**Approved 5.5.26**

**Dover-Sherborn Regional School Committee**
Meeting of March 12, 2026

Members Present: Angie Johnson
Jeff Cassidy
Lindsay Nie
Kevin Crotty
Mary Lowder
Toa Ashk

1) **Call to Order**
Angie Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm in the Middle School Library.

**2) Community Comments -** none

**3) Financial Reports**

- Warrant Report
- FY26 Monthly Update as of February 28, 2026
  - Revenues - the anticipated reimbursement for Chapter 71based on reimbursement rate of 90%. There is a negative variance projected in athletics. The Administration is discussing changing the family cap back to five fees per family (currently 4).
  - Salaries - there are no changes since the last report.
  - Expenditures - there are no changes since the last report.

**4) Continued Discussion on FY27 Budget -** version 3.0 reflects the following adjustments:

- Increase use of E&D by $50,000 representing estimated FY26 revenue surplus. Total E7D proposed to be utilized is $200,000;
- Addition of one District-wide Curriculum Coordinator at 60% shared allocation - $84,000;
- Reduce District-wide professional development/consulting costs added in V2.0 by $16,000 due to the addition of the Curriculum Coordinator;
- Reduce estimated healthcare insurance premium costs based on WSHG approved FY27 rates by $135,000. Average rate increase of 8% is below estimate in earlier versions.

**FY27 Dover Sherborn Regional Schools Budget Hearing**

- FY27 Operating Budget version 3.0
  - Budget Drivers: In-District - payroll represents approximately 85% of the in-district operating budget and contractual salary increases for all District employees are accounted for in a Reserve for Contracted Increases currently residing in Other Educational Expenditures as negotiations are ongoing; enrollment is projected at 1,000 students and operating expenses are estimated based on trend budgeting.
  - Adjusted overall budget increase of $1,015,842 or 3.49% (down from 5.03% in version 1.0) vs FY26. The itemized changes above reduced the Town's assessments by $619,676. Dover's assessment increase is $341,010 (2.6%) and Sherborn's is $444,427 (3.77%). FY27 Budget v3.0 totals $30,103,188.

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## 5) Vote to Certify FY27 Operating Budget

*Mary Lowder made a motion to approve the utilization of $200,000 of June 30, 2025, certified Excess & Deficiency funds for the FY27 Budget. Lindsay Nie seconded.*
*26-02 VOTE: 6 - 0 via roll call*

*Mary Lowder made a motion to adopt the FY27 Budget in the amount of $32,603,188 comprised of the following:*

- *In-District Operating Budget of $30,103,188 which is reduced by estimated receipts and available funds in the amount of $4,388.186 for a net amount to be assessed to the member towns of $25,715,002 and that the Treasurer be authorized to certify this budget in the apportioned share of each town based on the statutory method.*
- *Estimated net outside special education costs (OOD) for town residents in Grades 6-12 plus residents up to the age of 22 per Section 8(a) of the Regional Agreement of $1,375,000 for Dover and $1,125,000 for Sherborn and that these amounts be included with the amounts certified above by the Treasurer.*

*Lindsay Nie seconded.*
*26-03 VOTE: 6 - 0 via roll call*

6) **Superintendent Comments** - Superintendent McCoy thanked all involved in the budget process and reported that negotiations are ongoing with educators.
7) **Discussion Items**
8) **Action Items**
   - FY27 Capital Budget - the High School Roof Restoration project, including both the High School Building and Gym was approved by the Committee in November. The bids were received and after review by the project manager, the lowest bidder is recommended for contract award. The total project cost is $1,437,075.

*Mary Lowder made a motion to approve the High School Restoration and Skylight replacement project costs of $1,437,075 to be funded by the Towns through an Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA). Lindsay Nie seconded.*
*26-04 VOTE: 6 - 0 via roll call*

9) **Consent Items**
   - Regional School Committee minutes of February 3, 2026
   - Annual School committee Vote on MA School Choice Law - vote not to participate
   - Grants: Special Earmark - $50,000 to create a collaborative makerspace lab for students and provide related professional development for educators.
   - Gift: Piano - in-kind donation with a fair-market value of $9,000 from Keith and Amy Callahan of Sherborn for the Region's Music Department.
   - Gift: Jordyn DeVellis Fine & Performing Arts Scholarship - $34,384 to establish scholarship in Jordyn's honor from Rhonda and Peter DeVellis

**Approved 5.5.26**

*Mary Lowder made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Lindsey Nie seconded. 26-05 VOTE: 6 - 0 via roll call*

**10) Informational Items**

- Sherborn School Committee minutes of December 9, 2025
- Dover School Committee minutes of November 18, 2025

**11) Next Meeting May 5, 2026**

**12) Adjournment at 7:29 pm.**

Respectfully submitted, Amy Davis