SMITHFIELD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
SMITHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026
6:00 PM
MINUTES

Members present: Mr. Richard Iannitelli Chair, Mrs. Jessica Sala, Vice-Chair, Mrs. Amanda Fafard, Secretary, and Mr. Jeffrey LeBlanc. Excused absence: Dr. Ashley Hogan. Also present: Lisa Odom-Villella, Superintendent, Wendy Amelotte, Assistant Superintendent, Stephen Mulcahey, Finance Director, Sean Clough, Esq., School Committee/School Department Attorney and Student Representative Logan Boucher.

1. Meeting called to order. Mr. Iannitelli called the meeting order at 6:01 pm.

2. Mr. Iannitelli conducted a Salute to the Flag.

3. Emergency Evacuation and Health Notification. Mr. Iannitelli read the Emergency Evacuation and Health Notification and notified the public regarding the public comment sign up sheet as well as notification to the public to speak at the podium when addressing the committee.

4. Consider and Vote on Motion (by roll call vote) to convene Executive Session pursuant to RI Gen. Laws 42-46-5(a). Mrs. Sala moved to convene Executive Session regarding: Matters pertaining to legal advice in accordance with the Open Meeting Act RI Gen. Laws 42-46-5 (a)(2); Discussion regarding the matter of security. RIGL 42-46-5(a)3 School Security. Review of executive session minutes of September 17, 2026 and October 1, 2026. Mrs. Fafard seconded the motion. This requires an individual vote. The individual vote was 4-0 vote polled by Mr. Iannitelli, Chair.

5. Executive Session (Closed) pursuant to RI General Laws Section 42-46-5(a) to discuss:
   A) Matters pertaining to legal advice in accordance with the Open Meeting Act RI Gen. Laws 42-46-5 (a)(2);
   B) Discussion regarding the matter of security. RIGL 42-46-5(a)3 School Security: Annual Review.
   C) Review of Executive Session Minutes of September 17, 2026
   D) Review of Executive Session Minutes of October 1, 2026
   E) Consideration and Vote to adjourn Executive Session

   Returned to open session at 6:15 pm. Mr. Iannitelli reported there were no votes taken in the executive session.

6. Vote to seal minutes of executive session. Mrs. Sala moved to vote to seal minutes of the executive session. Mrs. Fafard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

7. Consent Agenda Items:
   Mrs. Sala moved to approve Consent Agenda Items:
   7.2 Bills:
   A) Regular Bills totaling $329,648.00
   B) Direct Checks from October 1, 2026 through October 8, 2026 totaling $331,448.00
   7.3 Homeschooling: (As presented).
   Mrs. Fafard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

   Mrs. Sala moved to approve Consent Agenda Items:
   7.1 Minutes:
   A) Open Minutes of the October 1, 2026 School Committee Meeting

Mr. LeBlanc seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote. Mrs. Fafard abstained.

8. High School Representatives Report.
   Logan reported:
   - The NHS has a food drive in progress. A number of posters will be made and the NHS will turn the food drive into a competition between classes in an attempt to get as many donations as possible. Also being planned are a haunted hallways event and a tutoring program, the latter of which will have NHS tutors paired up with any students who request a tutor in any subject and will receive regular help with their schoolwork. Overall, the NHS is doing as much as they can to get into the community and begin offering service and provide leadership to the high school.
   - There will be a fall band concert next Thursday 10/22 at 7 PM in the auditorium, featuring performances from the Band, Chorus, Sentinel Singers, and Jazz Band.
   - There will be a pep rally 10/16 in preparation for the Homecoming game Friday night and the dance the following Saturday 10/17 in the gym. This will cap off a successful homecoming week.

9. Superintendent's Report:
   State Assessments:
   RIDE released the state assessment results from the 2025-26 school year. At our next meeting, our Assistant Superintendent and Building Administrators will present their school data, review their progress towards their School Improvement plans from SY 2025-26 and use that data to share their School Improvement Plans for this current school year. All of our schools maintained their star ratings from last year. Ratings range from 1 star to 5 stars. SHS is a 4 star school, the remaining Smithfield schools are 3 stars. Our state assessment scores show room for improvement in all content areas but our 4 year graduation rate went up a point to 92.5% and our chronic absenteeism rate decreased by 2.7 percentage points.
   Homecoming:
   SHS Homecoming game is Friday night at 6:30pm vs Scituate HS followed by the Homecoming dance on Saturday.
   Sentinel Showcase:
   As a reminder, the Sentinel Showcase will be held on October 21st at SHS at 6pm. All are welcome. We especially encourage families and students in grades 7 and 8 to attend. Open to Smithfield families as well as neighboring communities interested in applying. Families and students can learn about our Career and Tech programs, course offerings, clubs, and sports.

10. Approval of School Safety Plans. Mrs. Sala moved to approve of School Safety Plans. Mrs. Fafard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

11. Discuss, Review, and Approve Budget Calendar for FY28. Mrs. Sala moved to approve the Budget Calendar for FY28 Mrs. Fafard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

12. Discuss, Review and Approve MOU for Snow Plow Services Merger with the Town of Smithfield. Mrs. Sala moved to approve the MOU for Snow Plow Services Merger with the Town of Smithfield Mrs. Fafard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

13. Discuss Review and Approve FY27 Budget Transfers. Mrs. Sala moved to approve FY27 Budget Transfers. Mrs. Fafard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

14. Second reading and approval of the revised Transgender, Gender, Nonconforming and Transitioning Students policy ACA. Mrs. Sala moved to approve the Revised Transgender, Gender, Nonconforming and Transitioning Students policy ACA. Mr. LeBlanc seconded the

motion. The motion passed with a 3-0 vote. Mrs. Fafard abstained. The policy revisions focus on increasing parental notification, involvement, and authority.
Mr. LeBlanc made a motion to extend the public comment to an indefinite time. Mrs. Fafard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.
Several members from the public spoke on the District's Transgender, Gender, Nonconforming and Transitioning Students policy.

15. Communications:
    A) A copy of new hires/resignations in the district
    B) A copy of the Joint School & Town Council Meeting Resolution
    C) A copy of FY27 Budget Transfers

16. Public Forum: None.

17. Consider Items to Add to Future Agendas: None.

18. Consider and Vote on Motion to Adjourn. Motion to adjourn made by Mrs. Sala; Mrs. Fafard seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Petrone
Secretary