

MINUTES
Greenbush School Committee-Regular Meeting
January 14, 2026 @ 7:00 PM
Helen S. Dunn School

- I. Opening @ 7:07 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.
 - C. Flag Salute
- II. A. Approval of Minutes – November 5, 2025 (December meeting postponed)

Moved: MC Second: JN Vote: 5/0/0
- III. Public Participation - none
- IV. Principal's Educational Reports
 - A. Principal's Report – A Principal's Report, with current enrollment and Student of the Month recipients, was distributed.

Spotlight on Learning:
 - Grades 1–5**
Students participated in a three-week December intervention titled *Winter Holidays Around the World*. Teachers each selected a different country, and students rotated through classrooms to learn about holiday traditions and cultural practices in countries such as France, Germany, and Israel.
 - Grade 7 Social Studies**
Students are completing a *Colonizing the Moon* simulation to introduce foundational concepts related to the American colonies, the Declaration of Independence, and the U.S. Constitution. Working first in small groups as Moon colonists and culminating in whole-class discussions, students apply these concepts by collaboratively creating a Moon Constitution that mirrors the challenges early Americans faced in forming a new government.
 - B. Special Education

Enrollment data was included in the Principal's Report.

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V. Superintendent's Items that may require Board Action

A. Add-ons: **Recommended Action:** Accept the proposal submitted by Dave Eugley of Dave's Landscaping in Greenfield. This was the lowest bid at \$10,950.00 and includes salt application and snow plowing services. Sanding will be performed upon request, as necessary.

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

VI. Superintendent's Report (s)

A. Policy Approval

1. Motion to adopt JKAA – Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion and JKAA-R – Procedures on Physical Restraint and Seclusion.

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

2. Motion to amend the KF-E Facilities Use Request Form

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

3. Motion to accept the 1st Reading of JICJ - Use of Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

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

B. Legislation – A legislation handout was distributed, which highlighted information about Maine's 132nd short session, major educational priorities, the school funding formula, and other legislative items of interest to be watching. Also discussed was "An Act Regarding Public Preschool Programs serving children who are 3 years of age," specifically, Maine's LD 2114, which expands state funding for public preschools to include 3-year-olds, particularly those with identified disabilities, starting in the 2026-2027 school year, while clarifying that other 3-year-olds without disabilities aren't state-subsidized but can still attend. This bill aims to increase access to early education, building on existing efforts to serve 4-year-olds and provide special education services for younger children through Maine's Child Development Services (CDS) system. If passed, any 3-year-old would be able to attend this program, but because non-disabled 3-year-old students are not considered "subsidizable pupils" for state calculations, funding would not follow as it does for 4-year-olds in Pre-K.

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VII. District Administrator's Report (s)

- A. Resignations – Mrs. Lori Webber, Special Ed. Director, effective July 1, 2026.
- B. Retirements – Some staff are expected to retire; their retirements will be announced once they have submitted their intent in writing.
- C. Meetings – Student and staff meetings, trainings, Infinite Campus conversion; Anthem/MEABT meetings, CDS Cohort 2 meeting, audit work starts this week
- D. New Hires
- E. Monthly Finance Report – A monthly finance report will be distributed. While there are no concerns at this time, we continue to monitor special ed costs and transportation, specifically since a midday van run was added for a student on a modified day.
- F. Other: A water pipe froze, and an insurance claim has been filed for water damage. The McKenzie grant has been written and submitted for continued work on windows and doors.

VIII. Chairman's Report -The MSBA Regional Board meets at the end of January.

IX. Workshop Discussion: Annual Collective Bargaining Workshop, Thursday, January 22, 2026, from 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM at DW in Portland or by Zoom. In addition, a service animal workshop is also being offered.

X. Other

XI. Next monthly meeting date: Wednesday, February 4, 2026, @ 7:00 PM

XII. Adjournment

Moved: MC Time: 8:22 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.