Para traducción al español HAGA CLIC AQUÍ
Para tradução em português CLIQUE AQUI
Memodiksyon Kreyòl Ayisyen KLIKE ISIT

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The Twentieth Regular Meeting of the Medford School Committee

Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 9, 2026
Regular Meeting 6:00 pm

I. Roll Call for Attendance of Members and Student Representatives

Roll Call- 7/0

Graham () - yes
Mastrobuoni () - yes
Olapade () - yes
Parks () - yes
Reinfeld () - yes
Ruseau () - yes
Mayor - yes

II. Salute the Flag
III. Consent Agenda
- Approval of Bills and Payrolls
- Approval of Donations
  - Medford Educational Foundation Donations-$18,815.70
- Approval of Field Trips
  - MHS Model UN - Ivy League Model U.N. Conference -Pennsylvania, January 21, 2027-January 24, 2027
  - MHS Model UN - Dartmouth College Model U.N. Conference-New Hampshire, April 9, 2027-April 11, 2027
- Approval of Meeting Minutes
  - **Regular Meeting -** October 19, 2026

Motion to sever minutes from October 19, 2026 meeting by Member Mastrobuobi second my Member Reinfeld- Unanimously approved
Mastrobuoni (2) - yes
Reinfeld (1) - yes

Motion to approve minutes as amended by Member Reinfeld second by Member Olapade-Unanimously approved
Olapade (2) – yes
Reinfeld (1) – yes

Motion to approve consent agenda by Member Olapade second by Member Mastrobuoni
Graham () – yes
Mastrobuoni (2) – yes
Olapade (1) – yes
Parks () – yes
Reinfeld () – yes
Ruseau () – yes
Mayor – yes

IV. Report of Subcommittees

V. Report of the Superintendent

Motion to take Audit Scope out of order and suspend the rules by Member Graham second by Member Reinfeld -Unanimously approved
Graham (1) – yes
Reinfeld (2) – yes

1. **Mustang Moment**

2. **Entry Plan Update** - Kim Clinton, Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Student Services

3. **MCAS Report: ELA, Math, Science** - Dr. Kim Talbot, Assistant Superintendent of Academics and Instruction, Dr. Nicole Chiesa, Director of Humanities, Dr. Faiza Khan, Director of Mathematics and Rocco Cieri, Director of Science

Motion to take a 5 minute recess by Member Ruseau second by Member Graham-Unanimously approved
Graham (2) – yes
Ruseau (1) – yes

4. **Audit Scope -** Dr. Suzanne B. Galusi, Superintendent

Public speakers regard Marching Band and Audit Scope

Mike Fowler, 28 Wedgemere Road
Francis Chen, 153 Jerome Street
Joyce Nicolas, 139 Arlington Street
Julia Foster, 239 Woburn Street

Motion to approve the statement of work for the outside audit by Member Olapade as amended by Member Ruseau and second by Member Graham
Graham (2) - yes
Mastrobuoni () - yes
Olapade (1) - yes
Parks () - yes
Reinfeld () - yes
Ruseau () - yes
Mayor - yes

Motion to revert to regular order of business by Member Reinfeld second by Member Olapade-Unanimously approved
Olapade (2) - yes
Reinfeld (1) - yes

5. **Recommendation to Approve Roberts Accelerated Repair Funding -** Mr. Ken Lord, Chief Operations Officer

Motion to Approve Roberts Accelerated Repair Funding by Member Graham second by Member Reinfeld

Graham (1) - yes
Mastrobuoni () - yes
Olapade () - yes
Parks () - yes
Reinfeld (2) - yes
Ruseau () - yes
Mayor - yes

6. **Recommendation to Approve Missituk Elementary and Brooks Elementary CM-R Application for ARP Project** - Mr. Ken Lord, Chief Operations Officer

Motion to Approve the Missituk ELementary and Brooks ELementary CM_R Application for ARP Project by Member Graham second by Member Reinfeld

Graham (1) - yes
Mastrobuoni () - yes
Olapade () - yes
Parks () - yes
Reinfeld (2) - yes
Ruseau () - yes
Mayor - yes

VI. Presentations of the Student Advisory Council

Presentations of the Public (not to begin before 7:00 pm)
"Regular Meetings of the School Committee include this 'Presentations of the Public' agenda item to give any resident the opportunity to place a presentation before the School Committee. A resident may only present once at any meeting.

These presentations are an opportunity for the public to make a presentation to the Committee but are not opportunities for dialog with the Committee. If one or more members of the Committee wishes to have a conversation about the topic presented, a member may request that the item be added to a subsequent Regular Meeting.

The details for submitting a presentation can be found within the policy BEDH, Public Comment and Presentations of the Public"

Pursuant to policy BEDH, Public Comment and Presentations of the Public - any resident in the audience may be given permission to speak once on any item on the agenda for up to three (3) minutes. The speaker is expected to keep their comments to the item on the agenda. The speaker must begin their comments by providing their full name and full Medford street address where they reside. A welcoming, inclusive community is both a value of the School Committee and an aspirational goal. We ask for your help in achieving this goal and value your perspective. Employees of the Medford Public Schools are exempt from the residency requirement of this policy. The voice of our employees is welcomed on all matters before this body. When a non-Medford-resident employee is participating in

public comment or submitting a presentation of the public they will include their home address and identify themselves as an employee of the Medford Public Schools.

A welcoming inclusive community is both a value of the School Committee and an aspirational goal. We ask for your help in achieving this goal and value your perspective.

VII. Continued Business

VIII. New Business

2026-25 *Revision to Policy IC- School Year/School Calendar Policy - Offered by Member Graham, Member Reinfeld*

School Year/School Calendar Policy Side by Side Comparison (Previous and Proposed)

Dates Submitted: November 4, 2026
Date Requested to be on the Agenda: November 9, 2026

Motion to Approve first reading of Resolution 2026-25 by Member Reinfeld second by Member Parks-Unanimously approved

Parks (2) - yes
Reinfeld (1) - yes

Motion to wave the second reading of Resolution 2026-25 by Member Reinfeld second by Member Olapade-Unanimously approved

Olapade (2) - yes
Reinfeld (1) - yes

2026-26 *Offered by Member Graham and Member Ruseau*

Motion to wave the reading of Resolution 2026-26 by Member Graham second by Member Reinfeld-Unanimously approved

Graham (1) - yes
Reinfeld (2) - yes

Resolution to Approve Press Release Supporting the Medford High School Project

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – November X, 2026

Contact: Steve Smirti and Will Pipicelli

Medford's Elected Officials Support the Medford High School Building Project and Outline Next Steps for Cost Estimates

Estimated tax impacts will be released based on accurate final cost estimates in February after completion of Schematic Design process

(MEDFORD) — Medford's elected officials in the Mayor's Office, City Council, and School Committee support the Medford Comprehensive High School Building Project. The city will release the final tax impact estimate for the debt exclusion in February, once Schematic Design is complete and the city's chosen construction manager, Suffolk Construction, has developed accurate final cost estimates.

The Medford Comprehensive High School Building Committee approved the Project Scope and Space Summary on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, which advances the project to the Schematic Design phase of the MSBA (Massachusetts School Building Authority) process.

Why do we need a new Medford High School?

- **The Medford High School building is more than 50 years old and is deteriorating,** with failing systems that frequently disrupt student learning and create significant stress for students, parents, and staff.
    - Plumbing issues forced the school to close several weeks ago, causing stress and hassle for students, teachers, and parents.
    - Ongoing and recurring issues include burst heating pipes that force sections of the school to close temporarily; insufficient insulation and HVAC systems that require students to wear winter hats, gloves, and coats in their classrooms while trying to learn; and a leaking roof that requires continuous maintenance even during school hours.
- **Vocational and special education programming require more space.**
    - More than half of MHS students are enrolled in vocational programming, and annually 6-7 programs have a wait list.

