

BURRILLVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
May 12, 2026

Reported By: Christina David

Location: BHS Media Center

Time Began: 6:03 PM

Adjourned: 6:38 PM

Attending: Chair T. Lacey, Vice-Chair J. Calapai, Clerk D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua

NOTE: Excused: D. Allen and Student Representative Benjamin Pina

1. Convene in Open Session – Welcome, Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance

Chair T. Lacey opens the meeting at 6:03 pm, takes roll call and leads the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair T. Lacey asked for a moment of silence for Richard Polacek. He was a Math teacher for 33 years at Burrillville High School. He was also Senior Class Play Director for 25 years, a Student Council Advisor, a Class Advisor, and the Assistant Soccer Coach. He was a Burrillville resident, he raised his family here and now his family are raising their families here. He was an outstanding teacher. Please join me in a moment of silence.

2. Recognition

None

3. Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes

J. Calapai (M), S. Bouzan (S) to approve the Minutes of April 14, 2026 Executive Session and Regular Meeting. VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

Warrants and Invoices

J. Calapai (M), D. Landry (S) to approve 2025/2026 Warrant #10 for the month of April, dated May 12, 2026 as presented. VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

Bids

None

4. Presentations by the Public to the School Committee

None

5. Public Comment

None

6. Personnel

Leaves of Absence

J. Calapai (M), S. Bouzan (S) to approve the Leave of Absence as presented. VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

Lila Illuzzi Art Teacher – BMS 8/24/2026 through 1/4/2027

Retirements

J. Calapai (M), S. Bouzan (S) to accept the Retirements with great thanks as presented. VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

Mary-Anne Riendeau Paraprofessional – SFE Effective August 3, 2026

Barbara DeMasco Physical Education Teacher – BHS Effective June 18, 2026

Nicholas Servidio Science Teacher – BHS Effective June 18, 2026

Resignations

None

The appointments listed below are for informational purposes.

J. Calapai (M), D. Landry (S) to Receive and File Appointments as presented. VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

Appointments

Lisa Walker SADD/VAASA Advisor \$700 Prorated

Lauren Leonti Director of Academic Summer School 2026 \$4,275

Athletic Coaches 2025-2026 - BHS

Tyler Crandall Baseball Assistant Coach Volunteer

7. Old Business

FY 26 BSD Budget Update

J. Calapai (M), S. Bouzan (S) to receive and file the budget update.

VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

P3510 Graduation Requirements – Second Revised Reading

J. Calapai (M), S. Bouzan (S) to approve the second revised reading P3510 Graduation Requirements.

VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

P3111.1 Early Entrance into Kindergarten – Second Reading

J. Calapai (M), D. Landry (S) to approve the second reading of P3111.1 Early Entrance into Kindergarten.

VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

8. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Sollitto:

- FY27 Budget – Later in tonight's meeting, we are presenting the revised FY27 budget for approval. Total proposed budget is \$39,355,451, which is a 3.42% increase from FY26. It will be presented in detail at next week's Public Hearing, which is scheduled for May 21st at the Town Council Chambers at 7pm. At the Public Hearing, I will request that the town approves the use of \$150,000 in set-aside funds to offset this total. There was approximately \$150,000 in set-aside funds that were approved for FY26, that were not used. That will leave about \$165,000 short from the Town Managers recommendation. The Budget Hearing is not a final vote of the budget and the actual budget vote will take place in June. Funding for Public Schools is failing to keep pace with the rising cost. Several school districts are running significant deficits. Unless there are changes at the state level, I expect that trend to worsen. Our teachers contract and transportation contract will need to be renegotiated next year for the FY28 budget. FY28 could be a disastrous year for the district unless the State Aide Formula is revised. We also plan to utilize \$300,000 of our CTE funds which will leave our balance in that revolving account low. Those are funds that come in every year from tuition based on students that come in from outside of the district. We normally pay for some staffing out of that to support our programs. Big kudos to Robin Kimatian for her work on the budget.
- There is a Rural Health Grant at the federal level that came out through RIDE. They should be releasing a grant application in the next few weeks. The grant is aimed to providing opportunities to expand health professions in rural areas. We will be submitting an application to further build our Bio-Medical pathway to expand our EMT and CNA offerings. We are also looking into a potential phlebotomy program and connecting all of these areas under an Allied Health strand that's connected to the Bio-Medical Program. If we are successful in receiving the grant, it will supply a multiply year fund and the funds could be a significant amount. There are 17 districts across the state that are considered rural and the grant total is \$5 million dollars.
- At the June meeting, I will be presenting our cell phone policy for a first reading. Per state law, cell phones must be off and away during instructional time beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. We are working on finalizing the language of the policy to comply with the law as well as being clear and concise so that parents, students and staff understand the policy. We are primarily working with the high school and middle school administrative teams to make sure we are on the same page. We plan on rolling it out in August for the beginning of the school year.

9. Administrators' Reports

Deferred until June Meeting

10. Report from School Committee Student Representative

None

11. Reports of School Committee Subcommittees

- S. St. Pierre: SFE SIT on April 13th. There is a new program for emotional wellbeing. It is called Everyday Speech and there are 40 lessons. It can be used for PK – 12th grade and is once a week. There are 5 social emotional learning areas. They are still using the Choose Love and PBIS programs. They spoke about attendance. Steere Farm is 45th in the state for attendance, which is very good because it includes all public, private and charter schools. Their non-attendance has reduced 6% after phone calls have been made.

12. Correspondence/Communications

Resolution of North Smithfield School Committee Regarding School Employee Background Checks

S. St. Pierre (M), S. Bouzan (S) to send to Benjamin Scungio to review.

VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

Dr. Sollitto: North Smithfield's resolution was sent out to all School Committees and Town Councils regarding legislation that they are supporting. The bill is mandating that any applicant for a public-school job must disclose prior history if they were part of any disciplinary action, investigation or allegation related to child abuse or sexual misconduct. That would put the onus on the applicant that by law they would have to disclose any investigations even if they resigned before the investigation was concluded. My recommendation would be to send this to our legal council for review before we decide if we want to mirror the resolution.

13. New Business

Home School Applications

S. St. Pierre (M), J. Calapai (S) to approve Home School Applications.

VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

PR3421 Artificial Intelligence (AI) Protocol – First Revised Reading

J. Calapai (M), S. Bouzan (S) to approve the first revised reading of PR3421 Artificial Intelligence (AI) Protocol.

VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

Discussion/Vote: SkillsUSA Overnight Field Trip Request to Atlanta, GA

S. St. Pierre (M), S. Bouzan (S) to approve the SkillsUSA overnight field trip request to Atlanta, GA.

VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

Discussion/Vote: FY27 Budget Approval

J. Calapai (M), D. Landry (S) to approve the FY27 Budget.

VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

14. Committee Comments on Agenda Items

None

15. Pending Issues

Artificial Field Update:

Dr. Sollitto: Grand Opening will be in the fall. It will be before the Friday Night Football Game for Homecoming. The parade will be Saturday morning, followed by a Girls Soccer game.

16. Adjournment

S. St. Pierre (M), J. Calapai (S) to adjourn.

VOTE: Approved 6-0

(T. Lacey, J. Calapai, D. Landry, S. Bouzan, S. St. Pierre, V. Bevilacqua in favor)

Approved by School Committee: June 9, 2026

Clerk of the Committee