SOUTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

750 Winter Street
Framingham, MA 01702

REGULAR MEETING OF THE DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

April 6, 2026 @ 6:00 PM

School Committee Meeting Room 226

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 2, 2026

II. GUESTS AND VISITORS

III. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
1. Update on Superintendent Evaluation Sub-Committee

IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

V. PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL CHOICE

VI. SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR'S REPORT
2. School Choice Decision (Appendix 2026-17)
3. Admissions Update
4. Update of Municipal Meetings
5. MSBA Update
6. SkillsUSA District Competition 2026 (Appendix 2026-22)
7. BPA National Leadership Conference 2026 (Appendix 2026-23)
8. Out of State Field Trip Requests (Appendix 2026-24)
9. Advisory Board Invitation (Appendix 2026-25)
10. Personnel Activity (Appendix 2026-26)

VII. FINANCIAL MATTERS
11. Appropriation of Funds for MSBA Feasibility Study (Appendix 2026-27)
12. Non-Salary Financial Expenditure Report (Appendix 2026-28)
13. Budget Transfer (Appendix 2026-29)
14. Student Activity Account Transfer (Appendix 2026-30)

VIII. COMMUNICATION
15. Letter from Carmel Terrace Assisted Living expressing appreciation for the dedication of Keefe Tech Co-Op Student (Appendix 2026-31)

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XII. ADJOURNMENT

**One or more members of the South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical School Committee may be participating remotely in accordance with the Attorney General's Regulations and Procedures {940 CMR 29.10}.*

Posted: Keefe Tech Web Site: https://www.keefetech.org/community
cc: Legal Counsel, Administrative Staff, School Treasurer, Metro West Daily News, KTEA President, and Town/City Clerks: Ashland, Framingham, Holliston, Hopkinton, and Natick

Approved by School Committee:
April 6, 2026

SOUTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

March 2, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT:

ASHLAND
Ed Burman
William Gaine

FRAMINGHAM
Michele Burns
Luther Evans
Linda Fobes (Remote)
Rick Gallagher
Steve Patriarca
Bill Phillips

HOLLISTON
Sarah Commerford
Barry Sims

HOPKINTON
Sabine St. Pierre
Brendan Tedstone

NATICK
Gerry Hartwell
Henry Haugland

ALSO PRESENT:
Jonathan Evans, Superintendent
Shannon Snow, Principal
Dolores Sharek, Director of Finance & Business Operations
William Hurley, Treasurer
Karen Ward, Recording Secretary

Chairman Burman called the meeting to order at 6:05p.m.
We will be conducting this School Committee meeting in person with one or more members of the South Middlesex Regional Vocational Technical School Committee participating remotely in accordance with the Attorney General's Regulations and Procedures.

All votes this evening will be taken as a roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 2, 2026

Chairman Burman asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 2, 2026. MR. PATRIARCA MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MRS. COMMERFORD, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 2, 2026. MRS. BURNS, MRS. COMMERFORD, MR. EVANS, MRS. FOBES, MR. GALLAGHER, MR. HARTWELL, MR. HAUGLAND, MR. PATRIARCA, MR. SIMS, AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; MR. GAINE, MR. PHILLIPS, MR. TEDSTONE, AND MRS. ST. PIERRE ABSTAINED. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

GUESTS AND VISITORS

Mr. Roselli of Roselli and Clark Associates

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- FY 25 Audit Report (Appendix 2026-14)

Mr. Roselli presented the FY25 School District Audit Report. Mr. Roselli reported that Mrs. Sharek and her team did a very nice job and put forth great effort in the process. He found no audit material weaknesses. No findings were identified, and the overall financial position of the district remains strong.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Dr. Snow reported to the Committee that Ms. Marshall, our Student Representative, had a conflict with tonight's meeting. Dr. Snow gave an update to close out the winter sports season. She reported that all in all it was a great sports season. The Cheerleading Team had two competitions, placing second in one of them. She reported that the Wrestling Team had a 10-8-1 winning season for the first time in 10 years. She reported the Co-ed Hockey Team won 3 of the last six games, ending their season on a high note. Dr. Snow reported that both the Boys' and Girls' Basketball Teams qualified for state tournament, which is a real achievement. She said going forward we are hoping for the snow to melt quickly so the field can be prepared for spring sports.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session

SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Advisory Board Update (Appendix 2026-15)

Superintendent Evans provided Committee members with a report indicating the status of the requests made through the Advisory Board meeting in January. Superintendent Evans reported that it is noted if items are being purchased FY26 Perkins Funds or next year Perkins Funds. He also reported that some items may be purchased using FY26 Funds. Lastly, he said, there are times when things on the wish list remain under consideration and may not always be approved.

