

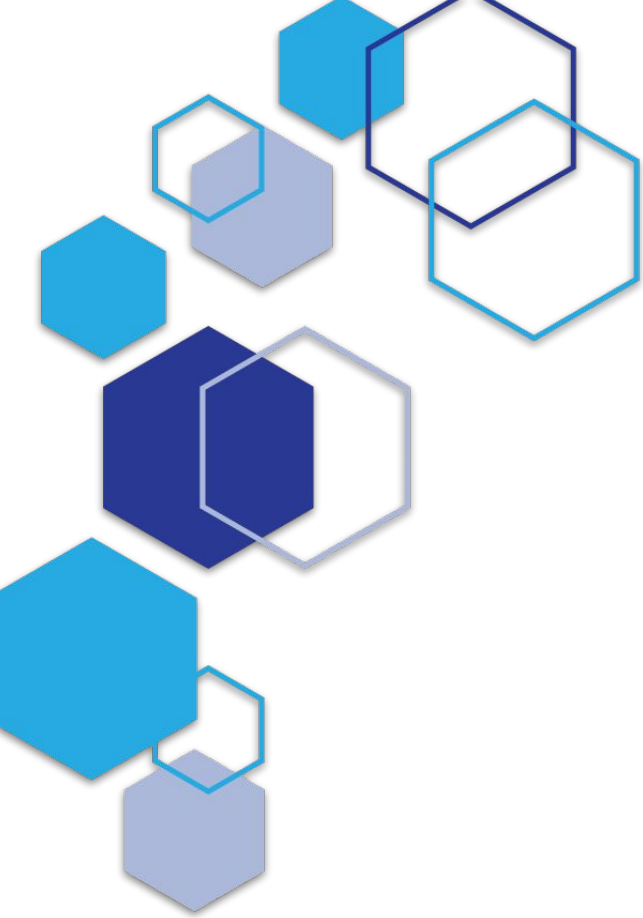
# Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 7, 2026 6:30 PM

Beman Middle School, 1 Wilderman's Way, Middletown, CT 06457

I. Call to Order	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
II. Salute to the Flag	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
III. Adoption of Agenda	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
IV. Action Item	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
IV.A. Appointment of Superintendent of Schools	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
V. District Highlights	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Scott Roberts
V.A. Farm Hill School 21st Century Afterschool Program	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Scott Roberts
V.B. MPS Accomplishments	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Scott Roberts
V.C. Ms. President US of Middletown	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Scott Roberts
VI. Public Session	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
VII. Communications	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
VII.A. Report of Student Representative	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Salahaldin Marnus Kunate
VIII. Consent Agenda	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
VIII.A. Minutes of BOE Regular Meeting 3-10-2026	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
VIII.B. Minutes of BOE Special Meeting 3-17-2026	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
VIII.C. Minutes of BOE Special Meeting 3-23-2026	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
VIII.D. Minutes of 3-27-26 5:40PM BOE Special Meeting	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Sheila Daniels
VIII.E. 2025-2026 Winter End of Season Sports BOE Report	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Elisha DeJesus
VIII.F. Out of State Field Trip MHS DECA ICDC	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> David Reynolds
VIII.G. Grants Status Report	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Natalie Forbes
VIII.H. Policy # 1260 Civility/Respectful Communications and Actions at School, on School Property, or at a School Sponsored Activity or Function - Final Reading	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Deborah Kleckowski
VIII.I. Policy #4010 Hiring of Certified Staff - Final Reading	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Deborah Kleckowski
VIII.J. Policy # 6154 Instruction Homework - Final Reading	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Deborah Kleckowski
VIII.K. Curriculum Committee	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Kelly Bee
VIII.L. Facilities Committee	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Susan Owens

VIII.M.	Policy Committee	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Kleckowski
<b>IX. Department Reports</b>		<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Sheila Daniels
IX.A.	Transfer Report	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Natalie Forbes
IX.B.	Eversource Update	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Natalie Forbes
IX.C.	24-25 Unexpended Balance	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Natalie Forbes
IX.D.	Facilities Department	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Marco Gaylord
IX.E.	Personnel Report	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Harry Snyder
IX.F.	Transportation Report	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Erin Stevenson
<b>X. Superintendent's Report</b>		<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Dr. Alan Addley
X.A.	25-26, 26-27 School Year Calendar	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Dr. Alan Addley
X.B.	FY 27 Budget Discussion	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Dr. Alan Addley
<b>XI. Action Items</b>		<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Sheila Daniels
XI.A.	Policy #5141.26 Meal Charging Policy- First Reading	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Deborah Kleckowski
XI.B.	PIMF Grant	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Colleen Fitzpatrick
<b>XII. Future Agenda Items</b>		<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Sheila Daniels
XIII.	<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>Speaker (s)</b> : Sheila Daniels



**M**

# **Farm Hill**

## **Global Citizens**

### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Community**

### **Learning Center (21C)**

# What is Global Citizens After School Program?

Farm Hill Global Citizens After School program is a 21st Century Community Learning Center (21C), designed to promote student academic growth and social emotional learning, and facilitate authentic family engagement that creates connections with families and the greater school community.

Students receive homework help from school staff, as well as, personalized and targeted academic support, to reinforce student learning and promote academic growth. The program has SEL specialists on staff that work with students individually and in small groups to promote the CASEL competencies for social emotional development.

Lastly, the students participate in STEM, physical fitness, and foreign language enrichments to holistically support their development as healthy, life-long learners that embody the qualities of the district's **Portrait of a Global Citizen.**

# How is Global Citizens After School different from other programs?

Farm Hill strategically incorporates the Global Citizens after school program within the school's Multi-Tiered System of Supports [MTSS]. High needs students are identified through school's MTSS process and upon enrolling, students receive additional support with academics, social emotional learning, and for chronically absent students, the program serves as another tool for students and families to make deeper connections to the school and promote daily attendance.

Farm Hill's multilingual students are actively recruited to provide our english language learners and newcomer students the opportunity to immerse themselves in the language while engaging in the variety of activities with their peers.

The Global Citizens After School Program focuses on creating a safe space for students to engage in a wide variety of activities and new experiences, and create community within the after school hours. Daily activities range from homework support, small group tutoring, ELA enrichments aligned to the school day HMH Into Reading program and opportunities for students that they would not ordinarily get to experience without this program.

The program currently serves 55 students from diverse linguistic, cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. Global Citizens offers a 4 week summer camp to continue the learning beyond the school year.





# What does a day at the Global Citizens After School Program look like?

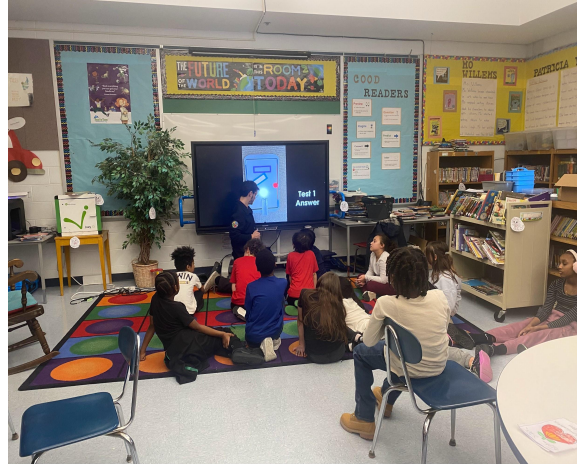
<b>3:25-3:45</b>	<b>School Dismissal- GC Arrive at Gym for Attendance</b>
<b>3:45-4pm</b>	<b>Snack/SEL</b>
<b>4-4:30</b>	<b>Homework</b>
<b>4:30-5</b>	<b>ELA and Literacy based Academic Enrichments</b>
<b>5-5:30</b>	<b>Enrichments with Community Partners</b>
<b>5:30-5:35</b>	<b>Reflection and Wrap Up</b>
<b>5:35</b>	<b>Parent Pick-up &amp; Dismissal</b>
<b>5:40</b>	<b>Bus Departs</b>

# Who are our Community Partners ?

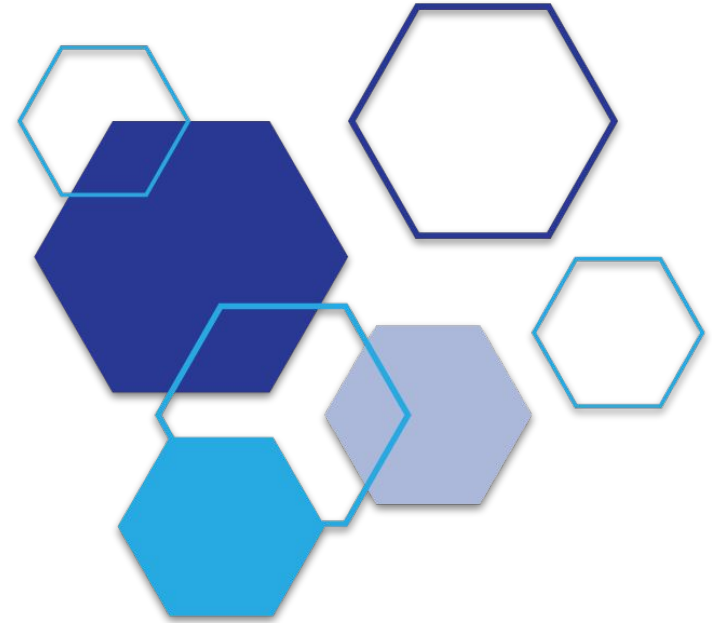
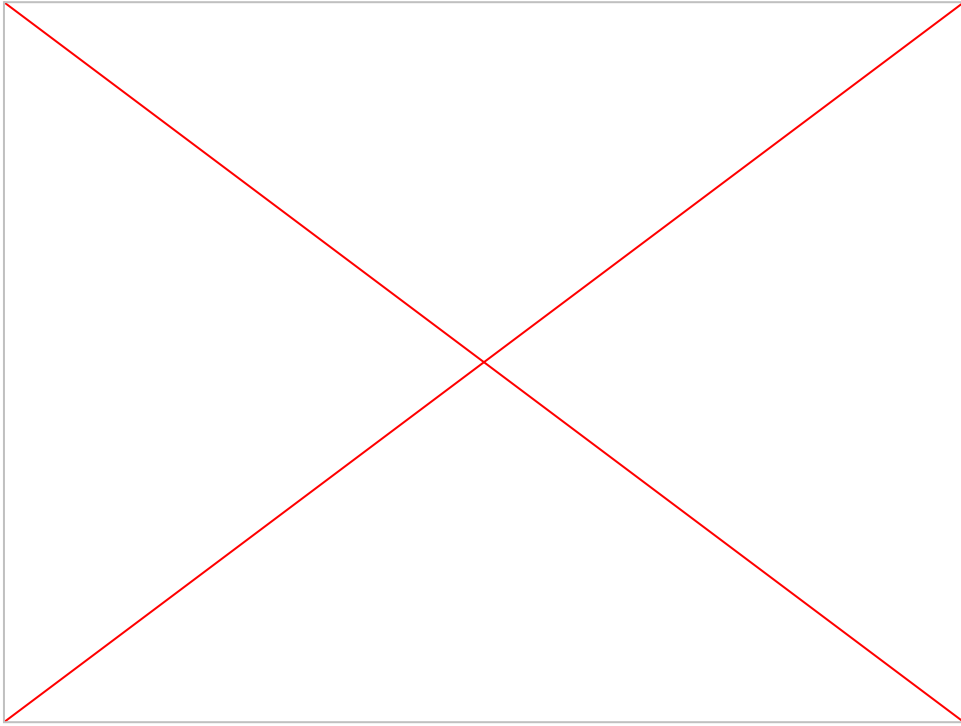
- **Arts for Learning CT**
  - Mr. Rob (SEL Games)
  - New England Ballet Company
  - Latino Dance with Tere Luna
  - Brazilian Dance with Thelma Ladeira
  - Sova Dance and Puppet Theater (Puppetry)
- **Mongoose MMA with Coach Miguel**
- **Wesleyan Cardinal Kids**
- **Bring the Hoopla**
- **Meg Languages**- Spanish(all) and Mandarin (gr 4/5)
- **CT Science Center** for Family STEM Nights



# Global Citizens in Action



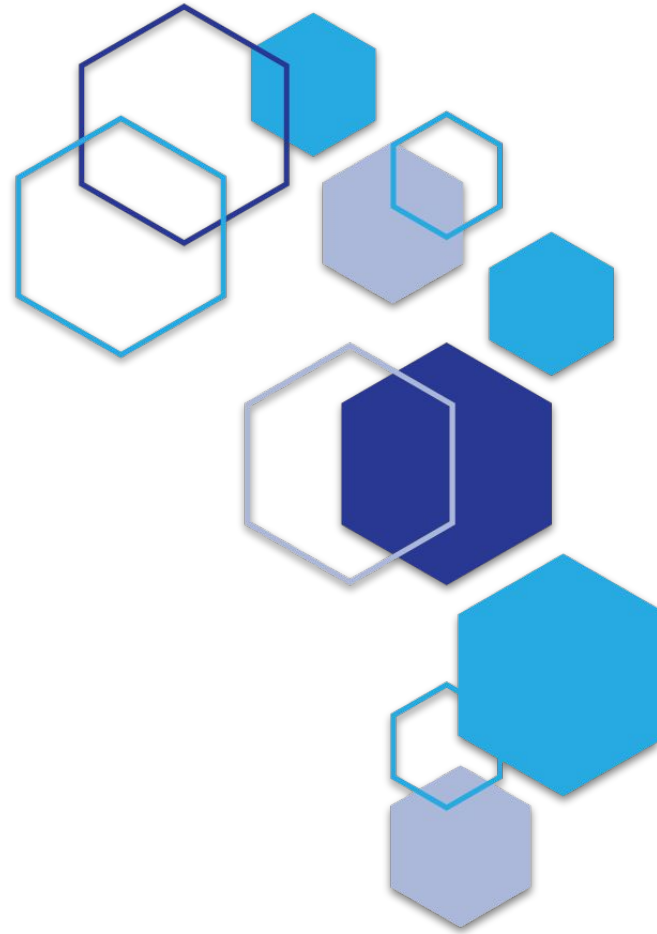




**Let's hear from Farm Hill's Global Citizens!**



**Thank you!**



# March in Middletown



# March in Middletown



# March in Middletown



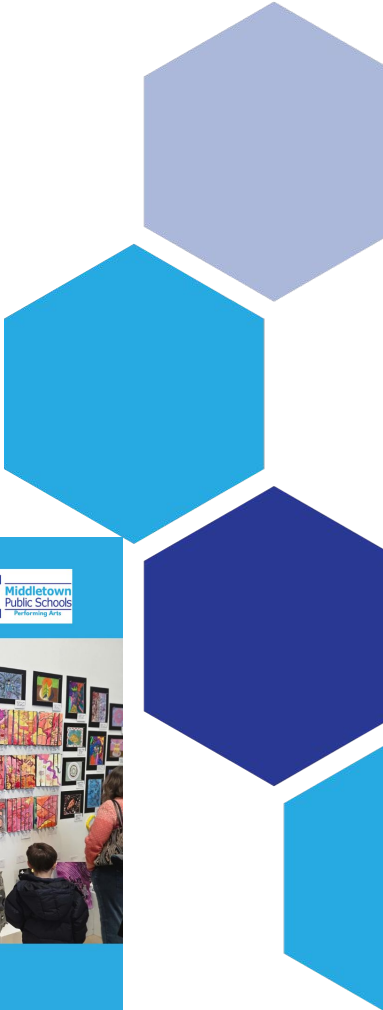
# March in Middletown



# March in Middletown



# March in Middletown



# March in Middletown



# Ms. President U.S. of Middletown



Berman Middle School student Avaletta Martinez, 18, was recently recognized at the State Capitol for her efforts to spread awareness of youth mental health issues and suicide prevention. Above, Avaletta at First Hill Elementary School in Middletown. Below, Avaletta leading her Project 860 girls committee team.

## 'I saw the rates were really high'

12-year-old encouraging peers to discuss mental health, suicide risk

By Cassandra Day

MIDDLETOWN — Statistics about youth suicide are stark. ... The second leading cause of death among youth is self-harm, according to Connecticut Children's. Suicide screenings have shown one in five youth visiting CCM's emergency department screen positive for suicide risk.



"I saw the rates were really high," said Avaletta Martinez, seventh grader at Berman Middle School. "I was personally shocked by how many people struggle with this, but decided to step up and try to make a change."

So she started leading informal, suicide awareness on 860.

## More than 1,700 Conn. school jobs remain unfilled

By Natasha Sokoloff

Many Connecticut school districts are still struggling to fully staff their classrooms well into the school year. The latest statewide data on educator vacancies shows that, according to the most recent available data, at least 1,700 teacher positions, and more than 1,000 other educator positions across public school districts as of February 15.

At least as many districts, but there persists a high vacancy rate in certain parts of the state, collected in February as part of the annual Educator Vacancy Survey, was published earlier this month on the state's education website.

## Out-of-state bottle, can redemptions going to Senate

By Ken Dixon

HARTFORD — The Legislature's Environment Committee on Wednesday narrowly kept after legislation aimed at supporting the state's efforts to reduce plastic use. The bill would allow the state to buy back and recycle plastic bottles and other containers.

The bill would also allow the state to buy back and recycle plastic bottles and other containers. The bill would also allow the state to buy back and recycle plastic bottles and other containers.



