



SCHOOL COMMITTEE

BUSINESS MEETING OPEN SESSION MINUTES

June 2, 2026

Meeting:	School Committee
Date:	June 2, 2026
Location:	MERMHS Learning Commons
Attendees:	Pamela Beaudoin, Superintendent Michelle Cresta, Director of Finance & Operations Kate Koch-Sundquist, Chair Lindsay Banks Jake Foster Chris Reed, Vice Chair Sarah Stone Nadia Wetzler Theresa Whitman
Absent:	
Guests:	
Recorded by:	Maria Schmidt
Link to Reports and Presentations	https://www.mersd.org/domain/785

A. Call to Order of – Mr. Reed called the School Committee Business meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

B. Business Meeting Open Session

1) Public Comment (Guidelines for public comment can be found in sections BEDH and BEDH-E of the School Committee policy manual) –

Keith Stefanek, 107 Holton Street, Danvers; President META: Mr. Stefanek reported that Middle School Academy teacher Jackie Maher was given a non-renewal notice and expressed his surprise. Mr. Stefanek described Ms. Maher’s energy and enthusiasm for the position and said that she has garnered positive feedback from colleagues. As the META president, Mr. Stefanek expressed concern about procedural violations and said that the META will pursue remedy, while conceding that the public comment forum is not the place for this action. Mr. Stefanek expressed concern that administration did not inform the department chair, Deb Isensee, before deciding on non-renewal. Mr. Stefanek suggested that the School Committee perform its due diligence in determining the reasons

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behind Ms. Maher's non-renewal. Mr. Stefanek emphasized META's support for a reversal of the non-renewal.

Debra Isensee's – English Department Chair Grades 6-12, Statement read by Mr. Stefanek: “I am writing because I was shocked to hear about the decision not to renew Jackie Maher as the MSA instructor next year. Historically, MSA has been considered part of the ELA department, reinforced by Jackie's arrival. I have not been told what has changed in terms of the focus of the MSA program, but we have heard that the focus will be math. Neither I, nor Courtney Brown, the math department head, have been consulted in any way before or since the decision to not renew Jackie Maher and change the focus of the MSA. Despite reaching out to administration for clarity two weeks ago, I still have not received a response. It is concerning that administration is making curricular changes without consulting its own curriculum specialists.

I was on the hiring committee for Jackie, and I know the District pursued her as an instructor who would improve our students' ability to produce evidence-based writing; we sought her out due to her years of experience and proven success at Hamilton-Wenham. Through observing Jackie with her students and through MCAS results after her first year here, it is clear to me she is an asset to both our students and our District's constant pursuit of building challenging programming.

I fully support retaining Jackie Maher in her current position.”

Abby Whittredge, 405 Boston Street, Topsfield; Grade 6 Teacher – Ms. Whittredge provided a copy of her statement: “In 1977, a man from my hometown in Georgia coined a phrase that many of us here still use today. His name was Bert Lance, and he was president of a small bank in the North Georgia mountains. His bank was coming off their best year ever, but the board wanted to restructure. Mr. Lance stood in front of that board and said the same thing I am here to say to you: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

You have already seen the data showing how state testing scores drastically improved after Ms. Maher implemented her program. Today, I want to look at how this class shapes our students beyond state metrics.

Ms. Maher's curriculum directly and concretely fulfills 19 out of the 38 criteria in our Vision of the Graduate. That is exactly half of our district's entire long-term promise to our students, achieved in a single classroom.

Specifically, her class turns 6th graders into critical thinkers who analyze text, effective communicators who structure complex arguments across the disciplines, and individuals who practice personal accountability through rigorous self-editing and revision.

There are rumors that hint at replacing this successful program with a 6th-grade math enrichment/remediation skills class. While math support is important, we must look at our own history. We have implemented these math enrichment classes in the past, and they were relatively ineffective.

If we move forward with this non-renewal, we are choosing to throw away a proven, highly successful writing program in exchange for an intervention strategy that has historically failed our students.

Let us protect what works. Let us keep Jackie Maher's writing class for our 6th graders. And stop fixing things that are working beautifully. Thank you."

In response to Mr. Foster's request for clarification, Superintendent Beaudoin said that the Middle School Academy class has included a project-based element in the past.

Kristen Degnan, 81 Linden Street, South Hamilton, Grade 6 Teacher: Ms. Degnan spoke about the impact that Ms. Maher has had on students, families, and colleagues. Ms. Degnan's daughter was a student of Ms. Maher's in another district, and Ms. Degnan credited Ms. Maher with her daughter's growth as a writer, learner, and person. Ms. Degnan noted that Ms. Maher is triple certified in ELA, SPED, and ELL and emphasized Ms. Maher's data-driven approach and strong commitment to her students.

Jacqueline Maher, 4 Puritan Road, Wenham: Ms. Maher provided a copy of her statement: "I know many of my colleagues have advocated on my behalf, and with deep gratitude for their support, I felt it necessary that I address you personally to express my commitment to our students and the MSA program. On May 14, 2026, I was issued a nonrenewal notice from the district. Having earned an exemplary status in my first MERSD evaluation and witnessing the recent budget support, I was shocked and distraught. Two years ago, I joined MERSD to build a scaffolded writing program for the sixth-grade students. For me, this role represents the culmination of my twenty-year career. I left my position at Hamilton-Wenham believing this was a rare opportunity to apply my strange combination of skills: analyzing student data and teaching writing. Designing and implementing this curriculum has been a professional highlight and hearing my colleagues comment on how my instruction impacts their student outcomes is deeply rewarding. More than anything, I would like to continue teaching alongside these collaborative educators. I'm so proud of these students – your students – who quickly adopted the academic language of standards-based learning and routinely discuss writing with comments like, I think the evidence exceeds standards, but the analysis is only meeting. In my ungraded class, they don't focus on why they lost three points to get a ninety-seven, instead, they are motivated by the understanding that there are standards beyond our classroom, and they strive to exceed them. I don't know if I can express how profoundly rewarding this is for me at this point in my career. I would love the opportunity to continue educating the students of Manchester-Essex. The standards I incorporate in my curriculum are measured objectively through MCAS writing scores. When I look at MCAS data, I focus on numbers that tell a story. The bar graphs that are typically presented are a static snapshot of a single test. Student Growth Percentiles (SGP) measure how far students progress in a year based on their previous assessment scores. This number is what I've always used to measure the efficacy of my instruction and the evolution of my students' skills.

Under the current MSA model, Manchester-Essex sixth graders

- Increased the 6th Grade ELA SGP by 25 Percentage Points, from 42% in 2024, dangerously close to the “Low” Growth Band (21–40) to 67%, solidly in the “High” Growth Band (61-80). This increases the base score from 2024 by 59%. In addition, this is the highest ELA SGP for this class of students (scoring 53% in 5th grade and 56% in 4th).
- Reversed the District-Wide Decline in SGP as Measured by the 3-8 Grade Band. The 3-8 SGP Grade Band has been in a pattern of decline (2022: 53%, 2023: 51%, 2024: 47%). In 2025, the sixth-grade SGP was the highest SGP in the district, driving averages up 10 percentage points.
- Increased the Essay Writing Scores Over 30%, from 39.5% (below state average) in 2024 to 71.25% (surpassing the state average) in 2025.
- Outperformed Hamilton-Wenham Students for the First Time Post-Covid. In the past five years, HW (peer district and where I previously taught) sixth graders averaged an SGP 25% higher than Manchester Essex. In 2025, Manchester Essex reversed the trend, scoring 19% higher than HW.

I was informed that the district is considering a broader vision for the MSA program. However, this vision has not been shared with me, with the sixth-grade team, or the grade 6-12 Department Heads. My concern is that another transition for this class may disrupt the significant momentum and quantifiable gains we have established. I am eager to understand how the new vision integrates with existing data-driven success. To demonstrate my commitment to the district’s evolving goals, I have offered to attain a math license within the year to ensure my skills remain aligned with the district’s needs. As educators, we ask our students to see setbacks as opportunities, consider missteps as a path to authentic learning, to be flexible thinkers and create a “beautiful oops”. When I teach claims and evidence at the start of the year, we look at what happens when the evidence we’ve collected no longer serves our claim. The answer is simple: trust your evidence and change the claim. Today, I’m asking the district to apply the same logic to my tenure. The evidence – endorsement of my colleagues, measurable student growth, and my dedication to the district – suggests that my continued service is in the best interest of the students. Please consider allowing me to continue as MSA teacher at Manchester-Essex Middle School.”

