GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES: Wednesday July 8, 2026
Jon Zon Community Center, 35 Pleasant St. Greenfield, MA 01301

I. **Call to Order 6:38pm**

II. **Roll Call: If members appear online, roll call voting must be used.**

Present: Stacey Sexton (SS); Ann Childs (AC); Jeffrey Diteman (JD); Elizabeth de Neeve (ED); Mayor Ginny DeSorgher (GD); Melodie Goodwin (MG).

Attending remotely: Assistant Superintendent Stephen Sullivan (SSu)

Also present: Superintendent Carol Kruser (CK); Business Manager Andy Paquette (AP)

Absent: Melissa McKenzie-Webb

III. **Public Comment:** Members of the public may speak for up to three minutes as recognized by the Chairperson per Chapter 49 -Hybrid Ordinance, members of the public attending virtually or in person may comment by raising their hand and stating their name and address or precinct.

Judy Bennett: GHS teacher and Vice President Greefield Education Association. Welcome Carol Kruser. Looking forward to working together.
Melodie Goodwin: Email went out to parents acknowledging Hannah Cherry for contributions to the school district. She put together a band and music district program. Wanted to thank her publicly. Children who won a silver medal are hoping to win gold. Promoting the arts is very important.
Michael Mastrototaro: Many areas of disciplines and learning. Music in public schools should be part of the curriculum and not extra curricular. Budget is cutting Middle School band from two times per week down to one time per week. Please do the right thing and do not cut music.
Doug Selwyn: Stand strong with other districts against the end of year standardized testing, which is MCAS by another name. Urge you to stand with other districts and sign the MSCD statement and do not be passive about this. Do we do exit interviews for people[students and families] who leave the district? That would be valuable information.

IV. **Reports of the Administration:**

A. **Business Manager:** See submitted materials.
   1. **Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Update**
   2. **Budget Reports Review**

B. **Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Report** See submitted materials
   1. **Grants update**
   2. **End-of-Year Literacy Step back; overview of Greenfield Public Schools commitment to improving literacy as the highest instructional priority.**
   3. **The launch of the Extended School Year (ESY) Program beginning on July 6, 2026 with some students attending for four weeks while others attend for six weeks.**
      AC: Lack of progress from IEP students why did they not progress at the rate of other groups?

SSu: Multi lingual learners and students with disabilities. We discussed using these subgroups as our target to make sure teachers have the supports they need to meet the needs of these students. A universal design for learning approach and how to implement in the classrooms.

C. Superintendent Report

1. **Introduction:** See submitted slides.
2. **School enrollment update:** See submitted materials.
3. **Introduction to the first thirty (30), sixty (60), and ninety (90) days.**
4. **Parent Square roll out:** An easy way to communicate among the community.

GD: Where is summer school located?

CK: Four Corners and High School.

ED A meeting with School Committee [onboarding]communication and setting expectations?

SS: There are plans to do that.

ED: Is the app for only parents of students?

CK: Yes. It is not for general public.

V. Consent Agenda

A. Vote to approve the minutes of June 10, 2026

B. Vote to revise the 2026-2027 school year calendar

SS moves to approve. AC seconds.

AC: The calendar format improvements are wonderful.

Motion passes unanimously by aye.

VI. School Committee Reports

A. Chair's Report

1. **Schedule of School Committee Summer Reading**
   - **a.** School Committee members will be reading at the Greenfield Public Library on Saturdays 10:30am -11:00 am
2. **MASC/MASS (Massachusetts Association of School Committees/Massachusetts Association of School**
   - **a.** We need to decide who will go by the August meeting. [SS would like to attend.]
3. **Superintendents) Joint Conference**
4. **We are continuing to look into the security incident at Federal Street School.** The door is repaired. Working on strengthening communication. Wanted to address this.

B. Budget, Finance and Warrants Subcommittee Report See submitted materials.

1. **Transportation discussion primarily centered around age and mileage of vehicles in need of replacement.**
2. **Procurement discussion regarding laws and contracts kept by the Business Office**
3. **Questions and discussion of June, 2026 warrants.**

SS: Compliance review is nearly finished and will be available to members soon.

