

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 26, 2026**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Board of Education was held in Council Chambers on May 26, 2026.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Board Chair Pickett.
 - a. **Moment of Silence:** Robert Anderson
 - b. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Robert Anderson

2. **FIRE EVACUATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

3. **ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT:

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

4. **BOARD GUESTS**

a. **Save Our Sports**

The Board recognized Russ Tyler, Paul DaSilva, Bob Bromage, and Peter King for their extraordinary leadership, dedication and commitment to the athletes of Enfield through their Save Our Sports initiative and raising over \$160,000.

Mr. Moccio shared that these funds have been placed into the Board of Education budget over a three-year process to incrementally reinstate funding of the middle school and freshman sports programs by the BOE.

Mr. Moccio also shared an update regarding our student athletes from Athletic Director, Cory O'Connell.

5. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

a. **Student Representatives**

Avery Leloup (Grade 11) – Culture Fair at EHS; AP Psychology Fair on May 28; Seniors can register to vote on May 28 in the library; Senior Prom was on Friday, Senior Picnic and Senior Class Night on May 29; Next Level Ceremony for student athletes on June 3; EHS Awards and Scholarship Night June 3 at 6:30 PM; GSA will honor graduating Seniors on June 3; Red Robin Fundraiser for the Class of 2027 on May 27; Email sent to students and families regarding iPad Collection after final exams.

b. **EPS Update**

Mr. Moccio invited the Board to attend an upcoming panel discussion hosted by the BOE Student Representatives on Monday, June 1 for graduating seniors to discuss post-secondary plans. The topics will include college applications, enlisting in the military, scholarships, careers, financial aid advice and more. The goal is to provide more knowledge for the underclassmen and juniors.

He also shared a reminder that Graduation is on June 11 at 7:00 PM on the turf, and that the last two days of school (June 15 and 16) are early release days.

Mr. Moccio gave the Board an invitation to the EHS Awards and Scholarship Night on June 3 at 6:30 PM in the auditorium.

Finally, Mr. Moccio shared that he has been working with Mr. Crabtree, our Director of Security, regarding the public having easy access to attend the BOE Committee Meetings. Going forward, the doors at Alcorn will be unlocked half an hour before all committee meetings.

Board Chair Pickett confirmed that more information will be shared regarding locations of meetings within the building.

Mr. Kober asked for an overview of the school-based diversion initiative JFK and EHS have been selected for next year.

Mr. Longey shared it is an organization that partners with the state. It is a two-year grant cycle with other districts for about \$30,000 per school to help initiatives with positive school climate. They offer free professional development as well as training of our staff. The presentation at our next Board meeting reinforces this work to reduce suspensions, in-school arrests, trauma, de-escalation, and restorative practices.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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, Abbe Road) – Mrs. Griffin shared statistics regarding suicide rates in relation to the upcoming second reading of Policy 1000D Non-Discrimination.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Policy Revisions (Second Reading)

i. 1000A – Automatic External Defibrillator (new policy)

Mr. Gousse made a Point of Order regarding the fact that these policies have been changed and should be considered as first reading again.

Board Chair Pickett explained the process of making revisions between first and second readings in order to gather feedback in committee and pass policies.

Ms. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire-Bruce, to approve the second reading of Policy 1000A.

Discussion:

Board Chair Pickett shared that one of the questions regarding training and purchasing equipment had been answered by Mr. Moccio.

Mr. Moccio confirmed that there were no changes to this policy.

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

ii. 1000B – Deadly Weapons and Firearms (replacement of current policy)

Ms. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire-Bruce, to approve the second reading of Policy 1000B.

Discussion:

Mr. Kober shared that the changes made to this policy were a result of feedback from the first reading, and consultation with administration and local law enforcement. He is concerned that the policy was capped within the Enfield jurisdiction.

Mr. Gousse is not happy with the language because it limits jurisdiction to just Enfield.

Board Chair Pickett confirmed that the included language came from Chief Fox and is in line with the requirements of the Enfield Police Department and Ct State Police to respond.

A vote by **roll call vote 8-1-0** passed, with Mr. Gousse in dissent.

iii. 1000C – Green Cleaning Program (new policy)

Ms. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire-Bruce, to approve the second reading of Policy 1000C.

