



MINUTES  
Greenbush School Committee-BUDGET Meeting  
March 4, 2026 @ 7:00 PM, Helen S. Dunn School

- B. **Recommended Action:** Motion to appoint Joshua O’Keefe to a full-time combined Art and Physical Education teaching position, effective FY27.

Moved: JN                      Second: MS                      Vote: 3/0/0

- C. **Recommended Action:** Motion to post and fill the Administrative Assistant/School Secretary position immediately, with the selected candidate beginning prior to B. Ouellette’s FY26 retirement to allow for a transition period and overlap.

Moved: MS                      Second: JN                      Vote: 3/0/0

VI. Superintendent’s Report (s)

A. Policy Approval

1. Motion to adopt JICJ - Use of Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

Moved: JN                      Second: MS                      Vote: 3/0/0

2. Motion to accept the first reading of EBBD - Temperature Standards

Moved: MS                      Second: JN                      Vote: 3/0/0

B. Legislation

**What’s Inside the Governor’s Proposed Budget that Impacts Education?**

1. Minimum Teacher Salary  
\$45K for the fall of 2027; \$47,500 for the fall of 2028; \$50K for the fall of 2029
2. Spend 5.9 million to retrofit school buses for safety (crossing arms, anti-pinch door sensors)
3. Spend \$500,000 to expand the DOE’s Toolkit on Artificial Intelligence and provide grants for professional development related to A.I.

**What Happens Next?**

Lawmakers will review the Governor’s recommendations, weigh their own priorities, and create a formal budget.

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- VII. District Administrator's Report (s)
- A. Resignations
  - B. Retirements
  - C. Meetings – Infinite Campus trainings, staff meetings
  - D. New Hires – It was requested that the Administrative Assistant/School Secretary position be advertised immediately due to B. Ouellette being out for an extended length of time due to injury.
  - E. Monthly Finance Report – A current monthly finance report will be distributed; Proposed FY27 Budget Draft Discussion
  - F. Other: **Review.** The School Nutrition Review was successful. The district is now off monitor status and eligible to apply for the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) next year. The Department of Education recommended transitioning to Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) status to maintain revenue. Additionally, the district will not be required to provide meals as a summer site. **Facilities Update:** The oil tank had water and bacterial contamination, which has since been cleaned. The tank is currently in good condition. **Budget Considerations:** The Special Education cost center is being closely monitored due to increased special education transportation costs, unplanned expenses, and higher service contract fees. Psychological services are currently behind schedule and over budget.
- VIII. Chairman's Report – Chairman Williams discussed **LD 2124**, which proposes to reduce the share of the real estate transfer tax that counties keep (from roughly 10 % to about 8.2 %) and dedicate 1 %–1.8 % of that tax revenue to the Maine State Housing Authority for its shelter operating subsidy program starting in late 2026, which lowers the amount available locally. This revenue shift would decrease local funding capacity, potentially reducing resources for county services and operations that depend on that tax share. This could affect a town's ability to pass a school budget. The Chairman also discussed the upcoming hearing on **LD 2226**. Superintendent Smith will bring feedback from the hearing to the April meeting.
- IX. Workshop Discussion
- X. Other
- XI. Next monthly meeting date: Wednesday, April 1, 2026, @ 7:00 PM
- XII. Adjournment:        Moved: MS        Time: 8:41 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.*