- 2025-2026 School Calendar (Appendix 2026-16)

Superintendent Evans informed the Committee that he is looking for some flexibility to deal with the current circumstances with the 2025-2026 School Calendar, created by the need to use four snow days. He reported that if we have no more snow days, our last day would be Monday, June 22nd, where students and staff would need to come in for just a few hours following the Juneteenth holiday to finish out the school year . Superintendent Evans reported he would like the ability to consider what we did 10 years ago in this situation, to make Good Friday a half day, allowing any student absence excused for religious reasons, and making the last day June 18th. Superintendent Evans reported that if we have another snow day, this would not be necessary, because we would have to come in the following week anyway. He reported the next meeting of the Committee isn't until April 6th, and it would be too late to make this change to the calendar. Superintendent Evans reported that if we do opt to make this change, he would need to have a vote for him to negotiate with the bargaining groups to make the adjustment.
MR. GALLAGHER MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MR. BURMAN TO GIVE SUPERINTENDENT EVANS THE DISGRESSION TO ADJUST THE 2025-2026 CALENDAR IF NECESSARY AND TO NEGOTIATE THE CHANGE WITH THE BARGAINING GROUPS. MRS. BURNS, MRS. COMMERFORD, MR. EVANS, MR. HAUGLAND, MR. HARTWELL, MRS. FOBES, MR. GAINE, MR. GALLAGHER, MR. PATRIARCA, MR. PHILLIPS, MR. SIMS, MRS. ST. PIERRE, MR. TEDSTONE AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

- Admissions Update

Superintendent Evans reported that tomorrow evening is our first Admissions Lottery. He reported that Mrs. Bogusky and her team have done a nice job organizing all of the applications and providing families with the amount of lottery chances they have. He reported there are a total of 550 applicants being entered into the lottery. Superintendent Evans reported with the vote of the Committee, we have apportioned seats in each of the communities based on their enrollment average over the past 3 years. Superintendent Evans reported that Ashland will have 17 seats, Holliston 19, Hopkinton 8, Natick 17, and Framingham 172. He reported we are working with a vendor who will run the lottery. He said he will open it up with a statement to families, and then the vendor will run the lottery. Once he and the vendor certify the information, it will be sent immediately to families. Superintendent Evans reported there is a tight timeline to accept your spot before it will be offered to the next in line on the appropriate waitlist by community. He reported that the lottery will take place over a Google Meet at 6:30p.m. He reported he will share the link with the Committee if anyone would like to follow along. He reminded Committee members that this is the path we need to take in order to be in compliance.

- MSBA Update

Superintendent Evans reported that the Keefe Tech Building Committee met prior to tonight's meeting. He reported that this meeting had to be scheduled several times due to weather. He also reminded Committee members that at last month's school Committee meeting the Committee discussed the MSBA Enrollment meeting that took place and the numbers they presented. Superintendent Evans reminded members he was not expecting to lock into the number of students Keefe Tech would like to accommodate after the building project at the enrollment meeting. Our representative at MSBA allowed us to meet with the Building Committee and get back to her with a number and have a second enrollment meeting. Superintendent Evans met with the Keefe Tech Building Committee and presented those numbers. The Building Committee voted and approved a floor of 875 and possibilities up to 1350. Superintendent Evans reported he doesn't expect to go all the way to the top of that number. He reported that the Feasibility Study will help us to find the correct number going forward. Superintendent Evans reported after tonight's meeting he will reach out to our liaison at the MSBA to schedule another enrollment meeting where we will submit our floor and ceiling numbers.

- School Choice Decision (Appendix 2026-17)

Members received a memorandum regarding the School Choice Program for the 2026-2027 school year. Superintendent Evans explained that school choice would not be a viable option for the district, considering we have a waitlist for in district students and have had our first Admissions Lottery. Superintendent Evans reported there will be a public hearing and a vote on school choice at the April meeting.

- Municipal Meeting Update

Superintendent Evans reported that if the FY27 Budget is approved this evening he will be sending out emails to the five municipal leaders tonight. Superintendent Evans reported he and Mrs. Sharek have their first presentation for the FY27 Budget at the Natick Finance Committee on Education & Learning on Wednesday evening. They also have been invited to present to the Framingham Finance Committee of the City Council focused on the MSBA Enrollment meeting on March 5th. He reported they will also be prepared to discuss our FY27 Budget if they would like. Superintendent Evans reported that he is keeping all our district partners updated and informed. Superintendent Evans reported that he and Mrs. Sharek will be prepared to present to any town that reaches out. Superintendent Evans reported that he will reach out to school committee representatives for their towns so they can attend the meetings if they choose.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET

Chairman Burman requested a motion to open the public hearing and discussion of the FY27 Budget.

MR. SIMS MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY MRS. BURNS TO BEGIN THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FY27 BUDGET. MRS. BURNS, MRS. COMMERFORD, MR. EVANS, MR. HARTWELL, MR. HAUGLAND, MRS. FOBES, MR. GAINE, MR. GALLAGHER, MR. PATRIARCA, MR. PHILLIPS, MR. SIMS, MRS. ST. PIERRE, MR. TEDSTONE AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Committee.

