# Bourne Public Schools

## BOURNE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## Regular Session Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** April 1, 2026
**TIME:** 6:00PM
**PLACE:** Bourne High School Auditorium, 75 Waterhouse Rd., Bourne, MA

### ATTENDANCE

***SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:*** Rachel Agrillo; Chair Donel Beals; Kendellynn Gagne; Kari MacRae; Kathleen Quintal; Kerrie Scofield; Student Advisory Representative Zoe Noonan

***SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:*** Maria Heaney

***OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT:*** Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent; Christine Borning, Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Teaching; Kristin Donahue, Director of Special Education and Student Services; Jordan Geist, Director of Business Service; Chris Oliver, Director of Technology

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Donel Beals calls the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

### 2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Dr. Zhou leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3. NATIONAL ANTHEM

Dr. Zhou highlights the importance of music, theater, and visual arts in student development, and invites student performers to sing the National Anthem.

## 4. MUSICAL PRESENTATION - Celebration of Music in our Schools, Youth Art and Youth Theater Months

Dr. Zhou recognizes educators Mr. Burke (theater), along with Mr. Baird, Miss Hofford, and Miss McGovern (all first-year teachers at Bourne Public Schools). BIS Chorus (5th grade), BMS Select Choir, and BHS Choir perform "We Won't Stop Dreaming" by Pink Zebra.

## 5. PUBLIC INPUT

No public comments are made.

## 6. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT,** *Donel Beals, School Committee Chair*
    - Day on the Hill- Chair Beals says committee members recently participated in the Massachusetts Association of School Committees Day on the Hill at the State House, where they attended presentations from state representatives supporting public schools. She says they met with Representative Viera over lunch and with Assistant Zach Crowley from Senator Dylan Fernandes' office, and shared information about Bourne's school programs and pathways, and Senator Fernandes committed to visiting at least one Bourne school in April or May. She found the representatives to be approachable and engaged listeners throughout their conversations.
    - Chair Beals says the Cape and Islands Legislative Breakfast is tentatively scheduled for April 13th.
    - Correspondence & Announcements
        - Month of the Military Child is taking place this month
- **STUDENT ADVISORY REPORT -** Student Spotlight: Bourne Middle School
    - Mikayla Noonan presents highlights from Bourne Middle School for the month of March. She says students are actively rehearsing for the spring play, *Chronicles of June*, and the Unified Basketball Team recently finished a successful season by winning their jubilee in Duxbury. She continues by highlighting several engaging classroom activities, including eighth grade science heredity experiments using plant growth, Pi Day activities focused on circumference and diameter, hands-on geography lessons in Mr. Reynolds' class, seventh grade STEM lessons on gravity, and magnetic force experiments in Miss Lovejoy's class featuring a levitating train activity. The district also recently hosted a Science Symposium at Bourne Intermediate School with participation from all schools. Ms. Noonan notes a visit from the "Read Happy" organization, which brought homemade tote bags and reading-themed activities for students and March Madness Reading Week included voting on favorite library books, trivia, DEAR time, Women's History Month activities, and themed spirit days. She also emphasizes diversity and inclusion efforts, including participation in World Down Syndrome Day through a colorful sock spirit day and a Women in History March Madness activity in civics classes that highlighted 64 notable women. Spanish classes led by Señora Gomez and Señora Hogan participated in "Locura de Marzo," an international Latin American music competition involving more than 1,500 schools worldwide. Lastly she shares updates on

community events, noting that Bingo Night raised over $800 to support the sixth grade Nature's Classroom trip, while the PTA's March Madness event drew strong participation with games, inflatables, and treats for families.

