Barrington School Committee
Barrington Middle School
261 Middle Highway, Barrington
Thursday, June 11, 2026

Roll Call:
School Committee: Chair TJ Peck, Tim McNamara, Karen Rasnick, Liz Singh were present. Frazier Bell was not present.

School Administration: Superintendent Robert Mitchell, Assistant Superintendent, Ruth Corley, Tee Gomes, Alex Prignano, and Rebecca Trahan were present.
Attorney Lombardo was present

School Committee Business:
Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM
Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Peck requested a motion to move the Superintendent Report to next on the agenda. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

Superintendent Report:
Achievements/Recognition:
Mr. Mitchell began the meeting by congratulating the **Barrington High School History Club.** The members of the History Club introduced themselves to the School Committee and audience.
Mr. Sangiulano and Ms. Arbelez introduced a group of fifth-grade writers known as **The Rising Author Society**, whose work was featured on the cover of *Barrington's* magazine. Mr. Mitchell congratulated the students on their creativity, dedication, and hard work.
Mr. Mitchell also recognized the **Barrington High School Pre-Engineering class** for their outstanding work designing and creating 3D terrain maps that help visually impaired visitors better experience our national parks.
Finally, Mr. Mitchell acknowledged **Ms. Jennifer Hines Bowie**, math specialist at Primrose Hill School, and congratulated her on being named **Math Teacher of the Year**.
Mr. Mitchell congratulated the **Barrington High School class of 2026.**
Mr. Peck presented Mr. Mitchell with a citation from the state of RI for his service.

Mr. Peck requested a motion to move the School Committee Business agenda item to next on the agenda. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

Eagle Scout Project Presentation:
Leo Ellis presented his idea for a project at Barrington Middle School for a small outdoor wellness area designed to relieve stress for both faculty and students. Leo will create and fund the project as part of his Eagle Scout project.
The School Committee asked about the location. Leo will work with Dr. Anderson on the location. Mr. Peck congratulated Leo on this accomplishment in scouting.

Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the Eagle Scout project as presented. Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Peck requested a motion to move School Committee Business item B to next on the agenda. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

Kate Tracy donation for school lunch debt:
Kate spoke on her fundraising efforts to raise the money to donate to Nayatt School to pay off the school lunch debt. She requested the committee's approval to accept the donation on Monday, June 15 at Nayatt School.

Mr. Peck made a motion to accept the donation for school lunch debt. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Peck requested a motion to seal executive session minutes. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.
Mr. Peck stated no votes to disclose.

Public Comment:
Nancy Morrissette, Ferry Lane stated that she has worked in the district for 20 years. She is speaking as a citizen of Barrington. She is concerned that the school committee is spending $8,000 to search for a director of facilities for the district. She feels it is unnecessary as we have someone who has been doing the job admirably for more than a year. There are other needs in this district that are a priority.

Jessica Zulky , Knapton Street, supports the idea for temporary playground equipment at schools during construction. She thanked the committee and LeftField for quickly helping with a temporary plan.

Michelle Coleman, Humphreys Road expressed concerns about administrative turnover. Her children have had six new faces as acting principals in four years. She also mentioned multiple superintendents and district level positions turnover during this time frame. This turnover with little notice impacts teacher morale, student consistency, family trust and the momentum of programs. She asked the school committee to consider a long-term plan to address administrative turnover.

Isar Maji, Owens Lanean abutting property owner to Sowams School, expressed concerns of privacy during construction. He stated that the neighboring properties are not being taken into consideration.

Joell Adams of Belvedere Avenue commended the School Committee for considering a temporary playground for students during the construction project. She also expressed concern about the number of trees that would be removed. Ms. Adams shared that she is working to preserve and promote green spaces that teachers can use to take students on nature walks and provide outdoor learning opportunities during the school day.

Superintendent Report:
Financial Update - Alex Prignano discussed the monthly financials and the budget.
The school committee thanked Alex for his leadership.
RICOH Copiers- Alex explained that he and Becky worked together to consider buying machines instead of leasing the machines, the district could save money over time.

Bullying Report - Mr. Peck expressed curiosity about the enormous drop off in the years 2022-23. He would like to know if that was over reported or are we now under-reported. Ms. Corley explained that she does not have that data available tonight. Ms. Corley answered questions regarding reporting bullying and investigating.

Student Representative for the SY26-27 Andrew Taxiarchos.
Mr. Mitchell introduced Andrew Taxiarchos who will sit on the School Committee as the Student Representative for the 2026-27 school year. Andrew took his seat at the table and decided to stay for the meeting. The committee welcomed Andrew.

