

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 13, 2026**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held in Council Chambers on January 13, 2026.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board Chair Pickett.
2. **MOMENT OF SILENCE:** Rosalee Brocuglio
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Rosalee Brocuglio
4. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT**
5. **ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert Anderson, Rosalee Brocuglio, Janet Cushman, Danielle Girard, Dean Gousse, Roberta Kiner (virtual), Philip Kober, Kelsey McGuire-Bruce, Amanda Pickett

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT:

Steven A. Moccio, Superintendent; Andrew B. Longey, Deputy Superintendent

6. BOARD GUESTS

a. Sarah Brown – NEASC Final Report

The Board welcomed Sarah Brown, JFK Principal, to share the NEASC Final Report. NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) oversees the accreditation process.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. Student Representatives

Olivia Nuccio (Grade 12) – Winter Assembly in December helped with school spirit before Winter Break; Blues and Beyond group coming back to EHS on Feb 13 and Feb 19 celebrating black history and culture through music; Brinlee Hutchings and Mackenzie Moore have been selected the HOBY Connecticut Leadership Seminar in June; Culinary Purse Bingo fundraiser on Jan 23 to support their trip to compete in Florida; Spanish National Honor Society has extended Book Drive through April; EHS Class of 2026 fundraiser at Hot Table on Jan 21; Student Survey results showed that the top priority was college, career readiness and exploration of careers – preparing a new survey to dive deeper into the results and get a more precise feel for what students are thinking.

Chase Menard (Grade 11) – EHS Class of 2027 fundraiser at Moe's on Jan 21; Wrestling tournament this weekend at EHS; Assembly for juniors and seniors on Feb 3 to celebrate the Apple Distinguished School honor and award-winning Buzz Robotics Team; Program of Studies Night will be Feb 5 for incoming Freshman; Congratulations to Emily Gourley and Mya Morin for earning the Best Delegation Award at the University of Hartford Model UN Conference; Mid-terms start next Thursday.

b. EPS Update

Mr. Moccio shared that CAPSS has partnered with Cardona Solutions to work on the disparity in opportunities for college and career pathways across the state of CT. Information was

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unveiled today in a Press Conference. Will be hearing more about it over the next 3-6 months as information is collected. The goal is to have a more state-wide systemic approach, rather than individual districts doing it on their own.

There is no school on Monday, Jan 19 for students and staff in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The Portrait of a Learner visual design contest has been pushed out to students. This process is about generating ideas surrounding the C.L.I.M.B. acronym. There will be an elementary and a secondary winner, and the deadline to submit is Feb 27.

Mr. Moccio continues to work with the Town Manager on setting shared meeting dates for the joint committees in 2026. Budget presentations to the Board will begin on Jan 27.

Regarding the Town Council meeting last Monday, an additional appropriation to the BOE was mentioned. Mr. Moccio and Board Chair Pickett were notified just prior to the holiday and worked together to put together some possible appropriations. Please be aware that when/if this appropriation occurs, they are being very careful about what is being chosen for possible expenditures. He has utilized information regarding budget requests, worked with cabinet to create a list of items to purchase. These will be one-time expenditures, objects more than people. No spending has happened to date, and nothing will occur out of our Business Office in terms of Purchase Orders until the additional appropriation is made.

The Pre-Referendum Community Conversation #3 is coming up on Feb 4 in person in the EHS Auditorium from 6:00 – 7:00 PM. The theme of this conversation is Finalizing the Plan: Long-Term Vision and First Step. This conversation will be to catch everyone up on what has happened to date, answer any questions, and to refine the preferred option that the committee is looking to move forward with.

Through the Chair to the Superintendent, Mr. Kober asked for an update regarding the changing number of students with an IEP in the district that might have a budgetary impact. Mr. Moccio confirmed that there are currently 1,030 students in the district with an IEP, 96 new IEP students who have moved into the district since August, and 7 new IEP students since November.

8. AUDIENCE

Board Chair Pickett read a prepared statement for Audience member participation. Audience members will be allowed four (4) minutes to address the Board

Maureen Griffin (Parent) – Mrs. Griffin shared her thoughts about the possible appropriated funds and reminded everyone about the findings from the audit. She asked about the supports and policies in the district being communicated to families and staff in regard to ICE.

Darlene McCray (Officer of the Enfield Elks) – Lodge 2222 is holding a Drug Awareness Contest (poster, essay or video). The winners of each phase will progress to the next level and could receive national level recognition. The deadline for submission is Feb 12. The Elks are celebrating their 158 Anniversary. Enfield Elks Lodge 2222 has 262 members and will be celebrating their 65th Anniversary this May. She has been actively involved for 13 years. The Elks have made many donations to the community over the years. They are very involved in the Enfield community and would like to be more involved in student activities. Encourage everyone to ask if they need anything.

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Kober welcomed everyone back from winter break. January is National Mentoring Month.

January is also Teen Driving Awareness Month. EHS students are encouraged to participate in the Teen Safe Driving Video Contest sponsored by Travelers Insurance, CTDOT and DMV. Mr. Kober shared his thoughts on the audit presentation and the budgeting process, as well as the cancellation of the MOU and the appropriation of funding to the BOE. He recommends residents review the Pre-Referendum materials found on the EPS website and attend the upcoming Community Conversation on Feb 4.

Mrs. Girard thanked Darlene for coming and shared information about the Elks with the Board. As an Elks member herself, she appreciates everything they do for community.

Mr. Gousse thanked Darlene for coming to present. He is glad that the students are concerned with career paths and wants to make sure that the Technical Schools and Apprenticeships receive the same zeal as an option. He agreed with Mr. Kober about the Town Council Meeting. He referenced [Policy #5145.53](#), which was adopted in 2021 in response to a student concern at JFK.

Student Representative Olivia Nuccio confirmed that Technical Schools and trades are also included in the Student Survey.

Mr. Anderson agreed with Mr. Kober's comments regarding the Town Council Meeting. He was disheartened by the situation.

Board Chair Pickett highly encouraged students to participate in the Portrait of a Learner contest. She reminded everyone that there is student artwork being showcased at the Pearl Street Library. She wanted to thank the staff involved in the after-school programs, as those opportunities are priceless. She shared the final PJ Day totals – EPS is Top 5 with over \$6000 raised, and a total of over \$57,000 since 2018. She thanked the audiences for sharing and reiterated the protocol that was communicated to the EPS Community in January 2025 regarding the immigration laws being followed by schools. She shared that the appropriation was not Board action, as the request did not come from the Board of Education. The Town Council's request to provide additional funding is within their authority, however they cannot dictate specific line items. Once a decision is made, it becomes board business. The Superintendent's office has outlined a long-term, sustainable lens for what is needed. She has heard that this item will be on the next Town Council Agenda.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

a. Policy Manual Review and Suggested Revisions – 9000 Series

Ms. Brocuglio stated that based on new considerations raised by multiple members of the Board, she believes it is important to revisit the discussion of the 9000 Series in committee before the first reading occurs.

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce made a motion to table the first reading of the 9000 Series and send it back to the Policy Committee, seconded by Mrs. Girard.

Discussion

Mr. Kober agreed that there is room to improve efficiency and streamline policies. He looks forward to making amendments in Committee and seeing this come back for Board action.

A vote by **roll call 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Kiner provided a summary of the December Curriculum meeting. The January meeting has been changed to Wednesday, January 21 at 5:00 PM.

Finance Committee – Mrs. McGuire-Bruce gave a summary of the January Finance Meeting. The next meeting is Monday, February 2 at 5:00 PM.

Policy Committee – Ms. Brocuglio reported that the next meeting is Tuesday, January 20 at 5:00 PM and will address the new concerns regarding the 9000 Series.

Leadership Committee – Board Chair Pickett stated that Leadership met last week and shared a summary of that meeting. The next meeting is Wednesday, February 4 at 5:00 PM.

