None

Old Business

19. Director of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Wellness & Personnel Report

Director of
Athletics Report

Beacon of Excellence – Trish Goff
Varsity Boys Basketball

- o -NYS Scholar Athlete Award, IIABO Board 40- James Stark Sportsmanship Award, - Evan Weslek – All County, All Conference, All League
- o - Jackson Rohrer – All County Academic

Spring Sports - Baseball → Home opener 4/16 , - Softball → Home opener 5/8 vs. Person , - Track → Next Meet 4/22
@ East
Hampton
Day of Gratitude

- Secondary School – American Legion , Secondary School – mural repaint & purity
- Secondary School – Sylvester Manor , Secondary School – Camp Quinipet
- 2nd/Secondary School – Community Center w/ Senior Citizens
- PreK/K*– School cleanup and thank you letters
- 1/3 – Sidewalk Chalk gratitude messages
- 4/5 – Car wash for first responders & business owners

20. Assistant Superintendent Report

Assistant
Superintendent
Report

New York State testing (ELA):- Grades 6–8: April 14–15 (after break).
- Grades 3–5: April 16–17.
- Makeups the following week; math assessment to follow.
- ELL students begin speaking portion of NYSESLAT testing.

21. Superintendent Report

Superintendent
Report

Since our last board meeting,
Our elementary school recently participated in PARP, Pick a Reading Partner, a statewide initiative promoting reading at home and strengthening school-family connections. The week included themed activities and strong family engagement, continuing to build enthusiasm for reading among our students.
I also met with our new public library's new children's librarian, Jane Olivia, along with our elementary team, who is already strengthening our partnership. Through a grant program, she is organizing a live owl presentation for our elementary students: an exciting, hands-on learning opportunity.
Our teachers held a professional development day for staff, focused on collaboration and preparation for the remainder of the school year. I'd like to recognize our faculty and staff for their ongoing dedication to our students and school community.
Despite a challenging winter of weather, our team did an excellent job maintaining safe and well-managed operations - thank you to everyone involved.
Our softball team had a great victory! Congratulations to the girls.
Our seniors have returned safely from their trip, which was a great success and a memorable experience for all.
Looking ahead:

- Wednesday: Faculty Meeting
- Thursday: Day of Gratitude
- Spring Break begins Friday
- April 17: Senior Scholarship Meet and Greet
- April 23–26: Spring Musical, Little Shop of Horrors

22. Board Member Reports

Board Member
Reports

Margaret Colligan thought the meeting was wonderful as so many students from so many different areas and interests are just so articulate. "It was such a pleasure to be here tonight." Anthony Rando expressed that one of his favorite presentations of the year is the science presentation. "It's always so great." He agrees with Margaret about how articulate the students are. He also expressed the great job teachers are performing. Kathy Lynch wanted to take a moment to express her condolences for Mike Laspia and Ed Barr. Both of these gentlemen were icons.

23. Visitor Comments: -None

Visitor
Comments

24. Adjournment

Adjournment

A motion was made by Margaret Colligan, seconded by Molly Kendall, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Board of Education hereby adjourns the meeting.
Motion carried unanimously.
The meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Maryann Impastato
District Clerk Pro Tem

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, April 20, at 5:30 pm, in the Conference Room.