

Greenfield School Committee
Budget, Finance & Warrant Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2026

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 11:31 a.m.

AC read the Chair Statement relative to meeting recordings.

2. Roll Call of Members:

Present: Ann Childs, Chair (AC), Melodie Goodwin (MG), M. McKenzie Webb (MW)

Also present: Carol Kruser, Superintendent of Schools (CK), Andy Paquette, Business Manager (AP)
(Via Zoom)

3. Public Comment:

There were no members of the public present for comment at this time.

4. Approval of August 24, 2026 draft sub-committee minutes:

On a motion by MG, 2nd by MW, the minutes were approved as presented. The vote was unanimous.

5. Review and discussion of August warrants:

The following items were discussed relative to the August warrants:

- Warranty tracking on equipment purchases
- Update on van purchases
- FY26 Curriculum Costs vs. FY27 Curriculum Costs

The biggest expenses for the month of August were out-of-district Special Education tuitions.

There was also a large investment in music in August:

- Instrument purchases – These instruments are easy to clean and designed for brand new members to try them out to see which type of instrument works best for them
- Equipment maintenance

A request was made for the number of students that we have brought back to the district from out-of-district placements, including grade, program name, location, transportation costs etc.

A request was also made to format the warrant by the amount of money, from most to least. AP noted that the report is formatted through MUNIS, so it may not be possible to format it in that manner, but he will look into it and confirm.

6. Staffing update:

CK reported that although we are looking good for the start of the school year, we still have the following vacancies still yet to fill:

- Special Education Instructional Assistants
- Special Education Teacher at Newton
- Spanish Teacher – GMS
- School Psychologist
- Occupational Therapist (OT)
- Building Substitutes

Also discussed:

- Replacing one half-time Special Education Supervisor with a full-time position so that we now have 2 full-time supervisors – CK noted our need to focus on special education and growth of special education in teaching and learning – AP noted that with special education vacancy cost savings from FY26, they were able to turn a .6 position to a full-time position,

which is warranted due to our need for support in that department– Also, a full-time vacancy is easier to fill than one that is part-time

- Fully-licensed teachers vs. Teachers on a waiver – CK noted we do have a handful of waivers (8-10); some that have a license, but maybe they don't have the right one (i.e. Elementary vs. High School math certification, etc.), and others that may have a degree, but not yet possess a license
- Instructional Assistant (IA) pay rate – MG stated that our neighboring district starts their IAs out at a salary of \$21.50/hr. – It takes our IAs nine (9) years to obtain that rate – Our rates need to be more competitive to attract candidates to our district
- Staff equity throughout the district – All schools should have same amount of equity in the classroom relative to staff
- Nurse Leader – CK noted she will be bringing forth a job description for the position of Nurse Leader to the full School Committee – With vacancy savings, it will be possible to bring on a full-time employee to fill this position, as well as including a component to the position to include mental health coordination – She feels we are putting ourselves in jeopardy and in a medical liability by not having this position in place

7. Adjournment:

On a motion by MG, 2nd by MW, the meeting adjourned at 12:14 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Approved: