

Pembroke Public Schools

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PEMBROKE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, July 14, 2026

North Pembroke Elementary School Library

Call to Order

Mrs. Glennon called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Present from Administration: Erin Obey, Superintendent; Marybeth Brust, Assistant Superintendent; Jessica DeLorenzo, Director of Student Services

Present from Committee: Allison Glennon, Chair; Susan Bollinger, Vice Chair; David Boyle, Clerk; and Katrina Delaney

Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

None

Acknowledge & Schedule Visitors

Mrs. Glennon welcomed the visitors

Adjustments to the Agenda

Liaison Updates under Subcommittee updates

Communications

None

Approval of Bill Schedule

Will be circulated electronically

Consideration for Approval: School Committee Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2026

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Katrina Delaney, it was unanimously voted to approve the school committee meeting minutes of July 14, 2026 as presented.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

For Discussion and Potential Vote: Granting Pembroke Selectboard Ownership of the Hatch Building

The Committee revisited prior discussions regarding the future of the Hatch building and whether ownership and responsibility should be transferred to the Select Board. Mrs. Bollinger reported consulting a real estate attorney, who advised that the deed restriction associated with the property had expired after 50 years and she shared the law that was provided to her by the attorney. She did additional historical research and found an original agreement

dating back to approximately 1925 between the landowner and the Select Board, not the School Committee. She added that her understanding is that the jurisdiction over the building stemmed from its educational use, and because the building is no longer needed for educational purposes, it could be returned to the town. Mrs. Glennon reported conversations with Select Board members, town staff, and the Historical Society. Consensus among these stakeholders suggested that transferring responsibility to the Select Board would allow the town to pursue grant funding, legal review, and restoration planning, activities beyond the School Committee's current capacity. Mrs. Obey said she shared this information with the Town Administrator, and he is going to check with the Town's Counsel for an opinion. The School Committee agreed to proceed with a vote, with the understanding that additional action could be taken later if required. After discussion clarifying that the town technically owns all municipal property and that the Committee's action was to relinquish jurisdiction, the motion passed unanimously.

VOTE: On a motion made by Susan Bollinger and seconded by Katrina Delaney, it was unanimously voted to grant the Pembroke Select Board ownership of the Hatch building.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

Superintendent's Report

Fiscal Year 2026 Closeout

Mrs. Obey provided a detailed overview of the FY26 financial closeout, supported by memos and spreadsheets included in the meeting packet. At the start of FY26, several positions were intentionally frozen to create flexibility for collective bargaining. Midyear, some positions were unfrozen, but not all could be filled due to limited midyear applicant pools. This resulted in more year-end funding than typical. Mrs. Obey confirmed that all items planned during the FY27 budget cycle were successfully funded, including:

- Special education tuition pre-buy (combination of year-end and capital funds)
- FOSS science materials
- Simplified writing materials
- Elementary teacher laptop replacements
- Elementary paraprofessional Chromebooks
- Elementary iPads
- Student Chromebook replacement cycle
- Basketball hoop replacements at Pembroke High School
- Grade 3 reading materials
- Updated U.S. History textbooks for Grades 10–11
- Investigating History materials for Grades 6–7
- Replacement of the Pembroke High School sound console
- Year 1 of the multi-year projector replacement plan
- First payment for Hobomock HVAC replacement

Mrs. Obey explained that after all planned purchases, approximately \$270,000 remained. Historically, remaining funds were deposited into the Special Education Stabilization Account. This year, she recommended depositing \$50,000 into that account and returning the remaining funds to the Town to help offset the snow and ice deficit, which is approximately \$220,000.

Mrs. Obey reported that the Governor's updated FY27 budget raises Chapter 70 minimum aid to \$160 per student, providing Pembroke with an additional \$220,000 beyond what was used in initial planning. She noted that if the Town resolves its snow and ice deficit using free cash and other municipal funds, the district should receive most of this increase at Fall Town Meeting. She stated that \$220,000 applied to FY27 operations is far more beneficial.