C. Policy, Program, and School Committee Handbook Subcommittee Report See submitted materials

1. **ED Moves to request the School Committee allow the Policy Subcommittee to engage in the work of discussing communication policies and discussing the student retention policy IKE. MG seconds.**

   Motion passes unanimously.

D. Community Engagement Subcommittee Report

1. **Met on Monday. Finger printing is happening again at Hampton Inn.** Appointments required. Can be found on Human Resources menu on school website. Next we will work on communicating with community on how to best serve them.

E. E. Long-Term Facilities Use Advisory Committee See submitted materials.

1. Next meeting is 7/27 virtual only.
2. **Vote to appoint slate of Advisory Committee members**

   SS moves to appoint slate of Advisory Committee members. AC seconded

   GD: Please read list of names out loud.

   SS: Roxann Wedegartner, Amy Ammon, Derek Healy, Mike Davis, Issac Mass, Liz Reno, Doug Selwyn.

   ED: Have we received any applications from staff members?

   SS: No. The info is online.

   GD: Did you have a lot more names?

   SS: We were trying to broaden perspectives.

   Motion passes unanimously.

VII. New Business

A. Review accomplishments over prior six (6) months; discuss priorities for next six (6) months; map out rough calendar of items for remaining meetings

B. Purchase/lease of three (3) transportation vehicles See submitted materials.

AP: Transportation revolving account.

MG: Where will the responses to RFP be located?

AP: Business office.

GD: Suggestion from Energy and Sustainability Director Carole Collins; Gas consumption 7 person gets 36mpg, $78K 10 person gets 15mpg. Should we get all 7 person capacity vans?

AP: Yes. Based on capacity, ability to harness, monitor, and maximize the use of vehicles and drivers.

GD: Get one or two, 7 (seven) person and one 10 (ten) person capacity vans.

MG: Things to consider: Having the drivers and what kind of drivers license they are required to have. Transporting smaller groups.

AC: At least one wheelchair compliant vehicle is a must.

GD We are replacing five person capacity vans? No CDL needed for the new vans.

AP: Correct..

GD: We may lease to reserve funds in case needs change.
AC: Budget and Finance didn't have quotes. What is your recommendation regarding purchase vs. leasing?
AP: The funds are there regardless of what we choose.

SS moves to authorize the administration to purchase 3 (three) transportation vehicles. MG: seconds.

Motion passes unanimously by aye.

C. School Committee meeting dates for the 2026-2027 school year, second Wednesday of each month, reschedule.
November 11, 2026 (Veterans Day Holiday)
Meeting moved to November 9, 2026.
Motions Status review: See document.

Highlights: We hired a new superintendent, student representation at meetings, found a sculpture of significance, organized committees for efficiency and transparency.
MG: Having a feel for the warrant process and knowing how the decisions are made. The transportation presentation was very helpful. Would like to get better at transparency and accessibility.
AC: Two policy changes; field trip policy is sane and public comment relationship to the schools.
ED: Implementing JIB. Changing language in Policy Subcommittee to reflect the culture of our specific community. Superintendent Kruser attending MASC is wonderful. Make this goal process more robust and have a special meeting to discuss goals and community feedback to embody transparency. Have a handbook on self evaluation as a committee.
JD: Creating a Long Term Facilities Use Advisory Committee. Buildings age and needs change. This will be a significant area of efficiency. Introducing Academic Integrity Policy, (AI, and technology use).
GD: Civics classes and student input on use of AI and media literacy. And facilities use.
SS: We did have the open meeting violation close out. Resolutions template. This document is a tool that we and future members can use. We are creating systems and structures that will last beyond us. Looking at the postponed and more complicated items and working through them and cleaning them up.
ED: It's better than it's ever been. Search tool across all materials would be my next dream.
AC: Google drive is searchable inside the committee but for the public there is not.
SS: Ambitious goal for 6 months but we can try. Negotiations.
We know the rhythms of regular reports and cycles. Staffing equity policy begun. We can begin these things.
MG: Onboarding new superintendent; under-performing schools reflected on a chart so we can measure progress. Reaching goals, celebratory accomplishments.
SS: Academic and achievements tracker.

