

Pursuant to Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws, you are hereby notified of the following meeting:

**MARION SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
16 Spring Street
Marion, Massachusetts**

September 17, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

Google Meet:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/nrw-euoe-nhe>

Or dial: (US) +1 402-543-0224 PIN: 915 909 488#

This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format. School Committee, administration and the public will have the option of meeting in person in the Community Room at Sippican School located at 16 Spring Street, Marion, MA 02738 or via Google Meet. Supporting documentation for agenda items can be found on the School Committee webpage:

<https://www.olderochester.org/district/sc.>

I. Meeting to Order

II. Tour of Building (5:30pm)

Mr. Jones, Facilities Director, will provide a tour of the building.

III. Recognition

That the School Committee recognize the retirement of Denise Bouvette, Special Education Teacher.

IV. Approval of Minutes (VOTE)

That the School Committee review for approval the following minute(s)

- a. **Regular Session Minutes:** June 2 and July 8, 2026
- b. **Executive Session Minutes:** June 2 and July 8, 2026
- c. **Negotiations Subcommittee Executive Session Minutes:** November 5 and December 18, 2025, January 14, February 4, March 18, April 2, April 16, May 28 and June 17, 2026

V. General

a. Opening Day Update

That the School Committee review hear an update from administration.

New Hires:

Name	Position
Jessica Farcas	Teacher – Grade 4
Elle Gendreau	Paraprofessional
Jessica Gilbert	School Adjustment Counselor
Maeve Grosschedl	Teacher – Grade 6
Kyle Lamontagne	School Psychologist
Jennifer Murphy Estacio	Teacher - Instrumental Music
Allison Zeoli	Teacher - Music/Vocal

Longevity:

Name	Years of Service
Molly Cruise	10
Tracey Feeney	10
Melissa Rogers	10
Pamela Tobin	10
Leanne Dineen	15
Heather White	15
Cathleen Furtado	20
Lynn-Ann Dixon	25

Julie Bangs	30
Nicole Boussy	30

b. Approval of Donation(s) (VOTE)

That the School Committee review the following donations

- A donation of \$96.05 from Ahold Delhaize (Stop & Shop), generated through customer shopping points registered to the school during qualifying purchases.
- The following books in honor of Denise Bouvette's retirement:
 - *Mouse by the Sea: A Vacation in Nature* by Alice Melvin from VASE
 - *Eye Spy* by Ruth Brown from the Marion Teachers Association
 - *102* by Matthew Cordell from the Marion School Committee
 - *Awe! It's Everywhere* by Chana Stiefel from Sunshine at Sippican School
 - *The Sweater: A Story of Community* by Larissa Theule from Principal Dessert and Assistant Principal Thomas

VI. Administrative and School Committee Reports

a. Chairperson Report

That the School Committee hear a report from the Chairperson regarding current happenings in the school and local community.

b. Central Office Reports

- i. Superintendent
 1. That the School Committee review the most recent Superintendent's Newsletter.
- ii. Teaching & Learning
 1. That the School Committee hear an update on current happenings of curriculum, professional development, new teacher induction program and teaching and learning initiatives.
- iii. Student Services
 1. That the School Committee hear an update on current happenings of the student services department, including community outreach events, and updates on initiatives related to school climate and culture, and safe schools.
- iv. Business Office
 1. The Business Office is currently closing out FY26 and will provide an update at the next meeting.
 2. That the School Committee review the Record of Warrant(s) as signed by the sole signatory for May 28, June 10, June 30, August 5, August 6, August 20 and September 3, 2026.
- v. Facilities
 1. That the School Committee review this month's update from Facilities Director Eugene Jones.
- vi. Food Service
 1. That the School Committee review this month's update from Food Service Director Jill Henesey.
- vii. Personnel
 1. The following staff members resigned or retired at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year.

Kristina Tetreault	School Adjustment Counselor
William Roseman	Teacher – Grade 6
Hannah Moore	Teacher – Instrumental Music
Patricia Richard	Teacher – Music/Vocal

c. Principal and School Council Report

That the School Committee review the Principal's report including student recognition, classroom lessons, community events and school council information.

VII. School Committee Reports

View agendas, resources and minutes online: <https://www.olderochester.org/district/sc>.

- a. Budget Subcommittee
- b. Capital Subcommittee
- c. Equity Subcommittee
- d. Policy Subcommittee
- e. District Wellness Committee
- f. ORR District Committee
- g. Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund
- h. Early Childhood Council
- i. SMEC
- j. READS
- k. MASC
- l. Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee

VIII. Information and Future Agenda Items

a. Information

- i. Letter from ORRHS Class of 2021 Graduate Bess Pierre
- ii. Project 351 Invest in Impact Newsletter

b. Timeline

- i. Next Marion School Committee: October 20, 2026
- ii. Next Joint School Committee: October 1, 2026

c. Future Agenda Items

- i. School Improvement Plan Approval (October)
- ii. MCAS Results (November/December)
- iii. Initial Budget Review (January)
- iv. School Choice Public Hearing (January)
- v. Health Unit Application (February)
- vi. Budget Public Hearing (March)
- vii. Approval of Leases (April)
- viii. School Committee Reorganization (June)
- ix. Student Handbook Approval (June)

District-wide news is available on our website: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district/news>

District-wide events are available on our website: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district-calendar>

IX. Public Comment

Public comment is governed by approved school committee policy.

X. Adjournment (VOTE)

The list of agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. If you need more information or reasonable accommodations for this meeting, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 508-758-2772 ext. 1956. Meeting resources, minutes and recordings are available on the School Committee webpage: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district/sc>

**MARION SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
16 Spring Street
Marion, Massachusetts**

June 2, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: April Nye, Chairperson (in-person), Nichole Daniel (in-person), Mary Beauregard (in-person), Nichole Nye McGaffey (in-person) and Michelle Smith (in-person).

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools (in-person), Jaime Curley, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services (in-person), Lynn Dessert, Principal (in-person), Greg Thomas, Assistant Principal (in-person) and Melissa Wilcox, Recording Secretary (in-person).

I. Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by Chairperson Nye. Chairperson Nye stated in accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, the Agenda has been set, the meeting is being recorded, and unless there are any emergencies that need to be added, the Agenda will be followed as outlined. Chairperson Nye added that the meeting is being conducted in hybrid format and the public has the ability to participate in-person or remotely through zoom with the link provided.

II. Recognition

That the School Committee recognize Amanda LaMarier and Heather White as the 2025-2026 Merit Award recipients from the Marion Teachers Association and the retirement of the faculty members Hannah Moore, Patricia Richard and William Roseman for their dedication to the Marion School District.

The School Committee members, Superintendent Nelson and administration team recognized the award recipients and the retirement of each of these staff members and dedicated a book in their honor to the school library.

III. Approval of Minutes

That the School Committee review for approval the following minute(s)

a. Regular Session Minutes: March 18 (Budget) and March 18 (school choice), 2026

Motion to approve the regular minutes of March 18 (Budget) and March 18 (school choice), 2026 as presented by Nichole Nye McGaffey

Seconded by Nichole Daniel

Motion Carries 5-0

b. Executive Session Minutes: March 18, 2026

These minutes were held for executive session.

c. Budget Subcommittee Minutes: March 17, 2026

Motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2026 as presented by Nichole Nye McGaffey

Seconded by April Nye

Motion Carries 5-0

IV. General

a. School Improvement Plan Update

That the School Committee hear an update from administration on the close of the 2024-2026 plan. Superintendent Nelson shared each school building is closing out their two year school improvement plans which aligns with the strategic plan Vision 2028. The schools across all of the districts have worked hard to align systems and plans to be more of a cohesive system with all six schools. The administration will work in the summer to develop the final draft for a new two year school improvement plan to be presented to the school committee in the fall, which will align with the final two years of Vision2028. Principal Desert highlighted accomplishments including implementation of the District Literacy Action

Plan and first-year *Envisions* math program, Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) expansion via Flex RTI blocks, professional learning in the Science of Reading, executive functioning, and social-emotional learning (*Fly Five, Responsive Classroom*) and safety trainings (ALICE, CPI) and student leadership growth (*Project 351, Feinstein Foundation, Kindness Crew*). Please see appendix A.

b. Approval of the 2026-2027 Student Handbook

That the School Committee review the 2026-2027 Sippican Student Handbook draft.

Assistant Principal Thomas explained the proposed revisions to the student handbook which included staffing changes, Google opt-out language and report card information.

Motion to approve the revisions to the 2026-2027 student handbook as presented by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Nichole Nye McGaffey

Motion Carries 5-0

c. Approval of Leases

That the School Committee review the lease renewals with Countryside Child Care Center and the YMCA for the 2026-2027 school year.

Superintendent Nelson informed the school committee that this leases are similar to last year. He confirmed with both parties they would like to renew with the same spaces.

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 leases as presented by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Nichole Nye McGaffey

Motion Carries 5-0

d. Approval of Disposal of Library Materials

That the School Committee review for disposal the list of books to be discarded from the Sippican library.

Motion to approve the list of books to be discarded as presented by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Mary Beauregard

Motion Carries 5-0

e. Approval of 2026-2027 School Committee Dates

That the School Committee review the following school committee dates: September 17, 2026, October 22, 2026, (Wednesday) December 9, 2026, February 11, 2027, (Wednesday) March 24, 2027 and (Wednesday) June 2, 2027.

Motion to approve the list of school committee dates for the 2026-2027 as presented by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Mary Beauregard

Motion Carries 5-0

f. Approval of Donation(s)

That the School Committee review the following donations:

- From the Marion Teachers Association and the building administration the following books: *Trombone Shorty* by Troy Andrews, *Children's Book of Music* by DK, *5 O'Clock Band* by Troy Andrews, *Just a Luck So and So: The Story of Louis Armstrong* by Lesa Cline-Ransome, *Remarkable Farkle* by John Lithgow, *Copland: A Story About America* by Veronica Mang, *Music and How it Works* by DK, *Write On, Irving Berlin!* By Leslie Kimmelman, *The Composer is Dead* by Lemoney Snicket, *88 Instruments* by Chris Barton, *When you Dream Big* by Peter Reynolds, *Tee Time on the Moon* by David Kelly, *Mammoth Math* by DK and David Macaulay, *What's the Point of Math* by DK, *The Tool Book* by Gail Gibbons and *The Boy Who Loved Math* by Deborah Heiligman.
- From the Town of Marion Education and Scholarship Committee up to \$2,000 for portable PA systems for use at Sippican School.

Motion to approve the donations as presented by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Mary Beauregard

Motion Carries 5-0

g. Reorganization

That the School Committee reorganize for the 2026-2027 school year.

Superintendent Nelson explained he would first accept nominations for Chairperson.

Motion to nominate April Nye as Chairperson by Nichole Daniel
Seconded by Nichole Nye McGaffey
Motion Carries 5-0

Chairperson Nye accepted nominations for Vice-Chair.
Motion to nominate Nichole Daniel as Vice-Chair by April Nye
Seconded by Mary Beauregard
Motion Carries 5-0

Next, the school committee members reviewed the following list and did not recommend any changes.

School Committee Secretary	Melissa Wilcox
Recording Secretary	Melissa Wilcox
ORR District School Committee	Michelle Smith
Mass. School Supt. Union No. 55	Nichole Daniel Mary Beauregard Nichole Nye McGaffey
Building Committee	Nichole Nye McGaffey April Nye
READS	Michael S. Nelson
Sick Leave Bank	Mary Beauregard Michelle Smith
SMEC	Michelle Smith
Early Childhood Council	Nichole Daniel
Sole Signatory	April Nye Nichole Daniel (alternate)
MASC Delegate/Legislative Liaison	Mary Beauregard
Budget Subcommittee	April Nye Nichole Nye McGaffey
School Physician	Dr. Mendes Dr. Reynolds
Policy Review Subcommittee	Mary Beauregard
Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund	Nichole Nye McGaffey
Town Liaison	April Nye
Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee	Michelle Smith Nichole Daniel
Equity Subcommittee	Mary Beauregard
District Wellness Committee	Nichole Nye McGaffey

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 subcommittee list as discussed by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Nichole Daniel

Motion Carries 5-0

h. Approval of Grant(s)

That the School Committee a grant in the amount of \$1,000 from the Feinstein Foundation for recess bags and \$2,000 from the Feinstein Foundation for student Lily Bowser being a Golden Ticket winner.

Motion to approve the grants as presented by Nichole Nye McGaffey

Seconded by Nichole Daniel

Motion Carries 5-0

V. Administrative and School Committee Reports

a. Chairperson Report

Chairperson Nye shared the following report:

Good evening, Sippican families, staff, and friends. On behalf of the Marion School Committee, I get the best job tonight — to say thank you. As this school year wraps up, I'm filled with appreciation for what makes Sippican such a special place. First, to our teachers, paraprofessionals, and support staff: a heartfelt thank you. You show up every day with energy, creativity, and heart. You turn tough days into learning moments and ordinary days into "remember when..." stories. Your continued dedication to children is remarkable, and our students are better because of you. To our students: wow. Your curiosity, kindness, and resilience made this year bright. You tackled new challenges, cheered each other on, and reminded us why we do this work. You are the reason Sippican feels alive. You are why we all show up day after day here. To our amazing administrators: thank you for leading with vision and care. You balance big-picture planning with such focus on all of the little moments is what matters — and you do it with steady hands and open doors. Also, I'd be remiss if I didn't give a special shout-out to our custodial team. You do an incredible job year-round, and this past winter, during those stormy, messy weather weeks, you went above and beyond. Sippican stayed safe, warm, and ready to learn because of you. We see it, and we're grateful. And to all the incredible volunteers — you create magic. From field trips to classroom projects, from fundraisers to those small behind-the-scenes tasks, you give time and talent that turn good days into unforgettable memories. Sippican wouldn't be Sippican without each and every one you. Finally, thank you to our families and the entire school community. Your partnership, trust, and support carry us through every budget season, every late-night meeting, every tough decision. We're stronger because we work together. As we head into summer, let's celebrate all that we've accomplished together. Thank you, Sippican. Have a safe, restful, and joyful summer. We'll see you in the fall!

b. Central Office Reports

- i. Superintendent - Superintendent Nelson shared his most recent [newsletter](#) and also expressed gratitude for voter support across the Tri-Town for school budgets and capital projects.
- ii. Teaching & Learning – no report
- iii. Student Services – Dr. Curley provided an update on MTSS implementation, CPI de-escalation trainings, timeout regulation updates, and CPAC meetings. Dr. Curley was recognized and thanked for her two years of service to the district.
- iv. Business Office – Superintendent Nelson shared the Record of Warrant(s) as signed by the sole signatory for April 15, 29 and May 13, 2026.
- v. Facilities – Superintendent Nelson shared the following on behalf of Mr. Jones, Facilities Director:
 - New Chiller will be operational June 3rd.
 - Hosted annual Town Meeting.
 - Replaced fire sprinkler gauges and flow sensor.
 - Inspected and Tested fire alarms.
 - Switch Building Management System to summer operations.
 - Conducted routine maintenance on all facility systems.

- vi. Food Service - Superintendent Nelson shared the following on behalf of Ms. Henesey, Food Service Director:
 - In the process of procuring food and supplies for the SY 26-27.
 - Meal Participation has continued to be strong.
 - Successfully completed the second Board of Health Inspection for the year, receiving 100%.
 - Resources to help support families in need of additional food assistance can be found at ORRschoollmeals.com.

vii. Personnel

Kristina Tetreault has resigned as the School Adjustment Counselor.

c. Principal and School Council Report

Principal Desert shared the following report:

As we move into the final weeks of the 2025–2026 school year, Sippican School continues to be filled with energy, celebration, reflection, and preparation for a strong finish and an even stronger start to next year. This time of year highlights not only student growth and achievement, but also the incredible dedication of our staff, families, and community partners who make Sippican such a special place to learn and grow.

Our classrooms remain highly engaged in meaningful end-of-year learning experiences while also completing important assessment and transition work.

Literacy & Math

- Teachers are completing end-of-year literacy and math benchmark assessments and reviewing student progress data to support placement and FLEX planning for the 2026–2027 school year.
- Grade-level teams and intervention staff continue participating in data conversations focused on student growth, targeted support needs, and enrichment opportunities.
- We continue strengthening our implementation of:
 - HMH Into Reading
 - EnVision Math 2025
 - OpenSciEd
 - Investigating History
- Staff continue emphasizing evidence-based writing strategies and structured literacy routines across grade levels.

MCAS

- MCAS testing was completed successfully across grade levels.
- I want to thank our teachers, support staff, specialists, technology department, and families for helping maintain a calm and supportive testing environment for students.

At Sippican School, we continue prioritizing strong relationships, restorative practices, and a positive school climate grounded in our “Sippican 3 to Be” expectations:

Respectful • Responsible • Kind

Student Leadership & Recognition

- Monthly All-School Meetings continue to celebrate student achievement, leadership, and positive citizenship.
- Norman Awards and Character Counts recognitions remain a meaningful way to celebrate students who consistently model our school values.
- Students continue benefiting from Responsive Classroom practices and Fly Five SEL instruction across grade levels.

Feinstein Foundation Student Recognition

Sippican School is proud to recognize a Grade 1 student who was recently selected as a Feinstein Foundation winner and awarded \$2,000. In an inspiring act of kindness and generosity, the student has chosen to donate \$500 of the award to a charity of her choice. This recognition reflects the caring and community-minded values we strive to foster at Sippican School each day.

End-of-Year Behavioral Support

As we approach summer, we recognize that students often require additional structure, consistency, and support during this exciting but challenging time of year. Staff have continued working closely with students to reinforce expectations, provide proactive support, and maintain positive classroom communities.

We also continue emphasizing:

- Consistent school-wide expectations
- Restorative conversations
- Positive redirection and relationship-building
- Student accountability paired with support

Student Activities & Celebrations

The final weeks of school are filled with memorable experiences and celebrations for our students.

Recent & Upcoming Events

- Boosterthon Glow Run was a tremendous success and brought positive energy to our school community.
- Spring concerts and performances have showcased the incredible talents of our students.
- Grade-level field trips are underway and provide meaningful enrichment opportunities.
- Field Day preparations are ongoing.
- Grade 6 end-of-year activities are approaching, including:
 - Silver Shell Beach Trip
 - Water Wizz Trip
 - Grade 6 Promotion Ceremony on June 18
 - Ice Cream Social celebration

We are especially grateful to our VASE organization and parent volunteers for their continued partnership and support throughout the year.

Staffing & Personnel

This spring has also included important staffing work as we prepare for next school year.

Hiring & Planning

- Interview processes continue for open positions for the 2026–2027 school year.
- Administrative teams continue collaborating on staffing, scheduling, intervention support, and student needs for next year.

Retirements

This year we also recognize and celebrate several staff retirements, including:

- Mrs. Moore
- Mrs. Richard
- Mr. Roseman

Their decades of dedication, leadership, and impact on Sippican students and families have been extraordinary. We are deeply grateful for their years of service and commitment to our school community.

Safety & Operations

Student and staff safety continues to remain a top priority.

Safety & Supervision

- Staff continue reinforcing building safety protocols and supervision expectations.
- Ongoing communication with staff has focused on:
 - Outdoor supervision
 - Walkie communication
 - Schedule/location updates
 - Maintaining secure building practices

Facilities & End-of-Year Preparation

We are also beginning summer planning and end-of-year operational preparation, including:

- Classroom closing procedures
- Inventory and organization
- Summer facilities projects
- Planning for opening of the 2026–2027 school year

Family & Community Partnerships

Sippican School continues to benefit from strong family and community partnerships. Through weekly communication, events, volunteerism, and ongoing collaboration, our families remain deeply connected to the life of our school.

I would like to thank:

- Our teachers and staff
- Families and caregivers
- VASE
- District leadership
- Marion departments and community partners
- The School Committee for their continued support throughout this school year.

Closing

As we enter the final stretch of the school year, I continue to be incredibly proud of the work happening each day at Sippican School. Our students continue to grow academically, socially, and emotionally, and our staff remain deeply committed to creating a supportive, engaging, and caring learning environment for all children.

Thank you for your continued support of Sippican Elementary School.

VI. School Committee Reports

View agendas, resources and minutes online: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district/sc>.

- a. Budget Subcommittee – no report
- b. Capital Subcommittee – no report
- c. Equity Subcommittee – next meeting June 9th
- d. Policy Subcommittee – Ms. Beauregard reported they met earlier today to discuss revisions to ECAB – Access to Buildings and Grounds, EEAEA – Bus Driver Examination and Training, KBG – Parent Advisory Councils (PACs) for Special Education and English Language Learners, JKAA – Time-Out, Seclusion, and Restraint of Students and new policy JLCD – Administration of Medication to Students and JLCDC Self-administration and Self-Carry of Medications. These will be brought to the next Joint School Committee meeting.
- e. District Wellness Committee – Ms. Nye McGaffey reported they met on May 13th and had their last meeting with the DESE wellness coach.
- f. ORR District Committee – Ms. Smith reported they met on April 30th and approved grants and leases. Graduation is May 31st and their next meeting is June 15th.
- g. Tri-Town Education Foundation Fund – Ms. Nye McGaffey reported they met on May 20th to approve grants and warded faculty in all three communities. Save the date for the first gala on October 8th at the Century House.
- h. Early Childhood Council – Ms. Daniel reported they met on May 6th and K screenings are currently taking place. Food trucks were a success at the early childhood fair/touch a truck this spring as well.
- i. SMEC – Ms. Smith reported they met last night and approved the spending plan, amended policies and the treasurer's evaluation. They also appointment the next executive director, Kim Wilmot.
- j. READS – no report
- k. MASC – Ms. Beauregard shared there is a learning lunch Friday for school committee members.
- l. Superintendent's Goals Subcommittee – Ms. Smith shared they met last week and reviewed all of the feedback and results from all members. The Superintendent's evaluation will be presented at the Joint School Committee soon.

VII. Information and Future Agenda Items

- a. Information
- b. Timeline

- i. Next Marion School Committee: September 17, 2026* pending approval
- ii. Next Joint School Committee: June 9, 2026
- c. Future Agenda Items**
 - iii. MCAS Results (November/December)
 - iv. Initial Budget Review (January)
 - v. School Choice Public Hearing (January)
 - vi. Health Unit Application (February)
 - vii. Budget Public Hearing (March)
 - viii. Approval of Leases (April)
 - ix. School Committee Reorganization (June)
 - x. School Improvement Plan Approval (June)
 - xi. Student Handbook Approval (June)

District-wide news is available on our website: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district/news>

District-wide events are available on our website: <https://www.oldrochester.org/district-calendar>

The 2025-2026 school calendar is available on our website: <https://tinyurl.com/239tr9xa>

VIII. Public Comment

Public comment is governed by approved school committee policy.

There were no public comments.

IX. Executive Session

That the School Committee enter into executive session for purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and exception #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.

Motion to enter into executive session at 7:12pm for purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and exception #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements, only to return to adjourn by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Mary Beauregard

Motion Carries 5-0

Roll Call: Nye (yes), Daniel (yes), Beauregard (yes), Nye McGaffey (yes), Smith (yes)

Motion to exit executive session at 7:57pm only to return to adjourn by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Nichole Nye McGaffey

Motion Carries 5-0

Roll Call: Nye (yes), Daniel (yes), Beauregard (yes), Nye McGaffey (yes), Smith (yes)

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:58pm by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Nichole Daniel

Motion Carries 5-0

Meeting Resources

Agenda

March 18, 2026 Minutes Budget Hearing DRAFT

March 18, 2026 Minutes DRAFT

March 17, 2026 Minutes Budget - DRAFT

24-26 School Improvement Plan Outcomes

Sippican Student Handbook Revisions

FY27 SMEC Lease

FY27 Countryside Lease

Sippican Library Discarded Items

Book Donations

Reorganization List
Superintendent's Newsletter
Warrant(s)
Facilities Report
Food Service Report
Principal's Report

**MARION SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
16 Spring Street
Marion, Massachusetts**

July 8, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: April Nye, Chairperson, Nichole Daniel, Mary Beauregard and Michelle Smith (all remote).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nichole Nye McGaffey

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent of Schools and Melissa Wilcox, Recording Secretary.

I. Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:06pm by Chairperson Nye. Chairperson Nye stated in accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, the Agenda has been set, the meeting is being recorded, and unless there are any emergencies that need to be added, the Agenda will be followed as outlined. Chairperson Nye added that the meeting is being conducted in hybrid format and the public has the ability to participate in-person or remotely through zoom with the link provided.

II. Executive Session

That the School Committee enter into executive session for purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and exception #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements.

Motion to enter into executive session at 12:07pm for the purposes of exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and exception #7, to comply with the provisions of any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements, to return to regular session by Michelle Smith.

Seconded by Mary Beauregard

Motion Carries 4-0

Roll Call: Nye (yes), Daniel (yes), Beauregard (yes), Smith (yes)

Motion to exit executive session at 12:33pm to return to regular session by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Nichole Daniel

Motion Carries 4-0

Roll Call: Nye (yes), Daniel (yes), Beauregard (yes), Smith (yes)

III. General

a. Approval of Memorandum of Agreement

That the School Committee review a Memorandum of Agreement between the Marion School Committee and the Marion Teachers Association.

Superintendent Nelson explained this MOA in tentatively agreed upon by both parties after negotiations for a successor collective bargaining agreement with the Marion Teachers Association.

Motion to approved the Memorandum of Agreement as presented by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Nichole Daniel

Motion Carries 4-0

Roll Call: Nye (yes), Daniel (yes), Beauregard (yes), Smith (yes)

IV. Public Comment

Public comment is governed by approved school committee policy.

There were no public comments.

V. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 12:35pm by Michelle Smith

Seconded by Nichole Daniel

Motion Carries 4-0

Roll Call: Nye (yes), Daniel (yes), Beauregard (yes), Smith (yes)



**OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MASSACHUSETTS SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #55**

Marion - Mattapoisett - Rochester
135 Marion Road
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

www.olderochester.org

Phone: 508-758-2772
Fax: 508-758-2802

Michael S. Nelson, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools

Sharlene Fedorowicz, Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning

Howard Barber, CPA, SFO, MCPPO
Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations

Marie Grable, MA, CAGS
Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

STATEMENT ON BACK TO SCHOOL 2026-2027

On September 2, our students will begin the 2026-2027 school year. This is such an incredibly exciting time in our school community.

With such excitement comes many new experiences for our students. Some students are starting school for the first time in our preschool or kindergarten classrooms. Other students are transitioning from their elementary schools to our junior high school, while the rising ninth graders will be starting their high school experiences.

This summer other students moved to the Tri-Town, have enrolled in our school choice program, or selected our high school as an Acushnet resident. During the first weeks of the school year, our educators will work diligently to establish classroom cultures that ensure all students feel welcome and safe. By doing so, all students should feel a strong sense of belonging that will enable academic growth throughout the school year.

From a strategic planning perspective – this school year will mark year four of Vision2028. Our schools have been collectively working together to realize the objectives and initiatives within Vision2028 by sharing a common vision, core values, and a theory of action. We believe that this cohesive strategic planning approach allows all of our students to benefit from the outcomes we achieve together.

On Opening Day – we will spend time connecting with one another, sharing initiative updates, celebrating the longevity of our peers' educational careers, welcoming new colleagues and hearing about the impact of AI on the field of education from our motivational keynote speaker.

The mission of our school system remains our guide moving forward.

We strive to inspire all students to think, to learn, and to care.

Thank you for being educators – our work matters.

Michael S. Nelson
Superintendent of Schools

The mission of our school system is to inspire all students to think, to learn and to care. The Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, active military/veteran status, marital status, familial status, pregnancy, or pregnancy-related condition, homelessness, actual or perceived shared ancestry, ethnic background, national origin, or any other category protected by state or federal law in administration of its educational and employment policies, or in its programs and activities.



**OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MASSACHUSETTS SUPERINTENDENCY UNION #55**

Marion - Mattapoisett - Rochester
135 Marion Road
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

www.oldrochester.org

Phone: 508-758-2772
Fax: 508-758-2802

Michael S. Nelson, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools

Sharlene Fedorowicz, Ph.D.
Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning

Howard Barber, CPA, SFO, MCPPO
Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations

Marie Grable, MA, CAGS
Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

OPENING DAY AGENDA **August 31, 2026**

Breakfast (7:30am – 8:30am) – Meet & Greet

Coffee and breakfast food items will be available during this time in the Old Rochester Regional School District's Cafeteria. Please also use this time to reconnect with your colleagues and meet new ones.

Opening Remarks, Introductions, & Recognitions (8:30am) – The Leadership Council

All staff members are expected to report to the high school auditorium for Opening Day activities.

Keynote Presentation (Approximately 9:15am) – Jeff Riley, Former Massachusetts Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, Executive Director of Day of AI



Keynote Presentation Overview

Jeffrey Riley, former Massachusetts Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education and longtime public educator, reflects on the people at the heart of public education: educators. Drawing on more than three decades in classrooms, schools, and district leadership, he will share his perspective on the profound impact educators have on students and communities. He will acknowledge the complexity and importance of the work done every day while celebrating the people who make public education possible and the meaningful difference they make in the lives of students. From that foundation, Riley will turn his attention to one of the most significant changes shaping education today: artificial intelligence. He will explore how artificial intelligence is reshaping our world and why AI literacy is essential for today's students. Ultimately, this session will inspire educators and school leaders to see AI not just as a tool, but as a powerful catalyst for empowering students to shape the future.

Biography of Keynote Speaker

Over a career spanning more than 30 years in public education, Jeffrey Riley served in a wide variety of roles — including special education teacher, adjustment counselor, assistant principal, principal and superintendent. In 2018, he was appointed the 24th Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, serving until his retirement in 2024. He currently serves as Executive Director of Day of AI, a non-profit launched out of MIT that focuses on AI safety in education. Mr. Riley holds a bachelor degree in philosophy from Pomona College in California, a master's degree in school counseling from the Johns Hopkins University in Maryland, and a master's degree in school administration, planning and social policy from Harvard University in Massachusetts.

Dismissal – Return to School Buildings

The mission of our school system is to inspire all students to think, to learn and to care. The Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, genetic information, active military/veteran status, marital status, familial status, pregnancy, or pregnancy-related condition, homelessness, actual or perceived shared ancestry, ethnic background, national origin, or any other category protected by state or federal law in administration of its educational and employment policies, or in its programs and activities.

August 31, 2026



WELCOME BACK!

Old Rochester Regional School District &
Massachusetts Superintendency Union # 55



Words from a Bulldog Graduate

Bess Pierre
Class of 2021

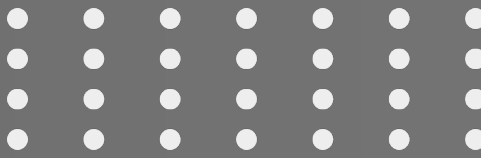


VISION 2028

Strategic Plan

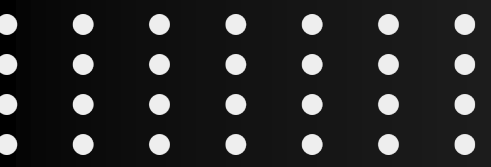
Mission

The mission of our school system is to inspire all students to think, to learn and to care.



Vision

The Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union # 55 is dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing learning environment that offers inclusive and engaging educational experiences. Through collaborative relationships with our school community members, we strive to foster a respectful culture that prioritizes academic excellence and social emotional readiness. Our primary objective is to provide every student with the necessary skills and developed mindset to embrace future opportunities and become responsible, lifelong learners and contributing global citizens.



VISION 2028

Strategic Plan

Core Values

The core values of Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union # 55 foster a strong sense of pride and belonging among all school community members. These values represent how our school community embraces the pursuit of academic excellence, models the respect and appreciation of human differences and prepares students to be responsible and accountable global citizens.

Our school community will inspire us to:

THINK:

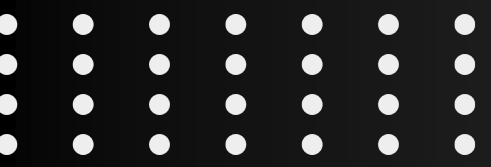
Cultivate a culture of academic rigor and integrity which encourages critical thinking, creative thinking, collaboration, and effective communication.

LEARN:

Strive for academic excellence in educating the whole child through authentic, rigorous, and evidence-based learning opportunities that foster real world application and a continuous pursuit of learning.

CARE:

Ensure a caring and safe environment for all school community members by promoting a sense of belonging and respect for all.



VISION 2028

Strategic Plan

Theory of Action

IF WE...

implement a rigorous, equitable, and cohesive curriculum that aligns with our Vision of the Graduate...

AND...

expand and extend the professional development planning process to support equitable adult learning with resources, time, and professional practices to be student-centered...

AND...

enhance our multi-tiered, comprehensive systems of support in all schools...

AND...

provide an inclusive and supportive climate and culture for all school community members...

AND...

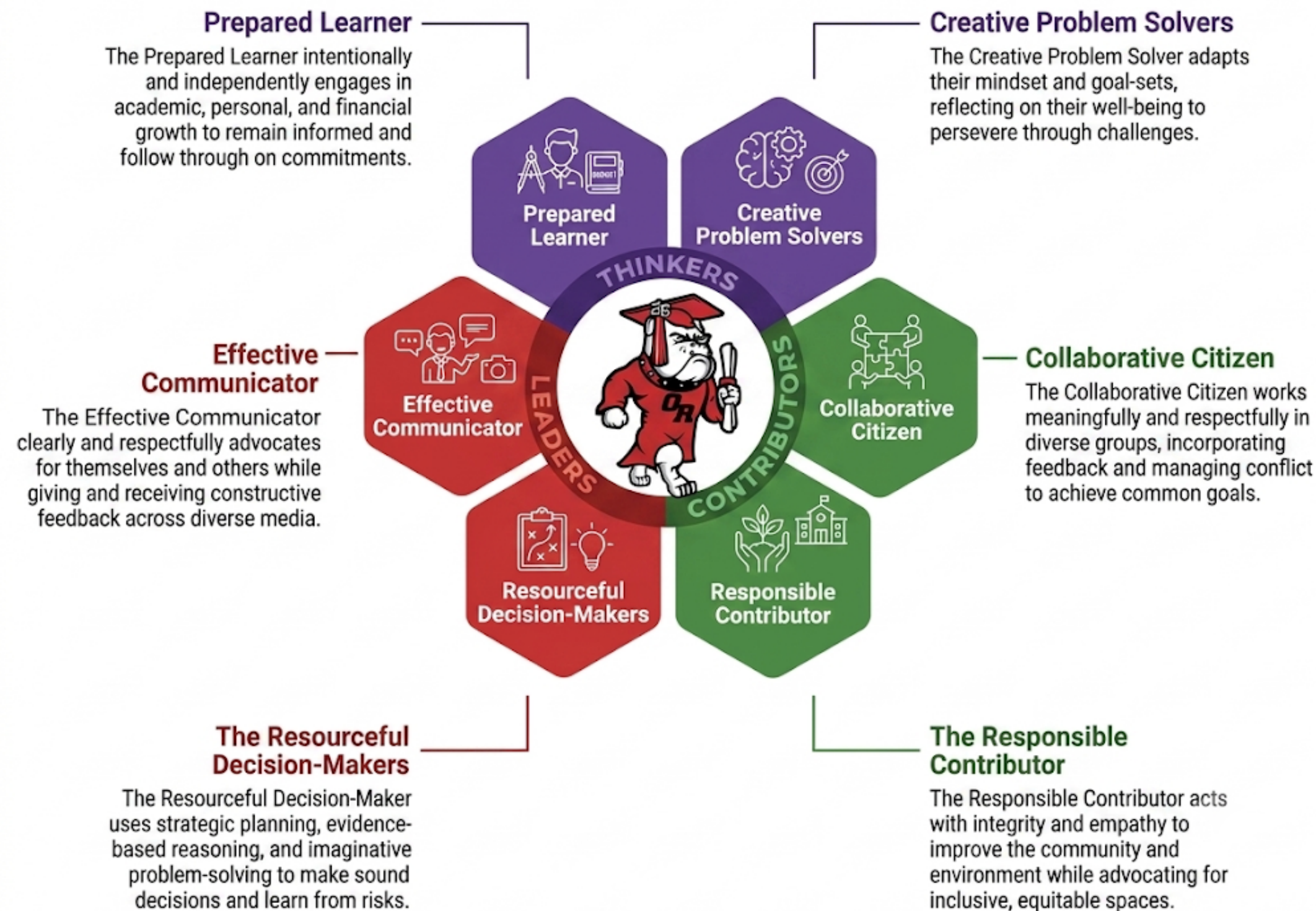
promote a sense of belonging and positive relationships between all school community members ensuring a safe learning environment...

THEN WE WILL...

have inspired all students to think, to learn, and to care while providing an opportunity to pursue academic excellence.

VISION OF THE GRADUATE

Figure 3: Vision of an Massachuset ORR Graduate



TEACHING AND LEARNING

Objective One:

Implement an equitable, cohesive curriculum that aligns with our Portrait of the Graduate in all schools.

VISION 2028

Objective Two:

Expand and extend the professional development planning and implementation process to support equitable adult learning with the resources, time, and professional practices to be student -centered and aligned with the Vision of the Graduate.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

VISION 2028

Year 3 Accomplishments:

- Literacy: Continued the Literacy Action Plan with a focus on Tier 2 classroom interventions.
- Curriculum: Followed a predictable cycle for curriculum review and updates.
- Professional Development: Continued UDL and UbD training, including secondary UDL work and collaborative planning time.

Year 4 Focus:

- Curriculum & ATLAS: Expand UbD/ATLAS curriculum writing and strengthen PreK – 12 alignment.
- Assessment & Data: Strengthen common assessments, scoring, and use of data to inform instruction.
- Instructional Priorities: Advance enVision Math, Writing Revolution, IXL, MTSS, and ongoing UbD/UDL professional learning.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS AND CLIMATE & CULTURE

VISION 2028

Objective Three:

Strengthen the multi - tiered and comprehensive academic, behavioral, and social emotional systems of support in all schools.

Objective Four:

Provide an inclusive, equitable, and positive climate and culture in all schools that promotes sense of belonging for all school community members.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS AND CLIMATE & CULTURE

VISION 2028

Year 3 Accomplishments:

- Student Supports: Strengthened academic and social -emotional supports across Tiers 1 –3.
- Intervention: Expanded targeted K –12 intervention and enrichment through dedicated support blocks.
- Student Voice: Continued student -led wellness and awareness initiatives.

Year 4 Focus:

- Student Supports: DCAP PD and K–12 support systems.
- SEL & Student Voice: Fly Five and student voice.
- Data & Communication: PowerSchool alignment and IXL screening pilot.

SAFE SCHOOLS

VISION 2028

Objective Five:

Ensure safe, secure, and equitable learning environments in all schools.

SAFE SCHOOLS

Year 3 Accomplishments:

- Safety & Security: Strengthened cybersecurity, ALICE/CPI training, and emergency response.
- Facilities & Technology: Maintained, and modernize buildings, equipment, and networks.
- Capital Planning: Advanced long - term building and infrastructure plans.

VISION 2028

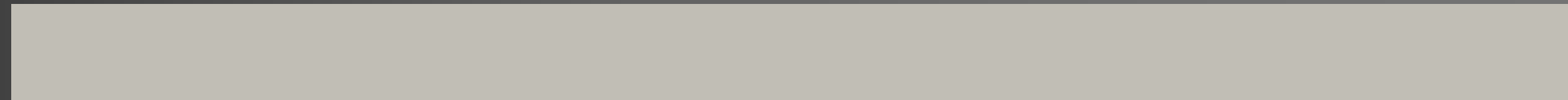
Year 4 Focus:

- Safety & Security: Strengthen cybersecurity, emergency preparedness, and staff training.
- Facilities & Technology: Assess needs, maintain systems, and plan for phased replacement.
- Capital & Resources: Advance long - term capital plans and align resources with district needs.

WELCOME

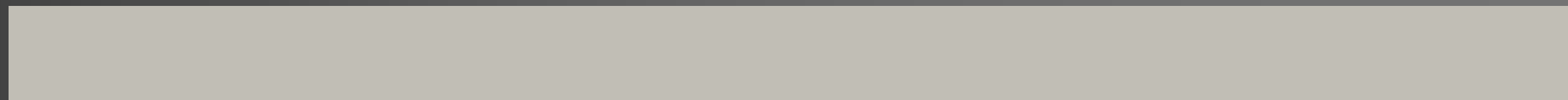


NEW
STAFF





CENTRAL OFFICE





MARIE GRABLE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF STUDENT SERVICES

Bio:

- Over 30 years of experience working in the field of Special Education

Fun Fact(s):

- I love all views from my kayak





MICHAEL PERRONE

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Bio:

- Over 20 years overseeing school finance and operations
- Recently served as Acting Superintendent along with Director of Business and Finance for Middleboro Public Schools





SUSIE SILVA

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

Bio:

- 14 Years of experience in HR, with 30+ years in the aviation field

Fun Fact(s):

- I'll travel almost anywhere to catch a favorite live band in concert





JESSICA GOMES

PAYROLL SPECIALIST

Bio:

- Enjoy spending time with my two kids, family and friends, and making the most of every day
- Cooking is definitely my passion I love being in the kitchen and trying new recipes

Fun Fact(s):

- I love to sketch and paint in my free time
- My dream vacation would be to go to Maldives





SHAINAN PAUL

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Bio:

- I like beach vibes
- I love the hot weather
- I always make time for family

Fun Fact(s):

- I am hilarious, but do not ask my children they will lie and say I am not





SIPPICAN SCHOOL





JESSICA FARCAS

TEACHER - GRADE 4

Bio:

- Live in Middleborough with my husband and two children (14 & 10)
- 5th year teaching 4th grade
- Love traveling and reading

Fun Fact(s):

- During the summer months I help my daughter with her commercial lobstering business





ELLE GENDREAU

PARAPROFESSIONAL

Bio:

- Hired as a paraprofessional in March

Fun Fact(s):
Iteach Theatre
Jazz and Tap at On
Stage Academy of
Performing Arts





JESSICA GILBERT

SCHOOL ADJUSTMENT COUNSELOR

Bio:

- Over 10 years experience as a school adjustment counselor
- Enjoys traveling, gardening, eating good food and spending time with her husband, two young children and family and friends

Fun Fact(s):

My name is on a plaque at a local bar for winning a hot wing eating contest





MAEVE GROSSCHEDL

GRADE 6 TEACHER

Bio:

- Graduated from BSU in 2024
- Taught for 2 years as a 5th grade teacher at Freetown-Lakeville
- Has rescue pit mix named Winnie

Fun Fact(s):

- Ran track in high school and college
- Held a school record for the 4x100 relay at BSU!
- Coach at the Mattapoissett Track Club





KYLE LAMONTAGNE

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Bio:

- Completed my graduate program at UMass Boston
- Spent the past five years working with children as a Therapeutic Counselor for JRI's Total Achievement Program
- Enjoy spending time with friends and family, listening to music, and traveling

Fun Fact(s):

- I got chosen to go into pit for a Noah Kahan concert this summer





Sippican School

JENNIFER MURPHY ESTACIO

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TEACHER

Bio:

- 16 years experience teaching elementary music in New Bedford Public Schools
- Teaches private lessons on clarinet, saxophone and piano
- Co-owner of a pet sitting business that serves the South Coast region

Fun Fact(s):

- I love alpacas so much that I convinced my husband to include them in our wedding pictures
- I enjoy spending time with my husband and family and glamping along the East Coast





ALLISON ZEOLI

MUSIC/ VOCAL TEACHER

Bio:

- Graduated from Boston University this past May with a degree in Music Education
- I love running, traveling, and spending time with my dog, Marco

Fun Fact(s):

- I've played hockey my entire life and I'm a huge Bruins fan



Sippican School

ADDITIONAL SIPPICAN NEW STAFF

ASHLEY O'BRIEN
LUNCH/ RECESS MONITOR





YEARS OF
SERVICE
RECOGNITION

YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

15 Years

Doreen Lopes

YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

10 Years

Molly Cruise, Tracey Feeney, Melissa Rogers
and Pamela Tobin

15 Years

Leanne Dineen and Heather White

20 Years

Cathleen Furtado

25 Years

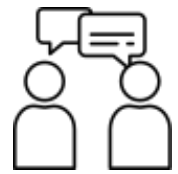
Lynn-Ann Dixon

YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

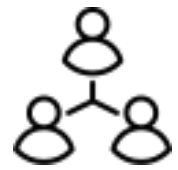
30 Years

Julie Bangs and Nicole Boussy

CONNECT!



ORRconnect Mobile App



[ORRconnect](#) is also on Facebook!



You can follow all of our schools on Facebook too!

[Center School](#)

[Old Hammondtown School](#)

[Rochester Memorial School](#)

[Sippican School](#)

[ORR Junior High School](#)

[ORR High School](#)



KEYNOTE PRESENTATION



Jeffrey Riley, Executive Director
Day of AI



THANK YOU

We are looking forward to a great year!



Ahold Delhaize USA, Inc
1149 Harrisburg Pike
Carlisle, PA 17013

ahold
delhaize USA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Check No. 5900645746
Check Date 03/17/2026
Check Amount \$96.05
Vendor No. 10015155
Payment Ref No. 22202000090543



US-006817 0001 0001 002098

SIPPICAN SCHOOL
16 SPRING ST
MARION MA 02738-1519

Invoice Date	Invoice Number	Location, P.O. Number, Company Code	Gross Amount	Discount Amount	Net Amount
06/07/2021	CK8522865RI	DONATION-GIANTFOOD 2220 needs SC approval	\$96.05 \$		\$96.05
TOTAL					\$96.05

Page 1 of 1

↓ PLEASE FOLD ON PERFORATION AND DETACH HERE ↓

VERIFY THE AUTHENTICITY OF THIS MULTI-TONE SECURITY DOCUMENT.

CHECK BACKGROUND AREA CHANGES COLOR GRADUALLY FROM TOP TO BOTTOM.

Ahold Delhaize USA, Inc
1149 Harrisburg Pike
Carlisle, PA 17013

ahold
delhaize USA

5900645746

March 17, 2026

2-3/710

VOID AFTER 180 DAYS

Amount: **Ninety-Six dollars and 05 cents**

***\$96.05**

Pay to
the
order of

SIPPICAN SCHOOL

Bank of America N.A.
Chicago, Illinois

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

5900645746 0611127881 3360218427



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review Form 2

Date of Receipt:	September 2, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Lynn Dessert and Greg Thomas
Contact Information (phone/email):	lynndessert@oldrochester.org , gregorythomas@oldrochester.org
Date of Librarian Review:	September 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	<i>The Sweater: A Story of Community</i> by Larissa Theule
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	<p>For Series Specific Titles: ▾</p> <p>For Publisher Specific Titles: ▾</p> <p>Reviews available and posted here ▾</p> <p>School Library Journal (02/01/2026):</p> <p>PreS-Gr 2--A raccoon named Molly goes out for a walk one day and finds a bird who "had been through some things." Molly rallies the other animals of her community to help the bird, and together they all weather a terrible winter storm. This story is written with beautiful imagery and wonderfully evocative vocabulary. The artwork has a limited palette of blues, grays, browns, and rust colors that portray the chill of winter as well as the warmth of an accepting community. The themes of supporting others in times of need, gratitude, and empathy are well-developed and easily identifiable for even young readers. This is a truly special book that can be read on different levels, and the illustrations provide an emotional component that will resonate with children. VERDICT A simple notion carried out with intention, effectively evoking compassion in children across many grade levels.--<i>Debbie Tanner</i></p> <p>Booklist (01/01/2026):</p> <p>Preschool-Grade 2 *Starred Review* This animal fable is an uplifting reversal of "The Little Red Hen." Whereas the bustling hen meets only rejection from her barnyard companions, the industrious hero of this tale encounters compassion and cooperation from his fellow creatures, all of whom pitch in to save the life of a tiny bird. Holly, a raccoon wearing a sweater vest whose collar sports two embroidered holly sprigs (a symbol of sacrifice and protection) is walking through the woods when a bedraggled bird staggers into the clearing and seeks shelter in a rotting birch tree. Holly goes to other forest animals, all wearing scarves or sweaters, and each contributes what they can--a bit of thread, a fabric panel--while Holly returns to her cozy den and knits a warm sweater for the suffering bird. The other animals bring supplies to repair the bird's drafty shelter, and in the end they find that they have knitted together a community. In the handmade watercolor, gouache, and colored-pencil illustration, the autumnal gold of the forest changes to the blank whites and grays of winter, underscoring the need for help. The emphasis on the power of actions, even tiny ones, can spark practical ideas on how to help those in need.</p>



Old Rochester Regional School District

Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

The following general selection criteria will apply to all library materials, including electronic, print, and non-print resources:

	Select a Response
1. Library materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and district and the aims and objectives of the individual schools and specific curricula.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
2. Library materials shall meet high standards of quality in factual content (accuracy, authenticity, clarity), artistic and literary value, and presentation (including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	Item Meets Criteria ▾
3. Library materials shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of students for whom materials are selected.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
4. Library materials shall support and foster an appreciation for both informational and recreational reading, viewing, and listening.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
5. Library material shall meet the curriculum needs of students and staff.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
7. Library materials shall be current and up-to-date.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist:

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

This book meets the Criteria for Selection of Library Materials rubric for selection of library materials. ▾



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Signed: *Jessica C. Barrett*



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review Form 2

Date of Receipt:	September 17, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Marion School Committee
Contact Information (phone/email):	N/A
Date of Librarian Review:	September 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	102 by Matthew Cordell
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	<div>For Series Specific Titles: ▾</div> <div>For Publisher Specific Titles: ▾</div> <div>Reviews available and posted here ▾</div> <p>Booklist (02/01/2026): Preschool-Grade 3 *Starred Review* In the newest book by Cordell, whose Wolf in the Snow was the 2018 Caldecott Medal winner, a boy named George is sent home from school with a temperature of 101 degrees. After catching a mouse scurrying across the kitchen floor, his mother tucks George into bed, his temperature now 102. That night (1:02 a.m.), he wakes at the urging of a cricket, and George magically becomes as small as the insect and follows it through passages in the walls to the mice's home. The mama mouse is making 102-bean soup for her feverish little one, but she lacks one type of bean! Now on a mission, George returns home, finds the father mouse with the special bean, and frees him to return home to his sick mouseling. Exhausted, George climbs into bed and sleeps until the next afternoon (1:02 p.m.), when his mother restores his health with her 102-bean soup. In the narrative and the art, the number 102 recurs throughout this handsome book in different contexts, concluding with George at 102 years old as he recalls telling this tale to his children and grandchildren. His fanciful yet down-to-earth narrative will entrance imaginative children with its combination of everyday life and perilous quest. Each page turn reveals more graceful, cozy illustrations, bringing this story to life with their warmth and expression of emotions. A memorable picture book. COPYRIGHT(2026) Booklist, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.</p>

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	Select a Response
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2. Library materials shall meet high standards of quality in factual content (accuracy, authenticity, clarity), artistic and literary value, and presentation	Item Meets Criteria ▾



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

(including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	
3. Library materials shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of students for whom materials are selected.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
4. Library materials shall support and foster an appreciation for both informational and recreational reading, viewing, and listening.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
5. Library material shall meet the curriculum needs of students and staff.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
7. Library materials shall be current and up-to-date.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist:

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

This book meets the Criteria for Selection of Library Materials rubric for selection of library materials. ▾

(select) ▾

(select) ▾

Signed: _____*Jessica C. Barrett*_____



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review Form 2

Date of Receipt:	September 2, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Marion Teachers Association
Contact Information (phone/email):	nicoleboussy@oldrochester.org
Date of Librarian Review:	September 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	Eye Spy by Ruth Brown
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	<p>For Series Specific Titles: ▾ For Publisher Specific Titles: ▾</p> <p>Reviews available and posted here ▾</p> <p>"This a really lovely book. Ruth Brown captivates the imagination and curiosity with a superbly crafted game of 'I spy' in rhythmical language, and illustrated in her unique beautiful style. The front and back covers neatly frame the game from sun to moon, (leading the reader from dawn to bedtime at dusk), whilst covertly introducing each of the creatures hidden in the book's riddles. A delightful book to share in literacy lessons from early years and up; language and sentence structure, poetic style, text placement, and illustrations provide valuable and accessible starting points for English teachers in primary school. This could be seen as particularly useful in key stage 1, but would be much enjoyed at any age, for personal reading, small groups, or whole class. The subject matter and rich illustrations would be a super addition to environmental education, inviting discussion about habitats, diversity, animal classification, and ecosystem." Stephanie Barclay, <i>The School Librarian</i></p>

