Holbrook Public Schools
245 South Franklin Street
Holbrook, MA 02343

AMENDED MINUTES OF THE HOLBROOK SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Holbrook Middle-High School Auditorium
April 16, 2026
6:00pm

In Attendance: Barbara Davis, School Committee Chairperson
Renee Malvesti, School Committee Vice Chair
Fred White, School Committee Secretary
Ryan Despres, School Committee Member
Julie Hamilton, Superintendent of Schools
Stefanie DeRosa, Curriculum Director
Jennifer Bates, Holbrook Middle-High School Principal
Christine Suckow, School Business Administrator
Michael Bolger, Facilities Director

- Amsterdam, Paris, London International Field Trip Request
- Amended Superintendent Contract
- Proposed 2026-2027 School Calendar
- March 19, 2026 School Committee Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Ms. Davis.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Reorganization
School Committee Chair
Mr. F. White made a motion to appoint Ms. Davis as the School Committee Chair.

(F. White/Despres) made a motion to appoint Ms. Davis as the School Committee Chair.
4-0-0 (Mr. C. White was not in attendance)

School Committee Vice Chair
Mr. F. White made a motion to appoint Ms. Malvesti as the School Committee Vice Chair.

(F. White/Despres) made a motion to appoint Ms. Malvesti as the School Committee Vice Chair.
4-0-0 (Mr. C. White was not in attendance)

School Committee Secretary
Mr. Despres made a motion to appoint Mr. Fred White as the School Committee Secretary.

(Despres/Malvesti) made a motion to appoint Mr. Fred White as School Committee Secretary.
4-0-0 (Mr. C. White was not in attendance)

Ms. Davis requested that the committee review the current School Committee Subcommittee, Ad Hoc and Liaison position appointments and reach out to her if there are any changes they would like to make before the May 28, 2026 school committee meeting.

Resident's Concerns
None.

Student Advisory
Katie Nguyen presented on recent and upcoming events which included term 3 coming to an end and the 79th Annual State Student Government Day was held in Boston where senior Dilynn Fox was selected to be the Speaker of the House. The Culture Fest took place on April 9th and Robotics had their last competition on April 3rd at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Superintendent's Report
John F. Kennedy Elementary School
Last week the staff at JFK held their parent teacher conferences. Today the grade 4 students visited the Museum of Science. The JFK session 3 robotics team kicked off their first contest where students built a hopper robot and successfully coded it to run.

Holbrook Middle-High School
The Cultural Fair was a great chance for students to explore and celebrate different cultures from around the world. SAT's were given this past Tuesday. The deadline for seniors to order their yearbooks is tomorrow. Active Minds Club, which is a Kyle's Care sponsored club, went to Gillette and the keynote speaker talked about animation being used to spread mental health awareness. There is a workshop coming up called College 101 which helps parents of juniors with information on navigating the college application process.

District-Wide
Holbrook was awarded the MYCAP (My Career in Academic Planning) grant which aligns to our strategic plan. This is a student-driven multiyear planning process for grades 6-12 and is used in education to align student interests with academic and career goals.

Due to the continuous great work by Ms. DeRosa, Ms. Bates and Katie Buckland from the Department of Education, we have been partnering with school systems to discuss programs reveal math and ELA perspectives where Holbrook is being held as a model. The school choice vote will take place next month. The Massachusetts House of Representatives passed a bill Wednesday night to keep cell phones out of schools and children off social media. This bill prohibits the use of cell phones from school arrival to school dismissal. Leadership will wrap up the strategic plan with Ruth Whitner on May 12th. This will be presented to the committee in the fall and once approved will be posted on the district websites.

Personnel
New Hires
- Marques Benton, Jr., LTS 0.4 Spanish and 0.6 ESL Teacher, Holbrook Middle-High School, effective April 8, 2026
- Katrina Kelman, LTS School Nurse, Holbrook School District, effective March 9, 2026

Discussion Items
Amsterdam, Paris, London International Field Trip Request February 17, 2028-February 24, 2028
Principal Bates presented the trip and itinerary. She did confirm that the 6:1 chaperone ratio would be adhered to regardless of the number of students participating. This is a preliminary approval so they can advertise the trip. Once students have committed and they have final numbers they will present again for final approval.

Superintendent Contract
An additional sentence was added to Section III Compensation that reads "*The Superintendent shall receive an annual salary increase that, at least, matches the increase approved for the Holbrook Education Association (Teacher's Unit)*."

Proposed 2026-2027 School Calendar
The recommended calendar has the new staff orientation taking place on August 25th and 26th. Teachers report/full-day on August 31st with the 180th day being Thursday, June 17th.

Food Service Management Contract Renewal
Ms. Suckow addressed the Chartwells 3-year Food Service Management Contract renewal. This contract was put out to bid in March and two bids we received. One was from Genuine Foods and the other was from Chartwells and Chartwells won the bid.

March 19, 2026 School Committee Meeting Minutes
No corrections or changes.

School Committee Subcommittee Member Reports
None.

School Committee Member Reports
Ms. Davis reported on the recent MASC Learning Lunches on legislative updates and personal finances are posted on the MASC website. The next Learning Lunch is tomorrow at noon on 70 minutes on Chapter 70.

Ms. Davis attended the School Committee Day on the Hill. MASC Division III is having their annual legislative update on Thursday, May 14, 2026 at Southeastern Regional.

Action Items
Amsterdam, Paris, London International Field Trip Request February 17, 2028-February 24, 2028
Mr. F. White made a motion to initially approve the Amsterdam, Paris, London International Field Trip from February 17, 2028-February 24, 2028 so they can begin advertising the trip.

(F. White/Malvesti) made a motion to initially approve the Amsterdam, Paris, London International Field Trip from February 17, 2028-February 24, 2028 so they can begin advertising the trip.
4-0-0 (Mr. C. White was not in attendance)

Superintendent Salary
Mr. F. White made a motion to approve adding the sentence "*The Superintendent shall receive an annual salary increase that, at least, matches the increase approved for the Holbrook Education Association (Teacher's Unit) to the superintendent's contract.*"

(F. White/Malvesti) made a motion to approve adding the sentence "*The Superintendent shall receive an annual salary increase that, at least, matches the increase approved for the Holbrook Education Association (Teacher's Unit) to the superintendent's contract*."
4-0-0 (Mr. C. White was not in attendance)

2026-2027 School Calendar
Mr. F. White made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 school calendar as presented.

(F. White/Malvesti) made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 school calendar as presented.
4-0-0 (Mr. C. White was not in attendance)

Food Service Management Contract Renewal
Mr. F. White made a motion to approve the 3-year Chartwells Food Service Management contract renewal as presented.

(F. White/Malvesti) made a motion to approve the 3-year Chartwells Food Service Management contract renewal as presented.
4-0-0 (Mr. C. White was not in attendance)

March 19, 2026 School Committee Meeting Minutes
Mr. F. White made a motion to approve the March 19, 2026 School Committee Meeting minutes as presented.

(F. White/Malvesti) made a motion to approve the March 19, 2026 School Committee meeting minutes as presented.
4-0-0 (Mr. C. White was not in attendance)

Old Business
None.

New Business
None.

ADJOURN or VOTE TO CONTINUE

Voted: (F. White/Despres) The School Committee made a motion to adjourn the regular School Committee Meeting of April 16, 2026 at 6:34pm.
4-0-0 (Mr. C. White was not in attendance)

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget Baker

Recording Secretary