- **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT,** *Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Superintendent of Schools*
    - Announcements & Accolades:
        - Student Accolades- Dr. Zhou and Chair Beals present Certificates of Excellence to students across multiple categories in music, art, and theater including:
            - **BMS Yearbook Cover Design**
                - Cover Winner (Grade 7): Madeline Parsons
                - Back Cover Winner (Grade 6): Anna Drake
                - Runners-Up (Grade 7): Brooke Cannon, Dorian Paulette
                - Runners-Up (Grade 6): Olivia Robertson
                - Runner-Up (Grade 8): Carli Kent
            - **2026 Junior All Cape Band Workshop**
                - Grade 7: Bodie Shoemaker, Selina Liu, Leah Bailey, Thomas Pires, Eva Resto
                - Grade 6: Luca Gomez-Bagdonas, Henry Canfield, Trey Butler, Rachel Hunt, Dominic Allen, Henry Minor, Finn Ruble
                - Grade 8: Lucas Cordeiro, Teagan Kozak
            - **2026 MMEA Junior District Music Festival**
                - Grade 8: Ronan Stanton (only BMS student to audition and be accepted)
            - **2026 Junior All Cape Chorus Workshop**
                - Grade 8: Ronan Stanton, Penny Chaparrals, Anna Kirby, Avery Baxter, Rita Kelly, Heidi Vander
                - Grade 7: Winnie Wilcox, Olivia Tanguay, Leah Johannesson
                - Grade 6: Kiara Trevor, Mackenzie Drew, Millie Knox
            - **All Cape Music Festival (BHS)**
                - Grade 10: Kyla Reekie, Shea Riley, Alexis Buttrick, Lucas Rooney, Cameron Russell, Landon Decker, Odin Uri
                - Grade 11: Abigail Billard, Ariana Traver
            - **Senior Southeast District Festival**
                - Kyla Reekie (Grade 10)- also selected for MMEA All-State Festival (one of ~200 statewide)
                - Alexis Buttrick (Grade 10)
                - Ariana Traver (Grade 11)
            - **MTEG (Theater) —** The cast and crew of "Diversion" advanced to the MTEG State Finals.
                - State Finalists: Lucas Rooney, Ariana Traver, Emane Guley, Bridget Curran, Caleigh Morrill, Danielle Hassett, Hannah Audette, Ryan Washburn, Sam Turgis, Abbie Smith, Ana Avelar, Madeline Rosenthal, Kylie Murray
                - Excellence in Acting- Preliminary Round: Ariana Traver, Kyla Reekie
                - Excellence in Acting- Semifinal Round: Ariana Traver, Shea Riley
                - Excellence in Acting- Preliminary & Semifinal: Ryan Washburn
                - Excellence in Acting- State Final: Sam Turgis, Abbie Smith
                - Excellence in Costume Design- All 3 Rounds (Prelim, Semi, State): Keilah Rauch

    - Excellence in Sound Design- Preliminary & Semifinal: Ben Longo (Grade 12)
    - Excellence in Scenic Design- All 3 Rounds: Miranda Rossignol (Grade 12)
- Events: District Calendar - Past and Upcoming Events Report-
    - District-wide-Dr. Zhou says April is the Month of the Military Child and BPS invites all military students to Purple Up Day on April 15th at BIS.
    - BES- Mrs. Colbert highlights events BIS event on behalf of Mrs. Carpenito including: Light Up You celebrating neurodiversity with community partners including Champions, Best Buddies, Bourne Fire, and Bourne Police, kindergarten registration with family liaison Maura Dankert available for questions, Bus Driver Appreciation Day, National Therapy Animal Day featuring Shamrock the comfort dog, Poem in My Pocket Day with poetry sharing, and the book nook open during lunches.
    - BIS-Mrs. Colbert highlights BIS events including: STEAMposium organized by Lisa Dix and STEAM teachers, grades 3–5 wrapping up ELA MCAS, Family Paint Night, Autism Awareness Day with students wearing blue, Red Sox home opener Friday with students invited to wear baseball gear, a combined town hall on April 8 for 4th and 5th grade students transitioning to BMS, and after vacation Math MCAS for grades 3–5 along with Science and Technology MCAS for grade 5 only.
    - BMS- Mrs. Sleboda highlights events at BMS including: MCAS starting next week with the continuation of the BMS MCAS Challenge tradition, a schoolwide assembly on Monday at 1:45 PM with a $100 Amazon gift card awarded to the winner, ELA MCAS taking place on April 7–8, the Lucky for Life initiative wrapping up where students earned raffle tickets for demonstrating B2B values of being respectful, responsible, and safe, prizes including homework passes, free gym time, walks with comfort dog Shelby, lunch with the principal, and Principal for a Day, 12 chorus students attending the Junior All Cape Chorus Workshop at Dennis-Yarmouth Middle School on April 16, a Parent Information Night for rising 5th and 6th grade families next week, Purple Up Day on April 15 honoring military-connected students, and a town hall on April 17 for current 7th and 8th graders transitioning to BHS with BHS students and Dr. Zhou.
    - BHS- Dr. Maguire highlights events at BHS including: 10th grade ELA MCAS completed smoothly with math MCAS up next in May, a well-attended 7th grade welcome and transition event, 8th grade scheduling underway with course registration forms going home and counselors meeting individually with all 7th graders, Quarter 3 closing on Friday with report cards going out April 10, the South Coast Conference Academic All-Stars Luncheon on April 16 at Century House in Acushnet recognizing top 5 seniors and NHS advisors, the Credit for Life Fair financial literacy event with Cape Cod Five for grades 10–11, the annual Mock Car Crash at the end of April for the junior class involving Bourne Police, Fire, Nickerson Funeral Home, and drama students to highlight the dangers of distracted and impaired driving ahead of junior prom in May, and recognition of Educational Support Professionals Day with appreciation shared.