MIDDLETOWN PRESS / MIDDLETOWNPRESS.COM



Berman Middle School student Avaletta Martinez, 18, was recently recognized at the state Capitol for her efforts to spread awareness of youth mental health issues and suicide prevention. She is shown at last year's downtown trick or treat event.

Avaletta was recognized at the state Capitol for her efforts to spread awareness of youth mental health issues and suicide prevention. She is shown at last year's downtown trick or treat event.

while boards in their classrooms, Avaletta said. "I've talked about how just talking to someone, asking them how they were, could really change someone's mind."

"I feel very proud of myself that I have people recognizing me and allowing me to do this. They've also established a fund for CCMC to benefit suicide prevention research at the hospital, Montalvo said.

The pandemic exacerbated the youth's struggles with depression and other mental health issues, Montalvo said. "It's a very difficult for them, because when they're around their peers, they don't always feel comfortable speaking about these feelings — like a big bubble," she said.

"It's important to break the stigma, Montalvo continued. "It's OK to not feel OK, and that conversation can happen."

Montalvo is "proud" of her daughter, and it is inspiring youth this age are being seen and heard.

to speak up for things that are important, giving their power back to the kids and knowing what they see matters," she said.

to share in the foundation, go to give communications, following her more information, visit Avaletta's project 860 on Instagram or Project 860 on Facebook.



Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, March 10, 2026 6:30 PM Eastern

Beman Middle School  
1 Wilderman's Way  
Middletown, CT 06457

<https://www.youtube.com/@MiddletownStream>

Kelly Bee: Present  
Chris Cardella: Present  
Sheila Daniels: Present  
Rakim Grant: Present  
Deborah Kleckowski: Present  
Dean Krupa: Present  
Susan Owens: Absent  
Harold Panciera: Present  
Kim Riordan: Present

Present: 8, Absent: 1.

Susan Owens: Present (6:40)

Present: 9.

#### I. Call to Order

Ms. Daniels called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

#### II. Salute to the Flag

Student Representative Sal Marnus Kunate led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### III. Adoption of Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda was made. This motion, made by Harold Panciera and seconded by Deborah Kleckowski, Carried.

Susan Owens: Absent, Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea  
Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

A motion was made to move Item IX.C. Superintendent's Proposed Budget presentation before Item IV. District Highlights. This motion, made by Sheila Daniels and seconded by Deborah Kleckowski, Carried.

Susan Owens: Absent, Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea  
Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

A motion to have move Item VII. A. Report of Student Representative moved to before Item IV. District Highlights due to religious obligations. This motion, made by Chris Cardella and seconded by Deborah Kleckowski, Carried.

Susan Owens: Absent, Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea  
Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

#### IV. District Highlights

Mr. Scott Roberts gave Ms. Owens the floor to discuss the GIFTS program achievements. Ms. Owens discussed the fashion show for the GIFTS program at MHS. She discussed the talents that the students have. The GIFTS luncheon will be next week and will include guest speakers.

##### IV.A. Legacy Interim Director

Mr. Roberts introduced Ms. Vacianna Spaulding. Ms. Spaulding introduced Mark Hedrick, Interim Legacy Coordinator. Mr. Hedrick shared his experience at Legacy Academy. He is proud of the student successes and connections being made.

##### IV.B. Snow School Highlight

Mr. Peter Fragola, Ms. Alea Orcutt and Ms. Jill Garrity were introduced. Mr. Fragola reviewed the Choose Love program and why SEL matters. Students participate in SEL journals and mood meter. Ms. Orcutt shared that Ms. Lewis visited Snow School to meet with staff. Ms. Garrity reviewed the Choose Love formula, a social emotional framework designed to foster resilience, connection, and well being. They shared projects the students have completed and a video showing the practices of Choose Love.

##### IV.C. Women's History Month

March celebrates Women's History Month. Mr. Roberts highlighted Ida Keigwin and Vivian McRae Wesley, who both have schools named after them.

##### IV.D. Board Member Appreciation Month

Dr. Addley shared that Governor Lamont will be visiting MHS students tomorrow. Mr. Roberts shared a video of students thanking the Board of Education Members.

#### V. Public Session

Chair Daniels explained the rules of Public Session

Ms. Maryann Serra, 251 Sisk Rd. Ms. Serra shared that the BOE has a tremendous job in choosing the next Superintendent. She urged the BOE to make a positive decision in leadership and review candidates' history. She also spoke of the athletes at Middletown High School.

Makayla Altenburger, 180 Clover Street. Ms. Altenburger urged the BOE members not to lower the budget. She is against cuts that will affect opportunities for students. Ms. Altenburger also spoke on behalf of her classmate, Bianca.

Mr. Trevor Charles, 505 Kelsey Street. Mr. Charles spoke of the importance of small class sizes. He spoke of the opportunities they provide for students. He spoke of the negative impact that cutting staff will have on both students and staff. He spoke of the impact that a teacher had on him during his time as a student at Middletown High. He asked for the BOE to find another way to make the budget work.

Ms. Elizabeth Read. Ms. Read invited the BOE to the student exhibition at Lawrence School. Ms. Reed shared that cuts can be made within the IB program to be able to sustain it.

Ms. Natalie Altenburger, 180 Clover Street, Rabbi Altenburger shared that all students should have access to the best possible education. She urged the board to reach for excellence for students.

Ms. Janice Pawlak, Brookview Lane. Ms. Pawlak asked the board to prioritize the neediness of the students. She asked for the budget to be built around those students. Ms. Pawlak also shared information about Ms. Vivian McRae Wesley.

Ms. Emily Wangersman, staff member. Ms. Wangersman shared that cutting a position does not cut the issue, only a trained individual to address the issue. She asked the Board to reconsider the staff cuts.

Ms. Quastina Jackson, 21 Norfolk St. Ms. Jackson expressed her concern on budget cuts for teachers. She spoke of the importance of certified educators. She spoke of the increase in positions and cuts on others. She spoke of the importance of support for students.

Ms. Brooke Carta, AFSCME Local 1467 President. Ms. Carta spoke of the cuts to Union 1467. Ms. Carta spoke of the lack of working together with the administration for the budget.

Mr. Josh Heltke, 573 Atkins St. Mr. Holkey spoke about the safety and security in schools in the form of teachers. He talked about the importance of the relationship between teachers and students. He asked to invest in the staff in the schools.

Ms. Leah McMullian, 136 Lincoln St. Ms. McMullian spoke about the connections that she has had with teachers in MPS. She discussed the importance of consistency that students have with teachers.

Mr. Grant reminded everyone that the Common Council makes the final decision on the schools budget.

## VI. Communications

### VI.A. Report of Student Representative

Sal spoke of the upcoming events such as the NHS blood drive, MHS musical and the district wide art show. Students continue to excel in DECA State Competition with many winners moving on to the International Career Development Conference. The dance team won the State Championship in large hip hop and small jazz categories. Track and field and wrestling also had student athletes excel and move on to state and regional competitions.

## VII. Consent Agenda

A motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Chris Cardella, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan:

Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0,

#### VII.A. Minutes of February 10, 2026

#### VII.B. Out of State Field Trip MHS ASTE MxCC Vet Class to Tufts University

#### VII.C. Grants Status Report

#### VII.D. Budget Committee

#### VII.E. Curriculum Committee

#### VII.F. Policy Committee

### VIII. Department Reports

#### VIII.A. Financial Report

Ms. Forbes shared that there is a modest surplus in February. The surplus is in salaries and benefits. There is a deficit in purchase services due to snow removal and special education transportation.

There were no questions.

##### VIII.A.1. Action on Line Item Transfer Report

Move to approve the Line Item Transfer Report was made. This motion, made by Harold Panciera and seconded by Deborah Kleckowski, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0

Ms. Forbes shared that transfers included Bielefield supply lines, food supply lines, Middletown High School science department, purchase services and Silent Sounds printing. There were no questions.

#### VIII.B. Facilities Department

Mr. Marco Gaylord shared that the new work order system is running smoothly. Hours and funds are being tracked. The Snow School roof project is moving forward. Keigwin received funds to assist with HVAC, asbestos abatement and flooring. Mr. Krupa shared that he was able to see the work done in the roofing projects. He commended Mr. Gaylord on the work being done. Mr. Gaylord recognized John Post and Jeremy Hungerford for their work with leaks and replacing ceiling tiles.

#### VIII.C. Personnel Report

Mr. Harry Snyder highlighted that HR partners with universities with student teachers. There are 18 universities that we participate with. This promotes potential in hiring these teachers and highlights employee opportunities within the district. Ms. Kleckowski asked about the rate of turnover and its decrease this month. Mr. Snyder agreed it has gone down and explained. She also asked about the soft freeze and Mr. Snyder responded. Mr. Panciera asked about the coverage for the Beman Science teacher. Ms. Cannata started that the teacher's last day has not occurred yet, however HR is working with the principal on

coverage. Ms. Owens asked where the state gets the data on staff leaving the district. Mr. Snyder explained that HR sends data to the state for the EDS report. Mr. Krupa asked if the data will be shared again and Mr. Snyder responded yes. Mr. Cardella asked if the interim principal will retain interim status through the end of the year. Mr. Snyder responded yes.

#### VIII.D. Transportation Report

Ms. Erin Stevenson reported a clean safety record for February. Springfield trip requests are coming in. After school programs are underway with additions for Macdonough and Beman.

### IX. Superintendent's Report

#### IX.A. Capital / Facilities Plan

Mr. Gaylord discussed the Five - Year Capital Improvement Plan, a strategic roadmap designed to ensure our district's facilities remain safe, efficient and conducive to a premier learning environment. He discussed the Wesley and Spencer roofing projects, oil tanks and boilers. He shared a list of the priority projects totaling \$7,894,730. The long term vision is beyond these immediate needs, the Five- Year Capital Plan services as a proactive investment strategy. By addressing the critical needs items now, we mitigate the risk of costlier emergency repairs in the future and demonstrate fiscal responsibility to our community.

#### IX.B. Legislative Updates

Dr. Addley shared an overview of the CAFE and CAPPS Legislative Updates. He explained that the ECS formula was last revised in 2016. An adjustment in the ECS formula could result in the benefit for MPS. Another bill in front of legislators is regarding homeschooling. This would add a burden to the public schools. A Senate bill proposes bio-diesel fuel which would add a significant cost to the district. Ms. Bee shared that all bills are posted on the State's website and there are many ways to advocate as a member of the community. Mr. Krupa also encouraged the public to provide feedback.

#### IX.C. Superintendent's Proposed Budget

Dr. Addley thanked everyone in attendance and thanked everyone that worked on the budget. He explained the work that was put into developing this budget. He explained the budget process timeline, which began in October 2025. He reviewed the priorities which include: provide fiscal responsibility, fulfill mandatory obligations, sustain core educational programs and support student behavioral needs. Enrollment, student achievement and accomplishments, DRG comparison, and a history of the operating budget were all reviewed. The total budget increase is 3.99%. It represents last year's budget with the core budget a decrease of 1.22%. Dr. Addley reviewed each category that there was an increase or decrease. He reviewed the budget highlights that are aligned to priorities which included specific cuts. He also reviewed the mandatory obligations of the district and sustaining core educational programs. Dr. Addley discussed supporting student behavioral needs and the staffing changes. Capital improvement priority projects were reviewed.

Ms. Daniels asked for any questions. Mr. Grant questioned the obligations that create an increase and the cuts made to create a lower budget. He made a statement that year after year the BOE is reducing the budget with mandatory obligations. Students and teachers are asked to do more with less. He suggested that the BOE be ambitious and reduce the cuts and ask for the money that the district needs. Ms. Bee asked about the funds and renewals of the grants.

## X. Action Items

### X.A. Healthy Food Certifications

Mr. Randall Mel shared that Boards of Education are to vote on the motions each year. There were no questions.

#### X.A.1. Required Vote for Participation in Healthy Food Option of HFC

MOTION: Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-215f, the Middletown Board of Education certifies that all food items offered for sale to students in the schools under its jurisdiction, and not exempted from the Connecticut Nutrition Standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education, will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, culinary programs, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or non-school organizations and groups. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Harold Panciera, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0

#### X.A.2. Required Vote for Food Exemptions

MOTION: The Middletown Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the food items are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and interscholastic debates are events but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The "regular school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.

"Location" means where the event is being held and must be the same place as the food sales. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Kelly Bee, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0

#### X.A.3. Optional Vote for Beverage Exemptions

MOTION: The Middletown Board of Education will allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that the following conditions are met: 1) the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend; 2) the sale is at the location of the event; and 3) the beverages are not sold from a vending machine or school store. An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. The "school day" is the period from 3 midnights before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being

held and must be the same place as the beverage sales. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Kelly Bee, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea  
Yea: 9, Nay: 0

#### X.B. Certified Resolution

Resolved that Dr. Alan Addley, Interim Superintendent of Schools of this corporation, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this corporation a certain contract with the State of Connecticut, Department of Economic and Community Development, and to affix the corporate seal, if any. This motion, made by Sheila Daniels and seconded by Dean Krupa, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea  
Yea: 9, Nay: 0

#### X.C. Policy # 1260 Civility/Respectful Communications and Actions at School, on School Property, or at a School Sponsored Activity or Function -First Reading

Ms. Kleckowski explained that the policy committee received additional legal information to be added to the policy.

Motion to approve Policy #1260 Civility / Respectful Communications and Actions at School, on School Property, or at a School Sponsored Activity or Function - First Reading was made. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Chris Cardella, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea  
Yea: 9, Nay: 0

#### X.D. Policy #4010 Hiring of Certified Staff - First Reading

Ms. Kleckowski shared this policy has had robust discussion in the committee. Dr. Addley shared that administration recommended that Executive positions would sit on the interview committee, but not principals or assistant principals. Mr. Cardella asked if job titles change would an addendum have to be made to the policy. Dr. Addley stated in practice, the board would be part of the process.

Motion to approve Policy #4010 Hiring of Certified Staff - First Reading was made. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Harold Panciera, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0

## X.E. Policy # 6154 Instruction Homework - First Reading

Ms. Kleckowski thanked Ms. Colleen Fitzpatrick for her work on this policy. Ms. Kleckowski asked for an addendum that homework would go 5% for the final grade for homework on grades 9-12. Dr. Addley asked the Board to consider the professionals and their expertise and their work that went into this policy. He stated that department leaders and staff should make that decision. Mr. Grant agreed with Dr. Addley. Ms. Kleckowski shared that the policy committee did have many discussions regarding the topic.

An amendment was made that 5% of a student's grade in grades 9-12 would be from homework. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Harold Panciera, Carried.

Kelly Bee: Nay, Sheila Daniels: Nay, Rakim Grant: Nay, Chris Cardella: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 3,

Kelly Bee: Nay, Sheila Daniels: Nay, Rakim Grant: Nay

A motion to accept the policy with the amendment was made. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Sheila Daniels, Carried.

Susan Owens: Kelly Bee: Nay, Sheila Daniels: Nay, Rakim Grant: Nay, Chris Cardella: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 3,

Kelly Bee: Nay, Sheila Daniels: Nay, Rakim Grant: Nay

## XI. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Cardella asked about past BOE meetings being posted on the YouTube page. Mr. Skott responded that policy changes have affected the page. Mr. Skott will address the timeline with youtube.

## XII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made. This motion, made by Deborah Kleckowski and seconded by Rakim Grant, Carried.

Susan Owens: Kelly Bee: Yea, Chris Cardella: Yea, Sheila Daniels: Yea, Rakim Grant: Yea, Deborah Kleckowski: Yea, Dean Krupa: Yea, Susan Owens: Yea, Harold Panciera: Yea, Kim Riordan: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**March 17, 2026 6:30 PM**  
**Middletown High School Library**  
**200 LaRosa Lane, Middletown, CT 06457**  
**DRAFT**

Board Members Present: Kelly Bee, Chris Cardella, Sheila Daniels, Rakim Grant, Deborah Kleckowski, Dean Krupa, Harold Panciera, Susan Owens and Kim Riordan

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Daniels called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

**II. Public Comment**

Mr. Logan Dancy, 135 Mount Vernon St. Mr. Dancy spoke in support of the TAG program in Macdonough. He would like to know why the program is being phased out.

Ms. Sigrid Atherton, 116 Bretton Rd. Ms. Atherton spoke about the STEM program and the STEM teacher.

Ms. Kelly Torgerson, 83 Old Mill Rd, Ms. Torgerson spoke about the cuts to teachers and the effects on the students.

Ms. Latasha Williams, 92 Sbona Drive. Ms. Williams spoke in support of the IB program at Lawrence School. She discussed the time and effort that have gone into the program and her concerns about Project Lead the Way.

Ms. Vanessa Green, 330 Butternut St. Ms. Green spoke in support of the IB program. She suggested fundraising with people to fund some programs.

Sandy Mackie, 865 Newfield St. Ms. Mackie spoke in support of the IB program. She shared the skills that will assist students in employment later in life.

Mr. Jessie Torgerson, 83 Old Mill Rd. He spoke of the length of the initiatives that are in place in town. He asked for the Board to consider consistency for the teachers and the students. He urged the Board to not cut teachers.

Kaitlyn Styles, MHS teacher. Ms. Styles spoke of her experience in looking at town and BOE budgets. She discussed the feelings of students and teachers. She shared her relationships with students.

Brooke Carta, Employee, Middletown Resident, Local 1466 President. Ms. Carta asked the Board to look at how our resources are being used. She urged the Board to talk to the teachers and staff in the schools.

### **III. Budget Workshop**

Dr. Addley thanked everyone for being present this evening. He shared that he tried to create a reasonable budget that would be acceptable to the community. The board submitted questions and those are now posted on the website. Ms. Daniels discussed the challenges of creating the budget and the structure of the meeting.

Mr. Grant shared his feelings about the budget. He stated that the Board should take teachers, key programs and vital support services off the table for cuts. He encouraged the Board to fight for what the students need.

Ms. Kleckowski asked questions regarding Special Education Compliance positions, mandates, Project Lead the Way, insurance. Ms. Riordan asked about the grant funding for Project Lead the Way and removing interventionists. Mr. Grant discussed equity and expanding programs and not making difficult decisions yet. Mr. Panciera asked about the Science Coordinator position and Project Lead the Way, interventionists, removing 6th grade Spanish and replacing it. Mr. Krupa asked about the unfunded state mandates. Ms. Owens discussed that cutting employees would not help the students. Mr. Cardella discussed the Special Education Compliance position, sending children from Farm Hill back to their home district of Macdonough and 6th grade Spanish being replaced by intervention. Ms. Bee discussed the IB model at Lawrence and to look at test results.

Other topics included KPA, class sizes at MHS, high need area teacher shortages, and learning at Legacy.

Dr. Addley reviewed the procedure for the next meeting to be held with the Common Council on March 23.

Mr. Krupa asked about expenditures and salaries at the Central Office level. Dr. Addley responded that it is contractual. He kept the infrastructure of the district in place for the next Superintendent.

### **IV.VI. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:47PM by Mr. Cardella, second by Ms. Daniels - unanimous vote.

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**March 23, 2026 6:30 PM**  
**Middletown High School Library**  
**200 LaRosa Lane, Middletown, CT 06457**  
**DRAFT**

Board Members Present: Kelly Bee, Chris Cardella, Sheila Daniels, Rakim Grant, Deborah Kleckowski, Dean Krupa, Harold Panciera and Kim Riordan

Council Members Present: Ava Hart, Grady Faulkner, Janette Blackwell, Kelly Sweeney, Shanay Fulton, Leslie Spatola (6:54), Mayor Nocera

Virtual - Vinny Loffredo, Linda Salafia

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Daniels called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM.

**II. Opening Remarks**

Ms. Daniels led the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Addley welcomed the Common Council members, Board Members, members of the public and staff for attending the meeting. Ms. Blackwell thanked the board for hosting the meeting. The council will be hosting a workshop on April 20th where any additional questions will be answered. Mayor Nocera shared that the city is working very hard on the budget. He will release a copy on March 31st. At that point the Common Council will deliberate the budget.

**III. Common Council Budget Workshop**

Ms. Blackwell shared that many questions were answered by Dr. Addley and Ms. Forbes. She asked for clarification on the question asking how Middletown compares to the DRG, the state and other Alliance districts. Dr. Addley shared that Middletown's per pupil is \$25,070. It is 1.18 times the Alliance District average. Food costs, Special Education paraprofessional support, arts, nurses and support services are the major factors in the DRG number. Mr. Griswold addressed the question regarding the improvement in absenteeism. Ms. Fulton asked if the family home visits attributed to the improvement. Dr. Addley shared that the responsibilities of the Family Engagement Liaisons will be provided within the schools. Ms. Blackwell asked about the outplacement services for students and building capacity within the district for these services. Dr. Addley shared that based on student needs it is not always possible to have the services in house. Mr. Loffredo asked about the services that ACES provides. Ms. Spaulding and Dr. Addley shared that MPS does use ACES for several services including PPT decisions. Following were questions regarding the DATTCO contract, fees for preschool, redistricting and legal services. Ms. Hart asked Dr. Addley to explain the 12 staff cuts in the proposed budget. He

shared the job titles and a brief explanation for the cuts. Ms. Blackwell asked how the district can provide education to parents on how to access resources. Dr. Addley shared that the district continues to work closely and collaborate with a number of community partners and organizations to provide valuable education and support resources to families and parents. The district will continue to look for opportunities to expand its reach to offer more support, work alongside more organizations and help more families throughout the city.

Common Council Members and Mayor Nocera left the meeting.

#### **IV. Public Comment**

Ms. Nyah Brightwell, 272 East St. Ms. Wrightwell shared that teachers should not be cut. She suggested that students be consulted. She also discussed the pay of the teachers.

Ms. Sigrid Atherton, 116 Bretton Rd. Ms Atherton shared that there is a misrepresentation of the STEM teacher position. She also discussed the proposed cut of 6th grade Spanish.

Andrew Burkey, student at MHS. Mr. Burkey shared his experience in the STEM program. He asked the board to reconsider the cuts.

Ms. Elizabeth Reed, teacher at MPS. Ms. Reed thanked the board members for responding to emails and reaching out for more information. She clarified that a 5 year financial commitment is not required. She also addressed the test scores of the Lawrence students.

Ms. Christine Jones, 165 Lincoln St. Ms. Jones spoke of the TAG program. She spoke of how families were moving into the neighborhood to have their children attend Macdonough.

Mr. Aaron Jones, 165 Lincoln St. Mr. Jones spoke of the STEM and TAG program. He discussed the value of these programs and the teachers.

Ms. Roberta Downer, MHS teacher and MFT president. Ms. Downer asked that decisions be grounded in student needs. She spoke of the supports needed for students and the barriers that removing these would cause. She also spoke about the plan for moving students from Farm Hill to Macdonough.

Mr. Cesar Gonzalez, teacher at MHS. Mr. Gonzalez shared his own experience as a high school student. He spoke about cuts to staff, which would negatively impact the students and staff being about to give quality individualized education to students. He spoke of the benefits for small class sizes.

Ms. Kaitlynn Styles, teacher at MHS. Ms. Styles spoke about the staff cuts and the limited opportunities that would lead students to. Lower class sizes lead to more opportunities for teachers to provide individualized instruction and connection with students. She asked board members to consider what matters.

Ms. Briz Garcia, Family Engagement Liaison. Ms. Garcia shared that eliminating the FEL's will greatly affect students and families. Ms. Garcia shared that she has assisted at 9 schools. She shared that transferring the work is not sustainable. She gave an example of a family that she assisted and the impact that it had.

Brooke Carta, President of AFSCME 1467. Ms. Carta shared that there is a pattern of eliminating positions throughout the district. She gave an example of the staff members that make a day successful and the importance of their work. She stated that eliminating positions does not eliminate the work.

Mr. Christopher Darby, teacher at MHS. Mr. Darby discussed the per pupil expenditure. He also stated the ECS has been flat for 13 years. He stated the priorities of the district should be people, positions then programs.

## **V. BOE Budget Workshop**

Dr. Addley reviewed the enrollment and class sizes for grade 9 after the changes with the budget. He reviewed the 6th grade model for intervention. He reviewed the 7th and 8th grade model. He also shared a comparative slide for administrative salaries in Middletown versus other towns.

Mr. Cardella asked for clarification on the future of the STEM teacher position. Dr. Addley explained that the STEM rooms will be used by many teachers within the building. Ms. Forbes shared an example at Beman Middle School. He also asked if surrounding districts offer Spanish in 6th grade. Dr. Addley stated it is mixed and he will follow up with the data. Mr. Cardella followed up with a question for legal fees and current open positions.

Mr. Grant spoke of the district asking for less during a time when students need more support. He would like the Board to vote for an increased budget to cover student needs.

On Friday, March 27 5:30PM at Central Office The BOE will vote on the budget.

## **VI. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:05 by Mr. Cardella, second by Ms. Kleckowski

Board of Education Special Meeting  
Dr. Alfred Tychsen Administration Building  
311 Hunting Hill Ave., Conference Room B  
Friday, March 27, 2026, 5:40 PM  
<https://www.youtube.com/@MiddletownStream>

Board Members Present: Kelly Bee, Chris Cardella, Sheila Daniels, Rakim Grant, Deborah Kleckowski, Dean Krupa, Susan Owens, Harold Panciera, and Kim Riordan

### **I. Call to Order**

Ms. Daniels called the meeting to order at 5:41 PM.

### **II. Vote to approve the BOE Meeting Minutes 3-27-26 at 5:30 PM**

A motion was made to approve the BOE Meeting Minutes 3-27-26 at 5:30 PM, which was made by Mr. Cardella and seconded by Ms. Klekowski- unanimous vote.

### **III. Budget Discussion**

Ms. Daniels introduced Dr. Addley.

Dr. Addley shared two changes to the 2026-27 budget proposal. Eversource billing: The district has paid approximately \$279,000 to Eversource for the Middletown Recreation Center since it opened. The district has not been billed for Beman Middle School. Eversource can backdate its billing to January 2025 for Beman Middle School. The amount owed for Beman Middle School electricity through June 2026 is approximately \$600,000. This represents a \$32,000 increase in monthly cost for Beman Middle School. Workers' compensation has also increased by \$62,000.

The Eversource and Workers' Compensation items represent a combined total potential increase of 0.38% above 3.99%, or 5.21%. Ms. Klekowski questioned the increase.

Mr. Snyder was asked to explain the difference in mod rates because of our previous relationship with CIRMA. There could be large savings switching to a traditional carrier. In the next year, we should see a drop, as we will lose one of our higher years that are calculated into our mod rate.

Mr. Krupa asked about measures in place to try to lower the mod rate. Mr. Snyder explained that we are working with the district safety committee and offering more light-duty assignments.

Ms. Daniels proposed a discussion of the multiple budget proposals and opened up the budget discussion. Ms. Klekowski explained that they are only voting on the allocation today; they are not voting on the budget itself. By charter, the mayor has to have the budget by April 1, 2026. She encouraged the board to show responsibility to the Common Council by demonstrating that the Board is working to do everything it can. Mr. Grant would like to vote for a number that

includes the increases and not pull from the core to cover additional needs. Less money will not increase student success.

A motion to approve the budget with a 4.37% increase was made by Ms. Klekowski, and a second was made by Ms. Bee.

5.59 % motion by Mr. Grant, who cannot support cutting anything.

Dr. Addley clarified whether the Board is approving a budget to submit to the city and come back and adjust it after approval. Ms. Daniels explained that the board's consensus was to vote on a number and then come back after we receive the actual number from the city. Mr. Cardella asked if, in Dr. Addley's experience, the board should have rearranged the budget during the workshops. Mr. Panciera stated that he feels the 5.59% is safer given all the uncertainties in the world. A more aggressive approach to increasing test scores, and the new superintendent needs to look at things thoroughly, and will need to have access to more money. Ms. Klekowski mentioned that we can still ask the city for appropriations for specific projects. Ms. Owens shared that this is to help the kids get a good education. She would like to look at the spending. Mr. Cardella cannot support 4.37% and it is not realistic. Ms. Daniels clarified a few points about sixth-grade Spanish being eliminated and not being in study halls, but rather true intervention. She shared that Dr. Addley has extensive experience, is unbiased, and formed this budget without political ties or gains.

#### **IV. Vote to adopt the Board of Education's 2026-2027 Budget**

A motion was made to approve the 4.37% increase in the 2026-2027 Budget by Ms. Klekowski, and a second by Ms. Daniels

Roll Call Vote (aye or nay) 4.37%

Ms. Kleckowski - yay

Ms. Riordan - yay

Ms. Bee - yay

Mr. Grant - nay

Mr. Panciera - nay

Mr. Krupa - nay

Ms. Owens - nay

Mr. Cardella - nay

Ms. Daniels - yay

4.37 does not pass

A motion to adopt the Board of Education budget with a 5.59% increase was made by Mr. Grant, and a second by Mr. Cardella.

Ms. Klekowski- nay

Ms. Riordan- nay

Ms. Bee- nay

Mr. Grant- yay

Mr. Panciera- yay

Mr. Krupa yay

Ms. Owens yes

Mr. Cardella yes

Ms. Daniels nay

### III. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:38 PM by Ms. Daniels and a second by Ms. Klekowski - unanimous vote.

## **Athletic Department End of Season Report Winter 2025-26**

This report provides a comprehensive overview of our athletic and extracurricular programs, including participation data, operational costs, and an academic review of the Winter season.

### **Winter Season Highlights:**

- **Top Scholar-Athletes:** Congratulations to William Bingham (Freshman, Unified Sports), Mackenzie Greenberg (Junior, Dance), and Rolando Lopez (Sophomore, Boys Basketball) for their outstanding academic performance.
- **Athletic Excellence:** We celebrate 17 All-CCC Conference selections and 7 All-State honorees, 1 state open champion and 1 New England champion.
- **Championship Success:** The MHS Dance team secured State Championships in both the Large Hip Hop and Small Jazz divisions, ultimately being named the **2026 CT Dance Team of the Year**.
- **Academic Achievement:** Most impressively, **60%** of our Winter Varsity student-athletes earned a spot on the CCC All-Academic team by maintaining at least an **87.5 GPA** during the second marking period.

Thank you for your continued support of our students and programs.

## High School Sports Narratives

The following narratives are an overview provided for you from the coach's perspective, as to how their season went, starting with the high school programs.

### Boys Basketball, Corey Gordon:

The Middletown High School Boys Basketball program concluded the 2025–2026 season with a 10–10 record. Throughout the year, our student-athletes demonstrated resilience, growth, and a commitment to representing Middletown with pride. After starting the season 5–2, the team navigated a challenging mid-season stretch but continued to compete and improve while establishing a culture centered on growth, competitiveness, and excellence. The team played in the first round CIAC State Tournament with a victory over Weaver HS, moving onto the second round state tournament at Stratford HS where the team fought back and competed with toughness throughout. One varsity player earned All-Conference honors. The Freshman team finished 2nd place in the Kenny Robinson Tournament, highlighting the strong future of the program.

The program continues to build a strong foundation focused on toughness, discipline, accountability, and pride in representing Middletown High School. We appreciate the continued support from the Board of Education, school administration, families, and the Middletown community as we work to continue growing the program and providing meaningful opportunities for our student-athletes.

### Girls Basketball, Kelvin Jones:

The MHS Girls basketball team finished the 2025-26 regular season with a 1-19 record. With this record, we did not qualify for the CIAC and CCC tournament. We had a varsity team with several freshmen players with no experience at that level. With the expected improvement of our younger players, the coaches are looking forward to this progression and a successful season in 2026-27 in the CIAC and CCC.

### Wrestling, David Baldyga:

This was a season of growth and improvement. We finished the season with a dual match record of 15 wins and 11 losses. Of the 11 losses over half of them were less than 6 points, we struggled to fill all 14 weight classes averaging 12-18 points in forfeits. Isaiah McDaniel and Josh Ramos both reached and surpassed 100 wins in their career. We had four all conference athletes Josh Ramos, Isaiah McDaniel, Ca'Mani McDaniel and Andrew Scharper. Four state place winners Josh Ramos 2nd, Ca'Mani McDaniel 5th, Andrew Scharper 6th and Isaiah McDaniel state champ. Two State open place winners Josh Ramos 4th and Isaiah McDaniel 2nd. Isaiah McDaniel avenged a one point loss in the state open finals by a week later dominating and winning the New England's championship becoming the third New England champ in schools history. At the end of the month we will compete at Nationals with the hopes of adding all Americans to the list of accomplishments.

### Boys Swim/Dive, Trevor Charles:

The Boys Swimming and Diving program finished 9-4 this year, and second in the CCC South conference. 9 Kids qualified for Class M states, and 8 moved on to Finals. At the finals meet two individuals were named All State athletes, and one, Cole Strickland, was Class M State Champion in the 200 Free. 4 student athletes qualified for the State Open event.

Winter Cheerleading, Lindsay Hansen:

This winter season we cheered at designated boys and girls basketball games for JV and Varsity. This season we were selected to have a JV team in an effort to build our foundation for varsity. We worked this season on various skills and made goals for the coming year to improve on. We attended three cheerleading competitions for varsity. We were able to work on more intermediate level stunts and will continue to work on them for the following season. We will continue to work on tumbling skills and stunt technique.

Dance Team Marisa Bishop/Caitilin Nelson:

This Winter season was extremely successful. We danced at several home basketball games, competed at 2 local competitions, traveled to Orlando, FL to compete at the National Dance Team Championship, and placed first in both Hip Hop and Jazz at the CIAC Connecticut Dance Team State Championship! We are competing at Regionals against top teams from CT, MA and VT on 3/14.

Girls Indoor Track: Rob Weston:

The Girls Indoor Track Team continued to improve as many of the younger athletes really started to learn the ropes. We had a ton of talent spread across a variety of events and a variety of grade levels. Not only did we have major contributions from upperclassmen, but the sophomores and freshmen made sure to let themselves be known. Each meet, from the first to the last, saw us compete to the best of our ability and achieve some awesome accomplishments. Standouts from the season would definitely be Brookelyn Grant and Nadia Ansaldo. Brookelyn continued her success from last season, being our top sprinter and gradually becoming one of the top sprinters in the state. Nadia improved massively in the jumping events and managed to break the school record in the triple jump. As a team, we ended the season with a 4-5 record and a 6th place finish in the CCC south. With many returning varsity athletes, we'll look to compete with the best in the state in the coming seasons and make it a goal to be one of the top teams in our conference.

Boys Indoor Track: James White:

This was an incredible season. This group understood their roles, stayed focused on their goals, and showed what true teamwork looks like. A big shoutout to our upperclassmen Rodney Crockett set a sophomore meet record at the Hispanic Games at one of the most iconic tracks in the country. He placed 2nd overall in the CCC, breaking the school record. He finished 2nd in Class L, placed at State Opens and also placed 3rd at the New England Championships. We also saw school records fall this season: Porchheng Kim in the pole vault with a jump of 11' 6", and Rodney Crockett in the 55-meter dash.

Unified Basketball: Cindy Culp

This winter season for Unified Basketball we had learned new techniques and had fun. The coaches were out on the courts more with the athletes which really helped with engagement. We had 2 tournaments. Our Glastonbury tournament was rescheduled due to snow which made us have back to back tournaments- Glastonbury High School and Cheshire School. Our team was tired by tournament number 2, however you would have never known it because they definitely didn't show it. Overall this season was great and we are looking forward to a great Spring season!

## **Beman Middle School Winter Sports Narratives**

### **Middle School Wrestling: Steve McKeever:**

This season we had 38 boys and girls join the wrestling team, of those 8 were managers, 5 girls participated on the team. The team had 6 wins and 6 losses. We took first place in the East Haven Holiday tournament. Once again we hosted the Beman Invitational, 11 teams and 240 athletes competed. Of the 240 athletes, 50 were girls, which allowed us to make 8 brackets of only girls. This was the first time that girls were able to wrestle only girls, allowing them to be more competitive and enjoy the sport a little more.

### **Middle School Boys Basketball: John Geary**

Preseason tryouts in November had 102 individuals showcasing their ability in order to make the squad. Seventeen eighth graders, five seventh graders were selected as well as five sixth graders.

The varsity boys finished with an overall record of 10 wins, 4 losses (9 and 2 in the Conference) and the JV team finished with 10 wins and 3 losses. This year's team worked hard from the opening day of tryouts to the final game. They came so close to getting to the BEMAN INVITATIONAL Finals losing to Silver Medal Winners Dodd Middle School of Cheshire 45-41.

Throughout the season, the Beman team was often complimented for its play and conduct by officials, coaches, opponents and parents. Our GOAL as Rams is to demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship on and off the court.... And this team demonstrated that.

### **Middle School Girls Basketball: Mike Angeli**

The Beman Girls Basketball team had a successful season of 6 wins, 8 losses and a 2-2 record in the Beman Invitational securing 3rd place. The JV girls had a successful record over .500. The team worked incredibly hard to become not only better individual students-athletes but collectively a stronger team. Special shoutout to our four Captains: Brianna Eldridge, Olivia Lane, Addison Sharillo and Autumn Thomas, who acquired and displayed all the characteristics of great leadership throughout the entire season. Their dedication, assertiveness, organization and compassion towards their team and teammates, in itself, labeled this season as successful.

### **Middle School Cheer: Beth Shapiro**

Initially 70 girls signed up to participate and tried out for the squad. Ultimately 20 girls made the team, but two left during the season due to personal reasons. The team consisted of ten 8th graders, six 7th graders and two 6th graders. The girls learned about 45 chants to use at games at the beginning of the season and another 10 towards the end in order to freshen up the repertoire. They also learned and performed a dance routine for half time and 2 sideline dances as well as some longer cheers to use during timeouts. The girls loved to take ownership of the team and to help make decisions about our performances. We are still struggling to find an appropriate place to practice where we can have enough space and access to mats, which limits what we are capable of doing.

## WINTER TEAM RECORDS

<b>MHS</b>	<b>Wins</b>	<b>Losses</b>	<b>Tie</b>
Girls Basketball	1	19	
Boys Basketball	10	10	
Girls Indoor Track	4	6	
Boys Indoor Track	9	1	
Wrestling	15	11	
Boys Swim/Dive	9	4	
Co-Op Hockey	15	3	2
Cheerleading	-	-	
Dance	-	-	
Unified Basketball	-	-	
<b>BEMAN</b>			
Girls Basketball	6	8	
Boys Basketball	10	4	
Wrestling	6	6	
Cheerleading	-	-	

## Academic Review---2025-26 Winter Sports Season

All student-athletes in grades 9-12 were reviewed for compliance to Middletown High School's eligibility policy. In accordance with district and CIAC policy, grades from the 2nd quarter served as the criteria in the review process. Student-athletes who had met CIAC eligibility standards, but had received one or more failing grades were subject to the review process. As is the case with all athletic seasons, all interscholastic teams were required to hold supervised study halls in some capacity for student-athletes throughout the season.

Team-by team results of the Academic Review process are summarized in the following table:

	<b>Number Of Student Athletes Subject To Academic Review</b>	<b>Number Of Student Athletes Meeting MHS Criteria For Continuing Participation</b>	<b>Number Of Student Athletes Who Failed To Meet MHS Criteria For Continuing Participation</b>
<b>Boys Basketball</b>	5	5	0
<b>Girls Basketball</b>	2	2	0
<b>Wrestling</b>	7	7	0
<b>Boys Swimming</b>	1	1	0
<b>Boys Indoor Track</b>	2	2	0
<b>Girls Indoor Track</b>	1	1	0
<b>Cheerleading</b>	1	1	0
<b>Dance Team</b>	0	0	0
<b>Hockey</b>	1	1	0
<b>Unified</b>	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	20	20	0

The Academic Review process is designed to support students and encourage them to strive for academic success. Often, a student's desire to play a sport or engage in extracurricular activities will spark the effort and focus necessary for improvement in the classroom. Athletics are a valuable part of the high school experience, and Middletown High School is committed to using sports as partners in the educational process.

## 2025-26 WINTER ATHLETICS EXPENSES

SPORT	<u>*OPERATING EXPENSES</u>		<u>GENERATED INCOME</u>		<u>Number of Coaches</u>		<u>Total Salaries</u>	
	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>
<b>Boys Basketball</b>	\$ 12,850	\$ <b>12,600</b>	\$ 2,887	\$ <b>3,093</b>	3	<b>3</b>	\$ 21,923	\$ <b>22,580</b>
-Police	\$ 8,360	\$ <b>5,805</b>						
<b>Middle School</b>	\$ 2,245	\$ <b>3,972</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	2	<b>1</b>	\$ 6,566	\$ <b>4,960</b>
<b>Girls Basketball</b>	\$ 9,066	\$ <b>6,948</b>	\$ 1,199	\$ <b>1,580</b>	3	<b>2</b>	\$ 21,923	\$ <b>16,154</b>
-Police	\$ 1,197	\$ <b>0</b>						
<b>Middle School</b>	\$ 2,657	\$ <b>3,249</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	2	<b>2</b>	\$ 6,566	\$ <b>6,763</b>
<b>Boys Swim &amp; Dive</b>	\$ 13,134	\$ <b>4,036</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	3	<b>3</b>	\$ 21,923	\$ <b>22,580</b>
<b>Indoor Track (Boys/Girls)</b>	\$ 10,721	\$ <b>4,735</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	3	<b>4</b>	\$ 21,788	\$ <b>22,442</b>
<b>Wrestling</b>	\$ 7,349	\$ <b>5,792</b>	\$ 673	\$ <b>1,000</b>	2	<b>2</b>	\$ 15,684	\$ <b>16,154</b>
<b>Middle School</b>	\$ 2,435	\$ <b>928</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	1	<b>1</b>	\$ 4,816	\$ <b>4,960</b>
<b>Cheerleading</b>	\$ 3,037	\$ <b>395</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	2	<b>2</b>	\$ 11,951	\$ <b>12,308</b>
<b>MS Cheerleading</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>24</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	1	<b>1</b>	\$ 4,816	\$ <b>4,960</b>
<b>Unified Sports</b>	\$ 497	\$ <b>0</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	1	<b>1</b>	\$ 1,450	\$ <b>1,494</b>
<b>Dance</b>	\$ 1,909	\$ <b>7,805</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	2	<b>2</b>	\$ 6,239	\$ <b>6,426</b>
<b>Ice Hockey Co-op</b>	\$ 1,500	\$ <b>1,500</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>
<b>Strength &amp; Conditioning</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	\$ 0	\$ <b>0</b>	1	<b>0</b>	\$ 6,239	\$ <b>0</b>
<b>Athletic Training</b>	\$ 8,162	\$ <b>(+4,860 added to sports affected)</b>						
<b>Security: MHS</b>	\$ 13,837	\$ <b>16,330</b>						
<b>: Beman</b>	\$ 2,606	\$ <b>1,676</b>						
<b>***Miscellaneous</b>	\$ 5,965	\$ <b>6,605</b>						
<b>Transportation</b>	\$ 41,817	\$ <b>47,625</b>						
<b>TOTALS</b>	\$149,344	\$ <b>130,025</b>	\$ 4,759	\$ <b>5,673</b>	26	<b>24</b>	\$151,844	\$ <b>141,781</b>

\*Operating Expenses- Includes officials, custodial overtime, event workers, uniforms, equipment, supplies and game personnel.

\*\*Miscellaneous includes awards, administrative supplies, office supplies, dues & fees.

\*\*\*Dance includes team state championship rings.

## Winter 2025-26 Participation

<u>SPORT</u>	<i>MIDDLE SCHOOL</i>								<i>HIGH SCHOOL</i>								<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>				
	<u>SIXTH</u>		<u>SEVENTH</u>		<u>EIGHTH</u>		<u>TOTALS</u>		<u>NINTH</u>		<u>TENTH</u>		<u>ELEVENTH</u>		<u>TWELFTH</u>				<u>TOTALS</u>		
	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	<u>24-25</u>	<u>25-26</u>	
<b>Boys Indoor Track</b>										16	<b>2</b>	9	<b>20</b>	14	<b>8</b>	4	<b>11</b>	43	<b>41</b>	43	<b>41</b>
<b>Girls Indoor Track</b>										5	<b>11</b>	3	<b>4</b>	7	<b>6</b>	8	<b>6</b>	23	<b>27</b>	23	<b>27</b>
<b>Boys Swim</b>										7	<b>2</b>	6	<b>9</b>	10	<b>3</b>	9	<b>11</b>	32	<b>25</b>	32	<b>25</b>
<b>Boys Basketball</b>	2	<b>5</b>	15	<b>5</b>	11	<b>20</b>	28	<b>30</b>		12	<b>15</b>	9	<b>9</b>	4	<b>7</b>	7	<b>3</b>	32	<b>34</b>	60	<b>64</b>
<b>Girls Basketball</b>	4	<b>6</b>	13	<b>7</b>	8	<b>12</b>	25	<b>25</b>		5	<b>5</b>	10	<b>1</b>	2	<b>7</b>	8	<b>1</b>	25	<b>14</b>	50	<b>39</b>
<b>Wrestling</b>	11	<b>8</b>	8	<b>16</b>	12	<b>14</b>	31	<b>38</b>		8	<b>6</b>	7	<b>6</b>	3	<b>5</b>	7	<b>3</b>	25	<b>20</b>	56	<b>58</b>
<b>Cheerleading</b>	2	<b>2</b>	6	<b>6</b>	12	<b>10</b>	20	<b>18</b>		7	<b>6</b>	10	<b>4</b>	5	<b>7</b>	1	<b>5</b>	23	<b>22</b>	43	<b>40</b>
<b>Dance</b>										2	<b>3</b>	8	<b>3</b>	5	<b>6</b>	2	<b>3</b>	17	<b>15</b>	17	<b>15</b>
<b>Unified Sports</b>										1	<b>3</b>	2	<b>2</b>	1	<b>3</b>	3	<b>1</b>	7	<b>9</b>	7	<b>9</b>
<b>Co-Op Hockey</b>										0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>1</b>	0	<b>1</b>	0	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	19	<b>21</b>	42	<b>34</b>	43	<b>56</b>	104	<b>111</b>		63	<b>53</b>	64	<b>58</b>	51	<b>52</b>	49	<b>45</b>	227	<b>208</b>	331	<b>319</b>

## Winter Coaches

MHS Boys Basketball	Head Coach	Corey Gordon
	Assistant	Terry Sears
	Assistant	Jason Manzie
BMS Boys Basketball	Head Coach	John Geary
MHS Girls Basketball	Head Coach	Kelvin Jones
	Assistant	Taylor Nkonoki
BMS Girls Basketball	Head Coach	Mike Angeli
	Assistant	Vivaldi Demas
MHS Wrestling	Head Coach	David Baldyga
	Assistant	Josh Veleas
BMS Wrestling	Head Coach	Steve McKeever
MHS Girls Indoor Track	Head Coach	Rob Weston
	Assistant	Jamarius Russell
MHS Boys Indoor Track	Head Coach	James White
	Assistant	Brennan Lazich
MHS Boys Swim/Dive	Head Coach	Trevor Charles
	Assistant Dive	Daniel Kinney
	Assistant	Taylor Garbowski
MHS Cheerleading	Head Coach	Lindsay Hansen
	Assistant	Aaliyah Wright
BMS Cheerleading	Head Coach	Beth Shapiro
MHS Dance	Co-Coach	Marisa Bishop
	Co-Coach	Caitilyn Nelson
MHS Unified Basketball	Head Coach	Cindy Culp
MHS Co-Op Hockey	Head Coach	David Dubos

**Instruction REGULATION 6153(f) Field Trips and Community Service FORM 1**

**OVERNIGHT & OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM**

All overnight and out-of-state field trips require the approval of the Board of Education 60 days in advance of the departure date. All foreign travel field trips must be submitted for Board approval 90 days in advance of the departure date. The following information must be forwarded electronically and in TRIPLICATE (hard copies) 30 days prior to the Board meeting which summarizes the trip. NOTE: A Narrative must be attached justifying this field trip to the school curriculum and/or mission statement. No financial commitments are to be made until Board approval. **This form must be typewritten and ALL items filled in or marked N/A.**

Name of School: **Middletown High School** Date of Request: **7/28/25 3/3/26 update**

Name of Club or Activity: **Middletown DECA**

Trip To: **Atlanta, GA**

Purpose: **DECA ICDC**

Number of Students Participating: **30**

Number of students eligible to go on the field trip: **200**

Dates of Trip: From: **4/24/26** To: **4/29/26** # of school days missed: **4**

Names of Teachers and Chaperones:

<b>1. David Reynolds</b>	<b>3. Kate Bysiewicz</b>
<b>2. Lee Schwartzman</b>	<b>4. Vicky Thong</b>

Number of Non-Chaperone Adults going on trip: **0**

Transportation: **Bus** Van Train **Plane** Car Other

*Plane: 8 am depart BDL to ATL (4/24)  
4 pm return to BDL from ATL (4/29)*

*Bus 12 pm from Airport to hotel on 4/24, from hotel to airport 12pm on 4/29*

Are fund-raising activities planned: If so, describe: **Yes. Fundraising via school retail space,**

**Butter Braids, grants, and account funds.**

Amount of money raised through fundraisers: **\$1000**

Lodging: **Hotel/Motel** Camp Private Home

**STARLING MIDTOWN ATLANTA**

Insurance Arrangements for Staff and Students: **Per BOE policy and travel insurance where applicable**

Cost per Student: **\$1100**

Cost per Teacher and/or Chaperone: **\$1100**

Cost per Nurse: **\$0**  
(if necessary)

Cost per Paraprofessional: **\$0**  
(if necessary)

If Travel Agencies are engaged, at least three quotations need to be provided with documentation attached to this form:

- a. NA
- b.
- c.
- d. Other

Name of teacher making request: **David Reynolds**

Approved by Department Head at secondary level: **David Reynolds**

Approved by Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized by Chief Academic Officer: *Colleen Shuckpatrick*

Superintendent Approval: *Allen Oddy* Date: **3/11/26**

3/6/26

Please allow this to serve, in conjunction with the narrative, as updated explanations for the DECA co-curricular conference.

Each year, to begin the year, Middletown DECA requests its overnight trips and they are approved by the relevant Administrators, Superintendent, and the Board of Education. On 10/14/25 this trip was approved by the Board of Education.

All DECA members are encouraged to join our competition team. From there, students must earn top marks at the state competition to earn their right to compete internationally on this trip, the International Career Development Conference, or ICDC.

- I originally estimated 30 students would attend and 30 students are attending
- I originally estimated three chaperones (Reynolds, Schwartzman, Sheen) would attend
- The actual chaperones are Reynolds, Schwartzman, Bysiewicz, and Thong. This chaperone change was approved by our building principal
- DECA Inc. mandates a 1 per 8 chaperone to student ratio

With regards to transportation, there will be airline flights from BDL to ATL and back to BDL and also bus rides to the airport to the hotel and back to the ATL airport. Students will also take buses to and from the Georgia World Congress Center.

The airline tickets are already purchased, hotels arranged, and parents communicated with.

The hotel is the Starling Midtown Atlanta. This is the hotel assigned to us by DECA Inc. and all of CT DECA is staying there.

The flight details are:

- We depart from Bradley airport on Friday, April 24 using Delta flight #DL1082 approximately 2PM-5PM
- We return to Bradley airport on Wednesday, April 29 using Delta flight #DL2504 approximately 6PM-830PM

The original projected cost was \$950. The actual cost is \$1100. Airline tickets, hotel prices, # of students traveling, registration fees, ground transportation fees, chaperones, are all subject to change from quote to actual expense.

Please do not hesitate to call me (860) 874-8067 on my personal cell phone should you need further clarification. This is a tremendous opportunity for our students.

