Approved 6.2.26

Dover School Committee
Meeting of May 12, 2026

Members Present:	Goli Sepehr
	Kate Cook
	Jessica Hole
	Kevin Bielke
	Martha Castle
Also Present:	Beth McCoy, Superintendent
	Denny Conklin, Assistant Superintendent
	Dawn Fattore, Business Manager

1) **Call to Order**

Goli Sepehr called the meeting to order 6:00 pm.

2) Superintendent Comments - Superintendent McCoy gave an update on negotiations and recent hires.

- Elementary Literacy Pilot Program - Denny Conklin reviewed the process to determine which programs to pilot next year which will be McGraw Hill Emerge and Fishtank ELA.
- Technology Use at the Elementary Level - The Administration will be forming two committees (one for the Elementary and one for the Secondary level) to determine guidelines for technology use both by teachers and students. The goal is to have technology used intentionally and interactively with an emphasis on high value for students.

3) Financial Reports

- Warrant Report
- FY26 Monthly Report
  - Salaries - SPED Administration reflects a savings of approximately $15,000 based on the reallocation of responsibilities for the Pre-K Director position and School Leadership-Building reflects $26,000 in savings due to the retirement of an Administrative Assistant and adjustment of the job to a 10-month position.
  - Expenses - there are no material variances since the last report
  - Out-of-District - tuition encumbrances are reflected for all OOD placements as of May 8th. There are currently 23 placements, six more than budgeted. The total negative variance in tuition costs is approximately $789,000: $460,000 from new placements and $475,000 from known placements not included in the budget based on one-year impacts, offset by $145,000 of savings from placement changes.

4) Discussion Items

- Student Handbook (1st read) - Restroom and Locker Room Access policy was included by request and dates were updated as necessary.
- Code of Conduct (1st read)
- Restraint Policy (1st read) - changes made in accordance with MGL requirements/guidelines.

5) Action Items

- Annual School Committee Vote on MA School Choice Law

Martha Castle made a motion to not participate in School Choice for the 2026-27 school year. Kevin Bielke seconded.
26-04 VOTE: 5 - 0 via roll call

6) **Consent Items**
   - Approval of Minutes: February 3, February 10, February 24, March 5, and March 31, 2026

Jessie Hole made motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Kate Cook seconded.
26-05 VOTE: 5 - 0 via roll call

7) **Informational Items**
   - Civil Rights Grievance Procedure
   - Regional School Committee Minutes - February 2, 2026
   - Enrollment update -
8) **Community Comments -** a few parents spoke in favor of hiring additional teachers to keep class sizes as small as they were this year.
9) **Items for June 2, 2026 -** class size policy discussion
10) **Recognition -** Goli Sepehr thanked Martha Castle for her years of service on the school committee.
11) **Adjournment at 7:27 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis