

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 6, 2026, 6:00 PM
EPPING SCHOOL BOARD
EES Media Center/Epping TV Channel 22

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ben Leavitt called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with the pledge of allegiance.

In attendance: Chair Ben Leavitt, Member Matt Puglielli, Member Courtney Dodge, Member Julie Knight, Business Administrator Christine Vayda, and Superintendent Furbush

Absent: Vice Chair Robin O'Day and Student Lucy Vigliotti

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SCHEDULED TOPICS

a. 2026-2027 Employee Handbook Approval

There was discussion about changes to the employee handbook.

Member Julie Knight made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Employee Handbook as amended. Seconded by Member Matt Puglielli. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

b. 2026-2027 Substitute Handbook Approval

There was discussion about changes to the substitute handbook.

Member Julie Knight made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Substitute Handbook as amended. Seconded by Member Courtney Dodge. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

c. 2026-2027 EMHS Student and Parent Handbook Approval

There was discussion about changes to the EMHS student and parent handbook.

Member Courtney Dodge made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 EMHS Student and Parent Handbook as amended. Seconded by Member Matt Puglielli. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

d. 2026-2027 EES Student and Parent Handbook Approval

Member Matt Puglielli made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 EES Student and Parent Handbook. Seconded by Member Julie Knight. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

e. 2026-2027 EES Preschool Student and Parent Handbook Addendum Approval

Member Courtney Dodge made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 EES Preschool Student and Parent Handbook Addendum. Seconded by Member Matt Puglielli. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

REPORTS

a. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Furbush reminded the Board that they are working on finalizing the agenda for the retreat so submit any ideas as soon as possible. He also noted that the donated lockers have been inspected and approved and will be constructed. He gave a brief update on the Assistant Principal interview process. He also presented the 2026-2031 Professional Development Master Plan for approval.

Member Julie Knight made a motion to approve the 2026-2031 Professional Development Master Plan. Seconded by Member Matt Puglielli. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

POLICY

a. JRA-R - Student Records and Information Access Procedures (FERPA) - 2nd Read

Member Matt Puglielli made a motion to approve Policy JRA-R - Student Records and Information Access Procedures (FERPA). Seconded by Member Julie Knight. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

b. EBBCA - Use and Location of Automated External Defibrillators - 2nd Read

Member Courtney Dodge made a motion to approve Policy EBBCA - Use and Location of Automated External Defibrillators. Seconded by Member Matt Puglielli. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

c. GBGBA - Use of Automated Defibrillator (AED) - RESCIND

d. KFD - Use and Location of Automated External Defibrillators - RESCIND

Member Courtney Dodge made a motion to rescind Policy GBGBA - Use of Automated Defibrillator (AED) and Policy KFD - Use and Location of Automated External Defibrillators. Seconded by Member Matt Puglielli. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

- e. IK - Earning of High School Credit - 1st Read
Superintendent Furbush explained the policy. This item was moved to a second read.
- f. IKF - High School Graduation Policy - 1st Read
Superintendent Furbush explained the policy. This item was moved to a second read.
- g. IKL - Academic Honesty and Integrity - 1st Read
Superintendent Furbush explained the policy. This item was moved to a second read.
- h. KEC - Reconsideration of Instructional Material - 1st Read
Superintendent Furbush explained the policy. This item was moved to a second read.
- i. KEC-R Form- Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Material - 1st Read
Superintendent Furbush explained the policy. This item was moved to a second read.
- j. IJL - Library Materials Selection and Adoption - 1st Read
Superintendent Furbush explained the policy. This item was moved to a second read.
- k. IJL-R Form – Request for Reconsideration of Library Materials - 1st Read
Superintendent Furbush explained the policy. This item was moved to a second read.

PERSONNEL

- a. Resignation of Susan Gualtieri, EMHS Assistant Principal
There was discussion about the willingness to go above and beyond, relationships created, and impact to the District Susan had.
Member Matt Puglielli made a motion to accept the resignation of Susan Gualtieri, EMHS Assistant Principal with regret. Seconded by Member Julie Knight. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.
- b. Nomination of Rebecca Bellistri, EMHS Special Education Teacher
Superintendent Furbush discussed the pathway forward for Rebecca to regain certification.
Member Julie Knight made a motion to accept the nomination of Rebecca Bellistri, EMHS Special Education Teacher. Seconded by Member Courtney Dodge. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.
- c. Dawn Maletzke, Library Media Paraprofessional Hiring Update
Superintendent Furbush spoke about where they are in the hiring process for this position.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS & DISTRICT SERVICES

a. Year End Balance Update

Christine spoke about the audit process. She also spoke about how retaining funds works. She noted that this year's year end fund balance is \$1,981,919.45. After 2.5% (\$486,491) is retained, \$375,000 is given to the Capital Reserve trust fund, and \$238,678 is used to cover year end expenses; the remaining fund balance is \$881,750 which is used to offset what is collected from taxpayers the following year. The budget was overspent by only \$6,300.

b. Two-Way Communications Update

Ben spoke about where they are in the process of the Two-Way Communications project. He said an agreement was reached where the School Board will pay 60% of the project cost and the Town will pay 40%. The total project cost is anticipated to be \$275,000.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Public Meeting Minutes from July 16th, 2026

Member Julie Knight made a motion to approve the public meeting minutes from July 16th, 2026 as amended. Seconded by Member Matt Puglielli. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

b. Non-Public Meeting Minutes from July 16th, 2026

Member Matt Puglielli made a motion to approve the non-public meeting minutes from July 16th, 2026 as written. Seconded by Member Julie Knight. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

MANIFEST

a. Payroll deposited July 17, 2026

Member Courtney Dodge made a motion to approve Payroll deposited July 17, 2026 in the amounts of \$101,586.83, \$123,370.63, \$65,943.65, \$3,752.93, and \$291,368.66. Seconded by Member Matt Puglielli. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

b. Accounts Payable Deposited on July 24, 2026

Member Julie Knight made a motion to approve Accounts Payable deposited July 24, 2026 in the amount of \$323,420.74. Seconded by Member Matt Puglielli. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

c. Accounts Payable Deposited on July 29, 2026

Member Julie Knight made a motion to approve Accounts Payable deposited July 29, 2026 in the amount of \$537,912.00. Seconded by Member Courtney Dodge. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

d. Payroll deposited July 31, 2026

Member Courtney Dodge made a motion to approve Payroll deposited July 31, 2026 in the amounts of \$111,625.83, \$123,370.63, \$67,857.16, and \$2,499.18. Seconded by Member Matt Puglielli. VOTE: 4-0. Motion carries.

BOARD COMMENTS/OTHER

a. Board Comments

Julie asked if there will be a Board walkthrough of the buildings at an upcoming meeting. There was discussion about moving the next meeting and walkthrough on the same date of August 27th. There was also discussion about the Budget committee schedule.

Ben thanked everyone for their work on the handbooks.

NEXT MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED

a. August 27, 2026

NONPUBLIC SESSION: RSA 91-A:3, II Non-Public Meeting is scheduled for August 6th, 2026 following the public meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made, and approved via roll call vote, to open the non-public meeting and adjourn thereafter at 8:33pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dagny Wilkins

School Board Secretary