    - Special education spaces constrain how we support specialized learning needs.
    - State educational safety standards require larger, updated facilities to meet the significant demand from our Medford students.
- **The cost to renovate in Medford may end up higher than the cost to rebuild.**
    - The MHS Building Committee, architect, and project manager investigated more than 29 options for renovating the current building.
    - Renovating and upgrading the existing High School Building to current building codes, simply "fixing" what exists today and meeting modern safety, building code, and accessibility standards, would cost approximately $478 million.
    - The City would pay the entire cost, without any MSBA state fund reimbursement, because a code-update project would not meet our educational needs, such as expanded vocational and special education programming. Any significant investment in the building would make a full upgrade legally required.

What will the cost impact be to Medford residents?

- The City is proposing a debt exclusion for voter approval to pay for this project by repaying construction bonds over 30 years.
- Based on the most recent estimate for the selected design for the new High School, the total project cost is estimated to be just below $700 million, with the State paying an estimated $226 million and the City paying an estimated $474 million.
- The project team will continue looking for design efficiencies during the design phase, selecting cost-effective materials, and carefully evaluating phasing options so the community rallies behind this much-needed project.
- Final construction cost estimates, the city's share of this project, and the cost impact of the debt exclusion on taxpayers will be available in early February 2027.
- While the MHS Building Committee has already reduced the project's total cost by over $150 million since March, the City can also mitigate cost impacts in multiple ways, including allocating new property tax growth from new development projects, reserving resources now to pay for debt service later, and maximizing all local property tax exemptions available to residents under state law.
- Medford Public Schools staff and MHS project team members have also applied for other state, federal, and private grants and started private fundraising efforts to help fund portions of the project.
- Please visit the MHS Project page (www.medfordhsproject.com) to learn more about the design process, the significant impacts of cost escalations on high school

construction projects, and the existing programs at MHS that must be incorporated into the new building.

When can I engage and learn more about the costs and debt exclusion process?

- The City Council and School Committee will be holding joint public meetings on November 30th, 2026; January 20th, 2027; and February 2nd, 2027 to hear
- Community Forums on 11/19, 3/4 5/13, 6/2
- Upcoming SBC Meetings on 11/16, 12/14, 1/7, 2/1, 2/10, 2/22, 3/22, 4/14, 5/31
- City Council/School Committee Joint Hearings on 11/30, 1/20, and 2/2
- School Committee Meetings on 1/25
- City Council Meetings on 3/9
- New MHS Project Website

Medford's elected officials including Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn, City Council President Zac Bears, City Council Vice President Emily Lazzaro, Councilors Anna Callahan, Matt Leming, Liz Mullane, George Scarpelli, Justin Tseng, School Committee Vice Chair Jenny Graham, School Committee Secretary Paul Ruseau, and School Committee members Mike Mastrobuoni, Aaron Olapade, Jessica Parks, and Erika Reinfeld are supported in this work by the Mayor's Chief of Staff Nina Nazarian, members of the Medford Public Schools staff, members of the City finance staff, and the Owner's Project Manager and Architect from the MHS Building Project Team.

Date Submitted: November 3, 2026
Date Requested to be on the Agenda: November 9, 2026

Motion to Approve Resolution 2026-26 by Member Graham second by Member Mastrobuoni- Unanimously approved

Graham (1) - yes
Mastrobuoni (2) - yes

2026-27 ***Offered by Member Mastrobuoni***

Be it resolved that the Facilities & Capital Planning Subcommittee will meet to review the status of the district's capital projects, identify and prioritize outstanding needs, and recommend an updated plan.

Date Submitted: November 4, 2026
Date Requested to be on the Agenda: November 9, 2026

Motion to Approve Resolution 2026-27 by Member Mastrobuoni second by Member Reinfeld-Unanimously approved

Mastrobuoni (1) - yes
Reinfeld (2) - yes

IX. Reports Requested

X. Condolences

The Members of the Medford School Committee express their sincerest condolences to the family of ***Maureen (Hurford) Rossi***. Maureen devoted 30 years to teaching in Medford teaching as both a Special Education and first grade teacher.

XI. Next Regular Meeting

November 23, 2026 - Alden Memorial Chambers, Medford City Hall in addition to zoom

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Member Reinfeld second by Member Mastrobuoni
Mastrobuoni(2) - yes
Reinfeld(1) - yes