- Transition Update- Dr. Zhou shares the running list of transition updates. She says the ESP Staff Preference Survey is currently open and will close on 4/10/26, and anticipated vacancies have been posted with the hiring process actively moving forward. In budgeting, presentations were made to town boards on 3/31/26 regarding the district budget, and the Spring Town Meeting is scheduled for 5/4/26. Facilities updates include ongoing painting at the high school and the development of a districtwide furniture and moving plan for all schools. In schedule and program development, discussions continue regarding PreK expansion in partnership with Champions, including site visits and information gathering. In communications and engagement, FAQ documents are being developed for all schools, and student voice initiatives continue through the BPS Student Voices Instagram and the "Ask a High Schooler" feature. Recent engagement included an 11th and 12th grade listening session and a Rising 8th Grade Welcome and Information Night held on 3/31/26. She adds that several future events are scheduled across the district including: a Rising 5th and 6th Grade Welcome and Information Night on 4/8/26 at 5:30 PM at BMS, Grade 4 and 5 Town Hall will take place at BIS on 4/14/26 at 9:00 AM, the BHS Art Show & Celebration of Learning for AP Seminar and AP Research will run from 4:00–6:00 PM followed by the BHS Cabaret at 7:00 PM on 4/16/26, a Grade 7 and 8 Town Hall Meeting will be held at BMS on 4/17/26 from 7:50–8:30 AM, a Rising 2nd and 3rd Parent Welcome and Information Night on 5/13/26 at 5:00 PM at BIS, followed by a Grades 1 and 2 Town Hall from 12:45–1:30 PM. In June, Step Up Days include Rising Grade 2 and 4 on 6/2, Rising Grade 3 and 5 on 6/3, and Rising Grade 6, 8, and 9 on 6/10.
- Teaching and Learning Update- Mrs. Borning introduces Mrs. Sleboda to provide an informational update on the revised BMS Program of Studies, with no vote required. She says the changes include the addition of Grade 5 to BMS and the removal of Grade 8 as students transition to BHS, along with improved vertical alignment across BIS and BHS, School Counseling department has been renamed School Counseling and Academic Planning, new course offerings include Digital Literacy and AI, Project Lead the Way Computer Science for Innovators and Makers, and a grant-funded My Career Planning and Academic Success (MyCAP) seminar. Additional updates include the renaming of Executive Function and Learning Skills with a pilot SEL curriculum, revisions to the ELC and special education continuum with a course now titled Literacy, and expanded Spanish programming beginning in Grade 5 and continuing through Grade 6 and beyond. She says grade 5 students will continue to receive daily recess and a lunch period with free movement time, while math and literacy interventions remain in place with ongoing student screening.

  Mrs. Borning continues saying that ELA MCAS at BIS was successfully completed at the end of March and that BMS testing will begin next week. She thanks staff across schools for ensuring a smooth testing window, highlighting the preparation work that supported students, as well as the contributions of the technology department, Mr. Troy's support in buildings, and Chris for his efforts in coordinating and supporting the process. She highlights the fourth session of the Inspired to Learn PD series held on March 20 saying that elementary educators participated in a session with Dr. Warnock focused on understanding and interrupting microaggressions, while secondary educators engaged in collaboration around curriculum, instruction, and transition planning. She says feedback from staff was very positive, with participants describing the experience as engaging, productive, and valuable, and expressing appreciation for both the equity-focused learning and the time to collaborate. She reports that the Instructional Council also met this month to review feedback from recent PD sessions and to advance ongoing curriculum work including developing a shared unit template aligned with Atlas to support staff writing curriculum and lesson materials, particularly for educators working on grant-funded curriculum

development. She notes that future priorities include strengthening peer-led professional development systems, creating a formal process for staff-led PD presentations, expanding peer-to-peer classroom observation opportunities, and refining onboarding materials for new staff to better support curriculum consistency. Mrs. Borning provides a grant update, emphasizing that all grant funding is supplemental and supports work beyond the district's baseline budget. She says BMS received a multi-year grant from the 1+8 Foundation to support the Investigating History curriculum, including expanded training for Grade 5 staff and differentiated professional development cohorts for teachers at varying levels of experience, both BMS and BHS received Project Lead the Way grants supporting new computer science and advanced manufacturing pathways, respectively, with a strong focus on professional development for educators, and a MyCAP planning grant will support curriculum writing stipends for teachers developing new courses tied to the program of studies.