Thank you  
Dave Reynolds  
Director of Career and Technical Education  
DECA Advisor  
Middletown Public Schools

## **DECA International Career Development Conference**

Middletown DECA has competed at the International Career Development Conference for the past 45 years. This year the conference will be held in Atlanta, GA from April 24 through April 29, 2026. Approximately 26,000 attendees from 24 nations are expected to attend and compete.

The purpose of this conference is to enable students to engage in competitive events and educational academies that will extend their skills for college, curriculum and careers and more specifically marketing, management, finance and hospitality. DECA competitive events are rigorous learning activities designed to evaluate the student's achievement of these skills through performance indicators. Students will take lengthy, comprehensive written tests and perform multiple oral presentations in a marketing-related area. Not only have students spent hundreds of hours preparing for their state competition but will spend hours preparing for the Internationals as well.

Over the past twelve years, Middletown DECA has had over 500 state winners and many international winners. In a typical year, at the Connecticut State Conference, Middletown DECA earns 40-50 awards in the competitive events which is head and shoulders above any other school. Moreover, Middletown DECA has been recognized by DECA as a top chapter internationally for the past 14 years, for achievement by Governor Rell, and many years by the Middletown Common Council. At previous international competitions, our students shine earning dozens of awards for exam excellence, presentation excellence, and other benchmarks.

Middletown DECA has been ranked #1 by the State of Connecticut for Marketing education for four consecutive years and our Career and Technical Education department has been ranked #1 for two consecutive years. These types of conferences have a direct impact on student achievement and post-secondary and career success.

The cost of the conference is \$1100.00 per student which includes transportation and lodging. All arrangements will be made in conjunction with Connecticut DECA which is affiliated with the State Department of Education. David Reynolds, Coordinator of Career and Technical Education and DECA advisor will chaperone this trip along with two other certified teachers and DECA Advisors. It is mandated by National and Connecticut DECA that if eight or more students attend the International Conference an additional chaperone will be needed because of liability issues.

DECA students who place in the top four in their specific categories, at our state conference, are invited to compete at the international conference. Scholarship money from prominent business colleges are available and awarded to MHS DECA students who attend the international conference. Students will miss a total of four days of school while attending this trip. A few weeks prior to the conference Mr. Reynolds meets with parents and students to discuss all rules and procedures to assure a safe conference. At this meeting, all students are instructed to make appointments with their teachers for all class and homework missed. This missed work will be due no later than the Monday prior to the trip. Many students have chosen to bring select work with them on the trip to complete during the flight or other times.

With regards to equity, Middletown DECA has always been as diverse as it has been successful. The demographics of the overall DECA membership, its student leadership, and those students that participate in these conferences, closely mirror that of Middletown High School. In fact, there was zero achievement gap on the 2017 state Marketing exam (an exam our students earned #1 on).

With regards to finances, many students have the cost of their conference lowered/defrayed not only by fund-raising but also based on financial need. Middletown DECA works very hard to ensure equitable access and that no student is denied attendance for financial hurdles.

In conclusion, please approve this student conference. The experience is one of the most rewarding yet most rigorous learning experiences a student can get.



Instruction REGULATION 6153(f) Field Trips and Community Service FORM 1

**OVERNIGHT & OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP REQUEST FORM**

All overnight and out-of-state field trips require the approval of the Board of Education 60 days in advance of the departure date. All foreign travel field trips must be submitted for Board approval 90 days in advance of the departure date. The following information must be forwarded electronically and in TRIPLICATE (hard copies) 30 days prior to the Board meeting which summarizes the trip. NOTE: A Narrative must be attached justifying this field trip to the school curriculum and/or mission statement. No financial commitments are to be made until Board approval. This form must be typewritten and ALL items filled in or marked N/A.

Name of School: **Middletown High School** Date of Request: **7/28/25**  
 Name of Club or Activity: **Middletown DECA**  
 Trip To: **Atlanta, GA** Purpose: **DECA International Career Development Conference**  
 Number of Students Participating: **30**  
 Number of students eligible to go on the field trip: **200**

Dates of Trip: From: **4/24/26 8AM** To: **4/29/26 4PM** # of school days missed: **4**

Names of Teachers and Chaperones:

1. David Reynolds	3. Lee Schwartzman
2. Vivian Sheen	4.

Number of Non-Chaperone Adults going on trip: **0** Transportation: Van Train Car Other  
 Bus 12PM from airport to hotel on 4/24, from hotel to airport 12PM on 4/29

Plane 8AM depart BDL to ATL, 4PM return to BDL from ATL

Are fund-raising activities planned: If so, describe: **Yes. Fundraising via school retail space, Butter Braids, grants, and account funds.**

Amount of money raised through fundraisers: **\$1000**

Lodging: Hotel/Motel Starling Midtown Atlanta Camp Private Home

Insurance Arrangements for Staff and Students: **Per BOE policy and travel insurance where applicable**

Cost per Student: **\$950.00** Cost per Teacher and/or Chaperone: **\$950.00**

Cost per Nurse: **\$0** Cost per Paraprofessional: **\$0**  
 (if necessary) (if necessary)

If Travel Agencies are engaged, at least three quotations need to be provided with documentation attached to this form:

a. NA

c.

Name of teacher making request: David Reynolds

Approved by Department Head at secondary level: [Signature]

Approved by Principal: A. Vazzy Mike

Authorized by Chief Academic Officer: [Signature]

Superintendent Approval: A. Vazzy Mike Date: 10/1/25



**Office of Finance & Administration**

*Unlocking the Potential in ALL Students*

**Amanda Herzog, Grants Coordinator**

herzoga@mpsct.org (860) 638-1441

311 Hunting Hill Ave, Middletown, CT 06457

www.middletownschools.org

Board of Education
Grants Report

The following grants were confirmed from March 7, 2026-April 1, 2026.

Grant Title	Funder	SY26	SY25	Grant Leadership & Contributions
Macdonough STEM Ecosystem Afterschool	DECD	\$150,000	\$0	Natalie Forbes, Amanda Herzog, Rebecca Deotte, Maghan Heslin, Tara Connelly

**Total Grants secured to date for 2025-26 school year = \$19,718,063.76**

Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Herzog, Grants Coordinator

## POLICY 1260

### Community

#### **Civility/Respectful Communications and Actions at School, on School Property, or at a School-Sponsored Activity or Function**

##### **Purpose**

The Middletown Board of Education (the “Board”) is committed to creating and maintaining an educational environment within the Middletown Public Schools (the “District”) that offers a positive school climate. Maintaining an environment that is supportive of learning, free of disruptive conduct, and provides models of appropriate behavior for students fosters students’ educational success. As such, the Board promotes civility and respectful communications among District employees, students, parents, volunteers and other third parties who are present at school, on school property, and at school-sponsored activities and functions. In addition, the Board discourages harassing, defamatory, obscene, abusive, discriminatory, or threatening communication or actions, some of which may be against the law.

The intent of this policy is to maintain a civil, respectful environment for teachers, students, administrators, staff, parents, volunteers, and other members of the school community.

The following describes expected standards for staff, students, parents, volunteers and other third parties while at school, on school property, or at a school-sponsored activity or function.

##### **Standards for Communications**

The Board expects staff, students, parents, volunteers and other third parties while at school, on school property or at a school-sponsored activity or function to communicate and act in a manner that promotes respect for all individuals, regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, veteran status, status as a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault or human trafficking, socio-economic status, or role within the school community. All adults participating in the school community are expected to communicate and act in a manner that models appropriate conduct for students. The Board will regulate communications and actions by staff, students, parents, volunteers and other third parties while at school, on school property or at a school-sponsored activity or function, when such communications or actions are contrary to these fundamental principles.

Specifically, the Board will regulate disruptive communications and/or actions by members of the school community when school officials determine that such communications:

- 1) cause sufficient interference with, disruption to, or undermining of the effective operation of a District school or the District (or, for students, when school officials can reasonably forecast significant disruption);
- 2) are used to engage in harassing, defamatory, obscene, abusive, discriminatory, or threatening or similarly inappropriate communications;
- 3) create a hostile environment;
- 4) breach confidentiality obligations of District employees; or
- 5) violate the law, Board policies and/or other school rules or regulations.

The Board shall address the conduct of an employee acting pursuant to their duties as a Board employee in a manner that comports with the First Amendment and other applicable law.

### **Examples of Disruptive Communications/Actions**

Disruptive communications and/or actions that may be regulated under this policy include, but are not limited to:

- Boisterous, unruly conduct not appropriate for the forum, including but not limited to swearing or display of temper.
- Invading another person's space by moving close to the individual in an aggressive manner.
- Threatening to do physical harm to a teacher, school administrator, school employee, student, or member of the community.
- Damaging, destroying, or threatening to destroy or damage school property.
- Harassing, defamatory, obscene, abusive, discriminatory, or threatening verbal, written or electronic communications.
- Any other behavior which sufficiently disrupts the orderly operation of the school, a school activity, or any other activity sponsored by the District.

Each communication will be considered on the basis of the specific facts and circumstances in which it is made.

### **Student, Parent, Member of the Public Reports**

Members of the school community who believe they were subject to communications and/or actions on the part of a staff member in violation of this policy may report such behavior to the building principal and/or the Superintendent's office.

Members of the school community who believe they were subject to communications and/or actions on the part of a student in violation of this policy may report such behavior to the building principal.

### **Disciplinary Consequences**

Employees found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, in accordance with applicable law and the terms of the relevant collective bargaining agreement or contract.

Students found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Board's policy concerning Student Discipline and applicable law.

Parents, volunteers, or other members of the school community found to be in violation of this policy may be directed to leave school property, a school building, or any activity sponsored by the District. Repeat violations may result in loss of privilege of volunteer status and/or a long-term denial of access to school property, school buildings, or activities sponsored by the District.

Policy adopted: September 13, 2022

Policy revised:

## **Hiring of Certified Staff**

It is the policy of the Middletown Board of Education (“Board”) to appoint certified professional staff to the Middletown Public Schools (the “District”) in accordance with applicable provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes, State Department of Education regulations, local Board policy, and relevant collective bargaining agreements, if any.

To ensure compliance with Board Policy 4112.8, *Nepotism*, all applicants for employment with the District shall disclose any prior or existing relationship with the Superintendent of Schools, any member of the Board, or any current employee of the District.

The Board shall not discriminate in any employment practice, policy, or procedure, including but not limited to recruitment, hiring, assignment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or termination, on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, alienage, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, gender identity, or gender expression, status as a victim of domestic violence, or status as a victim of sexual assault or human trafficking, except where a bona fide occupational qualification is permitted by law.

## **Hiring of Superintendent**

The Board is responsible for the hiring of the Superintendent.

## **Hiring of Certified Staff, Generally**

Except for Executive Positions, as noted below, the Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for the appointment of all positions within the District requiring certification issued by the Connecticut State Board of Education, including the hiring of certified administrators. The Superintendent shall establish and implement lawful, fair, and sound administrative regulations and procedures necessary for the recruitment, selection, and appointment of such personnel.

## **Hiring of Certified Administrators**

When any certified administrator position, whether bargaining or non-bargaining, becomes vacant, the Superintendent shall promptly notify the Board.

Affiliated Administrator Positions: The position shall be posted internally to members of the Middletown School Administrators Association (“MSAA”) for purposes of voluntary transfer, in accordance with the applicable collective bargaining agreement.

In the event that no current MSAA member transfers into the vacant position, the District shall initiate external advertising of the vacancy through appropriate professional recruitment channels.

Non-Affiliated Administrative Positions: The District shall initiate advertising of the vacancy through appropriate professional recruitment channels.

Except for Executive Positions, as noted below, the Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for the appointment of certified administrators within the District.

### **Hiring of Executive Positions**

The Board shall be responsible for the appointment of the following positions: Assistant Superintendent, Executive Director of Finance, Chief Academic Officer, Director of Facilities, Safety and Security, Manager of Human Resources, Director of Adult Education, Principals, and Assistant Principals (“Executive Positions”).

For each of these positions, at least one member of the Board shall serve on the interview committee.

Criteria for the position shall be established prior to posting.

#### Selection Process for Executive Positions:

1. The Superintendent or designee shall oversee the recruitment, screening, and initial interview process for Executive Positions, in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and collective bargaining agreements, if any.
2. Upon completion of the initial screening and interview process, a committee shall be appointed. The committee shall review relevant application materials and recommend one or more candidates deemed qualified for the position for further consideration.
3. The candidates recommended by the committee shall be interviewed by the Superintendent of Schools.
4. Following the Superintendent’s interview, the Superintendent shall identify one candidate as the finalist and present such finalist to the Board.
5. The Board, in collaboration with the Superintendent of Schools, shall interview the finalist candidate in executive session, subject to the candidate’s right that the interview be held in public session.
6. At the conclusion of the interview process, the Board shall vote in public session to accept or reject the finalist candidate for the position.
7. No offer of employment for an Executive Position shall be final unless approved by formal action of the Board of Education.

The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for appointments to all other positions requiring a certification issued by the State Board of Education.

Policy adopted: October 10, 2023

Policy revised:

## **Instruction**

### **Homework**

The Board recognizes the benefits of homework assignments to strengthen the classroom experiences of our students and that homework should be meaningful, relevant and focused on tasks that effectively reinforce learning objectives. Therefore the Board issues this policy to ensure that guidelines for assigning homework at various grade levels are established.

This policy outlines the principles, time expectations, and design standards for homework assignments across all grade levels within the district.

#### **I. Purpose of Homework**

The Primary purpose of homework in the district is to support student learning through:

1. **Skill Reinforcement and Practice:** Providing targeted opportunities for students to practice and consolidate skills and concepts taught during class time.
2. **Responsibility and Independence:** Fostering executive functioning skills, time management, and the habit of self-directed study.
3. **Preparation:** Encouraging students to review material or complete necessary reading in preparation for upcoming lessons.
4. **Partnership:** To afford families a means to acquaint themselves with programs and their own children's educational progress.
5. **Inform Instruction:** Homework may provide teachers with feedback related to student understanding and development of skills.

#### **II. Average Recommended Minutes per Week**

The district implements a national recommended maximum number of minutes (10-minute rule) of homework per night, per grade level to ensure age-appropriate and manageable workloads that prioritize depth of learning over excessive time commitment.

Grade Level	Average Minutes Per Week
Kindergarten/Grade 1	50 minutes
Grades 2-3	100 - 150 minutes
Grades 4-5	200 - 250 minutes
Grades 6-8	300 - 400 minutes

When assigning homework, differentiation based on student need, 504 or IEP will be considered.

Variables within some course content may result in adjustments to the number of minutes needed for completion of outside of classroom work. (Honors/AP/Dual Enrollment classes)

### III. Homework Design and Student Choice

1. **Focus on Practice Skills:** Assignments should primarily focus on reinforcing recent acquired skills (e.g., math problems, reading comprehension, vocabulary application). Homework is not intended for introducing new, complex material that requires primary instruction.
2. **Student Choice:** Teachers are encouraged to incorporate elements of student choice into homework design. This may include:
  - a. Choice in the *format* of the assignment (e.g., written summary or recorded reflection).
  - b. Choice in the *specific task* from a list of options
  - c. Choice in *when* to complete long-term assignments (within a flexible window).

### IV. Weight of Homework

To reflect the importance of consistent practice in the learning process, homework will constitute 5–10% of the final grade for grades 9-12 and 0-10% for K-8. To prioritize mastery over mere completion, students shall be permitted to correct mistakes for full credit. Respective supervisors, directors, and department heads will determine the specific weight within this range for their departments.

The Principal or designee shall be responsible for the implementation of this policy and developing procedures in furtherance of this policy.

The Board encourages the administration to assist teachers in planning homework assignments in keeping with the above guidelines.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-221 Boards of Education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures.

Policy adopted: September 3, 1996

Policy revised: October 10, 2006

Policy revised: February 9, 2016

Policy revised:

## **BOE Curriculum Committee**

March 9, 2026

5:39 PM – 6:14 PM

**Location:** Hybrid – Central Office, 311 Hunting Hill Avenue, Middletown CT

---

### ***Attendance***

<b>BOE Members</b>	Kelly Bee (Chair), Kim Riordan, Dean Krupa
<b>Administration</b>	Dr. Alan Addley (Interim Superintendent) Colleen Fitzpatrick (Interim CAO)
<b>Staff &amp; Support</b>	Michelle Maggiore (Counseling Dept Head) Yvonne Kitchel (Administrative Assistant)
<b>Community</b>	Deb Petruzello, Liz Crooks

---

### ***Proceedings***

#### **1. Call to Order**

- Meeting called to order at **5:39 PM** by Chair Kelly Bee.
- Introductions were made and an apology was issued for the cancellation of the February meeting.

#### **2. 2026-2027 MHS Course Catalog Presentation**

- **Presenter:** Michelle Maggiore.
  - **Key Points:**
    - Michelle Maggiore presented the committee with a draft version of the 2026/27 Course Catalogue for review and discussion.
    - The catalog is an extensive project involving collaboration between department heads, supervisors, and administrators.
    - A strict timeline and review procedure are followed annually.
    - The catalog is currently in use as the course selection process has just concluded.
    - Ms. Maggiore requested ongoing feedback to assist in the editing process.
  - **Discussion Topics:** Capstone requirements and the status of Fundamental Statistics.
- 

### ***Action Items***

- Capstone Updates:** Refine and further define the Capstone description within the Course Catalog (Assigned to: Michelle Maggiore/Counseling).
- Nomenclature Update:** Ensure all references to "MxCC" are updated to **CT State Middlesex**.

