

MIDDLETOWN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Executive Session 5:00 PM

Regular Meeting 5:30 PM

MINUTES

1.0 Opening Items

1.1 Call to Order: Chair Gregory Huet called the School Committee meeting to order at 5:00 pm at Michael S. Pinto Conference Room, 26 Oliphant Lane, Middletown, Rhode Island 02842.

1.2 Determination of Quorum: School Committee Members – Chair Gregory Huet, Vice-Chair Wendy Heaney, Clerk William Nash and Theresa Spengler Excused: Tami Holden

School Department Administrators present - Superintendent William Niemeyer, Assistant Superintendent and Director of Teaching and Learning Michelle Fonseca, Director of Student Services Leslie Brow, MHS Principal Donna Sweet, GMS Principal Gerald Haas, Gaudet Learning Academy Principal Katy Gibbins, Forest Ave Principal Rebecca Silveira, Principal Erica Bulk

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1.1 Discuss personnel matter pursuant to provisions of RIGL, 42-46-5 (a)(1).

1.2 Discussion of potential litigation matter pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(2).

1.3 Consideration and Vote to seal the minutes of the executive session pursuant to R.I. Gen Laws 42-46-4 & 42-46-5

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash No votes taken.

REGULAR SESSION

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1.4 Moment of Silence: None

1.5 Public Forum / Comment: None

2. Correspondence: None

3. Recognition for Teacher of the Year and Retirees

4. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash

That the School Committee approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.

4.1 Vouchers

4.2 Invoices

4.3 Minutes Regular Meeting, April 16, 2026
Policy Sub Committee Meeting, May 6, 2026

4.4 Review, Archive and Minor Modifications of Policies

#2510 Student Devices

#2520 Student Email and Cloud Services

#5000 Peanut and Tree Nut Allergy

#5120 Naloxone

#5140 MPS Homeless-Policy

#9000 Facilities Use

#8010 ARCHIVE - High School State Assessment Waiver for Graduation

4.5 Approval of homeschool instruction requests: 25-26-56

Motion: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

5. Action Items

5.1 Consider and Vote on Superintendent's recommendation for layoff of certified staff based on fiscal exigency as of the end of the 2025-2026 school year.

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

5.2 Consider and Vote on the Updated 2026–2027 School Calendar - two options to reflect change in the date of the primary elections.

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

Comment from Superintendent that [Option for calendar number one](#)

5.3 Consider and Vote on Memorandum of Agreement for Atlas Behavioral Consultation

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Tabled. Unanimous vote.

5.4 Consider and Vote to use fund balance for the purchase of one time curriculum buys

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

5.5 Consider and Vote to use Superintendent Evaluation software program TrakStar Performa

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

Comment that this program will be used at no extra cost as a shared service with the Town of Middletown

5.6 Consider and Vote to purchase Superintendent Evaluation software program SuperEval

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

Comment that this program at the cost of \$2,500 will not be purchased or used.

5.7 Consider and Vote regarding a resolution supporting School Employee Background Checks legislation (H7356) that would change Rhode Island education law by creating a new chapter that requires full criminal and work history background checks for anyone employed by a school or hired to work regularly with students.

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

5.8 Consider and Vote on Job Descriptions: High School ALP Teacher (Alternative Learning Program), School Counselor, PLTW/ Career and Tech

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

5.9 Consider and Vote on yearly review of Policy # 7128 Cell Phone Policy

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

Amended to change to require a three year review.

5.10 Consider and Vote on first reading of policies required for Chartwells School Lunch Program and RIDE, Policies # 3110 USDA Foods Management and Annual Reconciliation, 3120 Invoice Review Procedures-Child Nutrition Programs, 3125 Reconciliation Procedures - Child Nutrition Programs, 3130 Monitoring Procedures, 3140 Procurement Code of Conduct, 3150 USDA-Compliant Procurement Procedures

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

5.11 Consider and Vote on SilentSherpa Energy Management

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

5.12 Consider and Vote on second and final reading of revision, Policy # 5125 Family Education Rights and Privacy Act Education Records and Confidentiality

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

5.13 Consider and Vote on first reading of revision, Policy #6172.35 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

5.14 Consider and Vote on renewal of Xello: College and Career Readiness Software

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

5.15 Consider and Vote on Curriculum Surplus

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash Unanimous vote.

6. Old Business - None**7. New Business - None****8. Student Representative Report/Update:** Philip Campbell and Julia Pereira

- AP exams- Testing wrapped up last week. Students were working really hard all year in preparation for their big tests.
- Prom- Junior prom is tomorrow night! The Junior Student Council set up pictures to be at Fort Adams and the dance will be held at Johnny's Restaurant in the Wyndham Hotel.
- NEASC student panel- We are working on putting together a student panel board with student concerns and feedback to NEASC.
- The Student Government positions were confirmed just this past Monday. Nominees had to write short essays to describe why they were running for their positions and get their submissions signed off by a teacher.

