

DUXBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Committee Minutes
Wednesday, September 9, 2026
6:00 pm – Alden School, Room 104

I. Call to Order: 6:05 pm

Present: Danielle Klingaman, Erin Wieseahn, Lisa Freeley, B.J. McNamara, Jenna Wechsler, Laurel Deacon, Kathryn Marshall, Aun Holland

Absent: Matt Gambino, Tony Keady

Student Representative: Gerard Vazquez Baez, Anna Wang

II. Public Comment: There is no public comment

III. Consent Agenda:

Mrs. Deacon asks committee members if there are any items on the consent agenda that should be removed for discussion prior to approval.

A. Request to approve Meeting Minutes- 06/10/2026, 06/26/2026, 7/2/2026, 08/07/2026

B. Request to approve accounts payable warrant (FY 26: 51,52,53,54,55, FY 27: 5,7,9)

C. Request to approve payroll warrant (FY 26: 50,52,54, FY 27: 4,6,8,10)

D. FY27 Title I, Title IIA, and Title IV Grant Fund Awards

E. Q4 Year-End Budget Transfers

Motion to adopt the consent agenda as a whole:

Motion: Kathryn Marshall

Second: Aun Holland

Motion passes 4-0

IV. New Business:

A. Chandler/Alden/DMS/DHS Activities/Events Update:

Gerard Vazquez Baez and Anna Wang

- Chandler School had a wonderful start to their school year with a school-wide assembly and picture day. Their first GREEN “Great Friend to All” will be on Friday which will be followed by lessons focusing on celebrating our similarities and differences through kind actions.
- Chandler Open House is Thursday, September 17, 2026 from 6pm-7pm. Educators will create a video that will be shared with families prior to Open House, so they can learn about classrooms prior to visiting.
- Alden School also had a wonderful start to the year and held grade-level assemblies to welcome students back and build community.
- Alden School has launched *Pick Up Patrol* this year to streamline dismissal and attendance processes into one centralized system.
- Alden School held their first school-wide RESPECT Assembly and introduced the shared RESPECT values. They have also launched “Dragon Houses” a new community building initiative organized by floor.
- iReady assessments will begin this week. Initial benchmark data will provide valuable information about student performance and will inform instructional planning, identify areas of need and guide targeted interventions and support.

- The theme of the year at DMS is “One Team, One Dream.” They began the year with grade level assemblies to review expectations and set goals.
- DMS Open House will be on Thursday 9/10 at 6pm. The schedule has been shared in the school newsletter.
- DHS held their first annual convocation with many student volunteers participating.
- DHS Picture Day is Monday 9/14 and Tuesday 9/15.
- Fall athletics have begun and DHS Drama and Thespian Troupe#355 will have auditions for the Fall Tournament of Plays on 9/8 at 4pm in the Black Box.
- Senior Spotlights are due 10/1. Senior portraits and baby photos are due to the yearbook site on 10/1
- DHS Open House is 9/24 from 6pm-8:10pm.

B. Opening of School Report:

- Dr. Klingaman provides an update on the opening of school events including the Administrative Planning Retreat, 2nd Year Teacher Course, New Mentor Training, New Teacher Induction Program, Faculty and Staff Convocation, and first day for students.
- Dr. Klingaman provides enrollment and staffing numbers for the year stating that current district enrollment is 2642.
- Dr. Klingaman provides a bus transportation update reporting that 1173 students registered prior to the 7/1 deadline, 556 registered after the 7/1 deadline, and 152 registered after 8/26. Bus passes have been issued to riders and temporary passes issued to those who registered after 9/1. The district continues to work with families regarding individual issues.
- Dr. Klingaman reports on summer projects including Elementary Report Cards revisions, distribution of new laptops for faculty/staff, installation of School Committee room television monitor, Alden MSBA Project Feasibility Study phase and landscaping at all schools
- Mrs. Freeley reports on the implementation of family MySchool Bucks program
- Dr. Klingaman reports on summer facilities updates including Chandler parking lot and classroom painting, Chandler cubbies replaced in the North Wing and sand added to the Magic Dragon playground. Alden had a manhole and three windows replaced, a section of the heating supply line replaced and café door replacement. Alden insurance rebuilds completed, including library carpeting, floor tiling in flood damaged classrooms and hallway. Projects at DMS and DHS including parking lot painted, fence repairs, crosswalk installed and woodshop ductwork cleaned.
- Please refer to the School Committee tab on the DPS website for the discussion in its entirety.