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Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

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7. Library materials shall be current and up-to-date.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
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This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

This book meets the Criteria for Selection of Library Materials rubric for selection of library materials. ▾

(select) ▾

(select) ▾

Signed: _____*Jessica C. Barrett*_____



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review Form 2

Date of Receipt:	September 3, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Sunshine at Sippican School
Contact Information (phone/email):	Heather White, heatherwhite@oldrochester.org
Date of Librarian Review:	September 3, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	<i>Awe! It's Everywhere</i> by Chana Stiefel
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	<p>For Series Specific Titles: ▾</p> <p>For Publisher Specific Titles: ▾</p> <p>Reviews available and posted here ▾</p> <p>Booklist (02/10/2026): Grades K-2 This story explores the feeling of being in awe, by everything from whales to the northern lights to helping in your community. The concept is introduced through an acronym: ""A.W.E.--an Awesome Wondrous Empowering emotion."" Throughout the book, Stiefel explores various moments in life that can give someone a feeling of awe. The writing is direct, capturing the feeling of a breathtaking experience with rhyming text and repetition that make for a wondrous read-aloud. The most awe-inspiring parts of this book, though, come through the illuminating illustrations. Each page is incredibly vibrant and bold with yellows, blues, reds, and greens of every shade sparking excitement. Beyond this, there is so much diversity represented in this book, with people of all skin tones and abilities, that everyone will see themselves somewhere in the book. The book ends with some limited back matter that will still appeal to young readers. COPYRIGHT(2026) Booklist, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.</p>

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

The following general selection criteria will apply to all library materials, including electronic, print, and non-print resources:

	Select a Response
1. Library materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and district and the aims and objectives of the individual schools and specific curricula.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
2. Library materials shall meet high standards of quality in factual content (accuracy, authenticity, clarity), artistic and literary value, and presentation (including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	Item Meets Criteria ▾
3. Library materials shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of students for whom materials are selected.	Item Meets Criteria ▾



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

4. Library materials shall support and foster an appreciation for both informational and recreational reading, viewing, and listening.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
5. Library material shall meet the curriculum needs of students and staff.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
7. Library materials shall be current and up-to-date.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist:

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

This book meets the Criteria for Selection of Library Materials rubric for selection of library materials. ▾

(select) ▾

(select) ▾

Signed: _____ *Jessica C. Barrett* _____



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

Library Book Donation Review Form 2

Date of Receipt:	September 4, 2026
Name of Donating Individual/Group:	Volunteers at Sippican Elementary
Contact Information (phone/email):	Eileen Pereira, vase@oldrochester.org
Date of Librarian Review:	September 4, 2026
Title and Author of Book:	<i>Mouse By the Sea: A Vacation in Nature</i> by Alice Melvin
Professional Reviews Available: *If no professional reviews are available, the rubric below may not be applicable.	<div>For Series Specific Titles: ▾</div> <div>Review Status: ▾</div> <div>This book is part of a series. The review below belongs to other titles review... ▾</div> <p>Kirkus Reviews (03/15/2024): Mouse embarks on a leisurely boating expedition through the countryside. Mouse's Wood (2022) depicted the small rodent at home over the course of a year. Now Mouse decides to visit a seaside friend. He boards a small red rowboat and, waved off by several anthropomorphic animal pals (one wears a dress; Mouse and other friends sport trousers), sets out from the wood, down the lazy river on a sunny summer day. A map tracing Mouse's journey can be found on the frontispiece. As in the earlier book, the action is minimal; the appeal is in the minutely detailed objects on the winding shores: boating equipment, homes, plants, and animals. Movable flaps allow readers a glimpse at the well-stocked interiors of a boathouse studio, a houseboat, stores, and other places as Mouse drifts by. Mouse and the other small critters are cut from the same cloth as the characters in Jill Barklem's Brambly Hedge series; Melvin's sketchier style makes them scruffier cousins of Beatrix Potter's creations. Modest quatrains rock readers along as gently as the river. Multiple reads will be necessary to spot the dozens of items found throughout and inventoried on the final page ("What Mouse Packed"), let alone the many more that aren't labeled but that will nevertheless lure an attentive eye. Happy hours ahead on this river! (Picture book. 4-8) COPYRIGHT(2024) Kirkus Reviews, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.</p>

Criteria for Selection of Library Materials

The following general selection criteria will apply to all library materials, including electronic, print, and non-print resources:

	Select a Response
1. Library materials shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and district and the aims and objectives of the individual schools and specific curricula.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
2. Library materials shall meet high standards of quality in factual content (accuracy, authenticity, clarity), artistic and literary value, and presentation	Item Meets Criteria ▾



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

(including special features such as: tables of contents, indexes, illustrations, photographs, maps, charts, graphs).	
3. Library materials shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of students for whom materials are selected.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
4. Library materials shall support and foster an appreciation for both informational and recreational reading, viewing, and listening.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
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6. Physical format of library material shall be suitable for their intended use.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
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8. Library materials shall be selected to help students gain an awareness of our diverse society.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
9. Library materials shall be selected for their strengths rather than rejected for their weaknesses, examining the value of any work as a whole.	Item Meets Criteria ▾
10. Materials selected on controversial issues will present fair and unbiased information and will be directed towards maintaining a diverse collection representing various views.	Not applicable ▾

Following policy on Criteria for Selection of Library Materials and the professional examination by Library Media Specialist:

This book meets the criteria for inclusion in the library collection. ▾

Reason:

This book meets the Criteria for Selection of Library Materials rubric for selection of library materials. ▾

(select) ▾

(select) ▾

Signed: _____ *Jessica C. Barrett* _____



Old Rochester Regional School District
Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55



Superintendent's Newsletter

August 2026

Message of the Month

Dear School Community,

It is my hope that our families enjoyed the summer break. The 2026-2027 school year is fast approaching. Our facilities team has been hard at work preparing our school buildings for the first day of school. The hallways and classrooms are sparkling and ready for our students! This newsletter contains updates and resources for our parents and guardians regarding the opening of schools. Each month the Superintendent's Office will issue a newsletter with relevant information for the school community. Furthermore, each school will issue a weekly newsletter for parents and guardians on Sundays at 3:00pm starting on August 30th. On behalf of the faculty, staff members and administration - we are very excited to start the school year on September 2nd!



Respectfully,

Michael S. Nelson
Superintendent of Schools

SAIL Summer Highlights



Office of Teaching and Learning

From Dr. Fedorowicz

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

Teaching and Learning Updates for the 2026–2027 School Year

As we begin a new school year, I wanted to share a few updates from our Office of Teaching and Learning. We have been spending a great deal of time reviewing our instructional resources and looking for ways to strengthen teaching and learning while making the best use of resources we already have across the district. These updates are part of our ongoing work connected to our Vision2028 Strategic Plan and our commitment to providing students with strong, consistent instruction.



Updated Assessment Tools

This year, we are transitioning from Aimsweb assessments to IXL LevelUp for benchmark assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics through a pilot. Since IXL is already a familiar resource for our students and teachers, this allows us to streamline our assessment practices and data analysis while giving teachers additional information to help support student learning and growth.

EnVisions 2027

Our elementary schools are also beginning the year with the newest version of EnVisions for Mathematics. This is an update to a program our teachers already know and use, with new features and resources to support the most current mathematics instruction. Teachers will receive professional learning throughout the year as they become familiar with the updates and continue strengthening their math instruction. We are grateful to our three communities for their continued support and investment in our schools. Their commitment helps make important improvements like these possible and directly supports the learning experiences we are able to provide for our students.

The Writing Revolution

We are also excited to begin a K–6 pilot of The Writing Revolution. This approach provides practical writing strategies that teachers can use across all subject areas and easily integrate into the curriculum they already teach. Our goal is to strengthen writing instruction without adding another full curriculum for teachers and students.

These updates represent another step in our ongoing work to provide teachers with high-quality, research-informed resources while keeping instruction consistent and focused on what students

need. We are excited about the work ahead and grateful to our teachers for the time, thought, and care they put into making these improvements meaningful for our students.

Office of Student Services

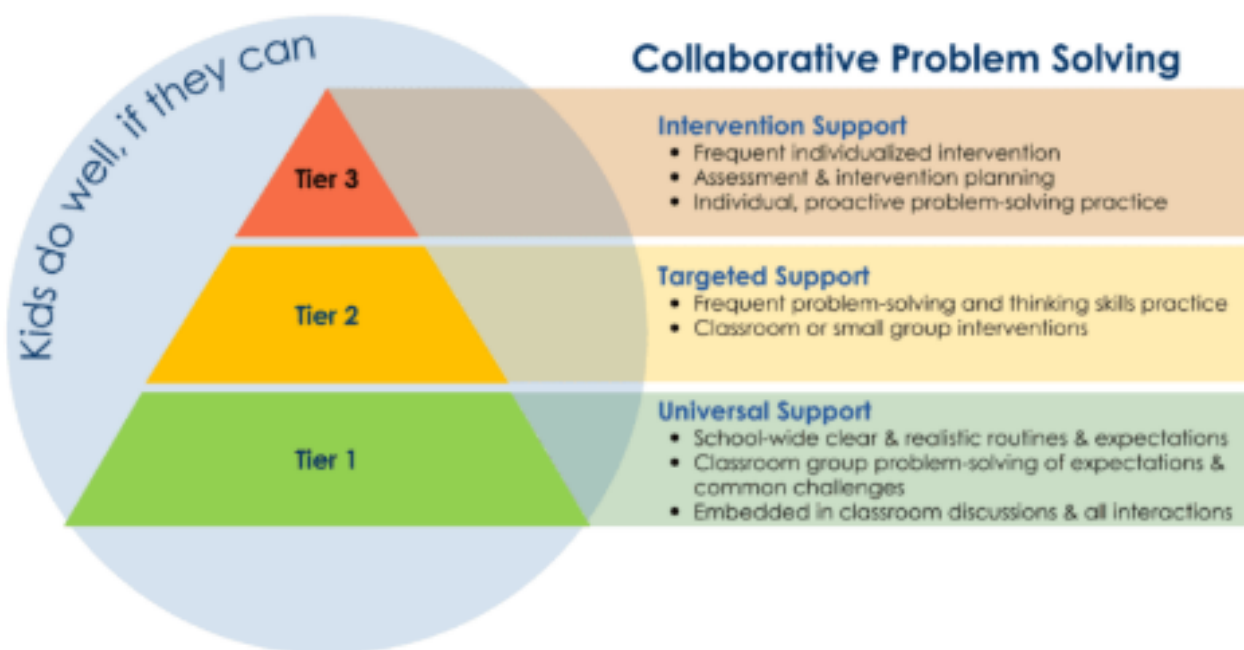
From Ms. Grable

Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

Welcome to the start of the 2026-2027 school year. It has been a busy and productive summer. I have enjoyed spending time with each building principal as they showcased, with pride, the layout of their buildings. I have been so impressed with this administrative team and have felt so welcomed by the community members who have stopped by to greet me. I look forward to seeing the corridors and classrooms filled with teachers and students looking refreshed and ready to go. A few of the initiatives I will be supporting this year include Instructional Learning Walks, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and Collaborative Problem Solving.



I look forward to getting to know students, staff, school committee and other community members as I continue to engage in the Old Rochester Regional School District Superintendency Union #55. For more information about Student Services, including our Special Education Advisory Council, Student Records Policy and Bullying Intervention plan, please visit [our website here](#).



Bus Routes

[2026-2027 Bus Routes](#) are available on our website. Please allow for a 10 minute variance before and after the times indicated on this link for at least the first five (5) to seven (7) school days. This will ensure that our students will be at their bus stops at the time of pick up. [Click here to review safety tips](#).



Update PowerSchool Annual Forms

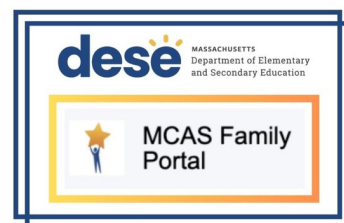
Annual forms (in the General tab) are now available in PowerSchool for all families to complete for each student(s), including the nurse's emergency information. The information in these forms is populated from information you have previously provided, so in most cases it's a quick review and update as needed.



Please login to PowerSchool using your parent account and click on Forms in the left menu. The 'General' tab should open with the annual forms for you to review and update as needed. [Read more](#).

MCAS Family Portal

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is pleased to share the MCAS Family Portal with you. This online tool lets you see your student's MCAS test results.



Preliminary MCAS results from spring 2026 are available. You will also see your student's results from past years (2023–2025), if available. The MCAS Family Portal will be updated in September when final results are ready. This information is only applicable to students who have taken the MCAS before (3rd grade or above). [Read more](#).

Food Service

All students will continue to receive 1 FREE Breakfast and 1 FREE Lunch per day, during the school year. Additional meals are available for a fee. Free and reduced applications are available [online here](#). Only one application is necessary per family. You will be notified via email or U.S. postal mail of your child's status. *This information may be shared, only with your consent, and used for other school benefits.* Lunch menus are available in the ORRconnect app, on the website in the Families & Students menu and on the [Food and Nutrition Services website](#).