- 2) **Chairperson’s Report** – Chris Reed. Mr. Reed gave his last chairperson’s report as School Committee Chair and thanked members of the community for their support of the district budget. Mr. Reed also welcomed newly elected School Committee member Sarah Stone and thanked outgoing member John Binieris for his service.
- 3) **School Committee Reorganization** – Superintendent Beaudoin accepted the gavel from Mr. Reed to begin the School Committee’s yearly reorganization process. The superintendent opened the floor to nominations for the position of School Committee Chair for FY27.

Mr. Foster nominated Ms. Koch-Sundquist for the position of School Committee Chair for FY27. Ms. Whitman seconded the nomination.

Superintendent Beaudoin received acceptance of the nomination from Ms. Koch-Sundquist

Discussion: Ms. Whitman noted her long association with Ms. Koch-Sundquist on the School Committee and her confidence in Ms. Koch-Sundquist's ability to fill the responsibilities of Chair. Mr. Reed echoed this sentiment, citing their working relationship on the negotiations subcommittee and leadership role as Vicechair of the School Committee. Ms. Banks shared that Ms. Koch-Sundquist has mentored her as a new member of the committee and highlighted the importance of this skill for a chair. Ms. Wetzler endorsed the nomination, emphasizing Ms. Koch-Sundquist's listening skills and ability to diplomatically express differing viewpoints. Ms. Whitman said the nomination is aligned with previous SC practice of the chair position switching between the two towns. Mr. Foster echoed the sentiments of the other School Committee members.

Ms. Koch-Sundquist was elected to the position of School Committee Chair for FY27 by unanimous vote.

Ms. Koch-Sundquist nominated Mr. Reed for the position of School Committee Vice Chair for FY27. Ms. Koch-Sundquist expressed a desire for his mentorship and said the nomination is in line with previous practice.

Mr. Foster nominated Ms. Banks for the position of School Committee Vice Chair for FY27. Mr. Foster highlighted Ms. Banks engagement with School Committee subcommittees and the greater community and said that the School Committee needs to look ahead to its future leadership.

Discussion: Ms. Whitman noted that the Chair position has historically been occupied for two one-year terms by the same member. Ms. Whitman suggested that the School Committee seek to support Ms. Koch-Sundquist's first year as SC Chair with experience before looking to new leadership support in next year's vice chair selection. Mr. Foster confirmed that Mr. Reed is able to balance the demands of the position next year. Mr. Reed affirmed that he anticipates no problems with taking on the vice chair's responsibilities and emphasized that he is always available to the SC for those who reach out.

Ms. Banks declined the nomination for the current year. Mr. Reed accepted the nomination.

Mr. Reed was elected to the position of School Committee Vice Chair for FY27 by unanimous vote.

Ms. Koch-Sundquist asked the SC to consider the timing of reorganization for subcommittee assignments. These can be pushed out to the summer SC meeting. Ms. Banks suggested taking time to discuss the roles of each subcommittee and the workload that they entail.

Superintendent Beaudoin said that the Essex School Building Committee (SBC) has a substantial amount of work to do and suggested filling that position earlier. The superintendent said that the

policy subcommittee has work around fundraising policy. The negotiations subcommittee has continued work regarding a joint management group for stipends and will begin organizing for META contract negotiations starting in the fall.

Ms. Whitman clarified that the SBC is part of the facilities subcommittee. The facilities subcommittee meets as needed to address facilities issues. Currently, their emphasis is on the Essex building project, and they are a meeting-heavy group. The SBC business meeting is held bi-monthly on alternating Tuesdays with the School Committee. There are additional, self-selected subcommittees and periodic community meetings. Ms. Whitman anticipates that the pace of SBC meetings will slow down following the Town Meetings and votes on the project in the fall. The SBC will continue through the completion of the Essex Elementary building project. Superintendent Beaudoin mentioned facilities issues on the horizon regarding the high school.

Ms. Wetzler shared that the policy subcommittee meets monthly to review policy issues. They align as a subcommittee and bring those issues before the full SC. Future work includes fundraising policy and operational policies, including CORI review. Ms. Banks said that the work of the subcommittee is supported by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) which supports School Committees throughout the state and provides policy templates. The subcommittee also is responsible for district advocacy, both to the state and to the community. Ms. Banks complimented Mr. Foster's work regarding Chapter 70 funding. Ms. Banks is currently coordinating a monthly School Committee newsletter to the school community.

Mr. Foster noted that the subcommittee meets monthly and works to reduce the workload of the overall School Committee, bringing their work back to the full SC for final votes. The finance subcommittee looks at financial planning and reports for the year with the superintendent and director of finance. They are able to share insight with the greater group. During school budget discussions, the finance committee has acted as a liaison with the town partners.