C. Alden School Building Project Update

- Ms. Freeley reports on the procurement and selection process for an Owner’s Project manager (OPM)
- A Request for Services (RFS) was developed and published in accordance with MSBA requirements and applicable public procurement requirements. Eight firms submitted proposals.
- The committee shortlisted three firms. Following interviews and evaluations, the committee identified one OPM firm for recommendation to the MSBA.
- Following negotiations, the district will submit the final OPM selection to the MSBA on 9/9/26. The selection will be considered by the MSBA OPEN Review Panel on 10/5/26.
- Please refer to the School Committee tab on the DPS website for the discussion in its entirety.

D. 2026-2029 Strategic Plan

- Mrs. Deacon states that the Strategic Plan will be shared, but because it is not a final draft, it will be a discussion item.
- Dr. Klingaman provides a detailed review the latest draft which reflects feedback from the School Committee workshop held this summer.
- Mrs. Marshall comments that the plan seems to reflect many perspectives and reads in a way that the school community will be able to absorb and the School Committee will be able to use.
- Dr. Klingaman reports that she will share the draft of Strategic Plan with the full Strategic Plan Committee.
- Mrs. Holland comments that she feels that having two versions will make it very accessible to families.
- Please refer to the School Committee tab on the DPS website for the discussion in its entirety.

E. FY'26 End-of-Year Financial Report:

- Mrs. Freeley presents the End-of-Year Financial Report for FY'26. The report includes breakdowns of the operating budget, end of year expenditures and encumbrances by location and major category.
- Mrs. Freeley reports that the FY'26 operating budget ending balance is \$782,619 which will be turned over to the town to use in Capital and Reserve funds
- Mrs. Freeley provides and update of FY'26 grant, revolving and capital fund expenditure activity.
- Please refer to the School Committee tab on the DPS website for the discussion in its entirety.

F. Agenda Calendar Strategic Plan Matrix

- Mrs. Deacon reports that this agenda item will be moved to the next School Committee agenda so that Mr. Gambino can be present for discussion and vote.

G. School Committee 2026-2027 Liaison Assignments:

- The School Committee revisits the Liaison assignments in light of Mrs. Weedon's resignation.
- Descriptions of the liaison responsibilities and time commitments are reviewed.
- Mrs. Wechsler will assume the Liaison role for the Subcommittee on Salary & Negotiations; Alden School; Diversity, Special Education, and Pilgrim Area Collaborative.
- Mrs. Holland agrees to be the School Committee Liaison for the Sick Bank Committee

H. Emergency Policy Adoption: Protect Act/MASC Policy ACL

- Dr. Klingaman reports that this is labeled as "emergency" only because it was enacted during a time that there were no School Committee meetings scheduled and it was important that this was in place for the start of school. Policy CHD allows the Superintendent to put a policy in place in the event that the School Committee is not scheduled to meet.
- On 8/5/26 Governor Healey signed the Protect Act into law. As part of this legislation and guidance issued by DESE, school districts were required to adopt this policy by 9/1/26 or the first day of school, whichever came first.
- The policy states that except as required by state or federal law civil arrests, including for federal immigration enforcement are not allowed on non-public areas, including school grounds during operating hours.

- Dr. Klingaman states that MASC provided a sample policy and that while the Policy Subcommittee has not reviewed this policy, a district can adopt a policy without a first or second read if it is something that is state law.
- Dr. Klingaman reviews the policy and reviews the policies that it cross-references.
- Please refer to the School Committee tab on the DPS website for the discussion in its entirety.

Motion: Mrs. Holland

Second: Mrs. Marshall

Motion passes 4-0

V. Adjourn: 7:53 pm

Motion: Mrs. Marshall

Second: Mrs. Holland

Motion passes 4-0

Next meeting: September 23, 2026

Respectfully Submitted,
Cristin Mitchell
Duxbury Business Office