



AVON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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School Committee:	Paul Chapman, Chairperson	Maria Piccirilli
	Tracy Sheehan, Vice Chair	Shannon Sabree
	Claudia Lucia, Secretary	
Student Advisors:	Zara Legerme	Mathilda Macenat
Superintendent:	Lori Jodoin	

AVON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES February 11, 2026

Regular School Committee Meeting - Wednesday Evening 5:30 p.m., AMHS Media Center, 285 West Main Street, Avon or Remote Via Zoom

- I. Meeting Called to Order-** Meeting was called to order by School Committee Chair, Paul Chapman at 5:30pm.
- II. Signing of Warrants-** Warrants went around and were signed.
- III. Public Comment**

Information

A. Student Reports

Student Advisors: Zara Legerme and Mathilda Macenat

Butler-The past month at Butler has been busy and full of community-building activities as February break approaches. Students showcased their talents in a K–5 Winter Concert led by the new music teacher, with strong support from Student Council, who also raised \$665 for Boston Children’s Hospital through a bake sale. After-school clubs have resumed, offering a variety of engaging activities. The ASA hosted a successful Family BINGO Night, bringing students and families together. Looking ahead, the school is preparing for spring events, including the Scholastic Book Fair, YMCA Water Wise program, and upcoming field trips, all designed to foster community and student engagement.

AMHS-AMHS has had a busy and engaging period since the last school committee meeting. The Drama Company showcased student-written and directed performances, and Early College students attended a regional symposium in Quincy. Upcoming events include the Polar Plunge supporting Special Olympics, a February writing workshop for 10th graders, and Parent-Teacher Conferences in March. Additionally, AMHS will host its first Career Day, featuring a variety of professionals and career opportunities for students.

B. Superintendent’s Report

Presenter: Lori Jodoin, Superintendent

The Superintendent would like to recognize the custodial staff and bus drivers for their dedication in managing the significant snowfall this winter, ensuring that school buildings and transportation remain safe for all. The Superintendent also attended the Early College Symposium alongside AMHS students and faculty, where students shared their successes in

Early College programs and participated in leadership and college planning sessions. As part of the ongoing partnership with Quincy College, a transition coach is now working directly with students to support them in navigating college-level coursework and the college planning process.

Additionally, the Superintendent, along with Laura Louko, visited the middle school and observed a community meeting that celebrated student achievements and promoted teamwork. Classroom visits highlighted engaging, hands-on learning experiences, including physics projects such as marble roller coasters and experiments exploring energy concepts. In English classes, students led discussions on *The Giver*, demonstrating their ability to support ideas with evidence and engage in respectful dialogue. These observations reflect the strong commitment of teachers and administrators to innovative, student-centered instruction.

C. AMHS Spotlight

The Committee received an Avon Middle High School spotlight presentation led by Physics teacher, Mr. Hubeny and student, Vanessa Curto. Mr. Hubeny highlighted his emphasis on project-based learning as a way to deepen student understanding and align with Massachusetts science and engineering practices. He explained that beyond content knowledge, students develop critical skills such as modeling, data analysis, and problem-solving, which are transferable beyond the classroom. Drawing from his own experience as a student, he emphasized that hands-on projects create lasting learning experiences and a sense of accomplishment that extends well beyond the course.

Vanessa Curto shared examples of recent classroom projects, including a momentum unit where students designed and tested “battle cars” to simulate collisions and explore concepts such as mass, velocity, and safety features like airbags and crumple zones. She also described a current energy unit in which students are building roller coasters to demonstrate the conversion of potential energy to kinetic energy. Vanessa noted that the hands-on nature of these projects makes learning more engaging and helps concepts stick more effectively compared to traditional instruction.

D. Athletic Update

The Avon Middle High School Athletic Department conducted a student survey to better understand sports interests, receiving 69 responses with participation across genders. The results showed strong interest in traditional MIAA sports, with soccer (33 students) and basketball (32 students) being the most popular, followed by baseball (22 students) and football (17 students). The survey primarily reflected responses from students in grades 4 through 6.

Students also expressed interest in expanding athletic offerings beyond current programs. Track and Field (23 students) and E-Sports (21 students) were among the most requested additions, along with hockey and golf (17 each) and lacrosse (16 students). Based on these findings, the district is exploring co-op opportunities with nearby schools such as Blue Hills Regional, Holbrook Middle-High School, and Brockton High to potentially offer additional sports, particularly hockey, golf, and spring track.

E. Budget FY2027 Update

Presenter: Larry Azer

The Committee discussed and voted to adopt a total operating budget of \$14,070,933 for FY2027. Of this amount, \$1,200,000 will be applied from School Choice funds. As a result, the School Committee's total FY2027 funding request from the Town of Avon to support the School Department's operating budget is \$12,870,933.

IV. Action Items

A. Vote to approve 2026-2027 School Year Calendar

B. A Request to approve a Field Trip to Canobe Lake Park from the Music Department.

C. A Re-vote on the FY2027 Budget.

**All votes passed unanimously.*

V. Subcommittee Updates

A. Personnel Subcommittee

AEA Contract Negotiations

VI. Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes (Vote): January 14, 2026

Minutes were approved.

VII. Upcoming Meetings

A. Personnel Subcommittee Meeting-Monday, March 2, 2026, at 3:00pm-AMHS-Update 4:15pm

B. Personnel Subcommittee Meeting-Monday, March 16, 2026, at 3:00pm-AMHS-Update Canceled

C. Regular School Committee Meeting — Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

D. Annual Town Election-Tuesday, April 14, 2026 -7am-8pm

E. Regular School Committee Meeting — Wednesday, April 15, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

VIII. Adjourn –Regular Meeting adjourned at 6:53pm.

Roll Call Vote to go into Executive

Tracy-Aye

Shannon-Aye
Lael-Aye
Paul-Aye

IX. Executive Session

A SESSION PURSUANT TO MGL CHAPTER 30A, SECTION 21, QUALIFICATION #3, TO CONDUCT A STRATEGY SESSION REGARDING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING WITH THE AEA, AS THE CHAIR DECLARES AN OPEN MEETING WOULD HAVE A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE BARGAINING POSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.