Ms. Kate-Sundquist said that the negotiations subcommittee has not met this year. However, META negotiations are scheduled for next year. Superintendent Beaudoin said that meetings will initially be once or twice a month, increasing in frequency as the process nears completion. The superintendent projected that negotiations will begin at the end of November.

Superintendent Beaudoin included anticipated subcommittee meetings for the policy and SBC groups with the School Committee calendar for 2026-2027.

The School Committee opted to discuss the subcommittee roles and complete reorganization over the summer. Mr. Foster noted that subcommittee meetings are all public meetings. Any interested SC member may attend.

- 4) **Student Report** – Maggie Whitman. Ms. Whitman shared that the Student Advisory Council meets monthly with two members from each grade, their advisor, the high school principal and the superintendent. A representative from the School Committee is also invited to attend. Ms. Whitman shared highlights of the end of the school year. High school seniors completed their SCORE project presentations and celebrated

graduation. Other students are engrossed in finals and end-of-year projects. Juniors have the opportunity to participate in boot camps for college and essay-writing. Team sports are in playoff competitions as is Robotics. The Debate team has a mock debate fundraiser scheduled for June 10 in the auditorium. Ms. Whitman shared that there is some concern around changes to scheduling for music students. Band and chorus classes will now be slotted into the regular schedule while jazz band and the Soundwaves will move into U Block.

Superintendent Beaudoin said that she will poll the Student Advisory Council regarding school choice and proposed activities fees. Ms. Koch-Sundquist enjoyed her time attending SAC meetings. The superintendent hopes to get a SAC meeting schedule from Ms. Buckner and Principal Sgroi for next year for planning purposes. Ms. Whitman encouraged SAC members to reach out to the incoming freshmen to encourage participation.

5) Consent Agenda –

- Acceptance of Warrants: AP Voucher 1077 and 1078 and payroll warrant for May 21, 2026
- Minutes for approval: May 19, 2026

Mr. Reed moved to approve AP Voucher 1077 and 1078 and the payroll warrant for May 21, 2026; Ms. Wetzler seconded the motion.

The motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Whitman moved to accept the School Committee minutes from May 19, 2026. Mr. Foster seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4-0. Mr. Reed, Ms. Koch-Sunquist, and Ms. Stone abstained.

6) Sub-Committee Reports

- **Elementary Facilities/MSBC Sub-Committee** (John Binieris/Theresa Whitman) – Ms. Whitman reported that the SBC met. They are continuing to work on distributing reimbursement funding to pay for additional feasibility expenses and assume it will go through. Looking ahead, funding seems to be on track for the rest of the school building project. The SBC voted on the preferred construction delivery method and unanimously selected the Construction Manager at Risk (CMR). They will now appoint a CMR selection subcommittee. Funding for this role is already included in “other expenses” of the feasibility study.

The SBC had a report out from the mechanical, electric, and plumbing systems subcommittee who recommended moving ahead with life-cycle cost analysis for five HVAC design options. Some of these options are unlikely to workout, like the geothermal system, but the subcommittee believes it is important to have data to demonstrate that all viable options are under consideration. There is no additional

expense to do a cost analysis for the additional HVAC options. This work will be done in June with the final recommendation at the end of June.

Ms. Whitman stated that, although the SBC is not officially in the Schematic Design Phase, the group will continue design work across multiple project aspects including cost analysis (including reimbursement), sustainability, drawing evolution, and design updates based on work with the program group. There are SBC teams devoted to exterior and interior design; site safety and security; and parking and accessibility.

The seventh community meeting is Thursday, June 4, at 6:00 pm, at Essex Elementary.

Superintendent Beaudoin stated that the MSBA required the School Building Committee to provide documentation of a 50 year commitment letter from the Town of Essex for the district to occupy the site.