Mr. Kober reminded that the next upcoming Board of Education Meeting on January 27 will be Superintendent's first public presentation of the 2026-27 Budget.

13. LIAISON REPORTS

Prudence Crandall – Roberta Kiner
Progress Report will be issued Jan 16 via ParentSquare
PTO Meeting on Jan 20 at 6:30 PM (see the Newsletter for the link to join)
January Pride Assembly has been rescheduled for Feb 3 at 9:45 PM

Enfield Cultural Arts – Rosalee Brocuglio
Art and Poetry event at the Middle Road Library on Feb 14

Henry Barnard – Rosalee Brocuglio
Collecting donations for the Food Shelf Boat through the end of month
Looking for PTO co-President

Edgar H. Parkman – Danielle Girard
Special Persons Dance is Feb 6 – not a drop off event
PTO Red Robin Fundraiser is Jan 27
Grade 5 Committee Meeting is Feb 14
Donations are being collected for the upcoming calendar raffle
Check out the Newsletter for a complete list of events

KITE – Danielle Girard
Parent Ambassador and Leadership Work Group positions have been filled
Mental Health Committee Meeting is Jan 26
Parent Leadership Academy begins on Jan 31
Rocking Chair Readers expanding into kindergarten classes (currently only in Pre-K)
Lunch link distributed 309 meals on December 29
Enfield Kiwanis working on their End Hunger Event in March and Bike Rodeo on May 16
Enfield for Education collected and distributed 725 mittens for EPS students
Social Services Energy Assistance Program open for gas, electricity and fuel for families in need
Next KITE Meeting is Feb 4 at 5:30 PM at ACC

Enfield Street School – Kelsey McGuire-Bruce
Reminder about the importance of daily school attendance
PTO is collecting donations for their upcoming calendar raffle
Thank you to Lia Auto Group for donating shirts to all of the elementary schools last year

Safe Grad 2026 - Amanda Pickett

ERFC – Phil Kober

Partners with EPS for before/after school care, enrichment programs and summer camp

Provided seasonal celebrations in December

Follow on social media at ERFC Community News

Eagle Academy – Phil Kober

Completed a walk thru last week

Director Lauren Andrews will be a Board Guest at a February Meeting

Joint Committees:

Joint Facility – Mrs. Girard provided a summary of the January meeting regarding the

Parkman roof discussion. Next meeting is February 12 at 6:00 PM.

Joint Insurance Committee – Per Mr. Moccio this meeting is in the process of being scheduled

Joint Security Committee – The January meeting was cancelled, and the next meeting is February 13 at 9:30 AM.

Pre-Referendum Committee – Mrs. Girard provided a summary of the January 7 meeting and can be viewed on the EPS website, along with the District Plan and supporting documents. The next meeting is January 28 at 6:00 PM. The upcoming Community Conversation #3 is on February 4 at 6:00 PM at EHS. Email any questions to preref@enfieldschools.org. The next committee meeting is January 28 at 6:00 PM in the Scitico Room. This is a public meeting.

14. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kober moved, seconded by Mr. Gousse, that the Special Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2025 be approved.

A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce moved, seconded by Mr. Kober, that the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2025 be approved.

A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

15. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS AND PAYROLL

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Girard, that the Certification of Expenditures for December 2025 be approved.

A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Girard, that the Certification of Grants and Head Start Expenditures for December 2025 be approved.

A vote by **show-of-hands 9-0-0** passed unanimously.

16. CORRESPONDENCE & COMMUNICATION

17. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kober moved, seconded by Mr. Gousse, to adjourn the Regular Meeting of January 13, 2026.

Motion passed unanimously by a **show-of-hands 9-0-0**. Meeting stood adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Janet Cushman
Secretary
Board of Education

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Lawlor, Recording Secretary

**This meeting can be viewed in its entirety on
YouTube <https://youtube.com/live/KD98vOVPhqI>*