

MINUTES - BOARD OF EDUCATION PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE HELD VIRTUALLY ON FEBRUARY 18, 2026

Planning Committee Members Present: Tim White, Samantha Rosenberg, Mark Ecke

Other Board Members Present: None

Administrators Present: Emily Taylor- Chief Operating Officer
Vincent Masciana- Chief Projects Officer

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mark Ecke called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Board Members were informed that no correspondence had been received.

3. **ENERGY PERFORMANCE UPDATE**

Vincent Masciana reported on the Energy Performance Contract, highlighting the need for a new electricity supply contract and the addition of solar panels at six schools.

Following action regarding the EPC includes meeting with the school building committee and O&G to review proposed conduit routing for solar at Barnum and Norton, submitting the school construction grant application during the March monthly window (March 1–10), and negotiating with Eversource and Johnson Controls on cost-sharing for the natural gas line to the wastewater treatment plant.

4. **CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATES**

- **Highland Roof Project**

Emily Taylor discussed the Highland roof project, initially budgeted at \$1.5 million, now estimated at \$4 million with design work completed by Silver, Petrucelli, and Associates. While the cost is \$4M for a complete renovation of 100,000 sq ft of roofing, there is a school construction grant that provides 50% reimbursement for the project.

- **Cheshire High School Track and Field Project**

Emily Taylor provided an update on the Cheshire High School track and field project. Three proposals were received from SLR, Benesch, and Loureiro, with SLR being the most cost-effective.

The committee reviewed the components of SLR's proposal and the potential for a multi-stage proposal of work. The following motion was put forward and passed 2-1, with Tim White voting against.

MOTION *that the Planning Committee recommends to the Cheshire Board of Education the approval of the expenditure of \$7,500 for SLR to complete preliminary design services for the Track & Field project.*

- **Weight Room Renovation**

Emily Taylor provided an update on the weight room renovation project, with future equipment & flooring to be funded by an anonymous donor. The required HVAC before the renovation is covered under an open capital expenditures project. Design services for HVAC with Salamone are underway, with a substantial completion date of August 21.

5. MEDICAL INSURANCE UPDATE

This agenda item was tabled for a future meeting.

6. TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Emily Taylor provided updates on the transportation team moving to the bus depot on Highland Ave (DATTCO building) and the relocation of trailers on Sandbank St. This includes a construction project to connect the easement owned by the Board of Education between the Sandbank bus lot and the Highland Ave building.

Emily Taylor mentioned the retirement of Luther Miller and the search for his replacement. The Board has been actively interviewing candidates for the Assistant Transportation Manager position.

There was a discussion of the routing for next year's bus routes. The Board of Education is working to determine if routing software will be switched from the current system (VEO) to DATTCO's system.

7. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mark Ecke, seconded by Sam Rosenberg, the Motion passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Taylor, Chief Operating Officer

Attest:

Carol K. Jesensky, Board of Education Clerk

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