Discussion:

Mr. Kober highlighted that this is a new policy for the Enfield Board of Education and not a replacement policy.

Board Chair Pickett reiterated that this is state law. She also shared that this policy was shared with the town during the Joint Leadership Meeting in the DPW Subcommittee.

A vote by **roll call vote 8-1-0** passed, with Mr. Kober in dissent.

iv. 1000D – Non-Discrimination (replacement of current policy)

Ms. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. Girard, to approve the second reading of Policy 1000D.

Discussion:

Mr. Gousse mentioned that the change he requested was not made.

Board Chair Pickett acknowledged that the change regarding scouts was discussed and was missed in the revision process.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce moved, seconded by Mr. Gousse, to change the policy wording from “boy scouts” to “scouting.”

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

Discussion (continued):

Mr. Kober is concerned about not addressing all of the non-discrimination policies together in terms of consistency and consolidation. He also addressed the fact that Title IX is mentioned in this policy.

Board Chair Pickett reiterated that the Board follows Title IX guidance from the state regulations.

Mr. Anderson believes the basic premise of the policy is flawed. He stated that there should be

non-discrimination policies for everybody.

Mrs. Girard stated that the role of the Board is not to determine which students or community members deserve dignity, safety or a sense of belonging. She feels that this policy is about fairness and safety.

Mrs. Cushman struggles to support this policy because she believes it puts our female students at risk of harassment and harm by not protecting them in private spaces.

Mr. Gousse believes that this policy sets up classes for discrimination, as opposed to preventing it and he does not support it.

Mrs. Girard cited the Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth Policy 5145.53 regarding private spaces. She spoke about her personal struggles with discrimination in the LGBTQ community.

MOTION TO AMEND

Mr. Anderson moved, seconded by Mr. Kober, to add political affiliation and personal health choices to the list of protected classes in this policy.

Discussion:

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce feels that feedback should have been given during or following the first reading.

A vote by **show-of-hands 1-6-2** failed, with Mr. Anderson in favor, Mr. Gousse and Mr. Kober abstaining.

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce reminded that this policy was written due to legalities faced by the Enfield Board of Education, to protect the town and the Board.

A vote by **roll call 5-4-0** passed, with Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Cushman, Mr. Gousse and Mr. Kober in dissent.

v. 1000E – Pesticide Application on School Property (replacement policy)

Ms. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire-Bruce, to approve the second reading of Policy 1000E.

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

vi. 1000F – Pool Safety Plan (new policy)

Ms. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. Girard, to approve the second reading of Policy 1000F.

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

a. Possible Action to Repeal Policy 5112 (tabled on 05-12-26)

Ms. Brocuglio shared that this policy was tabled in order to gain insight into where the information contained within the policy would remain accessible to community members. The relevant Special Education information will be available through the district website, specifically within the Pupil Services link. All necessary forms from this policy can also be found on the district website. She addressed concerns about dropouts and readmissions and shared that information is in the Administrative Regulations of Policy 5113.

Ms. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire-Bruce, to repeal Policy 5112.

Discussion:

Board Chair Pickett shared that the work regarding Policies and Administrative Regulations is part of the revisioning of our district website.

Mr. Kober agreed that conversation needs to be had regarding what is policy and what is regulation. He still has some reservations about what is delegated to regulations.

A vote by **roll call 8-1-0** passed, with Mr. Kober in dissent.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Consent Agenda

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Girard, to approve the Consent Agenda.

A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-0** passed, with Mr. Kober not present at the time of the vote.

b. Approval of the 2026-27 Healthy Food Certification

Mr. Moccio handed out a few relevant documents to the Board. Diane Edwards, Director of Nutrition Services, was introduced for questions and clarification, as needed. She clarified how the voting works.

Board Chair Pickett reiterated the voting process.

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce thanked the PTOs for organizing fundraising pick-ups after school hours. She is in support of this certification.

Mr. Gousse asked for clarification regarding fundraisers. He thinks that selling and distribution should be separated.

Board Chair Pickett clarified that our Wellness Policy covers the selling and distribution of food items during the school day.