- 7th Grade Placement:** Confirm that School Counselors are meeting with 7th graders regarding placement for Algebra 1 and Spanish (Assigned to: Kelly Bee/Counseling).
  - Statistics Review:** Review the video from the **June 2024** meeting to clarify the vote on "Fundamental Statistics" as a graduation requirement vs. a prerequisite (Assigned to: Liz Crooks/Office of Teaching & Learning).
- 

### *Adjournment*

- **Motion:** Deb Petruzello moved to adjourn; seconded by Kelly Bee.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 6:14 PM.

Middletown Board of Education  
BOE Transfer of Funds

Date Range: 01-Jul-2025 to 01-Apr-2026 For FY 2026

Account	Description	Original Budget	Budget Adjust	Total Budget	From	To
Journal#: 39916      Date: 06-Mar-2026						
From 1010-002-2410-000-56121-00000	BIELEFIELD: COPY PAPER	3,500.00	-2,000.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	
To 1010-002-2410-000-56120-00000	BIELEFIELD: ADMIN SUPPL	6,000.00	2,473.00	8,473.00		1,500.00
	We have some paper to finish the school yeare, but we need some equipment for the school so we will use that money for the administtration account					
Total Transfer for Bielefield School					1,500.00	1,500.00
Journal#: 39905      Date: 20-Feb-2026						
From 1010-940-2600-000-56104-02001	OPER/MAINT PLANT: SUPPL*MAINT*PLUMBING	70,000.00	-10,000.00	60,000.00	5,000.00	
To 1010-940-2600-000-54300-02001	OPER/MAINT PLANT: REPAIRS/MAINT: PLUMBING	79,750.00	11,275.00	91,025.00		5,000.00
	TRANSFER FOR ANTICIPATED COSTS FOR HIRING J.KNAKAL AS VENDOR .					
Journal#: 39924      Date: 18-Mar-2026						
From 1010-940-2600-000-54300-02002	OPER/MAINT PLANT: REPAIR/MAINT*PAINTING	12,000.00	-2,500.00	9,500.00	3,500.00	
To 1010-940-2600-000-56104-02002	OPER/MAINT PLANT: SUPPL*MAINT*PAINTING	10,000.00		10,000.00		3,500.00
	MOVING FUNDS INTO SUPPLY LINE BASED ON PURCHASING EXPECTATIONS					
Journal#: 39925      Date: 18-Mar-2026						
From 1010-940-2610-000-56210-00000	OPER/BLDGS: NATURAL GAS	110,000.00	-6,000.00	104,000.00	3,500.00	
To 1010-940-2610-000-56230-00000	OPER/BLDGS: BOTTLED GAS	6,000.00		6,000.00		3,500.00
	FUNDS NEEDED FOR HIGHER THAN EXPECTED BOTTLED GAS EXPENSES					
Journal#: 39926      Date: 18-Mar-2026						
From 1010-940-2630-000-57300-00000	CARE/UPKEEP GROUNDS: NEW EQUIP	20,000.00		20,000.00	2,000.00	
To 1010-940-2650-000-56104-00000	VEH OPER/MAINT: SUPPLIES	30,000.00		30,000.00		2,000.00
	TRANSFER DUE TO UNEXPECTED REPAIRS TO EQUIPMENT FROM SNOW STORMS					
Journal#: 39927      Date: 18-Mar-2026						
From 1010-940-2650-000-54300-00000	VEH OPER/MAINT: REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	30,000.00		30,000.00	3,000.00	
To 1010-940-2650-000-56104-00000	VEH OPER/MAINT: SUPPLIES	30,000.00		30,000.00		3,000.00

Middletown Board of Education  
BOE Transfer of Funds

Date Range: 01-Jul-2025 to 01-Apr-2026 For FY 2026

Account	Description	Original Budget	Budget Adjust	Total Budget	From	To
	TRANSFER NEEDED TO SUPPLY LINE FOR UNEXPECTED VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT REPAIRS					
Total Transfer for Facilities					17,000.00	17,000.00

Journal#: 39932 Date: 25-Mar-2026

From 1010-062-2220-440-55304-00000	MHS: LIBRARY/MEDIA*SUBSCRIPTIONS	3,000.00		3,000.00	1,798.39	
To 1010-062-2220-440-56420-00000	MHS: LIBR/MEDIA*LIBR MATLS Subscription line not needed moving to library materials for needs	4,000.00	-1,500.00	2,500.00		1,798.39

Journal#: 39933 Date: 25-Mar-2026

From 1010-062-1000-162-56410-00000	MHS: MATH*AP*TEXTBOOKS	3,225.00		3,225.00	696.80	
To 1010-062-2213-162-53220-00000	MHS: AP MATH*IN SVC-PROF MTG/DEV COVER AP STATS CLASS FOR SIMKINS	4,000.00	-1,040.00	2,960.00		696.80

Journal#: 39938 Date: 26-Mar-2026

From 1010-062-1000-000-53240-00000	MHS: FIELD TRIPS	1,400.00		1,400.00	680.00	
From 1010-062-2410-000-55500-00000	MHS: PRINTING	3,300.00	-600.00	2,700.00	2,700.00	
From 1010-062-2490-000-53251-00000	MHS: STUDENT ACTIVITIES	6,500.00	-497.92	6,002.08	1,483.63	
To 1010-062-2490-000-55010-00000	MHS: GRAD/OTHR*PURCH SVCS XFER FOR ADDITIONAL GRADUATION EXPENSES FOR PRINCIPAL AWARDS & EXPENSES FOR 2026 ONLY	25,000.00		25,000.00		4,863.63

Journal#: 39939 Date: 30-Mar-2026

From 1010-062-1000-120-55010-00000	MHS: FOREIGN LANG*PURCH SVCS	1,300.00	-500.00	800.00	70.10	
From 1010-062-2213-120-55800-00000	MHS: FOREIGN LANG*TRAVEL REIMB.	2,700.00	-2,000.00	700.00	700.00	
From 1010-062-1000-122-56500-02123	MHS: FOREIGN LANG*AP*SUPP TECH REL*HN	2,500.00	-700.00	1,800.00	300.00	
To 1010-062-1000-120-56110-00000	MHS: FOREIGN LANG*INSTR SUPPL move money from lines to cover need for supplies	5,000.00		5,000.00		1,070.10

Total Transfer for MHS					8,428.92	8,428.92
------------------------	--	--	--	--	----------	----------

Journal#: 39922 Date: 16-Mar-2026

From 1010-012-1000-105-56110-00000	MOODY: ART*INSTR SUPPL	500.00		500.00	2.95	
From 1010-012-1000-170-56110-00000	MOODY: NAT/PHYS SCIENCE*INSTR SUPPL	750.00		750.00	2.07	
From 1010-012-1000-201-56500-02125	MOODY: SUPP TECH REL*SPED/ICM	200.00	-75.00	125.00	1.05	
From 1010-012-2220-440-55304-00000	MOODY: LIBR/MEDIA*SUBSCRIPTIONS	1,202.00		1,202.00	.39	

Middletown Board of Education  
BOE Transfer of Funds

Date Range: 01-Jul-2025 to 01-Apr-2026 For FY 2026

Account	Description	Original Budget	Budget Adjust	Total Budget	From	To
From 1010-012-2410-000-56121-00000	MOODY: COPY PAPER	3,200.00		3,200.00	5.36	
To 1010-012-2410-000-56120-00000	MOODY: ADMIN SUPPL	5,430.00		5,430.00		11.82
	Line Transfer - Move end of year balances to Admin Supply					

Journal#: 39930 Date: 25-Mar-2026

From 1010-012-2410-000-54300-00000	MOODY: REPAIRS & MAINT	525.00		525.00	253.25	
From 1010-012-2410-000-54300-00000	MOODY: REPAIRS & MAINT	525.00		525.00	271.75	
From 1010-012-1000-000-56500-00000	MOODY: SUPPLIES TECH RELATED	400.00		400.00	2.78	
From 1010-012-1000-160-56115-00000	MOODY: MATH*COMMON CORE MATL	1,300.00		1,300.00	2.42	
From 1010-012-1000-170-56110-00000	MOODY: NAT/PHYS SCIENCE*INSTR SUPPL	750.00		750.00	1.05	
From 1010-012-1000-201-56110-02125	MOODY: INSTR SUP*SPED/ICM	750.00	75.00	825.00	1.16	
From 1010-012-1000-350-54300-00000	MOODY: PERFORM ARTS*REPAIRS & MAINT	200.00		200.00	31.24	
From 1010-012-2213-200-53220-02124	MOODY: IN SVC-PROF MTG/DEV*SPED/NICM	400.00		400.00	52.15	
From 1010-012-2213-425-53220-02123	MOODY: IN SVC-PROF MTG/DEV*HN	400.00		400.00	6.60	
To 1010-012-2410-000-56120-00000	MOODY: ADMIN SUPPL	5,430.00		5,430.00		369.15
To 1010-012-1000-150-56115-00000	MOODY: LIT & READ*COMMON CORE MATL	3,100.00		3,100.00		253.25
	End of year line transfers to Admin Supply & LIT READING & Common Core					

Journal#: 39931 Date: 25-Mar-2026

From 1010-012-1000-425-56500-02123	MOODY: SUPP TECH REL*HN	400.00		400.00	130.07	
To 1010-012-1000-000-56110-02123	MOODY: INSTR SUP*HN	500.00		500.00		130.07
From 1010-012-1000-000-56110-02123	MOODY: INSTR SUP*HN	500.00		500.00	5.94	
To 1010-012-2410-000-56120-00000	MOODY: ADMIN SUPPL	5,430.00		5,430.00		5.94
	Line transfers for end of year					

Journal#: 39936 Date: 26-Mar-2026

From 1010-012-1000-150-56115-00000	MOODY: LIT & READ*COMMON CORE MATL	3,100.00		3,100.00	2.51	
From 1010-012-1000-000-56110-00000	MOODY: INSTR SUPPLIES	5,850.00		5,850.00	6.80	
To 1010-012-2410-000-56120-00000	MOODY: ADMIN SUPPL	5,430.00		5,430.00		9.31
	End of year transfers					

Total Transfer for Moody School

779.54 779.54

Journal#: 39943 Date: 01-Apr-2026

From 1010-014-1000-350-58100-00000	WESLEY: PERFORM ARTS*MEMBERSHIPS & DUES	140.00		140.00	140.00	
To 1010-014-1000-350-56110-00000	WESLEY: PERFORM ARTS*INSTR SUPPL	1,600.00		1,600.00		140.00
	Transfer of membership fee of \$140 to performing arts instructional supply line.					

Middletown Board of Education  
BOE Transfer of Funds

Date Range: 01-Jul-2025 to 01-Apr-2026 For FY 2026

Account	Description	Original Budget	Budget Adjust	Total Budget	From	To
	Total Transfer for Wesley School				140.00	140.00
	*** Grand Total To Transfer				27,848.46	27,848.46

# Beman Electricity and Unexpended Balance

	Electricity Amount Owed to Eversource for Calendar Year 2025		
Beman Electricity			\$394,334
	Unanticipated Amount Added to Unexpended Balance for Jan-June 2026 (Projected)		
Beman Electricity			\$199,000
	Eversource Amount BOE Paid for the Rec Center		
Beman Electricity/Gas			\$279,279
	Year 1 Payment Due 06/30/2026	Year 2 Payment Due 06/30/2027	Year 3 Payment Due 06/30/2028
3-Year Payment Plan	\$115,055	\$139,640	\$139,640
Funding Source	Unexpended Balance	City Funds Owed to BOE- Rec Center	City Funds Owed to BOE- Rec Center
	As of 04/07/26	Unanticipated Eversource Jan-June 2026 + Year 1 Repayment to Eversource	Remaining Balance
Unexpended Balance	\$394,751.93	\$199,000 + \$115,055 = \$314,055	\$80,696.93
	26/27 Superintendent Budget Request	Increase Needed	Revised 26/27 Budget Request
Beman Electricity	\$74,841	\$325,000	\$399,841

Account	Description	Vendor	Amount
9200-960-2320-000-55010-99999	Superintendent of Middletown Public Schools executive search community-wide focus groups (4)	New England School Development Council	\$1,700.00

Beginning Balance:	\$485,035.93
Prior Expenditure:	\$88,584.00
New Expenditure:	\$1,700.00
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$394,751.93</b>



## **Facilities Department** *Cultivating the Brilliance in Each Student*

Executive Director of Operations - Marco Gaylord.  
372 Hunting Hill Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457 Telephone: (860) 638-1408  
Email: [gaylordm@mpsct.org](mailto:gaylordm@mpsct.org), Web: [www.middletownschoools.org](http://www.middletownschoools.org)

### **Facilities Report** **March 10th, 2026 - Board Meeting**

#### Elementary Schools Updates:

- Continue modifications and adjustments made to district heating systems.
- The Bielefeld roof leak over room 22 cannot be addressed until the spring.
- Spencer Schools' roof leaks on the east end of the building are constantly being addressed.
- The new Spencer School Gym floor is complete.
- Keigwin/Macdonough Auditorium Chairs are on order and will be replaced in the spring.
- Keigwin's new blinds project is complete.
- Installed a water diverter for the Spencer Gym interior roof drain.
- New Keigwin Entryway rug installation is complete.
- The Keigwin library rug project is complete.
- The Keigwin Library hallway rug will be installed on March 6-8.
- Ongoing fulfillment of routine maintenance/service requests.
- District Radio repairs and replacement are ongoing.

#### Beman Middle School Updates:

- Vape Sensors installation is ongoing.
- Continue modifications and adjustments made to district heating systems.
- Beman Mid-Year Security Audit is complete.

#### Middletown High School Updates:

- Middletown High School PAC electronic wench for the acoustic shell is temporarily repaired, but will need a new control module and required inspection of mechanical and control systems - estimated cost of 45k.
- MHS Main Gym Floor needs to be resurfaced ( est. cost 60K)
- Modifications and adjustments continue to be made to district heating systems.

#### Adult Education

- The pre-school heating faulty compressor is repaired.
- There's currently a major roof leak that the building owner is addressing

#### Hall House (Expulsion Program Site)

- Top floor radiators froze and needed to be replaced. This was due to the boiler shutting down. The boiler was repaired and is operating. Getting quotes for an independent boiler alarm for this building.

#### Maintenance Shop Update

- The Maintenance Shop boiler is constantly leaking - an estimated repair quote is forthcoming.
- The 2012 Chevy 3500 Plow/sander wheel bearing failed, and the drive shaft needs to be replaced. (est. cost 55K)
- Truck F6 Electrical issue is repaired.
- MHS Kabota tractor - hydraulic leak is repaired.
- MHS Large Kabota blown coolant hose repaired, but still having fuel issues.
- The MHS Kabota brush needs to be replaced due to age.
- The new snow blower for Spencer School arrived and is in operation.



## **Facilities Department**

*Cultivating the Brilliance in Each Student*

Executive Director of Operations - Marco Gaylord.  
372 Hunting Hill Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457 Telephone: (860) 638-1408  
Email: [gaylordm@mpsct.org](mailto:gaylordm@mpsct.org), Web: [www.middletownschoools.org](http://www.middletownschoools.org)

### **Macdonough Building Committee Update**

The Macdonough Building Committee recently voted to continue with TSKP Studios with Phase II and III of the project. The city is seeking confirmation and guidance from the state on the next steps in accordance with statutory requirements. Request for Qualifications (RFQ) specifications for a Construction Manager, which will be advertised to the public shortly.

### **IAQ Update**

The district has officially appointed Stefan Butler as the Indoor Air Quality Coordinator. Working in tandem with Marco Gaylord, Mr. Butler finalized the members of the MPS IAQ Team. Due to weather events, the IAQ meeting is scheduled for March 11th.

A primary focus of the team's upcoming agenda is the establishment of a clear operational framework. This includes defining the distinct roles and responsibilities for custodial and maintenance personnel, the Facilities Director, and instructional staff. By clarifying these expectations, the IAQ team aims to streamline district-wide compliance and ensure proactive facility management.

### **Custodial Update**

On February 17 and 18, the district conducted a comprehensive professional development program for our custodial team. These sessions took place at each team member's assigned building, with the focus on the implementation of our new standardized cleaning materials. Additionally, the training included a deep-dive instructional on the Hillyard Trident cleaning companion. While this equipment has been a staple of our inventory for the past three years, these sessions helped ensure that all staff members are maximizing the efficiency and effectiveness of the technology.

With the recent addition of several new members to our custodial department, we also identified a significant opportunity to provide foundational training for each school's team that aligns with our district's high cleanliness standards. As we transition our inventory to Hillyard products, representatives from Hillyard will lead these sessions to provide expert, hands-on guidance, ensuring a seamless integration of these new resources into our daily maintenance routines.



## **Facilities Department**

*Cultivating the Brilliance in Each Student*

Executive Director of Operations - Marco Gaylord.  
372 Hunting Hill Avenue, Middletown, CT 06457 Telephone: (860) 638-1408  
Email: [gaylordm@mpsct.org](mailto:gaylordm@mpsct.org), Web: [www.middletownschoools.org](http://www.middletownschoools.org)

### **Work Order Asset Essential Update**

We are pleased to announce that the district has officially transitioned from SchoolDude to Asset Essentials. Our implementation team has been working diligently alongside maintenance crews, custodians, administrators, and support staff to facilitate a seamless onboarding process. All stakeholders have been trained and are currently using the updated work order system.