- **Finance Sub-Committee** (Jake Foster/Chris Reed) –No Report. The subcommittee did not meet. Superintendent Beaudoin said that they will meet on June 16 before the next SC meeting to review the budget-to-actual report.
- **Policy/Advocacy Sub-Committee** (Lindsay Banks/Nadia Wetzler/Theresa Whitman) – *Wellness policy first read.* The subcommittee met and reviewed the most recent draft of the wellness policy and two related policies - EFC Free & Reduced Lunch and EFD Meal Charge Policy. The revision of the two associated policies addresses items the wellness policy had previously been attempting to address within a single document. Ms. Wetzler stated that the subcommittee reviewed policies for school nutrition, wellness, and the universal free lunch policy in an effort to align language across the policies. Superintendent Beaudoin said that the goal was to tighten language and meet the requirements of the upcoming nutrition audit. Ms. Wetzler said that the next step will be to review fundraisers that involve food. The superintendent said that fundraisers cannot compete with the cafeteria during school hours. However, this should not impact other celebrations or after school fundraising endeavors. Superintendent Beaudoin characterized this as a first read of the policy adjustments with a final SC vote scheduled for June 16. Ms. Banks directed SC members to note the changes highlighted in meeting materials and said that references to school lunch were minimized to direct to the school lunch policy.

Questions: Mr. Foster expressed concern that the policy as presented, particularly bulleted items, creates policy mandates that would be difficult for the School Committee to adjust in the future. Mr. Foster also questioned language that gives the wellness advisory committee the purview to review the wellness policy. The School Committee explored the intent of the policy as presented. Mr. Foster recommended that implementation, strategy, and actions be kept at the district level rather than policy. Superintendent Beaudoin stated that the statute requires that the district have a wellness advisory committee and asked that SC members send her feedback on this first read. The superintendent intends to have concerns reviewed by the district's legal counsel. The policy subcommittee will incorporate feedback into the next draft of the policy with the

intent of an SC vote on June 16, 2026. Ms. Whitman noted that this is a unique policy experience because there is not a MASC policy template to follow. The wellness advisory committee has worked for two years towards the policy and has been challenged by shifting state frameworks for health. Mr. Foster expressed appreciation for the advisory committee's work to update the scope of the policy to address more than just physical education.

Ms. Banks plans a final School Committee newsletter for the school year for approval on June 16. It will include a placeholder for a summary of the District Improvement Plan update.

- **Negotiation Team Sub-Committee** (Kate Koch-Sundquist/Chris Reed) – No Report

7) Superintendent's Report –

- a. Graduation Class of 2026
- b. SBC
 - i. Preferred Schematic Report (PSR) has been submitted
 - ii. The project team presented the Preferred Option to the MSBA facilities subcommittee. This will become the proposed design that will go to voters for approval in the fall. The superintendent said it was well-received by the MSBA
 - iii. MERSD will meet with the MSBA Board on June 24 for formal admittance into the Schematic Design (SD) phase of the project.
 - iv. Community Meeting – June 4, 2026, 6:00 pm.
- c. Parent Orientation for Rising Grade 6 Students – June 3, 2026. Incoming principal Matt Roy will attend.
- d. June 4 – 8th Grade Civics Fair 5:30-6:00 pm MHS Gym
- e. Moving on Ceremonies
 - i. June 17 – EES Moving On Ceremony 5:00 pm EES
 - ii. June 17 – MMES Crossing the Bridge 6:00 pm MMES
 - iii. June 22 – MS Moving on Ceremony 6:00 pm MS
- f. Grade 5 Essex Shipbuilding Museum Field Trip – Ms. Banks attended this cross-district, fifth grade team building experience. Ms. Banks complimented the diverse topics and hands-on experiences of the trip. Students were in mixed groups between the two elementary schools and explored topics of salinity, invasive species, and mapping. Data collected by students is being sent to scientists.
- g. Transportation Bid Update – The superintendent reported that transportation bids were received that morning. An award is expected by June 12. Ms. Cresta confirmed that the IFB (Information for Bids) included options for electric vehicles. The vendor would assist the district to acquire electric vehicles if the district is able to gain funding. Ms. Cresta said that electric vehicles are very expensive without funding. Hamilton/Wenham recently to electric buses and was able to do so with extensive grant assistance. Ms. Cresta said the district would like to have two of its four buses as electric. Superintendent Beaudoin

said that the late bus is an add-on to the bid request. Ms. Cresta stated that the bid contains a fuel escalator to account for fluctuations in fuel prices. Currently, the district is paying extra because of rising fuel costs.

- h. EES Morning Pilot – Superintendent Beaudoin reported that the district is proceeding with the morning care program for next year at Essex Elementary. An expansion of Parent Square functionality will enable the district to coordinate payments for the program.
- i. CBIZ has not provided data for the district’s Annual Audit. Ms. Cresta said that the district has contracted with another firm to complete the audit for next year.
- j. Joint Labor Management Group –Stipends and Student Activity Accounts Procedural Reorganization. Superintendent Beaudoin said that work continues in these two areas.

