

GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES: Wednesday September 10, 2025
Jon Zon Community Center, 35 Pleasant St., Greenfield MA

I. Roll Call, Call to Order

- A.** Present: Glenn Johnson-Mussad; (GJM); Elizabeth Deneeve (ED); Stacey Sexton (SS); Kathryn Martini (KM); Ann Childs (AC); Mayor Ginny DeSorgher (GD)

Also present: Superintendent Roland Joyal (RJ); Assistant Superintendent Stephen Sullivan (SSu); Business Manager Andy Paquette (AP)

Absent: Melodie Goodwin (MG)

With a quorum present (GJM, ED, SS, KM, AC, GD,) Chair Johnson-Mussad called the meeting to order at: 6:31

II. Public Comment

- A.** P. G. Concerns regarding committee pace, decorum, and procedural accuracy.
- B.** R. S. Request for clarification of online materials regarding city politics, committees, and councils. Also request for correction of meeting time online.

III. Reports of the Student Representatives to the Committee Kali, Lauren

- A.** Homecoming 9/20/2025.
- B.** There is a Green River Clean Up volunteer team.
- C.** Athletic have begun. Arbiterlive.com for schedule.
- D.** Drama Club: Nightfall with Edgar Allen Poe 11/14/25. Victorian costume donations welcomed.
- E.** Students of Color Club meets weekly. New members welcomed.
- 1.** KM: Inclusive measures for underprivileged students for Homecoming?
- a.** RJ: We have the means for them to attend.
- 2.** KM: Can students reach out to peers for this?
- a.** RJ: Will look into policy to see if that would be okay.

IV. Reports of the Administration

A. Business Manager

See attached Reports

1. Discussion:

- a.** GD: What is the purchase order process?
- i.** AP: Every single purchase regardless of amount gets signed off by the superintendent, then they go through me.

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- b. GJM: What are the auditing measures?
 - i. AP: End of year financial report in total is reviewed at the end of every year. As a city department, the city also audits through its annual audit. If there are any areas of concern, a letter is issued. We have yet to receive letters of concern.
- c. GJM: We are reaching a high level of performance. With multiple reviews of every single purchase and multiple audits annually, I want to reassure the public that we are under very good management.
 - i. AP: In my personal business, I use Greenfield as the example of best practices. It is excellent.

**B. Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Report
Grants Update.**

See attached reports.

- 1. Regarding Muhamoud vs Taylor Supreme Court Ruling: This ruling affirms families right to opt out of curriculum content that conflicts with sincerely held religious beliefs, including topics such as LGBTQ+ themes.
 - a. SSu: No policy changes are needed at this time. We are compliant.

C. Superintendent Report:

See attached reports.

- a. Federal Street School elevator is certified and in use.
- 2. **Discussion:**
 - a. SS: How are SSEASA grant request amounts arrived at?
 - i. SSu: We do not get to choose. They are based on SIMs report data that get formulated for our district.
 - b. AC: Is grade 13 the extended Special Education?
 - i. RJ: Yes, 18-22 years old.
 - c. KM: Regarding the Hate Crime Prevention grant; we received less than we applied for. Is there a plan for projected programming that we will now need funding for?
 - i. SSu: We will not be prohibited from doing what we want to do. Other grants will work in conjunction with this.
 - d. ED: Thank you for providing tours of Greenfield to new faculty.
 - i. SSu: We have been doing this for years. It provides perspective.

V. Superintendent Search Presentation

A. NESDEC See attached materials Presented remotely by Judy Paolucci, Ph.D

B. MASC: See attached materials RJ presented on behalf of MASC.

1. Discussion:

- a. **GD moves to approve NESDEC. ED seconds motion.**
- b. SS: Can we hear motive for motions?
 - i. GD: After reading proposals and also speaking with others, one is more MA focused and the other is more New England focused. A wider search area is why I moved for NESDEC.

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- ii. ED: While I adore MASC, NESDEC was present for their presentation and questions. That is really important. This implies when we need them and we call them they will be there for us. MASC would do a fine job however they were not present for their presentation.

Vote: Passes unanimous MG absent.