Mrs. Obey said she recommends that the remaining funds left in the FY26 budget go back to the Town to balance the snow and ice deficit. Additionally, \$46,311.62 from FY25 purchase orders automatically reverts to free cash.

In total, the district would return approximately \$266,000 to the Town. Lastly, she recommends carrying forward \$4,454,393.90 in encumbrances into FY27, which covers summer payrolls, open purchase orders, and the SPED Stabilization transfer.

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to carry forward \$4,454,393.90 in encumbrances into FY27,

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

Consideration for Approval: Update to 2026-2027 School Year Calendar

Mrs. Obey presented minor adjustments to grading periods due to the later start of the school year. No changes were made to school days, start times, or holidays.

VOTE: On a motion made by Susan Bollinger and seconded by Katrina Delaney, it was unanimously voted to approve the updated 2026-2027 school calendar.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

Review of Strategic Plan Scorecard

Mrs. Obey announced that the full-color strategic plan would go live on the district website the following day, accompanied by a broadcast email and an introductory video. A proposed scorecard structure, similar to the district's technology scorecard, was shared. Updates will occur in October, February, and May. The Committee discussed potentially adding a summer update depending on progress. Mrs. Bollinger asked for clarity on expected outcomes and measurable benchmarks. Mrs. Obey explained that her goals would be presented in SMART format, with specific deliverables such as timelines and measurable targets and the Strategic Plan will serve as the anchor document for superintendent, principal, and teacher goals.

Consideration for Second Read and Approval: FY 27 Admin Salary Grid

The Superintendent presented the second read of the FY27 administrative salary grid, reflecting a 3% increase consistent with collective bargaining agreements. She noted concerns about market competitiveness for entry-level administrative positions, particularly assistant principals, given the small pay differential relative to teaching roles. Market research will be conducted during the year.

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the FY27 administrative salary grid.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney

Voting No: none

Abstaining: none

Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

Consideration for Approval: PCMS Overnight/Out of State Field Trip: Quebec City, Canada April 2027

Mrs. Obey presented the annual Quebec trip for middle school French students, with estimated attendance of 24 students. She added that enrollment in French has increased, with two sections of Grade 8 French running next year. Funding for the trip is a combination of family contributions, fundraising, and scholarships for students with financial need.

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the PCMS Overnight/Out of State Field Trip: Quebec City, Canada next April.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

Consideration for Approval: UPDATED Overnight/Out of State Field Trip: Disney, April 2027

Mrs. Obey said due to scheduling changes at Universal Studios, the return date was moved from April 18 to April 19. The additional night will cost approximately \$218. Families have been notified, and fundraising has not yet begun.

VOTE: On a motion made by Susan Bollinger and seconded by Katrina Delaney, it was unanimously voted to approve the updated Overnight/Out of State Field Trip to Disney, April 2027.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

Consideration for Second Read and Approval: Elementary Student Handbook

Mrs. Obey said the updates include:

- Arrival time clarification
- Alignment of absence note procedures with secondary schools
- Integration of transportation manual language
- Meeting structures for two-household families

Mrs. Glennon asked that the principals provide a summary of the changes in their newsletters.

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the Elementary Student Handbook.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

Consideration for Second Read and Approval: PCMS Student Handbook

Mrs. Obey said the updates include the meeting structures for two-household families.

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the PCMS Student Handbook.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

Consideration for Second Read and Approval: PHS Student Handbook

Mrs. Obey said the PHS handbook has mostly grammatical cleanup along with the following updates:

- Absence policy clarifications related to transfer students

- Alignment of extracurricular and co-curricular requirements
- Updated fire alarm consequences
- Standardized cell phone expectations across classrooms

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by David Boyle, it was voted 3-1 to approve the PHS Student Handbook.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Katrina Delaney, David Boyle

Voting No: Susan Bollinger

Abstaining: none

Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

Mrs. Bollinger was the dissenting vote due solely to disagreement with restricting cell phone access during study hall.