- Vote to final approval - BMS Nature's Classroom Trip- Mrs. Sleboda asks for final approval for the Natures Classroom field trip taking place May 4–6, 2026 in Swansea, MA on a 125-acre lakefront property with trails. She says a total of 96 sixth grade students will attend, accompanied by 9 staff members, including Mr. Lundell and administrative support. Transportation will be provided via round-trip coach bus, and the cost per student is $420. She outlines financial support options that were offered, including fundraising through BMS Bingo Night, benefactor sponsorships, and counselor-identified need-based assistance to ensure accessibility for families.

***Kerrie Scofield motions to the approve the BMS Natures Classroom overnight field trip; Seconded by Kendellynn Gagne; Voice vote passes 7-0-0***

- Vote to final approval - BMS Washington DC Trip- Mrs. Sleboda asks for final approval for the Washington DC field trip taking place June 1–4, 2026. She says a total of 102 eighth grade students will participate, accompanied by 10 staff members, including Mr. Lundell as administrative support, and Dr. Carolyn Buckley as a chaperone. Transportation will be provided by round-trip coach bus, and the cost per student is $1,170. She notes that the trip is closely connected to the 8th grade Civics Civic Action Project, giving students opportunities to engage in Capitol Hill meetings, visit monuments and museums, and participate in discussions about current events.

***Kerrie Scofield motions to the approve the BMS Washington DC field trip; Seconded by Kendellynn Gagne; Voice vote passes 7-0-0***

    - Budget and Facilities Update- Mr. Geist says the Jackson Field bleacher project is beginning this week, with temporary fencing being installed and full contractor mobilization scheduled for the upcoming Monday. He says work includes the demolition, removal, and replacement of the home-side bleachers, and access to the track and field will remain open throughout the duration of the project. He adds that the middle school roof project, in partnership with the MSBA, is currently underway and if all proceeds as planned, construction is expected to take place during the summer of 2027.
    - Technology Update- Mr. Oliver says the technology department has been focused on planning for upcoming summer projects, including the districtwide move-up of one grade level at each school which involves coordinating software and curriculum systems, managing the 1-to-1 Chromebook program and other instructional technology, and preparing for the transfer of data across buildings. He says the department continues to work with vendors to refine proposals for the school security capital outlay

article being considered for the Spring Town Meeting. Mr. Oliver says he participated in the Massachusetts Chief Technology Officer Clinic in Marlborough, a two-day professional development event attended by over 400 K–12 technology professionals where sessions included cybersecurity, FERPA and student data privacy, state data reporting requirements from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, along with broader instructional technology integration topics. He says work on a promotional video for Bourne High School, filmed with Bourne students and Dartmouth High School Television Media students, is currently in post-production and is expected to be ready for presentation at the May School Committee meeting. He adds that this collaboration has also sparked interest in potentially expanding media programming partnerships, including a possible after-school opportunity connected to Bourne's TV studio. Chair Beals asks if there is one chromebook for all grade levels. Mr. Oliver says elementary and intermediate school devices remain in classrooms on carts and do not typically go home, while middle and high school students are assigned 1-to-1 devices that are taken home daily.

- Student Services and Special Education Update-Mrs. Donahue says the staff have been very busy completing required meetings and student assessments as approximately 340 students are currently supported with IEPs across the district, with many annual meetings concentrated in the spring despite efforts to distribute them throughout the year. She notes these meetings have provided valuable opportunities to review student progress since the fall, with ongoing primary areas of need including specific learning disabilities, autism, and health-related services. She says she and Kate Hartley continue to conduct site visits for both in-district students and out-of-district placements.She adds that the department has also begun recruitment for the extended school year program and has focused on piloting and refining data collection tools to better track student needs and minimize regression of skills. In mid-April, families of eligible students will be asked to complete confirmation forms to help finalize classroom assignments and transportation planning and the program will continue to offer both a four-day instructional model and tutoring options. Mrs. Donahue notes participation in a state conference for special education directors, where discussions focused on strengthening collaboration with the Department of Children and Families, program review requirements, and compliance with new five-day regulations and says these conversations will continue at a statewide meeting on April 15th.
- Dr. Zhou concludes the Superintendents Report by thanking the ESPs for the tremendous work they do, and thanking bus drivers and Sue Downing for getting students to school safely during a traffic event on Monday.