- c. **KM moves to appoint SS for liaison to NESDEC. AC seconds. Motion is amended to appoint SS to meet with JP of NESDEC to parse out procedure that will adhere to policy and procedures for school committee members and to recommend the way to move forward for a screening committee.**
- d. **ED seconds. Amended motion carries unanimous. SS abstained. MG absent.**

Break at 8:05pm

VI. Consent Agenda

- A. Approve the minutes of August 13,2025
- B. Approve Elementary Library weeding surplus lists
- C. Accept donation of a sandbox from the Federal Street School Parent Teacher Organization in the amount of 1038.51
 - 1. Discussion: SS heartfelt thank you to PTO!
- D. **GD moves to approve Consent Agenda as presented. AC seconds. Motion carries unanimous. Absent: MG**

VII. School Committee Reports

A. Chair's Report:

See attached materials.

- 1. GJM: Exciting to have seven interested folks run for three seats. Congratulations to those on the ballot. The debates were exciting.

B. Budget and Finance Report

See attached materials.

- 1. **Discussion:** AC: After City Council votes I will work with the Mayor to get the new deadlines. I will update documents. RJ: Vote can proceed tonight and revisions can be done later as revisions are needed.
- 2. **KM moves to approve the budget development calendar for FY27 as proposed with anticipation for amendments for up to date photos. GD seconds. Motion passes unanimous. Absent MG**

C. Community Engagement Subcommittee Report/None

VIII. Old Business

A. Review of Year Long Agenda

- 1. Committee Goals will be on the agenda for the October meeting, review December 2024 data, and discuss any new committee goals. Superintendent RJ has agreed to share district goals and strategic plan progress. Agreed without a motion.

B. School Committee/City Council Relations.

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1. **Discussion:** School Committee is interested in taking advantage of a platform at City Council. We are interested in a good relationship with them. We would like to ensure that the relationship is respectful and anyone attending has the time to prepare for presenting. The School Committee would like more clarification on the charter, codes, procedure etc. The school committee would like to take advantage of the opportunity regardless of charter. The committee is concerned about the experiences of GJM, KM, and burn out.
2. **AC: Moves to amend the proposed motion to appoint a School Committee representative; Vice Chair Sexton, to City Council meetings; to specify that we appoint a representative to represent the School Committee for September while we proceed with clarifications. Vice Chair Sexton will be prepared to share highlights of this meeting but will keep it general, not responding to questions outside of their knowledge or comfort at that time. ED seconds. SS accepts nomination. Motion passes Yea: ED, KM, AC, GD Abstain: GJM, SS Absent: MG**
3. Superintendent agrees to present at October meeting a framework for Rules of Order, Charter, and Code.

C. Discussion and possible vote: How to share School Committee Reports with the City Council

See attached materials

- a. ED: Seeking consistent format and timeline allowing for expectation on discussions to take place.
- b. AC moves to refer questions to executive committee to discuss plans for achieving School Committee goals with regard to City Council relations, KM seconds. Motion carries unanimous. MG absent.

IX. New Business

A. Composing of food and paper waste discussion

See attached materials.

- a. SS: If we have done this in the past, where is the equipment we had at that time?
- b. RJ: Most equipment was rented.
- c. AC moves to direct RJ to proceed with a proposal to reinstate a compost program starting at the High School for this fiscal year and to come to the October meeting with what it would entail. SS seconds. Motion carries unanimous. Absent: MG

B. Review and Analysis of the Current Regular and Special Education Transportation Operations and discussion of consultant work.

See attached materials.

1. GD moves to approve \$9,995. KM seconds.
2. After discussion, AC moves to postpone motion to the October meeting to allow for further discernment on spending the [\$10,000]. GD seconds. Motion to postpone motion carries unanimous. MG absent.

GJM: In that MG is absent to discuss issues C and D that were her request, I move to pass over the overview of the process for addressing IA compensation at this meeting with the option to add it to the October agenda at the request of MG. ED Seconds. Motion passes unanimous. GD abstains.

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- C. Overview of the Process for Addressing Instructional Assistant Compensation in future contracts.**
 - 1. Passed over with option to add to October agenda.
- D. Present and discussion of the school committee's role relevant legal considerations and the process by which compensation for Instructional Assistants can be addressed, whether through the regular budget cycle or collective bargaining in future contracts.**
 - 1. Passed over with option to add to October agenda.
- E. School Committee self evaluation review and discussion. What are next steps.**
 - 1. SS: Come to October meeting ready to discuss goals.
- X. Vote to enter into Executive Session: Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21 (a) (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. The committee WILL NOT return to Open Session.**
 - A. AC moves. SS seconds. Motion carries unanimous by roll call vote. Absent: MG
- XI. Adjournment**
 - A. ED moves, KM seconds, Yea: unanimous Absent: MG. Adjourned 10:03pm

Respectfully submitted,

Nan Sibley

Administrative Assistant