Mr. Peck requested a motion to move agenda item hh to this point in the meeting. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

HMS Principal Contract
Mr. Peck thanked Mr. Sangiulano for his leadership. He stated that Gino will be really great for Primrose Hill School. Mr. Mitchell highly recommends Ms. Lisa Ridder to the position of Principal at HMS.

Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the Hampden Meadows principal contract. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

Consent Agenda
Mr. Peck began by asking if any school committee members had concerns about any items on the consent agenda. Mr. McNamara questioned item f, WB contract. Attorney Lombardo agreed.

Mr. Peck requested a motion to move consent agenda item f to before School Committee business item N. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

Mr Peck made a motion to approve consent agenda (a) Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 3-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Singh, and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.
Mrs. Rasnick abstained.

Mr. Peck made a motion to approve consent agenda items b,c,d,e,g,h,i,j,k, and l. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mr. McNamara seconded. The motion passed 3-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative. Mrs. Singh abstained.

Presentation of Temporary Planground Solutions
Mike Meehan presented five options for temporary playground equipment. The school committee and representatives from LeftField and Tectron had robust discussions about the options.

Mr. Peck requested a motion to move $400,000 from the Capital reserve account to allocate $20,000 relocation equipment at Sowams, $20,000 for relocation equipment at Primrose. $140,000 for playground equipment at Sowams, $140,000 for playground equipment at Primrose and $40,000 for swings at Sowams, and $40,000 for swings at Primrose for a total allocation of $400,000. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

Fourth Read SRO Policy
Mr. Peck specified that the Superintendent should direct training for the SRO focused on interactions with LGBTQ+ students, minority students and other student groups that, based on national data, have historically experienced disproportionately negative interactions with SRO's. Attorney Lombardo noted that the second training component references a certain number of hours shadowing either a principal or guidance counselor/social worker. She suggested making that requirement more specific and clearly defined in the policy. Mr. Peck suggested ten hours.

Mr. McNamara stated that while he is not opposed to the policy, he is not fully convinced there is still a need for a School Resource Officer. He expressed concern that the town has not fully embraced the fact that the district is hiring a police officer for the position.

Mr. Peck made a motion to approve the SRO policy. Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 3-1 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative. Mr. McNamara voting against.

Demolition and abatement sub-Contractors
Chris Dunphy presented the recommendations on behalf of Shawmut. He stated that the project is under budget for demolition and abatement.
Mr. Peck made a motion to approve the demolition and abatement sub-contractor. Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamar and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

RFP bid results for third Party Materials Testing
Chris Dunphey and Mike Meehan presented the bid tabs and their recommendation. Mr. Peck made a motion to approve awarding the RFP for third party materials testing to Fenagh. Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamar and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Construction Contract - Budget and Schedule
Mr. Peck stated the project is on schedule with regards to budget. Mr. Dunphy provided an update on the project schedule and budget. Mr. Peck thanked the team for their hard work.

Demographics Bid update
Mr. McNamara stated the timeline on these will not work. He said the bid closed in April and we needed to move then. Mr. Peck made a motion to award the bid to demographic analytic at the discretion of the Superintendent. Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamar and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Raptor Technology
Mr. Peck requested a motion to table this agenda item. Mrs. Rasnick moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

NEAB MOA - BMS Best Buddies advisor stipend
Mr. Peck made a motion to approve the BMS Best Buddies advisor stipend. Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamar and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

NEAB MOA BHS Robotics advisor stipend

Mr. Peck made a motion to table agenda item (k). Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamar and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

<u>NEAB MOA WB Healthcare</u>
Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the NEAB MOA WB Healthcare. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs. Signh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamar and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

<u>BEST MOA WB Healthcare</u>
Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the BEST MOA WB Healthcare. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs. Signh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamar and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

<u>BEST MOA 1:1 nurse</u>
Mr. Peck requested a motion to table item (n). Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs. Signh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

<u>SteelWorkers MOA WB Healthcare</u>
Mr. Peck made a motion to approve the Steelworker MOA WB Healthcare. Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative

<u>WB Healthcare Contract</u>
Mr. Peck made a motion to approve the WB Healthcare contract, contingent upon the BEST MOA being signed. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative

<u>PHS teacher LOA</u>
Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve agenda item (p). Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs. Signh seconded. The motion passed 3-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative. Mr. McNamara was out of the room.

<u>PHS teacher LOA</u>
Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve agenda item (q). Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs. Signh seconded. The motion passed 3-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative. Mr. McNamara was out of the room.

<u>BHS teacher LOA</u>
Mr. Peck made a motion to deny the sabbatical request, but approve an unpaid leave. Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 3-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative. Mr. McNamara was out of the room.

