

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 12, 2026 6:30 PM Eastern

Beman Middle School
1 Wilderman's Way
Middletown, CT 06457

<https://www.youtube.com/@MiddletownStream>

Kelly Bee:	Present
Chris Cardella:	Present
Sheila Daniels:	Present
Rakim Grant:	Present
Deborah Kleckowski:	Present
Dean Krupa:	Present
Susan Owens:	Present
Harold Panciera:	Present
Kim Riordan:	Present

Present: 9.

I. Call to Order

Ms. Daniels called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM.

II. Salute to the Flag

Student Representative Sal Marnus Kunate led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Adoption of Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda was made. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Kelly Bee, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0

IV. District Highlights

IV.A. CABE Student Leadership Awards

Mr. Roberts introduced Mr. Ryan Mertel. Mr. Mertel introduced D'Von Lucien Yopp. Ms. Yopp has made outstanding academic and extracurricular achievements. Dr. Addley presented Ms. Yopp with her Student Leadership Award.

Mr. Mertel introduced Ms. Ana Pinzon-Londono. Ms. Pinzon-Londono also has many outstanding achievements both in and out of the classroom. Dr. Addley presented Ms. Pinzon-Londono with her Student Leadership Award.

IV.B. Macdonough School Year in Review & Global Citizen Programming

Mr. Roberts introduced Ms. Maghan Heslin. Ms. Heslin discussed the move from Spring Street to the temporary home on Spruce Street. She thanked everyone for the renovations both inside and outside of the building. They are continuing Macdonough traditions such as SURFS awards, School Wide Thanksgiving Feast and a School Wide PBIS Fair. With the new

library they are using maker space, literature and innovation to life. ML supports have been able to be expanded. New traditions include participating in the Middletown Community Thanksgiving Project, housing the Black History month display. They have partnered with Empower Leadership for grade 4 and 5 students and have started Global Citizens after school program.

V. Public Session

Chair Daniels explained the rules of Public Session

Ms. Enoila Shokunbi, no address given. Ms. Shokunbi spoke of her experience in developing a project and asked for a response for support for her and her project.

Ms. Funmike Shokunbi, no address given. Ms. Shokunbi spoke of her feelings of being misled by the district.

VI. Communications

VI.A. Report of Student Representative

Mr. Sal Marnus Kunate shared that the DECA team won multiple awards at Nationals in Georgia. He also noted athletic successes in track and field, boys' lacrosse, and softball, and marked the success of open houses for the Vocational Agriculture (Voag) and Robotics programs. He thanked all the school lunch heroes for Lunch Hero day.

Ms. Daniels had a moment of silence for Xzavier Reyes, class of 2019 who passed away recently.

Ms. Daniels congratulated Mr. Rakim Grant in completing his Master's degree in Public Administration this month.

VII. Consent Agenda

A motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Kelly Bee, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0

VII.A. Minutes of April 7, 2026

VII.B. MHS BlueTube to NY

VII.C. PEP Grant

VII.D. Grants Status Report

VII.E. Budget Committee

VII.F. Curriculum Committee

VII.G. Facilities Committee

VII.H. Policy Committee

VIII. Department Reports

VIII.A. Financial Report

Ms. Forbes shared that the format has changed to the report. This month's report shows March and April. The purchase order deadline has passed for the fiscal year. There is a surplus in the salary line. Tuition to private sources (special education) is encumbered. Ms. Forbes explained that recently a few students that attend out of district schools have moved to Middletown, which will add to expenses. Natural gas prices have increased and legal services have also increased.

VIII.A.1. Action on Line Item Transfer Report

Ms. Forbes shared this month there is one transfer for the athletic department. Money has moved from unfilled stipends to the purchase services line.

A motion to accept the Line Item Transfers was made. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Harold Panciera, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea
Yea: 9, Nay: 0

VIII.A.2. Unexpended Balance

Ms. Forbes asked for the unexpended balance to be used to cover Beman electric costs and a payment for the back billed amount from 2025 for the Beman back bill. This would cover a portion of the back bill.

A motion to accept the unexpended balance was made. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Chris Cardella, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea
Yea: 9, Nay: 0

VIII.B. Facilities Department

Mr. Gaylord highlighted the Keigwin lights and sound system. The shed at Lawrence was repaired. Vape sensors were completed at Beman. He shared photos of the MHS fuel cell repairs. The Moody School oil tank removal is moving forward. There will be a meeting on Monday for the Snow School roof project. The next Facility meeting will be June 17th.

VIII.C. Personnel Report

Mr. Snyder shared that the posting for Macdonough principal closed today. The posting for Beman principal will be shared shortly. Ms. Kleckowski asked about exit interview information. Mr. Snyder will share that information.

VIII.D. Transportation Report

Ms. Stevenson shared that 97 field trips are planned for May and June. Summer transportation planning has begun. There were no questions.

IX. Superintendent's Report

IX.A. FY27 Budget Update

The Superintendent's budget request is 3.99% or 107, 265, 369. Unanticipated costs of Beman electricity and workers' compensation increase added 0.38% or \$387,741. The Mayor's proposal is 3.11% or \$106,347,535. The remaining budget mitigation needed to reach the Mayor's proposal is -1.26% or -\$1,305,575. Dr. Addley shared that the Common Council will announce our budget allocation tomorrow evening. He reminded the board of the questions they proposed and answers were sent via email. The next budget workshops are scheduled for May 18 at 5:00 and May 27 at 5:00 and will be held at Central Office.

IX.B. Legislative Updates

Dr. Addley reviewed the legislative updates and how the Common Council will utilize the finds. Ms. Kleckowski asked if the money is included in the amount from the council or in addition to it. Dr. Addley explained the process, and we will have more information in the upcoming days.

Dr. Addley shared a few of the bills that have passed or in the process of being reviewed.

IX.C. Summer Programming

Dr. Addley shared the summer programming. There are programs for early childhood through grade 12. Most of the funding for the programming are by grants.

X. Action Items

X.A. DRIP Grant

Ms. Forbes shared that the District Repair Improvement Grant awarded Middletown Public Schools \$237,723.98. The use of the funds must be approved by the Board of Education. The amount of \$200, 500 would be used for the removal and replacement of the Moody School Oil Tank.

A motion to approve the DRIP Grant was made. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Chris Cardella, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0

XI. Future Agenda Items

There were no future items.

XII. Proposed Executive Session

XII.A. Discussion concerning strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation TPP-35891; MPP-35864 & MMX-CV-25-6047703-S; CHRO No. 2530552; CHRO No. 2630432; FST-CV-25-6072148; CHRO No. 2630311

*(anticipated executive session)

A motion was made to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussion concerning strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation TPP-35891; MPP-35864 & MMX-CV-25-6047703-S; CHRO No. 2530552; CHRO No. 2630432; FST-CV-25-6072148; CHRO No. 2630311 and invite Attorney Anne Littlefield, Attorney Megan L. Nielsen and Dr. Addley, Harry Snyder and Jennifer Cannata. This motion, made by Rakim Grant and seconded by Kim Riordan, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0

XIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:50 PM. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Dean Krupa, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0