- **SCHOOL COMMITTEE SUB COMMITTEE & DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS**
  - Curriculum Subcommittee- Kerrie Scofield says the subcommittee meets tomorrow and discussed the BMS Program of Studies at their last meeting.
  - Policy Subcommittee- Chair Beals says the subcommittee did not meet this month but will meet next month.
  - Budget and Facilities Subcommittee- Kendellynn Gagne says the subcommittee will be meeting on April 17th.
  - SEPAC- Kristin Donahue says SEPAC will be at BES for the Light It Up Blue event tomorrow, and they will be hosting a virtual learning opportunity focused on early literacy and language development, presented by speech-language pathologist Cheryl Silva, on the 7th at 10am. Local daycare providers and early childhood centers have been invited to participate in the session, with the goal of increasing awareness

among families and caregivers about the importance of early language development. She notes that elections for the group will need to be held in the spring, and volunteers are being sought to support this process.

- Cape Cod Collaborative- Kari MacRae says the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 8th. She shares that the group continues to make solid progress in filling positions, although transportation remains an ongoing challenge but there was appreciation for Bourne for stepping up and helping ensure students are able to get to programs on time.
- District Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee- Mrs. Borning reports on behalf of Jessee Clements. She says the committee met in March with Dr. Warnock and continued foundational work focused on how the committee can best support and positively impact the district, with the next meeting scheduled virtually on April 28th at 3:45 PM. She also notes that March, as Women's History Month, was highlighted through a "Women in Space" table at the STEAMposium event and April is Arab-American History Month, with teachers and librarians across the district continuing to incorporate monthly cultural observances by providing age-appropriate learning opportunities and resources that support student understanding and engagement.
- District Technology Committee- Chris Oliver says the committee will meet next Thursday April 9th.
- District School Wellness Advisory Committee (SWAC)- SWAC did not meet but will meet one more time before the end of the school year.

## 7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Kendellynn Gagne asks if there are any preliminary plans to manage student transportation in light of upcoming bridge construction that will impact travel between April 20th and May 20th. Mr. Geist says that there are currently no formal changes in place, but they will monitor conditions closely and make adjustments as needed once the impact becomes clearer. He explains that transportation disruptions are handled on a case-by-case basis, typically observing conditions during the first few days and then adjusting bus schedules or sending updates if necessary. He notes strong collaboration with Bourne Police in past situations, including assistance with traffic management and helping buses safely re-enter main roads when needed. Mrs. Borning adds that at the school level, particularly at BHS, attendance policies are adjusted during transportation delays to account for late bus arrivals, including flexibility for student drivers.

## 8. ACTION ITEMS

- Vote to approve Warrants and Payroll

***Kerrie Scofield motions to the approve warrants and payroll; Seconded by Kendellynn Gagne; Voice vote passes 6-0-0 (Student Representative Zoe Noonan not eligible to vote)***

- Vote to approve regular session minutes of: February 4, 2026; March 4, 2026

***Kerrie Scofield motions to the approve the regular session minutes of 2/4/26 and 3/4/26; Seconded by Kendellynn Gagne; Voice vote passes 7-0-0***

## 9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. Recognition of Music In Our Schools Month; Youth Art Month; Youth Theatre Month - April
b. Continued discussion about facilities use planning
c. Student Spotlight
d. Final Approval - MS Nature's Classroom & Washington DC Trip - April
e. Recognition of BHS Unified National Banner Champion School
f. Navigator Awards - June

## 10. ADJOURN-*Kerrie Scofield motions to adjourn regular session; Seconded by Kendellynn Gagne; Voice vote passes 7-0-0*

**Regular Session ended at 7:50 PM**

***List of documents and exhibits used (GL c.30A, sect 22(a))***

| Agenda Item | Document |
|---|---|
| 0 | School Committee Agenda |
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**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

Jessica Moerman
Recording Secretary