

NORFOLK BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting-April 28, 2026



MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John DeShazo, Amy Bennett, Donna Rubin,
Jeremy Withnell,

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Walter Godlewski, Virginia Coleman-Prisco, Mike Listorti

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Kevin D. Case, Superintendent, Lauren Valentino, Principal

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Public Comments:

None

Connecticut Association of Public-School Superintendents Award:

The CT Association of Public-School Superintendents Leadership Award presented by Superintendent Kevin D. Case was given to Abigail Bennett.

Motion by J. Withnell **seconded by** A. Bennett to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 31, 2026. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Correspondence:

None

Financial Report: Superintendent Case reviewed the March 2026 Check Authorization/Bills for Review and the March 2026 Monthly Expenditure Report. After some discussion the Board Chair asked for a motion to approve.

Motion by A. Bennett **seconded by** J. Withnell to approve the March Monthly Expenditure Report. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

Superintendent Case reported the following to the Board:

- 2026-2027 Proposed Budget – Superintendent Case thanked board members who attended the public hearing. The budget will be sent to the town meeting on May 11th at 7:00 pm at Botelle School
- Mission Vision Committee Update- The committee met for their second session on April 22, 2026.
- Minimum Budget Requirement Non- Compliance Update - Superintendent Case reported that at the Town Meeting on May 11th, the Board of Finance will request taxpayer approval to add \$58,366 in appropriated funds to the current 2025-2026 school budget in order to meet state compliance noting that the school district does not intend to spend the funds.

Principal's Report:

Teaching and Learning

- **POWER GOALS** - Teachers and students continue to work on their goals in reading and math. During Impact Teams, we reviewed and updated goals because students are achieving them! We also discussed instructional routines and strategies that were effective in students knowing their Power Goals and applying strategies to monitor and achieve them.
- **SALMON IN SCHOOLS** - Ms. Garceau and 6th grade students received over 100 salmon eggs in the They applied math learning to observe and record data as they grew into fry. Last week they released the salmon into the Farmington River. Students love this project!
- **COMMUNICATING REASONING IN MATH** - Today Mrs. Tallon and other 2nd grade students across the region met and analyzed unit assessments. Teachers were amazed at how our students communicated their reasoning; an important math practice measured on the SBA. The teachers asked Mrs. Tallon how she got them to that!

Professional Learning

- **READCONN** - Educators have completed Module 2 *Oral Language and Phonology*. We are applying our new learning by evaluating instructional resources that we plan to implement next year.

Community Connections

- Mr. T-K brought students in grades 3-6 to the Curling Club.
- Pre-K screening was attended by 7 students and families, many of which have siblings already at Botelle or were former students themselves!
- Miss Holly and Miss Winn are offering an afterschool program called Wonder and Wander. Almost half of our students are participating!
- Upper Intermediate students are participating in DARE with Trooper White.
- Students in grades 3-6 attended a concert at the Warner with other students from surrounding schools.

Standing Committee Reports:

Curriculum and Technology- Meeting April 7, 2026

Math

- Power Goals for each student in math with resources to support them in understanding them and achieving them
- IM 360 is a more comprehensive version of IM with more support for teachers instructionally
- Teachers in grades 3-6 supporting students' transfer of knowledge and skills to SBA with IABs

Literacy

- Power Goals for each student in literacy are supported through ARC School Pace database
- Power Goals aligned in the tier 1 and tier 2/3 setting creates opportunities to accelerate their learning and own it
- Seeing the impact of ARC both in teaching and evidence of student learning. Resources are structured so there is strong alignment from unit to unit and grade to grade.
- Applying new learning from Read Conn by reflecting and analyzing ARC resources to determine how aligned ARC components are to structured literacy practices
- ARC has updated their resources to include more support for teachers to deliver instruction, new core novels and research libraries, and added foundational skills instruction in grades 3-5

Policy - Meeting April 21, 2026

Committee members discussed and revised the draft policies 6171 Instruction- Special Education; Policy 5114-Students-Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process; Policy 6159- Instruction-Individualized Education Program. The Policies will be brought to the Board for a first reading on April 28, 2026.

Health and Wellness- Meeting April 1, 2026

Principal Valentino reported that committee members are working on the Health and Wellness Policy.

School Safety and Security - Meeting April 21, 2026

Committee members discussed lockdown and evacuation drills. They were briefed on skills inventory of the staff, epi pen use and cpr/first aide training.

Affiliation Reports:

PTO – Grade 5/6 Pasta Dinner was well attended. Moana Jr. play will be on May 1st at 5:30pm and May 2nd at 2:00 p.m. Teacher and Staff Appreciation will take place the week of May 4th.

Shared Services – Meeting cancelled nothing to report

Board of Finance – Discussed the Minimum Budget Requirement addition to the budget.

EDC- Nothing to report

First Reading – Policies

Motion by D. Rubin seconded by J. Withnell that The Norfolk Board of Education approve policies 6171-Instruction-Special Education; 5114-Students-Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process; 6159-Instruction-Individualized Education as a first reading. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

Motion by D. Rubin **seconded by** J. Withnell to adjourn the meeting@ 7:15

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

Meeting adjourned@ 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Lippincott

Kathy Lippincott,
Recording Secretary

THESE ARE NOT APPROVED MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL AT THE NEXT MEETING.