CARLISLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS www.carlisle.k12.ma.us
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JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE SPECIAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE (SESC) AND SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEPAC) MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026, 9:30 AM

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, CARLISLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND REMOTE ACCESS VIA ZOOM

Present – School Committee: Lynette Kelleher
Present via Zoom – School Committee: Sharon Whitt
Present – School Administration: Jim O'Shea, Superintendent; Deb Bookis, Interim Vice Principal; Mary O'Regan, Assistant to the Superintendent
Present – School Administration via Zoom: Val Gransewicz, Director of Student Support Services
Present – SEPAC Members: Jessie Pescatore, Meredith Bielecki

Pursuant to Governor Healey's approved legislation, H. 62, a bill extending authorizations for all local boards, commissions, and committees to hold public meetings remotely or in a hybrid format Extended Timeline, amending Section 30A of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, most recently amended by Section 40 of Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, and replacing the current expiration date of "March 31, 2025" with "June 30, 2027." Therefore, this meeting of the Carlisle School Committee is being conducted via remote participation in order to ensure public access. Members of the public can access the meeting via live stream at:
Topic: SESE/SEPAC JOINT MEETING 2-26-26
Time: Feb 26, 2026 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
https://carlisle-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/87059243848?pwd=WcMBw62Pj66xosoXtJeAdg6JUuAZV6.1
Meeting ID: 870 5924 3848
Passcode: 239710

I. **Call to Order** - Ms. Whitt called the meeting to order at 9:36 AM.

II. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** - The meeting minutes from the 1.29.26 joint meeting were approved.

III. **School Committee Update** - A draft Student Opportunity Act (SOA) was started in 2024 and the plan is to move forward with updating that plan for submission. The cohort of students from 2023 is large enough to track progress. The three focus items for the plan are access to preschool, adoption of a math program, and utilization of funds to expand student support services. The SOA plan will need to be approved by the School Committee. The work discussed at previous SESC meetings is still being done and may be used for a future SOA update.

Website content for the Special Education pages of the district website generated from the Apple program will be updated and SEPAC and SESC will have the opportunity to review content prior to posting.

Work continues on afternoon options for ESY. There have been ongoing meetings with Tibernook Nature Program to discuss the possibility of a program in Carlisle as an option for students. The Special Education Department is waiting for a contract from Tibernook. Discussion including the number of students that the district will be financially responsible for, the opportunity for additional students to enroll in the program with families paying tuition, and the length of the afternoon program. Ms. Gransewicz will reach out to check on the status of the contract. She also indicated that there is sufficient interest from CPS staff to cover the staffing needs for ESY.

There were questions regarding notification of families for preschool enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year. Ms. Gransewicz stated that all families have been notified if their student has a spot in the program as well as those families who have a student who has been placed on the waitlist.

Ms. Kelleher noted that the Flutie Foundation has grants to purchase technology items for students with autism. Ms. Kelleher and Ms. Bookis will research the possibility of applying for the grant.

IV. **SEPAC Update** - SEPAC is still working to identify an appropriate training regarding special education for School Committee members. School Committee members are working on the Story of the School and will ensure that SEPAC has a voice in the document. Mr. O'Shea acknowledged the resignation of SEPAC Co-Chair Almudena Pacheco-Garcia and thanked her for her time and service to the committee.

V. **Student Opportunity Act (SOA) Update** - Item addressed earlier in the meeting.

VI. **Public Comments** - There were no public comments.

VII. **Adjourn**
The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary O'Regan
Assistant to the Superintendent
February 26, 2026

List of Documents Viewed and/or Reviewed
Joint SESC/SEPAC Meeting 1.29.26