Liaison Updates

Mrs. Delaney provided an overview of the finalized FY27 Massachusetts state budget, signed on July 1, totaling \$63.4 billion. She noted that Chapter 70, the state's primary school aid program, provides \$7.66 billion statewide and includes a \$160 per-student minimum increase—the highest in state history. Pembroke remains a minimum-aid district, along with 84% of municipalities, underscoring ongoing concerns with the funding formula. She reviewed recent minimum-aid trends: \$75 in FY25, \$150 in FY26, and now \$160 in FY27. The budget also includes \$652.66 million for the special education circuit breaker, plus \$200 million from a supplemental bill, bringing total statewide funding to \$852.6 million. This program reimburses districts for portions of high-cost special education tuition and transportation. Additional updates include continued funding for universal free school meals, regional transportation, vocational and homeless (McKinney-Vento) transportation, and targeted grants for early literacy, high-dosage tutoring, student mental health, and regionalization/shared services. These grants require application and are not guaranteed. She highlighted the reestablishment of the Foundation Budget Review Commission, which will examine the Chapter 70 formula and issue recommendations by October 2028. This will not affect FY27 funding but begins a formal process for future reform, including opportunities for public comment. Overall, the FY27 budget provides the highest minimum Chapter 70 increase to date, continued support for high-cost special education and transportation, and several targeted grant opportunities. The district will use this information in upcoming School Committee and Budget Subcommittee discussions to finalize Pembroke's FY27 state aid allocations.

Mrs. Obey added context regarding the special education Circuit Breaker, noting that although the program was originally designed to reimburse 100% of costs, districts have never received full reimbursement. The FY27 funding levels translate to approximately 75% reimbursement for tuition and 68% for transportation, representing improvement but still falling short of the program's intended design. She also highlighted the positive impact of universal free school meals on Pembroke's food service program. For the first time, the district is seeing a meaningful revenue stream in its cafeteria accounts, allowing staff to shift away from managing negative meal-charge balances and instead focus on enhancing student meal offerings. This fall, the district plans to introduce new menu items, conduct taste-testing at upper grade levels, and invest in improvements made possible by this new financial stability.

Future Meeting Dates and Topics

8/18, 9/1 and 9/15

VOTE: At 6:46 PM, on a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted, roll call vote, to enter Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2), to discuss a personal service contract, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the School Committee, as declared by the Chair.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney

Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

APPROVED: August 18, 2026

MOTIONS

VOTE: On a motion made by David Boyle and seconded by Katrina Delaney, it was unanimously voted to approve the school committee meeting minutes of July 14, 2026 as presented.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

VOTE: On a motion made by Susan Bollinger and seconded by Katrina Delaney, it was unanimously voted to grant the Pembroke Select Board ownership of the Hatch building.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by David Boyle, it was unanimously voted to carry forward \$4,454,393.90 in encumbrances into FY27,

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

VOTE: On a motion made by Susan Bollinger and seconded by Katrina Delaney, it was unanimously voted to approve the updated 2026-2027 school calendar.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the FY27 administrative salary grid.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the PCMS Overnight/Out of State Field Trip: Quebec City, Canada next April.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

VOTE: On a motion made by Susan Bollinger and seconded by Katrina Delaney, it was unanimously voted to approve the updated Overnight/Out of State Field Trip to Disney, April 2027.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the Elementary Student Handbook.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted to approve the PCMS Student Handbook.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

VOTE: On a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by David Boyle, it was voted 3-1 to approve the PHS Student Handbook.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Katrina Delaney, David Boyle
Voting No: Susan Bollinger
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti

VOTE: At 6:46 PM, on a motion made by Katrina Delaney and seconded by Susan Bollinger, it was unanimously voted, roll call vote, to enter Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2), to discuss a personal service contract, as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the legal position of the School Committee, as declared by the Chair.

Voting Yes: Allison Glennon, Susan Bollinger, David Boyle and Katrina Delaney
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Katrina Scarsciotti