

MINUTES
Greenbush School Committee-Regular Meeting
November 5, 2025 @ 7:00 PM
Helen S. Dunn School

I. Opening @ 7:00 PM

A. Call to Order

B. Declaration of Quorum:

1. Mike Williams, Chr. ☒ __, Jen Nevells, Vice-Chr. ☒ __, Matt Speed ☒ __,
Carrie Madden ☒ __, Marty Carmichael ☒ __
2. Others Present: Gwen Smith, Supt., Kelly Theriault, Dist. Admin/Business Mngr., Gail Madden, Principal/A.D.; Teachers: Sherry Valare, Eryn Tuulima, Suzanne Libby, Josh O'Keefe; Community Members: Fernald and Darcy Madden; Penobscot County Sheriff

C. Flag Salute

II. A. Approval of Minutes – October 1, 2025

Moved: MC Second: MS Vote: 5/0/0

III. Public Participation - none

IV. Principal's Educational Reports

- A. Principal's Report – Principal Madden reported that fifth- and sixth-grade students visited the Gulf of Maine Research Institute in early October. During the visit, students worked collaboratively in teams, engaged with multi-touch interactive tables, participated in hands-on experiments, and conducted scientific investigations. Middle school students also traveled to Millinocket to participate in a mountain biking experience with MOEP, which once again proved to be a valuable and engaging opportunity. All required safety drills—including lockdown, evacuation, and fire drills—have been completed. Practices for the winter sports season began this week. Student of the Month Recipients were included in the Principal's Report.
- Spotlight on Learning: **PreK-Grade 2:** Students are developing routines, social-emotional skills, and early literacy, math, and science through hands-on learning. Enhanced Pre-K materials have strengthened instruction.
- Grades 3-5:** Students are engaged in writing, math, science, and social studies, with research-based projects and a culminating animal research gallery walk. **Middle School:** Students are applying math to real-world

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situations and deepening learning through ELA, social studies, and civics projects, with strong academic growth supported by targeted instruction.

B. Special Education – The current Special Ed enrollment was included in the Principal’s Report.

V. Superintendent’s Items that may require Board Action

A. Add-ons: **Recommended Action:** That the board grant Suzanne Libby step credit for prior service as a long-term substitute, consistent with credit given to other teachers for comparable service, effective with the 2025–2026 contract year.

Moved: JN Second: MC Vote: 5/0/0

VI. Superintendent’s Report (s)

A. Policy Approval

Motion to accept the second reading of JKAA and JKAA-R

Moved: JN Second: CM Vote: 5/0/0

B. Legislation – We will need to adopt a new cell phone policy in 2026 to address changes in Legislation.

VII. District Administrator’s Report (s)

A. Resignations - none

B. Retirements - none

C. Meetings – ROSBO, Infinite Campus Conversion, ESEA, CDS, Anthem and student meetings

D. New Hires - none

E. Monthly Finance Report - There are no concerns at this time. The district continues to closely monitor special education costs, including unplanned expenses, higher service contracts, and transportation expenses related to out-of-district placements. A midday van run has been added to accommodate a student on a modified schedule.

F. Other – The MSMA Conference was a great experience with a wide array of offerings

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VIII. Chairman's Report - Keep an eye out for negotiations training in January. The next MSBA meeting is also scheduled for January, and legislative sessions with MSBA will begin shortly thereafter.

IX. Workshop Discussion

X. Other – There will be pressure on schools to keep costs down because municipalities expect increases, especially due to funding shortages for jails.

XI. Next monthly meeting date: Wednesday, December 3, 2025, @ 7:00 PM

XII. Adjournment

Moved: MC

Time: 7:39 PM

Respectfully Submitted, *Gwen Smith*, Superintendent

Pursuant to Title 26 M.R.S.A. § 965C, the Greenbush School Board hereby specifically requests that bargaining agents within the Greenbush School Department Education System meet and consult on educational policies that are part of or may become part of this agenda.