Mr. Kober explained that historically the Board has voted “No” for this certification. He believes that the language sounds very restrictive. He asked about changing the inventory in our school stores and vending machines. Ms. Edwards confirmed that those changes have already been made in all schools and referenced the Wellness Policy for rules about birthday cupcakes in classrooms.

Mrs. Cushman asked for clarification regarding the definition of an event.

Mrs. McGuire moved, seconded by Mrs. Kiner, that the Enfield Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups.

Therefore, the Enfield Board of Education elects to certify the 2026-27 Healthy Food Certification as presented.

Discussion:

Mr. Kober feels that the Healthy Food Certification, in conjunction with the Wellness Policy, heavily restricts food made available to students. He suggested possibly finding a middle ground to promote healthy food but not prohibit others.

Mr. Moccio explained that per the State Department of Education, the language in the certification must be read verbatim.

A vote by **roll call 8-1-0** passed, with Mr. Kober in dissent.

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Girard, that the Enfield Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards and beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food and beverage items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An “event” is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The “regular school day” is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. “Location” means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food and beverage sales.

Therefore, the Enfield Board of Education elects to certify the 2026-27 Healthy Food Certification Combining the Food and Beverage Exemptions as presented.

Discussion:

Mr. Kober agrees with the flexibility in this motion and is in favor of the exemption.

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

c. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Meal Pricing for the 2026-27 School Year

Board Chair Pickett confirmed that breakfast will be free for the 2026-27 school year.

Mr. Moccio shared a comparison of lunch prices to neighboring districts with the Board that incorporates the recommended \$.25 paid lunch increase for all grades K-12 for the 2026-27 School Year.

Ms. Edwards shared that Nutrition Services Department operates as a self-sufficient department with little financial assistance from the Board of Education budget. Increasing lunch prices and additional state and federal funding, such as the Healthy Food Certification, help to make this possible.

Discussion:

Mrs. McGuire Bruce had requested comparing our lunch prices to neighboring districts and feels more confident with the \$.25 increase after seeing that comparison. She also reminded families about filling out the Free and Reduced Lunch Application.

Mr. Kober asked for confirmation that breakfast would be free for all students in the fall of 2026-27. He also asked if the price of milk would be changed as well. Ms. Edwards said she is

trying not to increase milk prices. He asked what the financial impact would be for the year with the \$.25 increase. Ms. Edwards stated it would be a \$54,000 increase for approving the Healthy Food Certification and \$39,000 for the increase in lunch prices (based on the previous year).

Mr. Gousse feels that a \$.50 increase should be done this year and then wait a few years before raising it again, instead of small incremental increases each year. Ms. Edwards worries that at \$.50 there would be a decrease in sales.

Mrs. Girard confirmed that the Free and Reduced Lunch Applications can be filled out any time during the year, especially if circumstances change within your family.

Mr. Gousse asked if the applications can be sent out a few times during the school year?

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce confirmed that the Nutrition Services Department also makes phone calls to follow up on overdue balances.

Mr. Anderson agrees with Mr. Gousse and believes that we do not charge enough for school lunches. He recommended increasing by \$.75 this year.

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce moved, seconded by Ms. Brocuglio, to increase meal prices by \$.25 for the 2026-27 school year.

Discussion:

Mr. Kober understands both sides of the argument but is supportive of the \$.25 increase.

Mr. Anderson stated that the costs are not changing even if the price increase is higher.

Mrs. Kiner prefers small incremental increases.

Mr. Gousse asked Mr. Moccio to let him know who is in District 11?

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

MOTION TO RECESS

Mr. Gousse moved, seconded by Mr. Kober, to take a five-minute recess.

A vote by **show-of-hands 4-5-0** failed, with Mrs. Cushman, Board Chair Pickett, Mrs. McGuire-Bruce, Mrs. Girard and Ms. Brocuglio in dissent.

d. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Policy Revisions (First Reading)

Mrs. Brocuglio presented a statement about the committee's continuing work to shift our policies from CAFE to Shipman and Goodwin.

i. 1000G – Security and Safety Plan

Mrs. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire-Bruce, to approve the first reading of Policy 1000G.

Discussion:

Mr. Kober is glad the Administrative Regulations are included within the policy. He does not agree with the change from “may” to “shall” in paragraph B. He also does not believe this policy is the place for the added definitions.