Communication Plan

The Communication Plan will be utilized to ensure that all communications align with the District's strategic goals. The plan will be evaluated and updated as needed. Our goal is to effectively

communicate with all stakeholders and create an environment of cooperation, collaboration and sense of community. [Click here to view our communication plan.](#)



Safety and Emergency Preparedness

The safety and security of our students and staff remain a top priority. We value our strong partnership with the Police and Fire Departments of Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester and work collaboratively with our public safety partners to regularly review, practice, and strengthen our emergency procedures.



- **Fire Drills:** Fire evacuation drills are conducted throughout the school year in coordination with the local Fire Department.
- **School Evacuation Drill:** Each school has an evacuation plan in place, if needed.
- **School Alert/Lockdown:** School alert and lockdown procedures are practiced with students and staff and may include participation from the local Police Departments.
- **Bus Evacuation:** Annual bus evacuation drills are conducted in collaboration with our transportation provider.
- **Medical Response:** Schools maintain established protocols for responding to medical emergencies involving students and staff.
- **Building Access and Visitors:** Exterior doors remain locked during the school day. All of our schools continue to use Raptor Technology for all visitors entering our buildings. All visitors and volunteers are required to have a valid driver's license or Massachusetts issued identification card to be scanned-in upon entering the building for any reason. CORI checks are required for any parent/guardian volunteers and are available in the main office of your student's school.
- **Arrival and Dismissal:** Staff supervise arrival and dismissal procedures to support the safe and orderly transition of students to and from school.

Our goal is to prepare students and staff for emergencies without creating unnecessary fear or anxiety. Safety procedures are practiced in a developmentally appropriate, child-centered manner. Families can support this work by reminding children that the adults at home, at school, and within our community work together to keep them safe.

Attendance is Essential to Student Success!

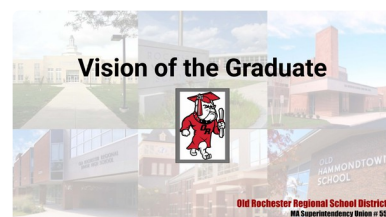
Consistent attendance is essential to every student's academic success, and it will remain an important priority this school year. Students have just 180 school days each year, and every day provides important opportunities for learning, connection, and growth. While we understand that students will occasionally need to miss school due to illness or other circumstances, regular and on-time attendance makes a meaningful difference.



If you have questions or concerns about your child's attendance, or are experiencing challenges that make regular attendance difficult, please contact your child's school Principal. We want to work in partnership with families to support students in being present and ready to learn each day.

Vision of the Graduate Approved by the Joint School Committee

In June, the Joint School Committee approved the Vision of the Graduate which includes six core competencies with five attributes each. The Vision of the Graduate aligns with our goals within the Strategic Plan, Vision2028, and also incorporates new state graduate requirements. [Read more.](#)



Prepared Learner

Core Competency

Attributes:

- Engages and participates intentionally in learning across academic disciplines.
- Seeks new ideas to broaden perspectives and cultivates open-mindedness.
- Seizes opportunities to grow, explore, and lead proactively.
- Builds independence and remains informed.
- Manages time and finances effectively and follows through on commitments.

Creative Problem Solvers

Core Competency

Attributes:

- Adapts and shifts mindset to meet challenges.
- Perseveres by setting personal goals and evaluating progress in meeting them.
- Reflects to show self-awareness and to self-advocate when needed.
- Prioritizes personal well-being to live a healthy life and to engage in self-improvement.
- Develops and contributes to positive support systems and meaningful relationships.

Responsible Contributor

Core Competency

Attributes:

- Takes action to improve the community and the environment.
- Practices ethical behavior and operates with integrity, kindness, compassion, and empathy.
- Explores and respects differences in perspectives, beliefs, and cultures.
- Advocates for inclusive, equitable, and accepting communities.
- Engages in civic responsibility and the democratic process.

Collaborative Citizen

Core Competency

Attributes:

- Contributes meaningfully and respectfully to group work.
- Receives and incorporates feedback effectively.
- Manages conflict to successful resolution.
- Honors others' viewpoints to achieve common goals.
- Takes responsibility for the impact of their communication.

Resourceful Decision-Makers

Core Competency

Attributes:

- Plans, analyzes and adapts strategically.
- Applies knowledge, skills and experience to generate solutions.
- Reasons effectively using evidence to make sound judgments and decisions while evaluating the validity of information.
- Uses imagination to develop meaningful ideas and connections.
- Learns from successes and failures by taking risks.

Effective Communicator

Core Competency

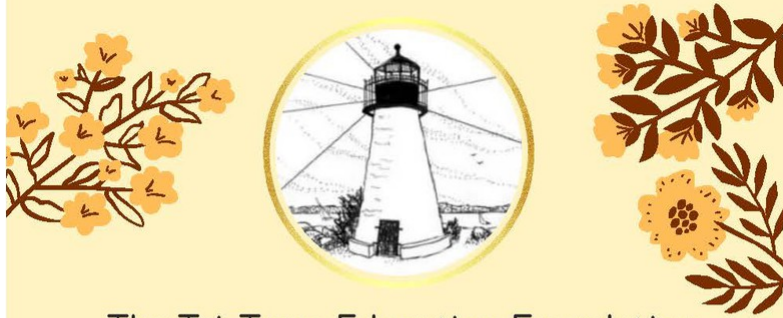
Attributes:

- Works with diverse groups of people by honoring, respecting and listening to all voices.
- Advocates respectfully for oneself and others.
- Gives, receives and accepts appropriate constructive feedback.
- Expresses oneself clearly through verbal and nonverbal communication.
- Navigates and responds to multimedia/digital media information safely and responsibly.

Inaugural Fall Gala!

The Old Rochester Regional Tri-Town Education Foundation is pleased to announce that tickets are now on sale for its inaugural Fall Gala, which will be held on Thursday, Oct. 8, 2026, at Century House in Acushnet, MA. Community members are invited to attend an evening celebrating and supporting public education while helping raise funds to enhance educational opportunities for students and educators across Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester. Tickets are limited and may be purchased at <http://gofan.co/event/6711869>. Early registration is encouraged. [Read more.](#)

SAVE THE DATE



The Tri-Town Education Foundation
proudly invites you to

The First Annual **FALL GALA**

THURSDAY
OCTOBER
8TH
AT 6 PM

RSVP Here



CENTURY HOUSE | ACUSHNET, MA

Elegant Fun | Cocktail Reception | Silent Auction
A Chance to Support Our Local Students & Teachers

Voluntary Student Insurance

Annually, voluntary student insurance is available for all students of our schools. Visit our website to review the options by [clicking here](#).



School Device Coverage

The Old Rochester Regional School District & MA Superintendency Union #55 provides students with Acer Chromebooks and Samsung Chromebooks. School Device Coverage (SDC) is available to insure the devices that will be given to your student as part of this year's 1:1 device program. Insurance is a one-time charge of \$23 for the entire school year. This insurance program will

protect you in the event that your device is lost, stolen, or damaged accidentally. You may file a claim against any number of incidents that take place with no deductibles, no added fees, and no claims limits. [Read more.](#)

SCHOOL DEVICE COVERAGE

Old Rochester Regional School District
Protect Your School Device!
Covering Accidental Damage, Loss and Theft.

- Full Transferability
- No Deductibles
- No Hidden Fees!
- Accidental Damage
- Cracked Screens
- Liquid Submersion

Sign Up Online Now
<https://schooldevicecoverage.com/signup>
or Text SDC to 888.977.8111 To Enroll

Coverage is active from August 11, 2020 - June 30, 2021.

	Cost of Insurance	Replacement cost without insurance
Acer, Samsung Chromebook	\$25.00	\$300.00-\$325.00
	Zero Deductibles	Replacement Cost

Based on current information, Coverage excludes known damage items which are present at the time of purchase. Coverage is active only within the policy terms upon receipt of payment. Covering the cost of the device itself and not the data/personal information, whatever occurs later.

If you are paying this monthly cost on a device, there is a \$15 processing fee.

Old Rochester Regional School District

Student Name: _____ Parent Name: _____
School: _____ Email (Mandatory): _____
Cell Phone: _____ City/State/Zip: _____
(Upload a Picture of Your Serial Number Online Only)

Call Questions: 888.978.3515

Mail a check with this form to: School Device Coverage, 1000 Main Street, Franklin, VT 05440. Payment cannot be made over the phone.

Simple Claims Process: Go to <https://schooldevicecoverage.com/signin> to log in, upload pictures and file a claim.

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Philosophy on Teaching Discipline

The Old Rochester Regional School District and MA School Superintendency Union #55 school discipline philosophy recognizes and respects the rights and dignity of others. As a community of educators, we believe that building relationships with students is critical to their success. This includes building collaborative relationships with students and their families, so together we can partner to ensure student success. The ultimate goal of our school discipline philosophy, including restorative practices, is to build inclusive school communities that allow students to remain actively engaged in learning and minimize time taken from instruction and learning. We need the support of all stakeholders, especially our families, to make this goal a reality.

Our intentions for school discipline are aligned with the following objectives:

- Provide students with ample opportunities to change behavior and nurture/restore relationships.
- Provide discipline that is restorative, progressive, and tiered by design.
- Provide students, parents/guardians/caregivers, and school personnel with a clear understanding of the various administrative responses to discipline as described in the student handbook.
- Provide professional learning and support to employ strategies and actions that align with the principles of restorative practices.

Each day in our schools, we support our students' social emotional learning and development, while employing practices to help strengthen our learning community. We are focused on building healthy, positive relationships; preventing harmful behavior; productively resolving conflict with individuals and groups; and fostering a positive and inclusive learning environment. We value open dialogue to repair relationships, and we remain committed to the idea that harmful and disruptive behavior shall not be permitted to interfere with other students' access to learning. To maintain a safe and respectful learning environment, staff will work to address and support and address behavioral concerns at the classroom level. These conversations may also include peers, parents/guardians/caregivers, and the administration who all share the responsibility to support and maintain a safe and inclusive learning environment and school community.

Every reasonable effort will be made to keep students in their learning environment. Office visits, suspensions, and/or expulsions are used only as a last resort. Our goal is to keep students in school and actively engaged in learning as much as possible.

Staff and students partner to create a positive learning culture across all settings in the school community. While we encourage and value the building of positive relationships, students are reminded that:

1. The exercise of any of a student's rights ceases when it impacts the rights of another individual or group.
2. No student has the right to disrupt the educational process within a school or designated learning environment.
3. All students have the right to due process in matters that affect their ability to actively engage in their learning.

Statewide Guidance

The state Attorney General's Office has issued [family preparedness and legal resources](#) to assist Haitian and Syrian Temporary Protected Status (TPS) holders following the Supreme Court's decision allowing the federal government to terminate TPS for immigrants from those countries. Online resources include an emergency planning guide for parents with uncertain immigration status, which is available online in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#), [Haitian Creole](#), and [Simplified Chinese](#); resources on [legal assistance](#); tips to [avoid immigration-related scams](#); other [resources for immigrants in Massachusetts](#); and [immigration guidance for employers](#).



School Committee Happenings

In September, our School Committee members will tour the buildings to review summer improvements, meet new staff and more. [Click here for the complete schedule, meeting resources and minutes.](#)

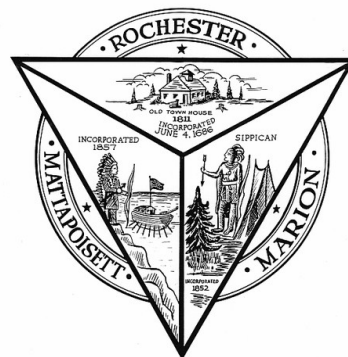
Upcoming meetings (subject to change):

September 10th - Mattapoissett School Committee

September 17th - Marion School Committee

September 24th - Rochester School Committee

October 1st - ORR School Committee



School Calendar

View the news from all our schools!

Community Information and Flyers

Flyers from throughout the Tri-Town are shared with families on our website on the Community page.

ORRconnect on Facebook

ORRconnect is also on Facebook!

[Like us on Facebook](#) to stay up-to-date with school happenings.



You can follow all of our schools on Facebook too!

[Center School](#)

[Old Hammondtown School](#)

[Rochester Memorial School](#)

[Sippican School](#)

[ORR Junior High School](#)

[ORR High School](#)

ORRconnect Mobile App

This mobile app allows families to receive targeted, real-time updates right at their fingertips regarding school happenings. Families can filter content, calendars and settings unique to one building or all.

Search ORRconnect in the app store!



Missed last month's newsletter? Click here.



Michael S. Nelson, Superintendent

www.oldrochester.org



Subscribe

Old Rochester Regional School District and Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55 proudly serves the students from Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester. The mission of our school system is to inspire all students to think, to learn and to care.



MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 2442

Voucher Date: 05/28/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 05/28/2026 10:54:15 AM

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$60,845.10 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard O. Beebe

[Signature]
Ms. April Nye

Chairperson

Ms. Nichole Daniel

Vice Chairperson

Ms. Michelle Smith

School Committee Member

Ms. Mary Beauregard

School Committee Member

Ms. Nichole Nye McGaffey

School Committee Member

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$60,165.10
20	MARION SPEC REVENUE REVOLVING	\$480.00
26	FY26 FEDERAL GRANTS	\$200.00
		\$60,845.10

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 2443

Voucher Date: 06/10/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette
Printed: 06/10/2026 02:29:55 PM

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$262,277.35 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard B. ...

Ms. April Nye

Chairperson

Ms. Nichole Daniel

Vice Chairperson

Ms. Michelle Smith

School Committee Member

Ms. Mary Beauregard

School Committee Member

Ms. Nichole Nye McGaffey

School Committee Member

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$256,139.31
20	MARION SPEC REVENUE REVOLVING	\$3,866.46
25	FY25 FEDERAL GRANTS	\$1,177.52
26	FY26 FEDERAL GRANTS	\$500.00
45	FY25 PRIVATE GRANTS	\$594.06
		\$262,277.35

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 2444

Voucher Date: 06/30/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette
Printed: 06/30/2026 12:49:53 PM

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$413,219.22 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Bailey

Ms. April Nye

Chairperson

Ms. Nichole Daniel

Vice Chairperson

Ms. Michelle Smith

School Committee Member

Ms. Mary Beauregard

School Committee Member

Ms. Nichole Nye McGaffey

School Committee Member

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$314,742.84
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$0.00
20	MARION SPEC REVENUE REVOLVING	\$4,340.00
40	ON BEHALF OF TOWN	\$93,954.00
46	FY26 PRIVATE GRANTS	\$182.38
		\$413,219.22

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 2445

Voucher Date: 08/05/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 08/05/2026 03:05:06 PM

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$21,960.24 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Barber

Ms. April Nye

Chairperson

Ms. Nichole Daniel

Vice Chairperson

Ms. Michelle Smith

School Committee Member

Ms. Mary Beauregard

School Committee Member

Ms. Nichole Nye McGaffey

School Committee Member

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$18,341.24
11	CIRCUIT BREAKER	\$3,494.00
26	FY26 FEDERAL GRANTS	\$125.00
		\$21,960.24

ENCUMBRANCES

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 2446

Voucher Date: 08/06/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 08/06/2026 11:40:32 AM

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$177,071.57 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Barber

Ms. April Nye

Chairperson

Ms. Nichole Daniel

Vice Chairperson

Ms. Michelle Smith

School Committee Member

Ms. Mary Beauregard

School Committee Member

Ms. Nichole Nye McGaffey

School Committee Member

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$140,946.17
20	MARION SPEC REVENUE REVOLVING	\$36,125.40
		\$177,071.57

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 2447

Voucher Date: 08/20/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 08/20/2026 12:42:11 PM

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$67,612.47 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Bueck

Ms. April Nye

Chairperson

Ms. Nichole Daniel

Vice Chairperson

Ms. Michelle Smith

School Committee Member

Ms. Mary Beauregard

School Committee Member

Ms. Nichole Nye McGaffey

School Committee Member

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund	Amount
01 GENERAL FUND	\$67,612.47
	\$67,612.47

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS VOUCHER

Voucher No: 2449

Voucher Date: 09/03/2026

Prepared By:

Michelle Charette

Printed: 09/03/2026 09:58:44 AM

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS is hereby authorized to draw warrants against MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS funds for the sum of \$34,853.01 on account of obligations incurred for value received in services and for materials as shown below for period July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 (period cannot overlap fiscal year end.)

I certify that this claim is just and correct, and the services and/or materials herein represented have been received during the period listed above. All items are properly coded and not in excess of the budget.

Howard Beale

Ms. April Nye

Chairperson

Ms. Nichole Daniel

Vice Chairperson

Ms. Michelle Smith

School Committee Member

Ms. Mary Beauregard

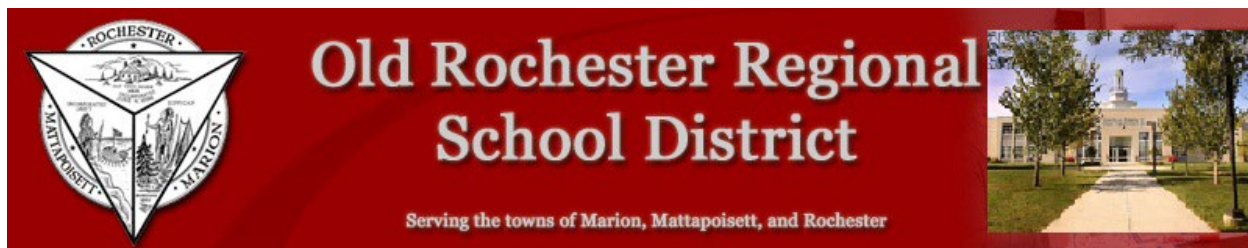
School Committee Member

Ms. Nichole Nye McGaffey

School Committee Member

MARION PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fund		Amount
01	GENERAL FUND	\$34,159.01
46	FY26 PRIVATE GRANTS	\$694.00
		\$34,853.01



Facilities Director's Report: September 2026

Sippican Elementary School

- All firefighting systems have been inspected/tested including the ANSUL (kitchen fire suppression system), fire sprinkler, kitchen hoods and stationary fire extinguishers.
- The boilers have been cleaned, serviced and inspected.
- Groomed grounds for opening day.
- Replaced Art kiln blower and duct work to code.
- Assisted food service in installation on new kitchen equipment.
- Conducted routine maintenance on all facility systems.

Sincerely,

Gene Jones

Director of Facilities

Office: 508-758-2772 x1954

Cell: 508-509-6763

E-Mail: eugenejones@oldrochester.org



Old Rochester Regional School District Massachusetts Superintendency Union #55

"Serving the towns of Marion, Mattapoisett, & Rochester"

Food Service Director's Report: September 2026 Sippican Elementary

Directors Update:

- Meals continue to be free for all students. Each student will receive one free breakfast and one free lunch, per day.
- Second meals, a la carte drinks, snacks and milk only are available for purchase.
- Summer work completed:
 - replaced the (2) sets of Double Stack Ovens
 - replaced the (2) Reach-in Refrigerators.
 - Repairs done to Freezer # 2
 - Worked with Gene Jones to have a new grease trap installed.
- The Food service team participated in a full day of professional development training on 08/31.
- Fun Facts: in SY 25-26 Sippican Cafe served: **16,419 School Breakfast & 33,761 School Lunches**

Students Receiving Free and Reduced Meals:								
Free:								
Reduced:								
Student Meal Participation								
SY 25/26					SY 26/27			
	Breakfast Counts	%	Lunch Counts	%	Breakfast Counts	%	Lunch Counts	%
August	175	19 %	413	45 %	0	%	0	%
September	2,009	29 %	3,862	56 %				
October	2,169	31 %	4,141	59 %				
November	1,420	28 %	3,011	59 %				
December	1,554	29 %	3,230	60 %				
January	1,507	28 %	3,245	61 %				
February	850	27 %	1,909	61 %				
March	1,916	28 %	4,182	60 %				
April	1,494	28 %	3,283	62 %				
May	1,928	30 %	3,927	61 %				
June	1,397	29 %	2,558	58 %				

Jill Henesey
 Director of Food and Nutrition Services
 Office: 508-758-2772 x1543
 Mobile: 774-320-0801
 Email: jillhenesey@oldrochester.org
<https://www.facebook.com/ORRnutrition4kids>



SIPPICAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT | MARION SCHOOL COMMITTEE

16 Spring Street, Marion, Massachusetts 02738 | (508) 748-0100 | Fax (508) 748-1953

Lynn Dessert, Principal | Gregory Thomas, Assistant Principal

lynndessert@oldrochester.org | gregorythomas@oldrochester.org

Opening of the 2026–2027 School Year

To: Superintendent Michael Nelson; Members of the Marion School Committee; Administrative Team Members

From: Lynn Dessert, Principal

Date: September 2026

Meeting: September 17, 2026

September at a Glance

We are off to a welcoming start at Sippican! Families and staff are working together to help children settle into the new school year. Our focus is simple: engaging daily lessons, a strong sense of belonging, and the right support and challenge for every child. Across the school, we are practicing the Sippican 3 to Be—Respectful, Responsible, and Kind.



A Welcoming School Community

- Sippican welcomed families at Open House on September 1 and welcomed students in Grades 1–6 on September 2. Kindergarten screening, orientation, and the first day of kindergarten followed during the opening week; Project Grow began September 10.
- Teachers are helping children practice everyday routines, from working together in class to moving safely through the school. These routines bring our Sippican 3 to Be to life: Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Kind—Every Day, Every Way.
- Our schoolwide theme, “Anchored in Purpose, Sailing with Heart,” reflects our commitment that every child is known, valued, challenged, supported, and growing.
- The Sippican Weekly Overview provides families with consistent Sunday communication. Grade-level teams are also strengthening family partnerships through regular classroom and monthly grade-level updates.
- Student Voice & Leadership: The Kindness Crew and Project 351 will provide opportunities for student leadership, kindness, and service. This year, we will hold all-school meetings to celebrate our students and create more opportunities for student voice. We will also begin morning announcements to strengthen our sense of school community.
- VASE Partnership: We look forward to working with VASE and welcoming its support for student experiences and school community activities.

NEW FACES. NEW ENERGY. SAME SIPPICAN SPIRIT!

Welcome TO OUR NEW TEAM!

WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We are excited to introduce our new staff members! They bring talent, passion, and dedication to our students and community. Please join us in giving them a warm welcome!

<p>Jennifer Estacio INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TEACHER</p> <p>Jenn brings 16 years of elementary music teaching experience and a love for making music come alive! Outside of school, she teaches private lessons and pet sits. She enjoys spending time with her husband and family and can also be found glamping along the East Coast!</p>	<p>Jess Gilbert SCHOOL ADJUSTMENT COUNSELOR</p> <p>Jess has spent the past ten years as a school adjustment counselor and is passionate about helping students feel supported, connected, and confident. Outside of school, she loves playing and watching sports, running, traveling, and spending time with her dog, Marco!</p>	<p>Alli Zeoli GENERAL MUSIC & CHORUS TEACHER</p> <p>Alli recently graduated from Boston University with a degree in Music Education and is bringing her love for music to Sippican! Outside of school, she loves playing and watching sports, running, traveling, and spending time with her dog, Marco!</p>	<p>Jess Farcas 4TH GRADE TEACHER</p> <p>Jess is excited to be a part of the 4th grade team! This will be her 5th year teaching fourth grade. She lives in Middleborough with her husband and two children. Jess loves reading and spending time outside!</p>	<p>Maeve Grosschedl 6TH GRADE TEACHER</p> <p>Maeve previously taught 5th grade and is excited to join our 6th grade team! She graduated from Bridgewater State University and was on the BSU track team. She loves coffee, walks with her dog Winnie, and being part of the Sippican team!</p>	<p>Kyle Lamontagne SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST</p> <p>Kyle recently completed his graduate program at UMass Boston and has worked as a Therapeutic Counselor. He is passionate about helping students feel supported and successful. Outside of school, he enjoys music, skiing, traveling, and time with family & friends!</p>
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We can't wait for you to get to know our amazing new team members!

BE RESPECTFUL
We treat others the way we want to be treated.

BE RESPONSIBLE
We make good choices and own our actions.

BE KIND
We show care and compassion every day.

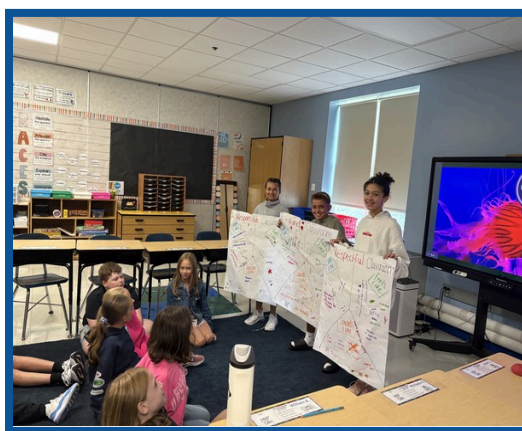
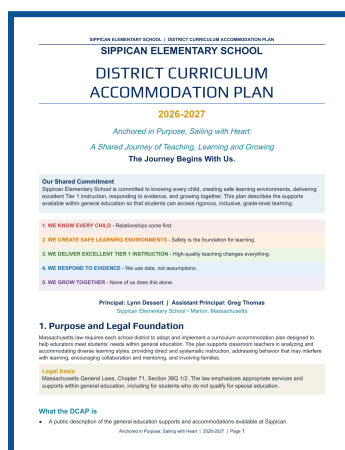
ANCHORED IN PURPOSE. SAILING WITH HEART.

TEACHING & LEARNING

- Teachers are planning lessons that help every child participate, understand what they are learning, and know what to work on next. They adjust activities and offer feedback so students receive the help and challenge they need.
- Our reading program, HMH Into Reading, supports reading and writing, along with step-by-step teaching of sounds, letters, and word-reading skills. In enVision Mathematics, children learn how math works, explain their thinking, and solve problems together.
- We are trying The Writing Revolution to help students strengthen their writing. IXL Level Up reading, writing, and math assessments will help teachers identify what students

know and what they need next. Our district's classroom support plan helps teachers make everyday lessons accessible to more learners.