### **Capital Projects**

#### **Farm Hill School: Roof and Solar Project**

The Farm Hill School Roof and Solar Project has reached substantial completion. Marco Gaylord recently conducted a final walkthrough to review the remaining punch list items. Upon the finalization of these tasks, the project will move into the commissioning phase, pending an inspection and formal authorization from Eversource to activate the system.

#### **Snow School: Roof Project**

The Snow School Roof project remains ongoing as we await the installation of permanent roof ladders and the completion of several minor finishing tasks. Additionally, the district is currently waiting for an update from Silver Petrucelli, who is in negotiations with the contractor regarding restitution for damages sustained by the school's electrical system and fire alarm panel during construction. We are seeking a formal commitment for reimbursement before the final project closeout.

#### **Wesley School and Spencer School Roof Update**

On January 28, the City Finance and Government (F&G) Committee approved the roof replacement projects for Wesley and Spencer Schools. Following this, during the February 2 Common Council meeting, the Mayor and Council authorized the assignment of these projects to a Building Committee, chaired by Councilman Vinny Loffredo. The next phase involves issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to select the most qualified Architect/Engineer. A draft of the RFQ will be presented to the committee at the next committee meeting on Thursday, March 19th.

#### **Keigwin School Project**

Middletown Public Schools (MPS) has received state approval for school enhancement projects. The authorized scope of work includes asbestos abatement and flooring replacement within the first-floor hallways and cafeteria, the integration of Building Management System (BMS) controls for designated HVAC units, replacement of three HVAC Units, and the installation of air conditioning in the cafeteria. The district is in the process of putting together an RFQ for an Architect/Engineer Firm to construct the drawings and specifications for the project.

#### **Facilities Committee**

The facilities committee will have its next meeting on **Wednesday, March 18th @ 5:30 PM**. The meeting will take place at Central Office in Conference Room B.



# BOE Monthly Human Resources Report

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

**M**

# Monthly HR Update

- Staffing: Time Period – March 1 – March 31, 2026
- Summary of New Hires:
- Total Hired - 20
- Certified Hires: -0

Hires continued on next page

# Monthly HR Update

- **Staffing: Time Period** – March 1 – March 31, 2026
- Summary of New Hires:
- Classified Hires : 20
- Transportation Manager - (District)
- Paraeducator (Paraprofessional) – (Macdonough)
- Sub- Secretary (2) – (District)
- Building Sub – (Bielefield)
- Sub Nurse – (District)
- Paraeducator (Instructional Aide) – (Snow)
- Paraeducator – (2) (ICM Paraprofessional) – (Spencer)
- BCBA – (Farm Hill)
- Sub Food Services Worker (2) – (District)
- Duty Aide – (Snow)
- Paraeducator (Instructional Aide) – (Farm Hill)
- Food Services Worker I - (Wesley)
- New hires continued on next page

# Monthly HR Update

- Staffing: Time Period – March 1 – March 31, 2026
- Summary of New Hires: continued
- Girls Head Tennis Coach – (MHS)
- Paraeducator – (Instructional Aide) – (Beman)
- Long Term Sub for Special Education – (Moody)
- Paraeducator – (Paraprofessional) – (Macdonough)
- Parent Ambassador – (District)

# Monthly HR Updates

- Staffing: Time Period – March 1 – March 31, 2026
- Total Separations – 12\*
- Certified Staff: - 3
- Special Education Teacher – (Beman)
- Spanish Teacher – (Beman)
- School Psychologist – (MHS)

\* Total does not reflect 2 retirement announcements, ELA Teacher and Elementary School Teacher

# Monthly HR Updates

- Staffing: Time Period – March 1 – March 31, 2026
- Separations
- Classified: - 9
- Parent Ambassador - (District)
- Duty Aide – (Snow)
- Paraeducator (Instructional Aide) – (MHS)
- Assistant Football Coach (3) – (MHS)
- Food Services Worker I – (Beman)
- Interventionist – (Macdonough)
- Interventionist – (Snow)

# Monthly HR Updates

- Staffing: Time Period – March 1 – March 31, 2026
- Vacancies Total – 49
- Certified Staff: - 10
  - Spanish Teacher (2) – (Beman)
  - TESOL Teacher – (MHS)
  - Science Teacher – (Beman)
  - Special Education Teacher – (Beman)
  - Special Education Teacher – (MHS)
  - Special Education Teacher – (Legacy Academy)
  - Speech Language Pathologist – (MHS)
  - ELL Teacher – (Adult Ed)
  - Family and Consumer Science Teacher – (MHS)

Vacancies continued on next page

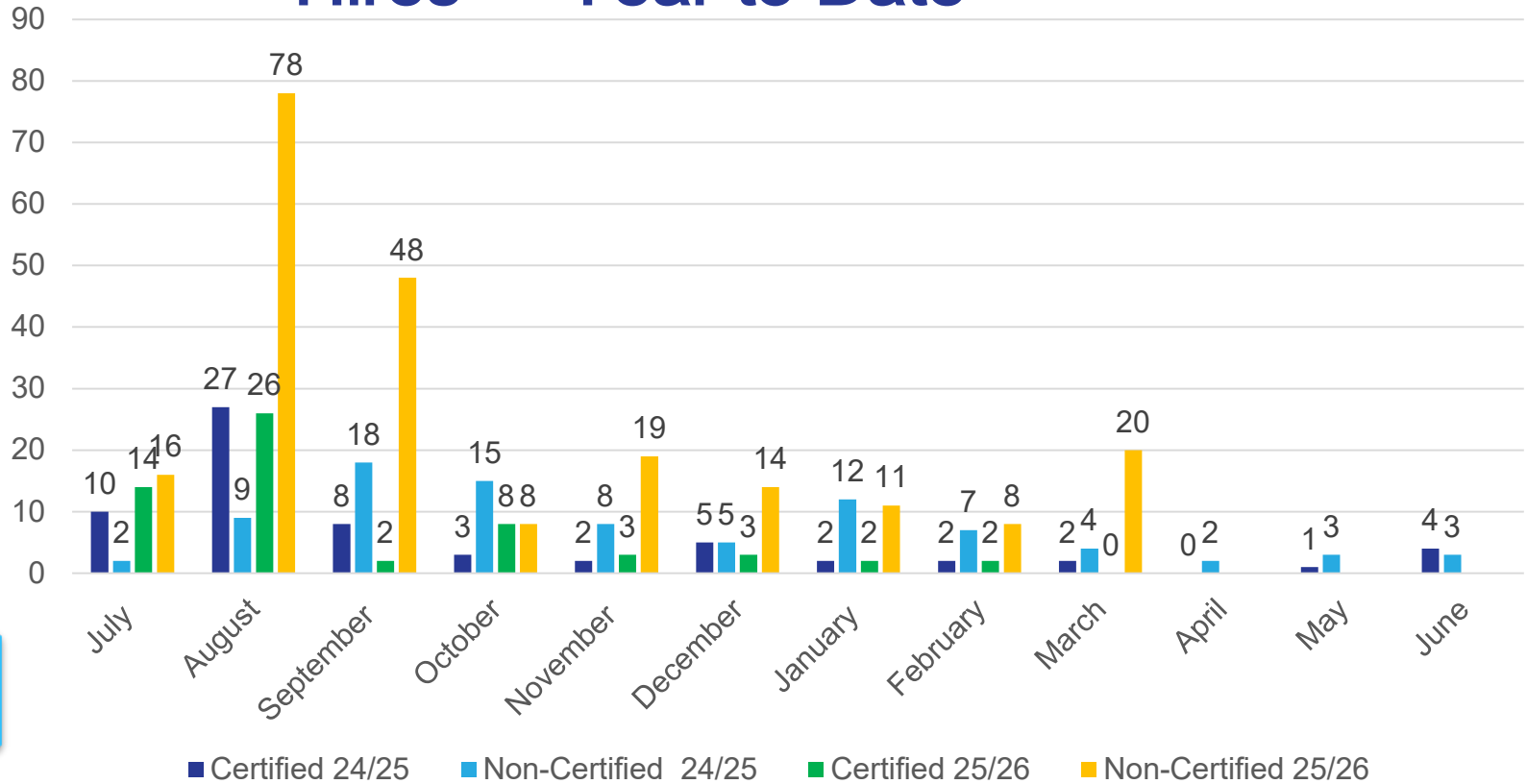
# Monthly HR Updates

- **Staffing: Time Period** – March 1 – March 31, 2026
- **Current Vacancies:** -
  
- **Classified:** 39
  - School Secretary II – (MHS)
  - Behavior Technician – (District)
  - Plumber – (District)
  - School Nurse – (MHS)
  - School Nurse – (Bielefield)
  - ML Math Interventionist – (Secondary Schools )
  - BCBA – (District)
  - BCBA – (Legacy Academy)
  - BCBA – (Beman/MHS)
  - Athletic Trainer – (MHS)
  - Duty Aide – (District)
  - Parochial School Tutor  
(Lawrence – Grade 1 - LTS)
  
- \* There is currently a soft hiring freeze in effect until further notice.

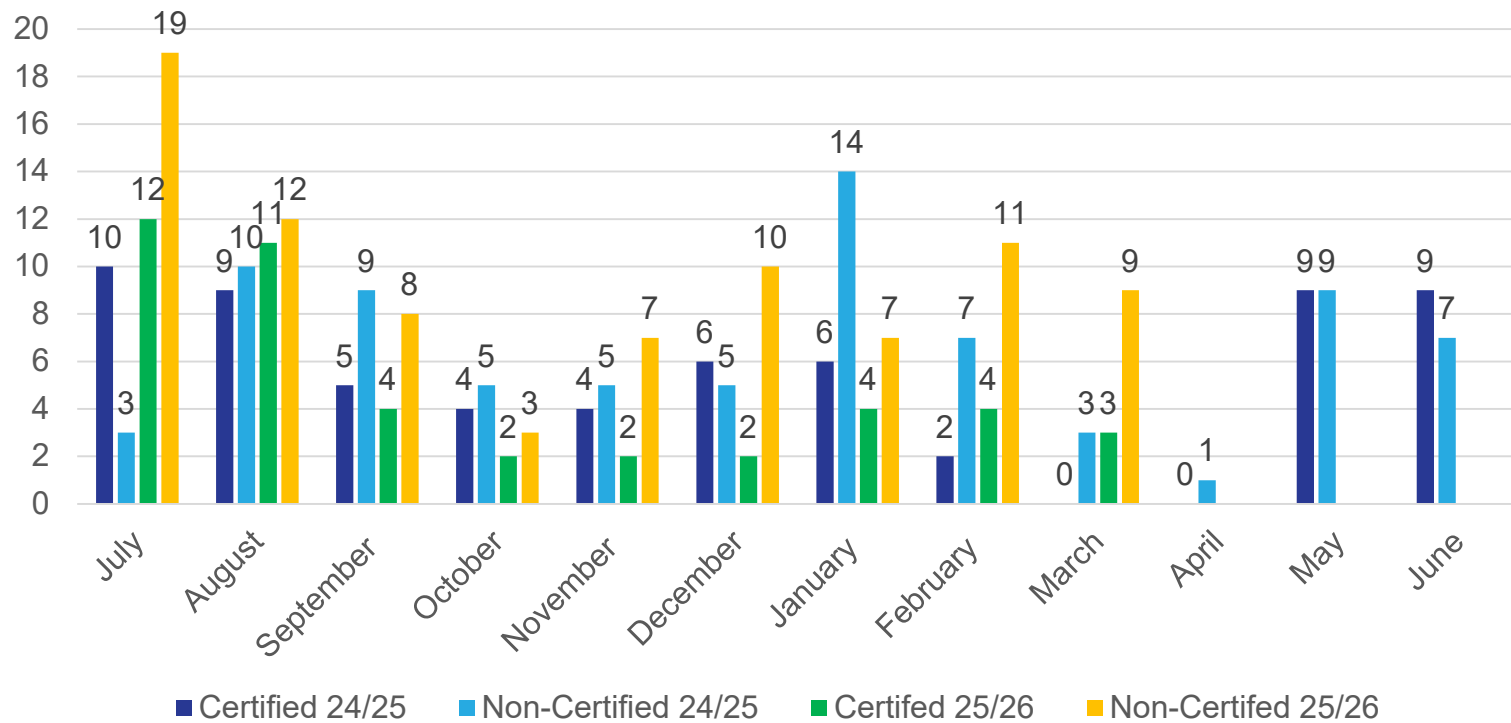
# Monthly HR Updates

- Staffing: Time Period – March 1 – March 31, 2026
- Current Vacancies – continued:
  - Para vacancies by school : total 26
  - Beman-4
  - Bielefield-1
  - Farm Hill-1
  - Lawrence-0
  - Macdonough-1
  - MHS-9
  - MTC-1
  - Moody-4
  - Snow-0
  - Snow pre-school-0
  - Spencer-3
  - Wesley-2

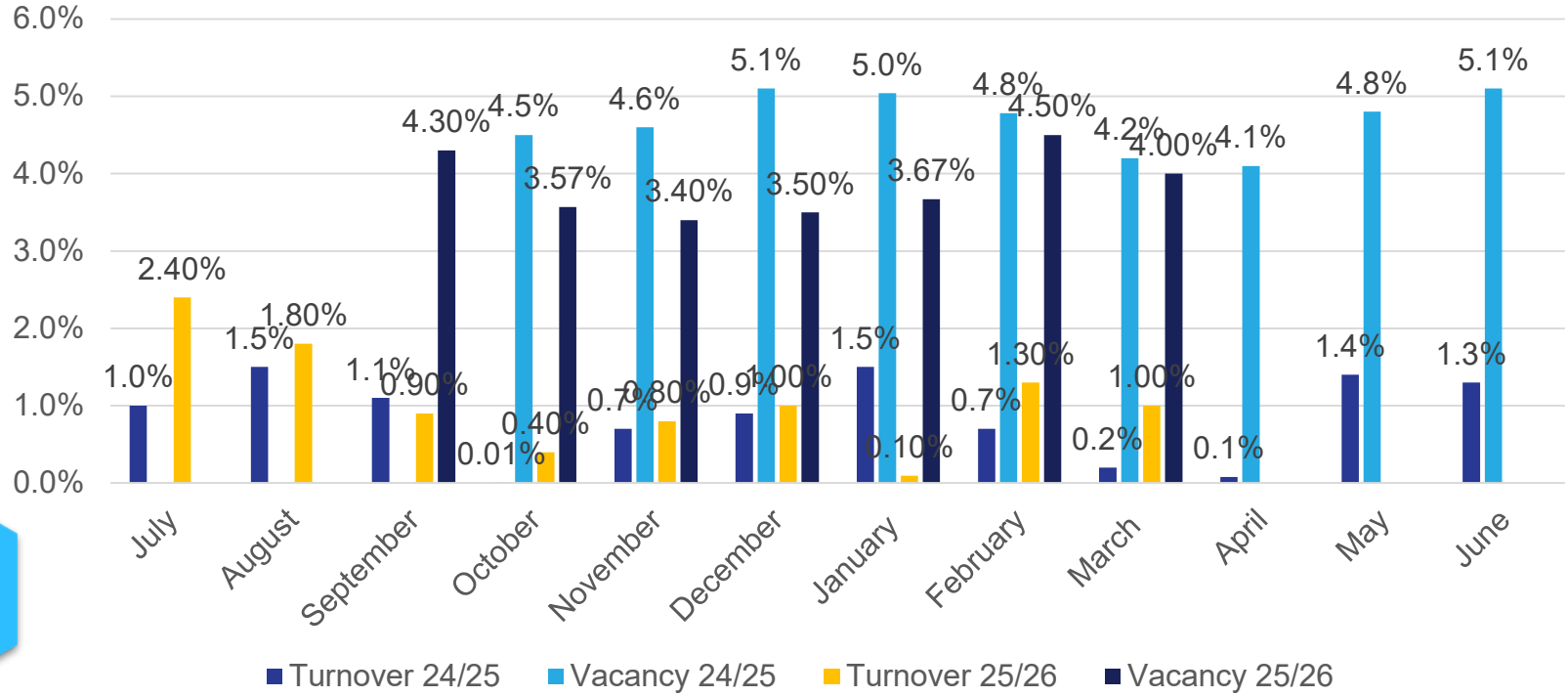
# Hires – Year to Date



# Separations Year to Date



# Turnover and Vacancy Rate % Year to Date





# Middletown Public Schools Academic Calendar

2025-26

August 2025 (2)				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21 NT	22
25 PD	26 PD	27 PD	28 FD	29

September 2025 (21)				
M	T	W	T	F
1 LB	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16 PD	17	18 HCO	19 HCO
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

October 2025 (22)				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7 PD	8	9	10
13 ID	14	15 MCO	16 MCO	17 MCO
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

November 2025 (16)				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4 EL/PD	5	6	7
10	11 VD	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26 *	27 TR	28 TR

December 2025 (17)				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3 ECO	4 ECO	5 ECO
8	9 PD	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23 *	24 HR	25 HR	26 HR
29 HR	30 HR	31 HR		

January 2026 (17)				
M	T	W	T	F
			1 HR	2 HR
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19 MK	20 PD	21	22	23
26 *	27 *	28	29	30