8) Continued Business –

- a. Budget Update - none
- b. School Committee Calendar FY27 – Superintendent Beaudoin included a draft of the SC calendar with meeting materials. Meetings will generally be held on the first and third Tuesday of each month, with some variation for school holidays. The superintendent asked SC members to consider holding curriculum updates every other month to allow for principal school spotlights. These spotlights focus on the unique aspects of each school. Superintendent Beaudoin also suggested that the SC take up the topics of activities fees and philosophies regarding school choice early in the year so that they are considered separately from the budget.

The School Committee discussed availability for an August SC workshop and meeting and settled on Monday, August 17, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Ms. Banks confirmed that the agenda for this meeting will include SC reorganization; superintendent goal development; and School Committee goal development.

Mr. Foster said that the SC calendar should also include time to consider updating district metrics of success, particularly now that MCAS scores are no longer included for graduation purposes. Mr. Foster also stated that consideration of a superintendent search should be on the calendar. Ms. Koch-Sundquist remarked that Superintendent Beaudoin is open to remaining in the position through 2028. Mr. Foster said that consideration of a contract extension should be on the calendar. Superintendent Beaudon confirmed that she has not given notice. The superintendent’s contract extends through June 2027. Superintendent Beaudoin is willing to extend the contract, should the SC agree. This would require another vote. Should the SC choose not to seek an extension, the superintendent said that the School Committee would want to include the topic as an agenda item and begin preparations for a superintendent search, including consultation with MASC and NEASC.

9) School Committee Comment - Ms. Koch-Sundquist asked how the School Committee intends to respond to student emails generated from Ms. McWhorter's civics class. As part of a class assignment, a student group reached out to the School Committee regarding cafeteria offerings. Ms. Koch-Sundquist expressed concern about being responsive to students. Superintendent Beaudoin said that the SC could delegate the response to the SC Chair or Vicechair. The SC could also invite student representatives to the June 16 School Committee meeting. The superintendent said that this input could inform the work of the policy subcommittee as it relates to nutrition. Ms. Koch-Sundquist highlighted this as an opportunity for interaction with the student body. The superintendent said that the upcoming Civics Fair on June 4 might be a good place to address this student concern. Ms. Cresta said that the cafeteria contract is bid in the winter/spring for the following year. Superintendent Beaudoin stated that the program involves a conversation about wants and needs that then encompasses financial factors. Ms. Cresta said that the district is currently working with Chartwell's, the current food service provider, to improve the program. Superintendent Beaudoin said that the Student Advisory Council is a good group to utilize for student feedback on the meals program. Ms. Koch-Sundquist volunteered to follow up with the current student letter about the cafeteria. Ms. Whitman emphasized the importance of acknowledging the student outreach. The superintendent stressed that the SC could schedule this into the upcoming year, inviting concerned students to present at an SC meeting in the fall and planning for SC representation at the civics fair in the spring, perhaps with a mock SC meeting.

Mr. Foster acknowledged the passing of Manchester resident Mr. Bodmer-Turner. Mr. Bodmer-Turner was an MERSD educator and long-term META president. Mr. Foster and Superintendent Beaudoin expressed their admiration for Mr. Bodmer-Turner's efforts on behalf of the district.

Mr. Foster pointed to the current discussion around goals of the math program at the middle school, citing current public comment concerns expressed by MERSD staff. Mr. Foster said that the mathematics issue requires systemic consideration and asked for insight into the systemic strategy being applied to math improvement, including how it applies to areas beyond the Middle School Academy class. Mr. Foster said that there should also be a discussion about the School Committee's role in regards to programming at the various levels. Ms. Wetzler stated that staff commentary also highlighted process issues and raised concerns about involvement of staff stakeholders. Ms. Koch-Sundquist cautioned that the META contract does not include such stipulations. Ms. Whitman encouraged the School Committee to exercise caution if the union is lodging a grievance. Ms. Koch-Sundquist said that additional pertinent information will be made available to the School Committee in the course of the grievance process. Ms. Whitman stated that the SC will hold an executive session if the grievance progresses. Superintendent Beaudoin stated that she heard the points of concern being raised by SC members.

C. Adjourn

Ms. Koch-Sundquist moved to adjourn the School Committee business meeting; Mr. Reed seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:03 pm

School Committee Future Meetings

- **June 16, 2026**
- **August 17, 2026** **Monday** **9:00 am to 12:00 pm**