

**CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026
CRANSTON HIGH SCHOOL EAST ~ AUDITORIUM
899 PARK AVENUE, CRANSTON, RI 02910
EXECUTIVE SESSION - 6:00 PM
FOLLOWED BY PUBLIC WORK SESSION MEETING**

Minutes

The Cranston School Committee Executive Session and Public Work Session Meeting were held on the evening of January 5, 2026 in the Cranston East Auditorium, 899 Park Avenue, Cranston, RI. A motion was made at 6:02pm by Mr. Melillo and seconded by Mrs. Nadeau to call the executive session meeting to order. Roll was called. Mr. Catone-present, Mrs. Medeiros-absent, Ms. Marchetti-present, Mrs. Nadeau-present, Mrs. Crowley-present, Mr. Melillo-present, Mr. Fusco -present. Mr. Fusco stated that a quorum was present. Attorney A. Cascione was present at the meeting.

RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(2) Collective Bargaining\Litigation

A. Trades/Mechanic Negotiations

RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(8) Student Matters

A. Home Schooling

A motion was made by Mr. Catone and seconded by Mr. Melillo to adjourn the executive session meeting. Roll was called. Mr. Catone-yes, Ms. Marchetti-yes, Mrs. Nadeau-yes, Mrs. Crowley-yes, Mr. Melillo-yes, Mr. Fusco -yes.

A motion was made by Mrs. Crowley and Mrs. Nadeau called the public work session meeting to order. Roll was called. Mr. Catone-present, Ms. Marchetti-present, Mrs. Nadeau-present, Mrs. Crowley-present, Mr. Melillo-present, Mr. Fusco -present. Chairman Fusco stated that a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Mrs. Crowley and seconded by Mr. Melillo to seal the minutes of the executive session. Roll was called. Mr. Catone-yes, Ms. Marchetti-yes, Mrs. Nadeau-yes, Mrs. Crowley-yes, Mr. Melillo-yes, Mr. Fusco -yes. Chairman Fusco stated that no votes were taken in the executive session.

CIP Update - Chris Jedson-Gladstone, exterior landscaping and subgrading for walkways and basketball courts are ongoing, and metal canopies are being installed. Roof ERVs are being powered and controls set for an anticipated early February turnover, while the elevator is expected to be complete by the end of the week. The interior work includes installation of data racks, baffle ceilings, pendant lighting, and classroom flooring. The playground bid will be presented to the Building Committee, FF&E has been ordered, and technology boards, cores, and keys are being prepared. The project remains on budget, and completion is still on for April of 2026.

Eden Park construction is on schedule with sprinkler relocation, column reinforcements, and masonry walls complete. Exterior shear wall demolition, MEP installation, and interior wall framing are underway, and footings for the floor extension are being prepared. The project remains on budget with substantial completion projected for July 2026.

AES Phase 1 abatement and demolition are nearly complete, and roof installation is 35% finished, with completion expected in approximately two weeks, weather permitting. Even with a proposed \$3 million loan, the project remains \$2 million over budget. A redesign is underway to reduce costs by \$2 million, including elimination of the main basement stair, reduction of basement classrooms, and administrative area modifications. The redesign and funding adjustments will be readdressed at future Building Committee and School Board meetings as necessary.

Peters Elementary Communication - Norma Cole-The district is preparing to communicate a plan to move Peters Elementary students to Bain to alleviate over-capacity issues at Western Hills. Western Hills' population is significantly higher and moving students would create a more manageable population of 185 versus 263.

Organizational Chart - Superintendent- This is just an updated Organizational Chart that is done annually. Nothing has changed except that transportation now we have split with Norma and Mike. The staffing and operations are split between the two of them. We will need to vote on this at our next Public meeting.

MOA - Vacation Pay - Mike Crudale-Following a grievance regarding vacation pay for paraprofessionals, the district reached an agreement to prorate vacation time based on absences. This change ensures that employees out for extended periods (20–50 days) do not lose their entire vacation accrual for the following year

Transportation Presentation - Zum-Sarah Skinner and the Zum team regarding their proposal for the 2026-27 school year to the committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Melillo and seconded by Mrs. Crowley to adjourn the public work session meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:46pm.

Announcement of Future Meetings - Thursday, January 22, 2026, Public Budget Work Session/Public Meeting, East, Tuesday, January 27, 2026, Public Budget Work Session, East

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony Melillo". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Vice Chairman