February 2026 (15)				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16 PR	17 WR	18 WR	19	20
23 *	24 *	25	26	27

March 2026 (21)				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3 *	4 MCO	5 MCO	6 MCO
9	10	11 ECO	12 ECO	13 ECO
16	17 PD	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

April 2026 (16)				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3 GF
6	7 PD	8	9	10
13 SB	14 SB	15 SB	16 SB	17 SB
20	21	22	23 HCO	24 HCO
27	28	29	30	

May 2026 (20)				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19 PD	20	21	22
25 MD	26	27	28	29

June 2026 (13)				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11 EX	12 EX
15 8P/EX	16 8P/EX	17 LD/EX	18	19 JT
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

- Student & Staff Holidays/Vacation**  
*No School for Students & Staff*
- Student Holidays/Full PD Days**  
*No School for Students; Staff Reports*
- Early Release PD Days**  
*Early Release for Students; Staff Reports*
- Early Release Day**  
*Early Release for Students & Staff*
- Special Schedule Day**  
*See Details Below*

## Important Dates and Information

August 21	NT: New Teacher Orientation
August 25-27	PD: Convocation and Prof. Dev.
August 28	FD: First Day
September 1	LB: Labor Day
September 16	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
September 18-19	HCO: High School Open House/Conferences
October 7	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
October 13	ID: Indigenous Peoples' Day
October 15-17	MCO: Middle School Conferences
November 4	EL/PD: Election Day/Full Day for Prof. Dev.
November 11	VD: Veterans Day
November 26	Early Release
November 27-28	TR: Thanksgiving Recess
December 3-5	ECO: Elementary Conferences
December 9	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
December 23	Early Release
December 24- January 2	HR: Holiday Recess
January 19	MK: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 20	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
February 16	PR: Presidents' Day
February 17-18	WR: Winter Recess
February 24	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
March 4-6	MCO: Middle School Conferences
March 11-13	ECO: Elementary Conferences
March 17	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
April 3	GF: Good Friday
April 7	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
April 13-17	SB: Spring Break
April 23-24	HCO: High School Conferences
May 19	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
May 25	MD: Memorial Day
June 11-17	EX: High School Final Exams
June 15-16	8P: 8th Grade Promotion
June 17	LD/EX: Last Day/High School Final Exams
June 13	MHS Graduation

### Special Schedule Days

NT: New Teacher Orientation- only new teachers report

HCO: High School Open House/Conferences

- Sept. 18, Apr. 23- Full School Day, Evening Conferences
- Sept. 19, Apr. 24- School begins 10:00 AM, Morning Conferences

ECO: Elementary Conferences- Early Release at 1:00 PM

MCO: Middle Conferences- Early Release at 12:00 PM

EX: Final Exams (MHS Only)- Early Release at 11:00 AM

8P: 8th Gr. Promotion (BMS Only)- Early Release at 12:00 PM

### Academic Dates

Marking  
Term End  
Dates

MHS+BMS: Oct. 31, Jan. 16, Apr. 2, June 17  
Elem.: Nov. 21, Feb. 27, June 17

Progress  
Report  
Distribution

MHS+BMS: Sept. 30, Dec. 8, Feb. 23, May 4

Report Card  
Distribution

MHS+BMS: Nov. 12, Jan. 28, Apr. 10, June 17  
Elem.: Dec. 3-5, Mar. 11-13, June 17

### Early Release Schedule

MHS: Early Release at 11:00 AM  
BMS: Early Release at 12:00 PM  
Elem: Early Release at 1:00 PM

### Early Dismissals and Emergency Closings

**Early Dismissal:** An unscheduled Early Dismissal is usually because of weather or other unexpected circumstances. Time will be announced on the day of dismissal and can be found at [www.middletownschools.org](http://www.middletownschools.org).

**Emergency Closing Make-up Days will be taken in the following order:**

1. June 11-18 (6 days)
2. Spring Break, Apr. 13-17, in order from first to last (5 days)
3. June 22-30 (7 days)

# Middletown Public Schools Academic Calendar 2026-27



August 2026 (3)				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20 NT	21
24 PD	25 PD	26 PD	27 FD	28
31				

September 2026 (21)				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7 LD	8	9	10	11
14	15 PD	16	17 HCO	18 HCO
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

October 2026 (21)				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6 PD	7	8	9
12 IDC	13	14 MCO	15 MCO	16 MCO
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

November 2026 (17)				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3 EL/PD	4	5	6
9	10	11 VD	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25 *	26 TR	27 TR
30				

December 2026 (17)				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2 ECO	3 ECO	4 ECO
7	8 PD	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23 *	24 HR	25 HR
28 HR	29 HR	30 HR	31 HR	

January 2027 (19)				
M	T	W	T	F
				1 HR
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18 MK	19 PD	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

February 2027 (17)				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15 PR	16 WR	17 WR	18	19
22	23 PD	24	25	26

March 2027 (22)				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3 MCO	4 MCO	5 MCO
8	9	10 ECO	11 ECO	12 ECO
15	16 PD	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26 GF
29	30	31		

April 2027 (17)				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6 PD	7	8	9
12 SB	13 SB	14 SB	15 SB	16 SB
19	20	21	22 HCO	23 HCO
26	27	28	29	30

May 2027 (20)				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18 PD	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31 MD				

June 2027 (6)				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2 EX	3 8P/EX	4 8P/EX
7 EX	8 LD/EX	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18 JT
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

- Student & Staff Holidays/Vacation**  
*No School for Students & Staff*
- Student Holidays/Full PD Days**  
*No School for Students; Staff Reports*
- Early Release PD Days**  
*Early Release for Students; Staff Reports*
- Early Release Day**  
*Early Release for Students & Staff*
- Special Schedule Day**  
*See Details Below*

## Important Dates and Information

August 20	NT: New Teacher Orientation
August 24-26	PD: Convocation and Prof. Dev.
August 27	FD: First Day
September 7	LB: Labor Day
September 15	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
September 17-18	HCO: High School Open House/Conferences
October 6	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
October 12	IDC: Indigenous Peoples'/ Columbus Day
October 14-16	MCO: Middle School Conferences
November 3	EL/PD: Election Day/Full Day for Prof. Dev.
November 11	VD: Veterans Day
November 25	Early Release
November 26-27	TR: Thanksgiving Recess
December 2-4	ECO: Elementary Conferences
December 8	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
December 23	Early Release
December 24-January 1	HR: Holiday Recess
January 18	MK: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 19	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
February 15	PR: Presidents' Day
February 16-17	WR: Winter Recess
February 23	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
March 3-5	MCO: Middle School Conferences
March 10-12	ECO: Elementary Conferences
March 16	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
March 26	GF: Good Friday
April 6	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
April 12-16	SB: Spring Break
April 22-23	HCO: High School Conferences
May 18	PD: Early Release for Prof. Dev.
May 31	MD: Memorial Day
June 2-8	EX: High School Final Exams
June 3-4	8P: 8th Grade Promotion
June 8	LD/EX: Last Day/High School Final Exams
June 12	MHS Graduation

### Special Schedule Days

NT: New Teacher Orientation- only new teachers report

HCO: High School Open House/Conferences

- Sept. 17, Apr. 23- Full School Day, Evening Conferences
- Sept. 18, Apr. 24- School begins 10:00 AM, Morning Conferences

ECO: Elementary Conferences- Early Release at 1:00 PM

MCO: Middle Conferences- Early Release at 12:00 PM

EX: Final Exams (MHS Only)- Early Release at 11:00 AM

8P: 8th Gr. Promotion (BMS Only)- Early Release at 12:00 PM

### Academic Dates

Marking  
Term End  
Dates

MHS+BMS: Oct. 30, Jan. 15, Mar. 25, June 8  
Elem.: Nov. 20, Feb. 26, June 10

Progress  
Report  
Distribution

MHS + BMS: Sept. 28, Dec. 7, Feb. 22, May 3

Report Card  
Distribution

MHS + BMS: Nov. 9, Jan. 25, Apr. 5, June 8  
Elem.: Dec. 1, Mar. 9, June 7

### Early Release Schedule

MHS: Early Release at 11:00 AM  
BMS: Early Release at 12:00 PM  
Elem: Early Release at 1:00 PM

### Early Dismissals and Emergency Closings

**Early Dismissal:** An unscheduled Early Dismissal is usually because of weather or other unexpected circumstances. Time will be announced on the day of dismissal and can be found at [www.middletownschools.org](http://www.middletownschools.org).

**Emergency Closing Make-up Days will be taken in the following order:**

1. June 9-17 (8 days)
2. Spring Break, Apr. 13-17, in order from first to last (5 days)
3. June 21-30 (7 days)

## April 7, 2026 Board of Education Meeting

### Academic Calendar Updates and Review

---

#### 2025-26 Academic Calendar (*see attached*)

The 2025–26 academic calendar has been revised as follows:

- Due to 5 snow days on January 26–27, February 23–24, and March 3, the last day of school has been extended to June 17, 2026 for all schools *except* Moody School. This will be an early release day for students and staff.
- Due to an additional closure (power outage on March 17), Moody School will extend to June 18, 2026. June 17 will be an early release day for students. June 18 will be an early release day for students and staff.

Additional updates:

- Middletown High School Graduation remains scheduled for June 13, 2026 (unchanged).
- Beman Middle School 8th Grade Promotion Ceremonies will be held June 15–16, 2026.

#### 2026-27 Academic Calendar (*see attached*)

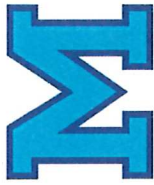
The 2026-27 Academic Calendar was approved during the November 17, 2025 BOE Meeting.

Key Dates:

- First Day of School- August, 27, 2026
- Last Day of School- June 8, 2027
- Holiday Recess- December 24, 2026-January 1, 2027
- Spring Break- April 12-16, 2027
- Middletown High School Graduation- June 12, 2027

Elementary fall conferences

- Following input from elementary principals, EISTs, teachers, and families, fall conferences will move from December 2–4 to October 14-16. This shift supports earlier family engagement and more timely discussion of benchmark data.
- Elementary Trimester 1 report cards will still be issued on December 1, 2026.
- In the fall (Oct. 14-16) and in late winter (Mar. 10-12), elementary and middle school conferences will occur on the same days to decrease the overall number of early release days.



## 2026/2027 BUDGET UPDATE

Supervisory Budget Request	\$107,265,369	3.99%	Core Budget Request	\$108,523,998	5.21%
Unanticipated Costs (BMS Electricity and Workers Comp. Increases)	\$ 387,741	0.38%	Unanticipated Costs (BMS Electricity and Workers Comp. Increases)	\$ 387,741	0.38%
<b>Supervisory Budget + Unanticipated Costs</b>	<b>\$ 107,653,110</b>	<b>4.37%</b>	<b>Core Budget + Unanticipated Costs</b>	<b>\$ 108,911,739</b>	<b>5.59%</b>
Mayor's Proposal	\$ 106,347,535	3.11%	Mayor's Proposal	\$ 106,347,535	3.11%
Remaining Budget Mitigation Needed to Reach Mayor's Proposal	\$ (1,305,575)		Remaining Budget Mitigation Needed to Reach Mayor's Proposal	\$ (2,564,204)	

**Business/Non-Instructional Operations**

**Food Service**

**MEAL CHARGING POLICY**

The Middletown Board of Education (the “Board”) recognizes the importance of providing nutritious food to students in the Middletown Public Schools (the “District”).

The Board is a sponsor of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services’ Child Nutrition Programs, including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and the School Breakfast Program (SBP), and the District shall adhere to the federal and state guidelines and regulations pertaining to these school Child Nutrition Programs. In accordance with federal law, the Board will make a public announcement and notify parents and guardians of the eligibility criteria for free and reduced price meals and provide information regarding how a household may make an application for these benefits. Such notice and application will generally be distributed at the beginning of each school year.

**Charging Meals**

The District uses an automated prepayment system for student meal accounts. Students whose accounts have insufficient funds, and who do not bring a meal or other funds to school to pay for meals, may charge meals to their meal accounts. Students will be informed of their right to purchase a meal, which excludes a la carte items, for any school breakfast, lunch or other meal offered by the District, even if the student’s account has insufficient funds.

The Board prohibits publicly identifying or shaming a student for any unpaid meal charges, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Delaying or refusing to serve a meal to such student;
- Designating a specific meal option for the student; or
- Otherwise taking any disciplinary action against the student.

**Collection of Unpaid Meal Charges**

The District’s efforts to recover from households money owed due to the charging of meals must not have a negative impact on the children involved and shall focus primarily on the adults in the household responsible for providing funds for meal purchases. The District shall consider whether the benefits of potential collections outweigh the costs that would be incurred to achieve those collections.

For purposes of this policy, “delinquent debt” means unpaid meal charges.

The District will contact the parents/guardians of students who charge meals to their meal accounts in order for the District to collect the delinquent debt. The first such communication will be a written communication, by mail or e-mail, after *three (3)* number of meal(s) have

been charged. Subsequent written and verbal communications with parents/guardians concerning delinquent debt will be made by the building administrator or designee, as may be necessary and appropriate. All communications regarding unpaid meal charges shall be made directly and discreetly to parents/guardians. Written communications with parents/guardians regarding collection of a student's unpaid meal charges shall include an application for free or reduced price meals, information on local food pantries and the Connecticut Department of Social Services' supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP), and a link to the District's or Town's website that lists any community services available to Town residents.

In the event a student's unpaid meal charges are equal to or more than the cost of thirty (30) meals, the parents/guardians of such student will be referred to the District's homeless education liaison.

The Board shall comply with applicable federal and state laws and other federal or state requirements concerning the collection of unpaid meal charges, including but not limited to requirements relating to delinquent debt and "bad debt," as defined by federal law, and record-keeping relating thereto. The Board may accept gifts, donations or grants from any public or private sources for the purpose of paying off any unpaid charges for school lunches, breakfasts or other such feeding.

The Board recognizes that funds from the non-profit school food service account (NSFSA), in accordance with federal regulations, cannot be used to cover the cost of charged meals that remain unpaid. Any unpaid meal debt must be reimbursed in full using local Board of Education funds no later than June 30 of each fiscal year, and shall not be carried to the NSFSA.

Moreover, federal funds are intended to subsidize the meals of children and may not be used to subsidize meals for adults (teachers, staff and visitors). Adults are not allowed to charge meals and shall pay for such meals at the time of service or through pre-paid accounts

### **Dissemination of Policy**

This policy shall be provided in writing to all households at the start of each school year and to households transferring to the District during the school year. This policy shall be provided to all District staff responsible for its enforcement. In addition, school social workers, nurses, the homeless liaison, and other staff members assisting children in need or who may be contacted by families with unpaid meal charges shall be informed of this policy.

The District shall maintain, to the extent required by law, documentation of the methods used to communicate this policy to households and District staff responsible for policy enforcement.

The District shall provide this policy to the Connecticut State Department of Education during Administrative Reviews.

The Superintendent or designee may, if necessary and appropriate, develop administrative regulations in furtherance of this policy.

### **Legal References:**

State law:

Connecticut General Statutes

§ 10-215 Lunches, breakfasts and other feeding programs for public school children and employees.

State of Connecticut, Department of Education, School Health, Nutrition and Family Services Operational Memorandum No. 11-22, "Connecticut Statutory Requirements for Unpaid Meal Charges in Public Schools," June 15, 2022.

State of Connecticut, Department of Education, Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education Operational Memorandum No. 4-17, "Guidance on Unpaid Meal Charges and Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments," Nov. 2, 2016.

Federal law:

7 C.F.R. Part 210 National School Lunch Program.

7 C.F.R. Part 220 School Breakfast Program.

7 C.F.R. Part 245 Determining Eligibility for Free and Reduced Price Meals and Free Milk in Schools.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Policy Memo SP 46-2016, "Unpaid Meal Charges: Local Meal Charge Policy," July 8, 2016.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Policy Memo SP 47-2016, "Unpaid Meal Charges: Clarification on Collection of Delinquent Meal Payments," July 8, 2016.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Policy Memo SP 57-2016, "Unpaid Meal Charges: Guidance and Q&A," Sept. 16, 2016.

Policy adopted: March 11, 2014

Policy revised: June 13, 2017

Policy revised: June 8, 2021

Policy revised: November 8, 2022

**MEMORANDUM**

From: Colleen Fitzpatrick, Interim Chief Academic Officer

To: Middletown Board of Education Members

Date: March 30, 2026

Re: Professional Improvement Fund Awards

The Office of Teaching & Learning in collaboration with The Middletown Federation of Teachers reviewed applications for Professional Improvement Fund grand awards. In all, \$5,800.00 was awarded. Of the three applications submitted, the committee recommends the approval of the following two applications.

1.	<p>Bielefeld THRIVE Training- Supports student engagement to implement small group enrichment lab</p> <p>April Baehr (4th ELA,) Susan Velardi (4th Math,) Angie Conte (5th ELA,) Kathryn Turscany (5th Math)</p>	<p>Requested- \$3700</p> <p>Approved- \$3700</p>
2.	<p>Between the Mesh: The Hybrid Screen Print- Explores a wide range of traditional and experimental screen printing techniques</p> <p>Catherine Lendler - Spencer/Legacy Art Teacher</p>	<p>Requested- \$2100</p> <p>Approved- \$2100</p>