MR. GALLAGHER MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MRS. COMMERFORD TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. MRS. BURNS, MRS. COMMERFORD, MR. EVANS, MR. HARTWELL, MR. HAUGLAND, MRS. FOBES, MR. GAINE, MR. GALLAGHER, MR. PATRIARCA, MR. PHILLIPS, MR. SIMS, MRS. ST. PIERRE, MR. TEDSTONE AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

- Budget Transfer (Appendix 2026-18)

Superintendent Evans presented the request for a budget transfer for the funds listed in appendix 2026-18 into the Reserve for Feasibility account. The funds identified come from a variety of sources that include the Capital Stabilization Account, Summer Discover Revolving Account, Building Rental Revolving Account, and line items within the FY26 Budget. Funds previously transferred for Feasibility can remain in our Excess and Deficiency Account. Superintendent Evans noted that much of this funding will be reappropriated back to the revolving funds once reimbursement is received. Superintendent Evans reported this will have no operational effect on the Summer Discover Program.

MR. TEDSTONE MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY MRS. BURNS TO RECIND THE VOTE ON JUNE 9, 2025 TRANSFERRING FUNDS INTO THE RESERVE FOR FEASITLITY STUDY AND APPROVE THE BUDGET TRANSFER AS PRESENTED THIS EVENING OF $2,000,000 INTO THE RESERVE FOR FEASIBILITY ACCOUNT. MRS. BURNS, MRS. COMMERFORD, MR. EVANS, MR. HARTWELL, MR. HAUGLAND, MRS. FOBES, MR. GAINE, MR. GALLAGHER, MR. PATRIARCA, MR. PHILLIPS, MR. SIMS, MRS. ST. PIERRE, MR. TEDSTONE AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

- Vote FY27 Budget (Appendix 2026-19)

Superintendent Evans reviewed changes and reductions made from the Preliminary Budget presentation. He reported the leadership team was as aggressive as possible when looking for efficiencies without taking away from the needs and outcomes of our students. He also reported additional revenue offsets in the areas of Excess and Deficiency and Regional Rransportation Reimbursement that will benefit our member communities. Superintendent Evans asked for a motion to approve the FY27 Budget for Keefe Regional Technical School in the amount of $27,582,234 or a 4.83% increase over FY26. MR. TEDSTONE MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY MR. HARTWELL TO APPROVE THE FY27 BUDGET OF $27,582,234, AN INCREASE OF 4.83% OVER FY26. MRS. BURNS, MRS. COMMERFORD, MR. EVANS, MR. HARTWELL, MR. HAUGLAND, MRS. FOBES, MR. GAINE, MR. GALLAGHER, MR. PATRIARCA, MR. PHILLIPS, MR. SIMS, MRS. ST. PIERRE, MR. TEDSTONE AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

- Vote Determination of District Assessment FY27 (Appendix 2026-20)

Members received the FY27 Summary of Assessments for the five member municipalities for a total of $16,212,319. Superintendent Evans reviewed the specific changes in enrollment and assessments between FY26 and FY27. Superintendent Evans provided a list of the actual assessments for each of our member municipalities for the approval of the Committee. MRS. BURNS MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY MR. BURMAN TO APPROVE THE DETERMINATION OF DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS FOR FY27 TOTALING $16,212,319. MRS. BURNS, MRS. COMMERFORD, MR. EVANS, MR. HARTWELL, MR. HAUGLAND, MRS. FOBES, MR. GAINE, MR. GALLAGHER, MR. PATRIARCA, MR. PHILLIPS, MR. SIMS, MRS. ST. PIERRE, MR. TEDSTONE AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS

- Non-Salary Financial Expenditure Report (Appendix 2026-21)

Members received the Non-Salary Expenditure Report along with some highlights. Mrs. Sharek reported that we have spent 54% of the FY26 Budget.

COMMUNICATION
There was no Communication

OLD BUSINESS
There was no Old Business

NEW BUSINESS
There was no New Business

ADJOURMENT
MR. TEDSTONE MADE A MOTION SECONDED BY MR. PATRIARCA TO ADJOURN THE MARCH 2, 2026 MEETING. MRS. BURNS, MRS. COMMERFORD, MR. EVANS, MR. HARTWELL, MR. HAUGLAND, MRS. FOBES, MR. GAINE, MR. GALLAGHER, MR. PATRIARCA, MR. PHILLIPS, MR. SIMS, MRS. ST. PIERRE, MR. TEDSTONE AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

The next meeting will be April 6, 2026

SOUTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting – March 2, 2026

ACTION SHEET

MR. PATRIARCA MADE A MOTION, SECONDED BY MRS. COMMERFORD, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 2, 2026. MRS. BURNS, MRS. COMMERFORD, MR. EVANS, MRS. FOBES, MR. GALLAGHER, MR. HARTWELL, MR. HAUGLAND, MR. PATRIARCA, MR. SIMS, AND MR. BURMAN VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION; MR. GAINE, MR. PHILLIPS, MR. TEDSTONE, AND MRS. ST. PIERRE ABSTAINED. THE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUS.

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