ED: What is Superintendent Kruser's reporting plan? How often are you planning to report strategic planning milestones and planning. To help us work in harmony with your rhythms.
SS: That could be part of the entry planning
CK: Want to find multiple ways to communicate. Superintendent newsletter. Student celebratory tracker. The entry plan will be specific with timelines and goals. Less formally I am happy to communicate on zoom, phone, etc.
SS: A lot of this will be happening at the level of the Subcommittees. Subcommittees will share their plans of getting from "here to there."
AC: Clarify "here to there?
SS: Each group's focus, to make recommendations and when you will be discussing these goals and when we can expect follow ups.
ED: Year Long Agenda (YLA) could be tweaked to add these adjustments.
SS: Zhuzh up YLA for the remaining six months.
MG: Any particular format?
SS: According to your subcommittees regular meeting schedule, easily readable, and under three minutes please.

VIII. Old Business

A. Discussion and vote on how to proceed and choose a vendor to provide a Literacy Audit for the district.

1. **MG Moves that we choose Keys to Literacy as our vendor.**

AP: If you don't choose the least expensive, you will have to justify.
MG: They will visit schools and talk with all stakeholders; students, staff. Her deep dive is thorough and objective. CES is not aligned as well with our approach and needs.
AC seconds

JD: Slide 26 of the End of Year Step Back is very encouraging and impressive. We could step back from the audit proposal and ask our new superintendent if this would be worthwhile to you knowing what it will cost.
CK: This is hard to answer in my first week before meeting students. Agree that it is encouraging. I cannot give you a yes or no at this time. There is a lot in place.
ED: I am heartened to hear JDs assessment. Appreciate SSu report on this. I am not inclined to spend taxpayer money in this way. I don't think it is a good use of our time and money.
AC: Is there a counter proposal to undo our literacy audit vote?
SS: We need to conclude the motion at hand. We could rescind an authorization.
JD moves to call the question. GD seconds. Motion to call the question passes unanimously.

Motion to contract with Keys to Literacy vote: Aye 2. No 3. Abstain 1. Motion fails.

2. **ED moves to rescind the vote to choose a vendor to provide a literacy audit for the district. JD seconds.**

JD: My view has been changed by the data provided in the Step Back report.
Vote: Aye 3. No 1. Abstain 2. Motion to rescind is passed.

B. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

AP: This process requires solicitation of quotes in order to follow procedural best practices.

AC moves to authorize the administration to solicit bids for EV charging stations. ED seconds.

ED: Greenfield EV drivers desperately need more options outside of the proprietary stations.

AP: Clarification: These would not be on the streets, they would be in school property. There is still a need to clarify what department solicits bids.

AC: Would like to see communication and summary from Miss Collins.

SS: What department to solicit is important. Mayor and AP, have you collaborated?

AP: We have collaborated before. I have experienced complications around roles and responsibilities. I am willing to work with Miss Collins.

MG: Small parking lots and parking capacity are a concern. High school is probably the best lot to start. Putting them in already crowded lots may create additional issues. How do we ensure the appropriate department(s) are addressing the issues?

AC: Lot capacity is an issue. That would be part of the bid solicitation.

ED: This can only be a good thing for Greenfield. Greenfield charges three times the rate of surrounding towns. They will get use. We need to understand the stewardship of the chargers and charge less than the city charges. Where does the money go?

AP: The General fund revenue for the city.

ED: That is city money on school property. That changes my view considerably. The city charges too much.

MG: We spent so much time on vans. The city needs this. There are big lots in Greenfield. If the charging stations are not working in the city, can we fix the already existing stations?

ED: The more charging stations the better. How can we do that at a fair rate that encourages their use? I need more info.

GD: Carole Collins is on Zoom. The charging stations came from the School Committee. There is a huge push for the fast ones. Carole may answer some questions. We are working on issues with the broken chargers and we are hearing that we need fast chargers.

SS: We have looked into the not fast charging stations.

AP: The grant is for any municipal department.

SS: The School Committee cannot activate a city employee to do anything.

AP: Recommend the following course of action. Reject this proposal and work with Carole Collins to move forward with exploring the bigger context and logistics. We could put in the desired scope of services within the solicitation.

AC moves to amend the motion to authorize our administration to support the solicitation of bids for EV charging stations. ED accepts amendment

Amended motion passes unanimously.

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IX. 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.

SS Moves to enter Executive Session. ED seconds. Motion passes by roll call unanimously.

X. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Nan Sibley
Administrative Assistant