<u>BPS Website</u>
Mr. Peck stated that both the public and the School Committee would like to see a complete redesign of the district website. He requested that the Central Office work with staff members and coordinate with Sara Dell to develop a plan for the redesign process. He noted that this topic will be included on a future School Committee agenda.

<u>FY27 Budget Reconcilitation</u>

Alex Prignano gave a presentation of the reconciliation. The approved budget was $71,539,000 and the COA recommended $70,705,000, for a net reduction of about $834,000. Alex pointed out the areas where reductions were made to get the budget to $70,705,000.

Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the amended FY27 budget. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs. Signh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative

Student settlement agreement
Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the Student settlement agreement.Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative

Before & After School Care Bid update
Mr. Mitchell reported that four bids were received for the after-school program. After reviewing the proposals with Alex, Tee, and Matt, he recommended AlphaBEST as the preferred vendor. School Committee members asked questions about the program and expressed their appreciation for Mr. Mitchell's efforts in advancing the initiative during his short tenure as Interim Superintendent.
Mr. Peck requested a motion to award the After School Care bid to AlphaBest contingent on the school committee approving the contract. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative

Screen Time
Mr. Peck mentioned adding this to the August meeting. The committee wants to be sure there are guardrails with screen time.

First Read Media Policy
Mr. Peck state it was a great policy and will be moved to a second read for the next meeting

First Read Selection and Reconsideration Policy for BPS Libraries
Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve Selection and Reconsideration Policy. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative

Second Read Personal Device Policy
Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the Personal Device Policy. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative

Second Read Legal Guidance Policy
Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the Legal Guidance Policy. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Enrollment Projections
This is a recurring item. Kindergarten registrations are still coming in. Mrs. Corley stated the administration is keeping an eye on the numbers.

Strategic Plan Update

Mr. Peck requested this item be in the top five on the agenda at the next meeting.

Advisory Committee end of year Reports
Mr. Peck requested a motion to table item dd.. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Deferred Maintenance Log
Mr. Peck stated this policy is out of compliance. Mr. Peck requested to move this item to the September meeting.

Capital Expenditure Schedule
Mr. Peck stated this is tied to the Deferred Maintenance. Mr. Peck requested to move this item to the September meeting.
Mr. Peck requested a motion to table item ff to the September meeting. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Schedule School Committee Summer Meetings and Workshops
Mr. Peck would like to wait for Superintendent Hageman to schedule the next meeting. He requested a hold on July 23, 2026.

Deputy Finance director Contract
Mr. Peck thanked Tee for her work. He informed her that the logistics will be handled through the Superintendent's office.

Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction Addendum to Contract
Mr. Peck thanked Ruth for all her work. Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the amended contract with the additional amendment to increase the salary by $10,000. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Director of Technology Addendum to Contract
Mr. Peck thanked Becky for her work. Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the amended contract. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Co-Director of Pupil Personnel Contract
Mr. Peck thanked Mark and Kristen for all their work. Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the amended contract. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Co-Director of Pupil Personnel Contract
Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the amended contract. Mrs. Rasnick moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Engagement agreement with LaPlante Sowa Goldman
Mr. McNamara pointed out an error on page 2. Mr. Peck requested a motion to approve the engagement agreement with the understanding that the rate is $225. an hour. Mrs. Rasnick

moved. Mrs.Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Chartwells contract

The School Committee discussed opportunities to improve the district's food service contract and explore additional vendors in the future. Members expressed interest in providing healthier meal options and asked the Central Office to begin considering alternative vendors as future opportunities arise.

Student Representative Andrew shared that students would welcome healthier options while recognizing the convenience of the current program. He noted that he completed a Business Law research project on Chartwells and found that, while the food quality is generally good, the variety of available options is limited.

Attorney Lombardo expressed that East Greenwich is also looking for a private vendor. She suggested working with them to split the cost.

Mr. Peck made a motion directing the Superintendent and Aubrey to contact the East Greenwich School Department with a proposal to jointly retain a neutral food service consultant. The consultant would evaluate both districts' current food service operations, with the cost of the analysis shared between the two districts. Mrs. Rasnick seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mrs. Rasnick, Mr. McNamara and Mrs. Singh voting in the affirmative.

Public Comment

Dave Manning, New Meadow Road, thanked the committee for implementing a plan for temporary playground equipment.

Superintendent Announcements

Mr. Mitchell announced retirements and new hires.

Agenda Setting

Mr. Peck stated to reach out to him with agenda items for the August meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Peck requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bell moved and Mrs. Singh seconded. The motion passed 4-0 with Mr. Peck, Mr. Bell, Mrs. Singh and Mr. McNamara voting in the affirmative.

Adjournment: 10:14 pm

Approved: August 6, 2026