

City of Attleboro
School Committee Meeting
Monday, February 9, 2026
Frances Zito Conference Room - AHS

Present: Robert Geddes (At Large), Chairman, Scott Domenici, (Ward 6) Vice Chairman, William Larson, (Ward 2), Secretary, James Poore (Ward 1); Aaron Bennett (Ward 3); Lynn Porto, (Ward 4); Chris Frappier, (Ward 5), Shannon Johnson, (At Large); and James Stors (At Large)

Also Present: David A. Sawyer, Superintendent, Laurie Regan, Assistant Superintendent, Brittany Perella, Director of Finance, Ivone Medeiros, Director of Special Education and Student Support Services, Craig Levis, Principal – AHS; Frank Rich, Principal – TES; Nancy Ayesiyenga, Student Advisory Rep and Judy Nelson, Recording Secretary.

The Chairperson called the Meeting to Order, at 6:30 p.m., led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance, and noted the Meeting was being electronically recorded.

Spotlight: Thacher Elementary School is building a unified champion school, which promotes social inclusion by bringing together students with and without intellectual disabilities. The goal is to create a lasting change starting with our youth. A three-pillar framework includes unified sports, inclusive youth leadership, and whole-school engagement. Moving together unified sports includes a walking club and another example is a Day of Champions Thacher Olympics. Examples of creating the culture of inclusion were provided: kindness week activities, morning inclusion announcements, and pledge to spread inclusion banner. Students provided their insights into the difference this program is making. Looking ahead, next steps include expanding unified sports opportunities, strengthening leadership roles for students, and continuing to build an inclusive school culture. The Committee commended the students and staff.

Student Advisory Council: An overview of the high school events/activities was provided.

Minutes Motion to approve the Minutes from the 02-02-26 meeting presented: Seconded: Vote: 9-0

Superintendents Report

Funding Follow Up: In follow-up to the February 2nd Meeting the administration reviewed the budget funding formula as it pertains to Attleboro. The deciles in terms of where we rank on funding is not something the DESE publishes. Attleboro remains in the bottom tenth decile for spending above NSS. After analyzing the per pupil expenditure, the student opportunity act has changed the numbers slightly, placing Attleboro in the 9th decile. The deeper point being the gap between where we are and the average still remains enormous, that hasn't changed. Going forward, the administration will provide this information.

Enrollment: In reviewing this information to see where Attleboro stands and better prepare us going forward with this process, the administration reviewed the data to determine why enrollment dipped by 76 students at a cost of 1.3 million dollars in funding. When you look at a difference of 3 million dollars, a third of that cost is in enrollment. The numbers in terms of students in our school buildings from October 1, 2024 versus October 1, 2025, shows a difference of three students. In a district of 6,000 students, that number is almost identical. This explains why we were surprised by the numbers. The number 76 includes

students who live in Attleboro but attend Foxborough Charter School and/or other publicly funded schools. The district gets credit for those students in terms of the calculation, but the funds then are given to the Foxborough Charter School. This gives an example of how complicated the funding process can be. Attleboro lost a million dollars in funding for students that we truly can't identify. This part of the dynamic makes the budget process quite challenging. There are different amounts of money for different students. For example: we get half the amount of money for a preschool student, a different number for elementary, middle, high school, and CTE students. The district gets extra money for English Learners, and for students designated for low income. The district receives a straight percentage on special education students because they don't want incentivize this process; that number is based on your enrollment regardless of how many special education students Attleboro has. The process for this credit as it pertains to the city was explained. Historically the credits usually balance out what the transportation costs are. Anyone with further questions was asked to reach out to the administration.

Updated Regulations: The Superintendent provided an overview on the regulation changes for restraint and time out. These practices are difficult on everyone involved, the student, other students in the area, as well as the educator. The updates redefine seclusion and time-out; and add requirements for any room or area that is used for time-out and also add emergency circumstances under which a form of seclusion in which a staff member is immediately available to the student may be used as a last resort and add safeguards for situations in which emergency seclusion is used.

Redistricting: Motion to approve the redistricting plan as presented; Seconded; Vote: 9-0

Minutes Motion to approve the Minutes from the 02-02-26 meeting as presented: Seconded: Vote: 9-0

Consent Items: The following item was unanimously approved: Motion to accept the donation of furniture from Cardi's Furniture as described in Purchase Order 0206607EY43 in the amount of \$3,307.98 to Coelho Middle School for use in the Library: Seconded; Vote: 9-0

Subcommittee Meetings:

Teaching and Learning The Chairman reported on the January 13, 2026 Meeting. The subcommittee discussed AHS Grading, Competency Determination, Artificial Intelligence, and the changes to the restraint and time out regulations in detail. There were no motions brought forward.

Policy and Personnel The Chairman reported on the February 3, 2026 Meeting. The following Motions were brought forward:

Motion to note the review date on Policies: BHE: Use of Electronic Signs, CA: Administration Goals; CB: School Superintendent; CBD: Superintendent Contract; CBI: Evaluation of the Superintendent; CCB: Staff Relations; CH: Policy Implementation; CHA/CHC: Development and Dissemination of Procedures; CHD: Administration in Policy Absence; CM: School District Annual Report; Seconded; Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve the edits to Policy JFABG: Career and Technical Education Admission Policy as presented Seconded; Vote: 9-0;

Motion to approve the minor edits to Policies: CCA: Attleboro School District Line of Authority CE: Administrative Leadership Teams, Councils, and Committees; and CHCA: Approval of Handbooks and Directives as presented: Seconded; Vote: 9-0

Motion to approve the title update to the Senior Director of Family Engagement Job Description as presented: Seconded; Vote: 9-0

Finance and Budget The Chairman reported on the February 4, 2026 Meeting. The following motions were brought forward:

- Motion to approve the proposed increases to the ABACUS rates for FY27 as outlined in the January 2026 memo from Kim Laramée, ABACUS Coordinator. Seconded; Vote: 9-0
- Motion to approve the rates as requested in the memo from Katherine Lynch dated January 21, 2026: Seconded; Vote: 9-0
- Motion to approve the fee-for-services rates for FY27 as outlined in the memo from Marc Furtado, dated January 28, 2026: Seconded; Vote: 9-0
- Motion to send to Municipal Council for approval a prior year invoice in the amount of \$32.00 to be paid from school department funds: Seconded; Vote: 9-0
- Motion to approve the business office to perform budget transfers between all lines to close out the FY26 budget: Seconded; Vote: 9-0

Open Forum The Chairman read the guidelines into record. There were five participants.

- Joseph Ford: 44R Smith Street, Attleboro MA
- Sharon Alfred: 6 Laura Drive, Attleboro MA
- Jason Alfred: 50 Chapel Hill Road, Attleboro MA
- Jennifer DiGeorge – Four MacKay Street, Attleboro MA
- Andrew Kerr – No Address Released

Upcoming:

- 02-11-26 – Infrastructure and Facilities Subcommittee Meeting
- 02-13-26 - Early Release – District PD
- 02-13-26 – ELC Only – No School – Screenings
- 02-16-26 – No School President’s Day
- 02-17– 02-20-26 – No School February Break
- 02-23-26 – Next School Committee Meeting

Executive Session: Motion to convene in Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A §21(a)(2) and (3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting might have a detrimental effect. Collective bargaining may also be conducted. The Committee will not return to Open Session following the Executive Session.

Roll Call

Mr. Bennett: Yes
Ms. Porto: Yes
Mr. Stors: Yes
Mr. Larson: Yes
Mr. Geddes: Yes
Mr. Domenici: Yes

Ms. Johnson: Yes
Mr. Frappier: Yes
Mr. Poore: Yes

Vote: 9-0

Adjournment Motion to adjourn: Seconded: Vote: 9-0 Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Larson, Secretary

Attachments:

- Agenda 02-09-26
- Draft Minutes 02-0226
- Cardi Furniture Quote
- CA: Administration Goals;
- CB: School Superintendent;
- CBD: Superintendent Contract;
- CBI: Evaluation of the Superintendent;
- CCB: Staff Relations;
- CH: Policy Implementation;
- CHA/CHC: Development and Dissemination of Procedures;
- CHD: Administration in Policy Absence;
- CM: School District Annual Report;
- JFACCA: Attleboro School District Line of Authority;
- CE: Administrative Leadership Teams, Councils, and Committees;
- CHCA: Approval of Handbooks and Directives
- JFABG: Career and Technical Education Admission Policy
- Senior Director of Family Engagement Job Description
- Memorandum RE ABACUS Rates
- Memo from K Lynch 01-21-26
- Prior Year Invoice;
- <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL2eKuDA9D-Z468Z7olQ4BuxhV42cFPmZ7>