

**GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES: Friday June 20, 2025  
GPS Central Office, 195 Federal Street, Greenfield MA**

**Present:** Ann Childs (AC); Elizabeth Deneeve (ED); Mayor Ginny DeSorgher (GD); Melodie Goodwin (MG); Glenn Johnson-Mussad; (GJM); Stacey Sexton (SS)

**Absent:** Kathryn Martini (KM)

**Also present:** Karin Patenaude, Superintendent

**I. Call to Order**

With a quorum present (AC, ED, GD, MG, GJM, SS), Chair Johnson-Mussad called the meeting to order at 8:01am.

**II. Public Comment**

Pamela Goodwin, Greenfield, expressed support for decision to hire interim superintendent; thanked Supt. Patenaude for leadership during budget cuts; asked for clarification of business manager hiring process and suggested shorter contract term.

**III. Business Manager Contract for 2025-2027**

GJM explained that the procurement contract allows termination with 30-day notice. If search for staff business manager is successful, GPS can cancel contracted service. One bid was received, from TMS, the current provider.

**GJM moved that the School Committee approve the Business Manager contract as presented, and further direct the Administration to exercise due diligence in the procurement of additional business services. In cases where services are reasonably anticipated and available at a lower cost, the Administration is encouraged to pursue those more cost-effective options in alignment with sound fiscal management practices. AC 2nd.**

Discussion:

- Concern re: \$175/hour project fee. Can staff do routine tasks to avoid fee? Suggestion of \$ cap for special project costs.
- Noted inconsistencies between proposed contract and “Exhibit B” request for bids.
- Concern that contract wording suggests GPS must pay full year even if contract ends earlier. Need attorney to review.
- TMS works 2 days/week for GPS. Supt. Patenaude assured that support is available 24/7.
- Suggestion of one-year contract. Chair countered that two-year contract simplifies search process and that GPS can terminate with 30 days’ notice. 30-day notice, rather than 10-day, allows transition time for TMS to staff business manager.
- TMS is only option. Must have business management services by July 1.

**GJM moved to postpone this motion [to approve Business Manager contract] to our regular July meeting and authorize the School Committee Executive Subcommittee to meet with attorney to discuss our questions and make a proposal at the July mtg. ED 2nd.**

Members to email questions by June 27 to Superintendent, who will work with attorney to prepare for Executive Subcommittee meeting.

Superintendent will work with TMS to set up services with hourly pay after current contract ends on June 26.

**Motion to postpone passed unanimously.**

#### **IV. School Committee Administrative Assistant**

**GJM moved that the School Committee offer the position of Administrative Assistant to the School Committee to Nan Sibley, pending the successful completion of any required pre-employment screenings, and authorize the Chair to work with the Superintendent to finalize the terms of employment, including hourly wage and start date, if not already established. MG 2nd.**

GJM has interviewed and checked references, all good.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **V. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approve the minutes of June 11, 2025 meeting
- B. Approve the minutes of June 14, 2025 meeting
- C. Approve the updated 2025-2026 Greenfield Public Schools' Calendar

AC requested considering C. Calendar separately to be informed of changes.

**GJM moved that the School Committee approve the Consent Agenda as presented:**

- A. Approval of the minutes of the June 11, 2025 meeting**
- B. Approval of the minutes of the June 14, 2025 meeting**
- ~~C. Approval of the updated 2025-2026 Greenfield Public Schools' calendar~~

**MG 2nd. Motion [to approve A. and B.] passed unanimously.**

**AC moved to approve the updated 2025-2026 Greenfield Public Schools Calendar. GD 2nd.**

What is change? Previously approved calendar had redistricting grade configuration: elementary K-5, GMS 6-8, GHS 9-12. This calendar returns to current grade configuration of K-4, 5-7, 8-12.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **VI. Executive Session**

**Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21 (a): (2) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel; (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares; and (7) to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements. *The Committee will return to open session.***

GJM moved to enter executive session AC 2nd. Motion to enter executive session passed unanimously. Moved to executive session at 8:55am. Returned to open session at 9:08am.

#### **VII. Interim Superintendent's Contract**

**ED moved that the School Committee approve the Superintendent's employment contract as presented and signed, contingent upon the successful completion of any required pre-employment**

**screenings and the granting of a post-retirement employment waiver by the state, and to authorize the Chair to execute the contract on behalf of the Committee. The contract shall take effect on July 1, 2025. MG 2nd.**

Contract salary is \$173K for one year, with standard provisions. Chair expressed appreciation to all who worked on search and hiring and to Mr. Joyal for being a good partner in negotiations.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

### **VIII. Adjournment**

AC moved to adjourn. MG 2nd. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:11am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Farber  
Recording Secretary

### **Meeting Materials**

1. Agenda: June 20, 2025
2. Draft Minutes: June 11, 2025 and June 14, 2025
3. Business Manager Contract documents:
  - Service Supplier Purchase Agreement: Greenfield Public Schools and TMSolutions
  - GPS Requisition Form, TMS, FY26 and FY27
  - Exhibit B, "Scope of Services" (from bid procurement)
4. Resume: Nan Sibley (candidate for School Committee Administrative Assistant)
5. GPS 2025-2026 Calendar