9. Reports/Updates from the Superintendent and Staff**9.1 Enrollment**

	Totals for MAY 2026																	Totals MAY 2025
	PKAM	PKPM	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	18-22	TOTALS	
AQE	22	18	59	58	55	80											292	307
FA			70	71	78	64											283	303
GLA							148	123									271	254
JHG									136	129	142						407	433
MHS												125	112	133	111		481	507
Transition																6	6	7
Special Ed Out of District			0	3	1	2	1	4	1	3	2	3	9	6	7		42	43
TOTAL	22	18	129	132	134	146	149	127	137	132	144	128	121	139	118	6	1782	1854
Choice Out (CTE/GED)												21	16	9	23		69	43
Choice In (CTE)									1			4	5	4	2		16	12
Home School			3	6	3	4	8	11	10	8	6	7	10	10	6		92	89

9.1 Financial

BUDGET: FY26

1. **GF Budget:** \$43,253,817.00
2. **GF YTD Expenditures:** \$33,285,384.98
3. **GF YTD Revenue:** \$33,784,314.17
4. **GF Encumbrance:** \$2,752,120.44
5. **Total Budget:** \$46,279,270.00
6. **Total YTD Expenditures:** \$36,489,887.05
7. **Total YTD Revenue:** \$35,898,432.73
8. **Total Encumbrance:** \$3,155,884.86

9.1 Personnel

NEW HIRE EFFECTIVE May 4, 2026

Leigh Maguire, 4hr Teacher Assistant, GLA

RESIGNATION EFFECTIVE May 4, 2026

Francisca Silva Lima, District Coordinator of MLL Instruction, MPS

APPOINTMENT EFFECTIVE May 5, 2026

Eric Wright, Beyond the Bell Teacher, MHS

RESIGNATION EFFECTIVE June 14, 2026

Kristina Hughes, MLL Teacher, MHS

RESIGNATION EFFECTIVE June 24, 2026

Maggie McCue, Early Childhood Teacher, AQ

Brandi Carter, Science Teacher, MHS

9.2 Status Report

Teaching & Learning

Curriculum Management

Our Public Blueprint will go live this August, 2026

It will provide a public-facing, transparent, and organized visual of a school district's curriculum, mapping out subjects and courses across grade levels. It enables parents, community members, and stakeholders to view detailed course descriptions, unit outlines, and learning goals

Furniture Selection

Furniture selection for Valley and Middletown High School is well underway. A representative committee of grades 2–5 educators has met for two half-day sessions to review and explore a range of furniture options and room configurations for Valley. At the secondary level, teachers from Gaudet Middle School and Middletown High School are currently participating in a sit-test process using furniture that has been delivered and set up at the high school.

Student Services

Students have the opportunity to receive specialized instruction within an inclusive environment, with the option to extend their day through camp programming.

As the school year winds down, Student Services staff have been provided with a feedback survey to help guide professional development planning for the 2026–2027 school year.

Facilities, Safety & Transportation

Elementary School complex will start Phase II which will focus on elevator and roof replacement along with some ceiling replacement and painting. Our CM, Bentley, will try to complete all work needing to be done in the gym and cafe so those two areas can be used for staging areas next summer.

Family & Community Engagement

Hosted a Multilingual Collaborative event May 21 at Aquidneck School with DJ, food and summer camps signing kids up as well as parents sharing information about their jobs.

April vacation camp with Conanicut Island Sailing Foundation and Ocean Hour Farm for MLL teens in Middletown and Newport. The students went to Save the Bay Aquarium, Ocean Hour Farm, Moore Brothers, IYRS, Ft Getty, Jamestown Conanicut Island Sailing Foundation

Managing transportation for families experiencing homelessness with Statewide and Ocean State.

10. Information -

10.1 Letter of non-support for Military Vouchers related to educational choice for military-connected students from the Superintendents of Middletown, Newport, Portsmouth and Jamestown.

10.2 Middletown CTE Presentation

10.3 EBCAP Vision Award - The Vision Award is presented to individuals and organizations that have helped EBCAP achieve its mission of providing high quality, comprehensive, and accessible health and human services to assist people to achieve their fullest potential.

10.4 Letter from Governor Daniel McKee appointing Superintendent Niemeyer to the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3)

9. Reports/Updates of Officers

9.1 School Building Committee - [check out the website for the new building](#)

9.2 Middletown Prevention Coalition -

9.3 Policy Committee - continues to meet monthly to update and review policies

9.4 Others as required - None

ADJOURN FROM MEETING

MOTION: 1) Wendy Heaney, 2) William Nash

To adjourn from the School Committee Meeting at 6:17 p.m. Unanimous vote.

Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, June 18, 2026

[Youtube Meeting Recording](#)