- Responsive Classroom and Fly Five lessons help children build relationships, manage feelings, and work with others. Sarah Ward's Get Ready–Do–Done routines help students plan, organize, and complete tasks. Classroom discussion routines give students practice sharing their thinking and listening to others.
- Teachers meet regularly to plan together, review student work, and discuss what is helping children learn. They use this information to adjust lessons and small groups as students' needs change.



Helping Every Child Grow

- FLEX is a scheduled part of the school day when students receive learning opportunities matched to their needs. Some children get extra practice or help with a particular skill, while others explore more challenging work. This time complements their regular classroom lessons.
- Teachers organize flexible groups based on what students are ready to learn next. Groups can change as children make progress, allowing students to receive extra support, build confidence, or move ahead.
- We are excited that Leanne Dineen has moved from classroom teaching into our new math interventionist position. Our reading and math teams work alongside classroom teachers during regular lessons, bringing additional small-group teaching and support into the classroom. They also work with students during FLEX time to personalize learning—helping children catch up on unfinished learning, strengthen specific skills, and take on new challenges when they are ready.
- Classroom teachers, special education teachers, classroom assistants, counselors, and other specialists work together to help children participate fully in school. Their support

includes learning, friendships, managing emotions, organization, and growing independence.

- Collaborative Problem Solving helps adults and children work through challenges together. We listen to the child's concerns, explain what needs to happen, and find a solution together. This approach helps students practice communication and problem-solving skills while reinforcing respect, responsibility, and kindness.



Our Staff & School Day

- We have welcomed new staff and supported colleagues moving into new roles through training, time to plan together, and opportunities to get familiar with the school.
- In Grades 5 and 6, students continue learning different subjects with different teachers. Schedules include regular classroom lessons, FLEX learning time, classes such as art, music, and physical education, as well as lunch and recess.
- Safety procedures are being reviewed with staff and students, including arrival, dismissal, transportation, visitor, communication, and emergency-response expectations.
- The school continues to coordinate with families, transportation, district departments, and community partners to support a safe, orderly opening.



Celebration: Feinstein Leadership Academy

Sippican School is proud to continue as a Feinstein Leadership Academy for 2026–2027. This partnership reinforces leadership, kindness, service, and positive citizenship—values that align naturally with the Sippican 3 to Be. Students will continue to learn that small acts of kindness and service can make a meaningful difference in their school and community.



Looking Ahead

- Use beginning-of-year learning checks and student work to understand each child's strengths and next steps.
- Plan reading and math groups that meet students' needs and check regularly to see how they are progressing.
- Continue helping children build friendships, manage feelings, stay organized, and practice school routines.
- Early Release/Professional Learning Day: September 23, 2026.
- Maintain regular family communication and celebrate student learning, leadership, and community partnerships.



25 May, 2026

Dear Chair Smith and School Committee Members,

My name is Bess Pierre. I am a lifelong Marion resident who attended Sippican Elementary, the Junior High, and graduated from the High School in 2021. Last May, I graduated from Duke University with a degree in Public Policy. Today, I live in Boston and work in the state government. I am writing to express my deep gratitude and appreciation for your work.

It is not lost on me that much of what I know and the way I experience the world is influenced by the Old Rochester school system. I am a product of teachers who believed in me and made me feel capable, intelligent, and important; teachers who challenged me and celebrated me, even amidst uncertainty, insecurity, and instability. Below are examples of some particularly memorable educators:

- In fifth grade, Mrs. Janice Proc read a response I wrote for an assessment aloud to the class. As a famously challenging teacher, her praise made me feel like I could do anything.
- In eighth grade, Ms. Nichole Charbonneau encouraged my classmates and I to empathize with the perspective of both MLK and Malcom X in our unit on the Civil Rights Movement. She emphasized the role of frustration and hope in shaping our society that I still think about today.
- In ninth grade, Mr. Michael Beson gave me the lowest grade I ever received on a writing assignment. He not only challenged me, but gave me meaningful feedback that changed the way I read and write. I look back on that grade with overwhelming gratitude.
- Dr. Colin Everett fostered the most engaging learning environment I have ever been in. I will never forget crying after his lesson on the United State's World War II firebombing campaign in Tokyo. I was so moved and horrified. The genuine passion he brings to the content and classroom is palpable.

I am grateful to the Committee, past and present, for creating the conditions for learning opportunities like these. I urge you to continue prioritizing the needs of not only students, but the teachers who cultivate their learning environments. The Committee has a unique opportunity, given its proximity to these stakeholders, to continue to make children feel important and capable, to give them opportunities to do hard things, to meet them where they are in their learning journey.

Thank you for your time and dedication to this district.

With gratitude,

Bess Pierre



INVEST in IMPACT

Service | Civic Leadership | Educational Achievement | Career Success

Project 351 is a **youth-powered social change movement** and an incubator for the Commonwealth's next generation of civic leaders.

Project 351's five-year **Leadership Continuum**, engages eighth grade students representing the Commonwealth's 351 cities and towns for a transformative learning journey. Through mentorship, leadership training, and social impact, youth prepare for **success in college, career, and a lifetime of civic leadership**.



In partnership with the **Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents and local educators**, Project 351 is a school-based solution to increase **civic engagement, foster unity** across differences, and **address critical issues** through civic action and advocacy.

Since 2011, Project 351 has:

- **Developed** 5,930 courageous community builders and civic leaders
- **Mobilized** 351 rural, urban, suburban, and island communities
- **Impacted** 1.6+ million neighbors across the state
- **Scaled** social change for more than 160 nonprofit partners, including Cradles to Crayons, Home Base, La Colaborativa, and the Wonderfund.
- **Generated \$29M+** in measurable social and economic value
- **Built** a growing pipeline of nonprofit founders, educators, public servants, and social entrepreneurs.

This is not episodic service.
Project 351 is infrastructure for civic unity.

THE URGENCY OF NOW



The **35ONE** generation is uniquely challenged by social unrest, political polarization, and a fractured national community. Economic instability, a youth mental health crisis, school shootings, and a rise in identity-based bias and discrimination have motivated their **activism for greater unity, equity, and opportunity.**

Project 351, the only model of its kind, meets this generation at a **critical inflection point:** the intersection of this tumultuous time and the start of their self-determination as young adults.

In adolescence, one's **values, priorities, and self-esteem** are forged; skills of problem-solving and critical thinking are developed; and **awareness of one's responsibility and humanity is awakened.**

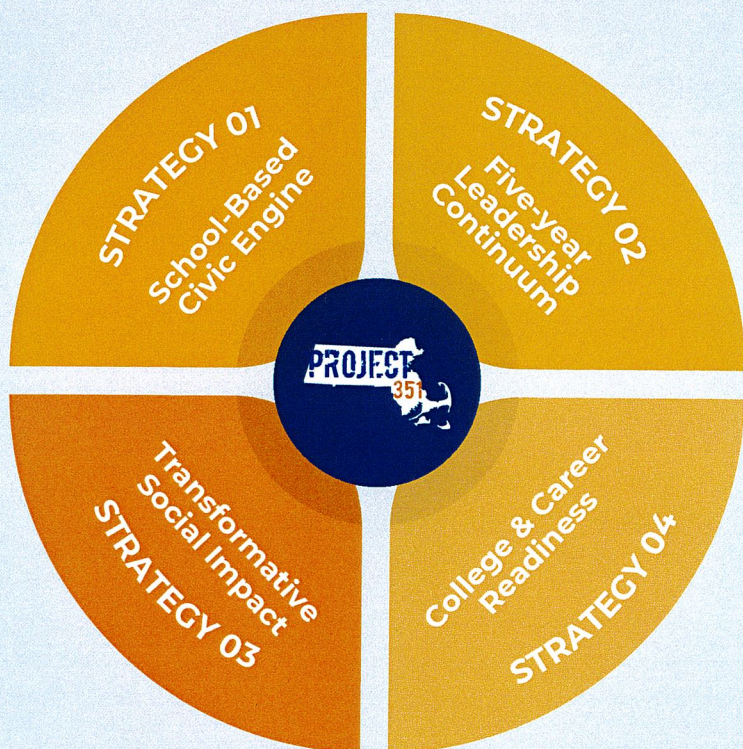
We target **the most underinvested stage of K-12 education** – middle school – and fortify youth with the skills, values, and confidence required for **academic and career success.**

OUTCOMES of YOUTH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:

- 19 %** increase in likelihood of college graduation
- 52 %** youth report improved career readiness
- 69 %** more resilient & likely to "flourish"
(a positive measure of well-being)
- 79 %** assert increased connectedness to community & purpose

Sources: JAMA Youth Survey;
Allstate Foundation/Gallup

THE RESULT: Leaders who don't retreat from division — they repair it.



INNOVATION + IMPACT

Our program model – the only-one-of-its-kind – features excellence in **programming, service learning, and experiential leadership**; and provides a **five-year continuum of civic engagement** to enable this generation's blueprint for change.

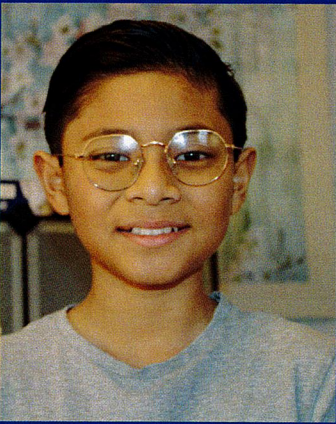
The result? Social impact at scale, educational achievement, and a dynamic and diverse workforce eager to contribute to the Commonwealth we love.

35ONE Leadership Continuum

Project 351 engages youth for a **five-year learning journey** at the **most underinvested stage** of K-12 education – middle school. When a young person's **values, priorities, and self-esteem** are forged; skills of **problem-solving and critical thinking** are developed; and awareness of their **civic responsibility and humanity** is awakened.

THE RESULT: Leaders who don't retreat from division — they repair it.

Ambassador
Eighth Grade



**Martin
Ruong**

Class of **2026**
Quincy

Ambassador

"I serve, because I care. If not me, then who will serve? Who will care for the people who need us? Project 351 has given me a **path of caring** and a community of amazing people. We're so different, but **we share the same mission** – to make this world a better place for everyone."

**Alumni
Leadership Council**
High School



**Vanessa
Lee**

Class of **2023**
Norton

Playbook Trainer

"It takes **courage to speak up** about injustice and inequity. Project 351 has taught me that **real leadership** means facing complex issues head-on. Bold change starts with the fortitude to say, **"This isn't right"**—and a commitment to unrelenting effort."

Leadership Team
College



**Marcus
McNeill**

Class of **2018**
Dorchester

American University '26
Student Trustee
Board of Trustees

Project 351
Leadership Team

"Project 351 affirms my **values**, invests in my **potential**, and motivates my goal to **serve the city I love in elected office.**"

Educator
Career



**Andrea
Nevins**

Class of **2012**
Medfield

7th Grade Teacher
Boston Public Schools

George Washington University '20; B.A. Boston University '24
Masters of Education

Project 351
*Ambassador Mentor
Young Professional
Board Member*

"The **empathy, compassion, and determination** I learned through Project 351 is what has allowed me to be a successful teacher."

LEADING CHANGE

TRANSFORMATIVE SOCIAL IMPACT



Samantha Asprelli

Class of **2018** • Wrentham

FOUNDER • GIVE N' GLOW

Women Who Empower Innovator '24
Huntington 100 '25

Give n' Glow provides women facing economic, safety, and health challenges with hygiene health, confidence, and community.

"Everything I've experienced with Give n' Glow has roots in what I learned as a Project 351 Ambassador. Leadership grounded in **kindness, compassion, humility, and gratitude**; and a belief that real change comes from **strategic, intentional, and collective action.**"



Connor Schoen

Class of **2013** • Westborough

CO-FOUNDER • BREAKTIME

Boston Magazine's 150 Most Influential Bostonians
Forbes 30 Under 30 for Social Innovation

Breaktime equips young adults experiencing homelessness with the tools they need to achieve job, financial, and long-term housing security.

"**Project 351** has inspired me and thousands of young people to commit to a career of public service. The lessons I learned and the confidence and community I gained have irrevocably impacted every step of my career. Project 351 has made me a **better leader, a community member, and person.**"

A PIPELINE OF CAREER-READY CIVIC LEADERS

Corporal Noah Avila '19, U.S. Marine Corps

Megan Burke '13, Founder, Cuerd@S

Michaela Campbell '14, Manager, Red Sox Foundation

Gretchen Carr '16, Office of Sen. Elizabeth Warren

Cole Clericuzio '16, EMT, Bolton Fire Department

Dr. Mark Czeisler '11, Brigham & Women's Hospital

George Fox '15, Bates White Energy Consultant

Evan Gendreau '13, Vice Chair, Westport School Committee

Sophia Gustafson '16, Founder, Hope for All

Daniel Heine '13, Senior Climate Associate, Ceres

Kieler Langemo '16, Teacher, Sutton Middle School

Andrea Nevins '12, Teacher, Boston Public Schools

Bobby Portway '14, Teacher, Norton High School

Deborah Viera '15, Director, Brockton's Promise Alliance for Youth

Madison Walsh '15, RN; Massachusetts General Hospital

Palak Yadav '21, Co-Founder, STEMMIES