

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Tuesday, September 22, 2026
Town Hall Main Meeting Room

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Lawrence, called the meeting to order (7:03 PM).

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Steven Lawrence, Chair; Lynn Piascyk, Vice Chair; Megan Conatser, Jeff Hughes; Dr. Michael Strambler; Saurabh Vilekar, and Erin Williamson.

STAFF: Christopher Montini, Superintendent; Analisa Sherman, Principal; Cheryl Tafel, Assistant Principal; Carrie Borcharding, Special Services Director; Donna Coonan, Director of Business Services/Operations; and Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board.

CORRESPONDENCE – Correspondence received is available and viewable in BoardBook.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

PTO REPORT – Erin Murphy provided an overview of the Welcome Back activities with 104 pizzas and 1,200 ice creams served. The new payment program, *Zeffy*, will help reduce costs for credit card fees and a new photographer has been selected for Student Picture Day. The 2026/27 budget will return approximately 42% back to BRS through academic enrichment activities for students and staff appreciation. The *Hoot* remains the top fund-raiser although there will be a new fund-raiser venture on the horizon this year.

MOTION #1 – CONSENT AGENDA Move that we approve the consent agenda as presented. (*Piascyk / Williamson Unanimous*)

Superintendent Report – Superintendent Montini apprised the Board on the smooth opening of the 2026/27 SY, open houses, hiring, tenure recognition of several teachers, enrollment and recognition of the Wellness Team by UCONN Neag.

Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Sherman noted the commencement of this plan in the 2020/21 SY, which identified three (3) specific goal areas:

- Contemporary Learners – develop and integrate project-based learning opportunities into the curriculum to promote student choice and critical thinking as we prepare our students for future learning and responsible global citizenship.
- Building Diverse and Healthy Alliances – create and support an inclusive environment that embraces awareness of and deepens appreciation of diversity and individuality while promoting the social emotional wellness of all students.
- Academic Framework – design and support a coherent, research-based curriculum that fosters students' inquiry skills and builds students' intellectual confidence.

Evidence of success in each area was provided. A new Strategic Plan will be developed in the near future.

BRS Update – Ms. Sherman highlighted the Ice Cream Social with local farmers in attendance, Beecher Bikes a bike riding partnership between students and the police department, Hispanic month, implementation of the milk machine in the Café to replace cartons and the whole school walk / shared story. The Board acknowledged Jessica Hill, Cafeteria Director, for her creative initiatives and promoting student engagement.

BRS Building Committee – Ms. Piascyk reviewed the community events and engagement over the last month and the upcoming votes by the BOF and BOS to commit this project to referendum.

Facilities Committee – Mr. Hughes noted this committee met on September 3 to review the projects and inspections completed during the summer months.

Finance Committee – currently we are \$10,000 over budget. Savings in staffing changes allowed for the funding of the newly hired teacher in Kindergarten.

CABE Liaison – Ms. Piascyk reminded the Board of the upcoming CABE/CAPPS conference on November 20 and 21 and the attendance of Sarah Beth Del Prete at the Delegate Assembly on November 19.

Upcoming Meetings – SBA Testing and Open Choice will be on the October meeting. Referendum voting on October 13 does not allow for early voting, however, absentee balloting is permitted.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Letter regarding the BRS Building Project – Chair Lawrence presented a letter to be sent to residents outlining the process, projected costs and anticipated grant reimbursements. There was discussion as to whether the Board should engage in providing financial data to the community and suggestions were made for language rephrasing. Board members Lawrence, Piascyk, Conatser, Strambler, Vilekar and Williamson endorsed having their name on the letter with Hughes declining.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

MOTION TO ADJOURN: 8:30 PM (*Williamson / Conaster* **Unanimous**)

Recorded by Marsha DeGennaro, Clerk of the Board