Mrs. Cushman asked if the inserted definitions were submitted to Shipman & Goodwin for approval. Board Chair does not believe they were shared with legal, but they can be submitted.

Mrs. Brocuglio the change in language from “may” to “shall” was based on directives from the Superintendent to staff members.

Mr. Moccio will submit the language to Shipman; however, he stated that they did not require it as part of their original policy. Board Chair Pickett thinks it would be helpful to understand why they did not include the definitions.

Mr. Gousse agrees with Mr. Kober in regard to the definitions. He believes they are unwarranted.

Board Chair Pickett stated that based on recent events, their caucus felt it was important to include clarifying language.

A vote by **roll call vote 5-3-1** passed, with Mr. Anderson, Mr. Gousse and Mr. Kober in dissent, and Mrs. Cushman abstaining.

ii. 1000H – Sexual Offenders on School Property

Mrs. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. McGuire-Bruce, to approve the first reading of Policy 1000H.

Discussion:

Mr. Kober is surprised this is a new policy and not a replacement. He suggested including language about current employees and current volunteers as an annual requirement, or a random requirement.

Mr. Moccio confirmed that he is automatically notified of any certified employee that is placed on the registry. He also shared that an in-depth background check process is required for volunteers.

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce shared that the current practice is for the Superintendent to be notified about any changes to the registry within the district, and then administration is made aware of those changes.

Mr. Gousse stated that his experience was only being checked once when he was a volunteer. Board Chair Pickett confirmed that has since changed.

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

iii. 1000I – Smoking

Mrs. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. Kiner, to approve the first reading of Policy 1000I.

Discussion:

Mr. Kober found it interesting the state law had changed the language to “any area of any school buildings or the grounds.” He feels this might be state over-reach.

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce stated that something was also added for events on the Town Green.

A vote by **roll call vote 8-0-1** passed, with Mr. Kober abstaining.

iv. **1000K – Visitors**

Mrs. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. Girard, to approve the first reading of Policy 1000K.

Discussion:

Mr. Kober believes this would be a great policy to have a definitions section. He cited guidance to K-12 schools from CSDE pertaining to immigration activities dated January 28, 2025, as an example of state over-reach if added to our policies.

Mrs. Brocuglio asked for clarification regarding the definitions.

Mr. Gousse agreed that the definitions would be necessary when we implement a visitor management system.

A vote by **roll call vote 8-1-0** passed, with Mr. Kober in dissent.

v. **1000L – Volunteers**

Mrs. Brocuglio moved, seconded by Mrs. Girard, to approve the first reading of Policy 1000L.

Discussion:

Mr. Kober is glad Administrative Regulations are included with this policy. He pointed out the new language in regard to health screening protocols.

Mr. Gousse asked if the Superintendent gets notified if any volunteer has a DCF complaint. Board Chair Pickett confirmed that if a certified staff member has a substantiated DCF case and their certification is revoked, the district would be notified.

A vote by **roll call vote 8-0-1** passed, with Mr. Kober abstaining.

e. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the June 23, 2026 Board Meeting

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce moved, seconded by Ms. Brocuglio, that the Enfield Board of Education table the decision to cancel the June 23, 2026 meeting.

Discussion:

Mrs. Girard agrees that it is important to make sure the work gets done, but if there is no unfinished business, she would understand cancelling it.

Board Chair Pickett confirmed that if the item was tabled, then it would appear on the next meeting agenda to revisit the decision to cancel.

Mr. Kober supports postponing the motion to cancel.

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

a. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the July 14, 2026 Board Meeting

Mrs. Girard moved, seconded by Mrs. Kiner, to cancel the July 14, 2026 Board Meeting.

Discussion:

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce feels comfortable not having the July meeting.

Mr. Kober agreed with Mrs. McGuire-Bruce.

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

MOTION TO MOVE AN AGENDA ITEM

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce moved, seconded by Mrs. Kiner, to move Item 8h to after Item 11.

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

MOTION TO EXTEND MEETING

Mr. Kober moved, seconded by Mrs. Girard to extend the meeting past 10:00 PM, if needed.

A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-1** passed, with Mr. Kober abstaining.

9. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Kiner gave a summary of the May Curriculum Meeting. The June meeting has been cancelled, and the next meeting is August 13.

Finance Committee – The next meeting is Monday, June 1 at 5:00 PM.

Leadership Committee – The next meeting is Wednesday, June 3 at 5:00 PM.

Policy Committee – Ms. Brocuglio explained that 1000J was tabled during the May meeting pending policy on the town side. The committee is going to try to move up the scheduled June 16 meeting in order to be able to finish the second readings at the June 9 Board meeting.

10. LIAISON REPORTS

Enfield Street School – Mrs. McGuire-Bruce
Author visit with Steve Swinburne May 28
Field Day June 5
Smoothville Fundraiser June 7
2nd grade June 10
ParentSquare Weekly Gazette

Buzz Robotics – Mrs. McGuire-Bruce
Open House on May 28 at Annex
3 EHS Seniors made the 2026 CT High School Coaches Association All State Robotics Team

Prudence Crandall – Mrs. Kiner
SBAC testing completed
One Book One School author visit with Jerry Pallotta May 28
PTO looking for ice donations for Field Day

Head Start – Mrs. Kiner
Annual Self-Assessment took place on May 14
Ms. Valley is working on finalizing the plan

Henry Barnard - Ms. Brocuglio
Field Day May 28

ECAC – Ms. Brocuglio
American 250 June 17 at 6:00 PM

KITE – Mrs. Girard
Next meeting June 3rd
Graduates of PLA Class 19 hosting a Wellness Block Party May 30 from 11-3 PM Town Green

Edgar H. Parkman – Mrs. Girard
5th Grade Ceremony May 29
Final Roar Assembly June 5
PTO Meeting June 9 via Zoom
End of school picnic June 11 at 5:30 PM
Field Day June 12
ParentSquare for upcoming events

Joint Committees:

Joint Facility – Mrs. McGuire-Bruce shared that the last meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for June 11.

Joint Insurance Committee – Mrs. Brocuglio gave a summary of the May meeting. The next meeting will be in October. Mr. Moccio shared that there was a joint resolution between the town and the BOE regarding budgeting for health insurance and sending the balance, if any, back to the health insurance fund. This was a positive and productive conversation.

Joint Leadership Committee – Board Chair Pickett shared a summary of the May meeting. The next meeting is Friday, June 26 at 8:30 AM.

Joint Security Committee – The next meeting is Friday, June 12 at 9:30 AM.

Pre-Referendum Committee – Mrs. Girard gave a summary of the last meeting. The next meeting is Wednesday, June 10 at 6:00 PM. All previous presentations, meetings and minutes are posted on the district website. Send questions to the preref@enfieldschools.org email.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION – MATTERS RELATED TO PERSONNEL – SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION

Mrs. Girard moved, seconded by Mrs. Kiner, to enter executive session.

A vote by **show-of-hands 8-0-0** passed unanimously, with Ms. Brocuglio not present at the time of the vote.

Mr. Moccio joined the Board in Executive Session at 9:38 PM.

No Board action occurred while in Executive Session.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to open session at 9:57 PM.

Mrs. Girard moved, seconded by Mrs. Kiner, to approve the Superintendent's Evaluation for the 2025-26 school year, salary adjustment and contract extension to June 30, 2029, and to authorize the Board Chair to endorse the evaluation on behalf of the Board.

Discussion:

Board Chair Pickett explained the evaluation process.

Mrs. Girard thanked Mr. Moccio and highlighted his efforts to make the budgeting process clearer, more precise and transparent. She hopes for increased community engagement and stronger communication efforts going forward.

Mrs. McGuire-Bruce appreciates Mr. Moccio's strength in finance, organization and systems work. She encourages continued growth in building positive connections with staff across the district.

Mr. Kober thanked Mr. Moccio for his dedication, commitment and professionalism in this role. He commended him for increasing efficiency, responsiveness and communication with the Board.

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

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kober moved, seconded by Mr. Gousse, to adjourn the Regular Meeting of May 26, 2026.

Motion passed unanimously by a **show-of-hands 9-0-0**. Meeting stood adjourned at 10:04 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/qOgZZTo4NE8>*