

**DANVERS SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

April 13, 2026

School Committee Members Present:

Michael Shannon, Chair
Eric Crane, Secretary
Sean Doherty
Joshua Kepnes

- VOTED:** DECA Field Trip - Mr. Crane moved to approve the DECA International Field Trip to Atlanta, GA. Mr. Kepnes seconded. The vote was unanimous.
- VOTED:** Special Education Stabilization Withdrawal: Mr. Kepnes moved to approve the withdrawal from the Special Education Stabilization account. Mr. Doherty seconded. The vote was unanimous
- VOTED:** Central Office Reorganization: Mr. Doherty moved to approve proposed Central Office Reorganization plan as presented. Mr. Kepnes seconded. The vote was unanimous
- VOTED:** Last Day of School 25-26: Mr. Crane moved to approve the last day of school, June 23, 2026. Mr. Kepnes seconded. The vote was unanimous
- VOTED:** Minutes - Mr. Crane moved to approve and release the minutes from the March 9, 2026 regular meeting, Mr. Doherty seconded. The vote was unanimous.
- VOTED:** Consent Agenda: Mr. Shannon moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Kepnes seconded. The vote was unanimous.
- VOTED:** Adjournment – Mr. Crane moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:15 p.m. Mr. Kepnes seconded. The vote was unanimous.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Shannon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Danvers Public Schools Mission statement were recited. Mr. Shannon inquired whether the meeting was being recorded by audience members and announced that the meeting was being broadcast on DCAT.

II. ITEMS OF INTEREST

Community:

Ms. Julie Bolduc DiFilippo: Julie provided the Committee with an update of events. SEPAC has created a scholarship for seniors to help with post secondary plans whatever they may be. More information will follow.

III. INFORMATION FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

- A. Eric Crane Recognition:** Mr. Bauer invited Representative Kerans to speak on behalf of Mr. Crane's 25 years of service to Danvers Public Schools and the community. Ms. Kerans presented him with a citation from the House of Representatives. Senator Joan Lovely was also present to present the citation from the Senate. Mr. Shannon presented Mr. Crane a plaque on behalf of the Committee for his dedication to the students of Danvers. Mr. Crane spoke to his tenure with Danvers Public Schools and his gratitude to the citizens for continuously voting him into office. He also thanked his daughters for their understanding over the years.
- B. Student Representatives Report:** Olivia Miller and Nathan updated the Committee on the latest events. Nathan reported that April 3rd was the Junior Prom with 180 students in attendance. Winter Guard finished their season. Olivia reported that the senior class went to a Red Sox game,

they have finals this week and after April break they begin their Senior Internships. Nathan reported that the band just concluded their trip to Disney. They participated in daily workshops and were able to record some music. Spring sports have begun.

- C. Student Recognition: Mr. Bauer asked Athletic Director, Drew Betts, to introduce the 4 students that were present. Drew introduced Thomas Fish and Ashley Freitas who were being recognized for receiving the MIAA Bruins Sportsmanship Award, Angie Djoko for girls basketball. She was one of only 4 students to score 1,000 points in her secondary career and Cooper Dunham who was the 17th student to reach 100 points in boys' varsity hockey. Congratulations to all!
- D. Subcommittee Update: Superintendent Bauer brought the Committee up to speed with the progress that has been made to date with regards to Curriculum and Assessment. Julie Posternack and Peter DiMauro have been working hard to implement curriculum changes to best meet the needs of the district.
- E. Anthony Colannino: Superintendent Bauer introduced Anthony Colannino, the new Highlands School Principal, to the Committee and community. Mr. Colannino thanked the Committee for having him present and he looks forward to his start in July. Many of the Highlands faculty were present to welcome incoming Principal Colannino.
- F. DECA Recognition: Meghan Beaulieu, DECA Advisor, and students were present to provide an overview of the DECA program. To date, there are 260 members of DECA across all 4 grades. Of the 260 members, 130 qualified to represent Danvers at the state level and 60 students qualified to represent Danvers at the International Level. The students spoke on the projects they have been working on for the year and what projects they have continued from previous years. Mr. Crane expressed his appreciation for seeing the hard work the students due and where it will lead them.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. DECA International Field Trip: Mr. Crane motioned to approve the DECA International field trip to Atlanta, GA. Mr. Kepnes seconded. As voted
- B. Financial Report: Pam Crum provided an update. The District is facing a deficit: OD tuition, IA positions and contracted services play a role as to why. There are some solutions to help close the gap for this year. On a positive note, the bus contracts that came in were more favorable than previously thought. Mr. Crane expressed that most Districts are finding this year a difficult one budget wise.
- C. Special Education Stabilization Withdrawal: Superintendent Bauer is requesting \$750,000 to be transferred from the Special Education Stabilization Fund. This is to offset the out of district and residential placements. Mr. Kepnes motioned to approve the \$750,000 transfer from the Special Education Stabilization Fund. Mr. Doherty seconded. As voted
- D. Central Office Reorganization: Superintendent Bauer presented the Central Office Reorganization plan to the Committee. With the budget being what it is and the Assistant Superintendent not returning there needed to be some reorganization. Dan proposes to elevate Christina Ryan to Assistant Superintendent of Student Operations. She will oversee and support areas that support student achievement. Jim Sullivan to Technology and District Operations. This will lead to reorganization of the Student Services and Technology departments. Mr. Doherty motioned to approve the Central Office Reorganization as presented. Mr. Kepnes seconded. As voted.
- E. Last Day of School 25-26: Mr. Crane motioned to approve the last day of school, June 23, 2026. Mr. Kepnes seconded. As voted.

V. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- A. Minutes: Mr. Crane moved to approve and release the minutes from the April 13, 2026 regular meeting. Mr. Doherty seconded. As voted.
- B. Consent Agenda: Mr. Shannon moved to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Kepnes seconded the motion. As voted.
- B. Communications - none
- C. Legislation - Representative Kerans advised that the bell to bell cellphone ban has passed.
- D. Subcommittee/Liaison Update -

Curriculum & Assessment - Previously Given

Policy -

Safety -

DEEP -

DanversCARES – There will be a Pride celebration on 6/13. Light the Night Purple will be held on May 20th at 6:30 p.m.

SEPAC - Previously given

DHRIC -

The next meeting will be held on May 11, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Eric Crane, Secretary
Danvers School Committee