



Salem Derby, Mayor

EASTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EASTHAMPTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING

50 Payson Avenue, 2nd Floor
Easthampton, MA 01027
(413) 529-1500 TEL
(413) 529-1567 FAX
e-mail: superintendent@epsd.us
website: www.epsd.us



Michelle Balch, Superintendent

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

In Person/Hybrid Meeting
50 Payson Avenue, 2nd floor meeting area

Tuesday, February 10, 2026
6:00 P.M.

This meeting will be recorded and will be posted to YouTube and other social media platforms. By participating in this meeting, you understand that the recording could contain your video stream or your audio stream (including images of yourself or anyone in the room with you), if you choose to enable your video or audio device during the meeting, as well as anything or anyone else that may be in the background could be recorded. The recording could include any opinions you contribute and anything you say about yourself. On occasion, chat within the meeting could also be captured in the meeting recording. Therefore, anyone attending the recorded meeting may have aspects of their personal data recorded, if they actively participate or not.

Google Meet Link - School Committee 2/10/2026
Tuesday, February 10 · 6:00 – 9:00pm
Time zone: America/New York
Google Meet joining info
Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/zdm-bfkp-bxn>
Or dial: (US) +1 650-781-0703 PIN: 949 300 880#
More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/zdm-bfkp-bxn?pin=6108294358193>

You will be joined to the call in MUTE mode. Please remain on MUTE until you are recognized by the Chair. The chair will recognize members of the public in the order of their use of the Google Meet raised hand feature. We ask you to state your name and the street or address of your residence when you are speaking. Members of the School Committee cannot respond to any comments made during public speak. This is your time to speak on any topic. There will be a 3 minute time limit for those who wish to speak. As with all School Committee Meetings, once you have spoken you are welcome to stay and observe the meeting, but you will not be able to speak again.

- I. **Chair Calls Meeting to Order:** ___ Chair Laura Scott, ___ Mayor Salem Derby,
___ Bonnie Atkins, ___ Eric Guyette, ___ Megan Harvey, ___ Sam Hunter, and
___ Linda Markee

II. Consent Agenda – Finance:

- Action Items:**
- ***Motion to approve the school payroll dated 01/22/2026 in the amount of \$668,663.65.***
 - ***Motion to approve the accounts payable authorization for payment dated 01/22/2026 in the amount of \$442,564.00.***

Consent Agenda – Other:

- ***Motion to approve the minutes of the 01/17/2026 MASC retreat.***
- ***Motion to approve the minutes of the 01/27/2026 meeting.***
- ***Motion to approve the annual out of state field trip request from EHS for the “We the People” team to travel to compete in the national finals in Washington D.C. April 16th 2026 through April 20th 2026.***

III. Announcements

A. Gifts

- KEVS Foundation donated an AED and AED box to be attached to the outside of the snack shack at MVS. KEVS Foundation, Inc. is an organization whose mission is to educate and help prevent Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) in children and young adults. The organization was created in loving memory of Kevin J. Major.

Action Items: ***Suggested Motion - Motion to accept the AED and AED box donation from Kevs Foundation.***

Chartwells Food Service at Easthampton Public Schools is pleased to announce the offer of a monetary donation in the amount of \$6,955.30 with the intention of eliminating all student lunch debt accrued prior to the providing of free meals to all students in Massachusetts. (see attachment)

Action Items: ***Suggested Motion - Motion to accept the donation from Chartwells Food Service at Easthampton Public Schools in the amount of \$6,955.30 with the intention of eliminating all accrued student lunch debt.***

B. Student Representative Update – Walter Baker and Henry Lagana

IV. Public Comment

15 minutes maximum – (chair announces opening and closing of public comment and public has a 3-minute limit per person to speak)

V. Superintendent Update

- A. MVS Student Showcase – PreK-2
- B. CKLA (Core Knowledge Language Arts) Update (Jodi Alatalo will present)
- C. Goal Update

- D. Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools Enrollment Restrictions (this includes the Greater Commonwealth Virtual School and TEC Connections Academy Commonwealth Virtual School) (see attachment)
Action Items: *Suggested Motion - **Motion to increase the total enrollment cap for Easthampton students to attend Commonwealth Virtual Schools from 1% to 2% for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year and the 2026-2027 school year.***
- VI. **Business Update** (See attached report)
- A. Finance Update
 - Student Activity Funds – A vote may be required
 - B. Personnel Update
- VII. **School Committee Discussion**
- Action Item:**
- A. Policy Subcommittee Update
 - B. Finance Subcommittee Update
 - C. CES Update
- VIII. **Next Meeting Dates:**
- 3/10/2026, 3/24/2026 (Budget Hearing), 4/14/2026, 4/28/2026, 5/12/2026, 5/26/2026, 6/9/2026, 7/14/2026, 8/11/2026 and 9/8/2026.
- IX. **Executive Session:**
*Suggested Motion: **Motion to move into executive session per MGL Chapter 30A, 21A to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining.***
- X. **Adjourn**

The above listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chairperson which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.



To: Easthampton Public Schools Committee
From: Chartwells Food Service
Date: 2/5/2026
Re: Monetary Donation

Dear Easthampton Public Schools Committee Members:

Chartwells Food Service at Easthampton Public Schools is pleased to announce the offer of a monetary donation in the amount of \$6,955.30.

This donation is presented with the intention of eliminating all student lunch debt accrued prior to the providing of free meals to all students in Massachusetts.

Thank you for your continued support of our meals program here at Mountain View and Easthampton High Schools!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kristyn Zantouliadis".

Kristyn Zantouliadis
Assistant Director of Dining Services
Chartwells Food Service

Kristyn Zantouliadis | Assistant Director of Dining Services | Chartwells K12 |

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual School Enrollment Restrictions

December 2025

This memorandum provides guidance regarding enrollment limitations related to the statewide cap on total enrollment in Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools and restrictions that school districts may enact as outlined by the Commonwealth [Virtual School Statute](#) (G. L. c. 71, § 94) and the corresponding Commonwealth [Virtual School Regulations](#) (603 CMR 52.00).

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools

A Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual School (CMVS) is a public school operated by a board of trustees where teachers primarily teach from a remote location using the Internet or other computer-based methods and students are not required to be located at the physical premises of the school. Each CMVS determines what grade levels it will serve and what particular programs it will offer. The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (Board) has granted two CMVS certificates, one to the Greater Commonwealth Virtual School (GCVS), formerly known as Greenfield Commonwealth Virtual School, and one to the TEC Connections Academy Commonwealth Virtual School (TECCA). Each certificate outlines the material terms of the CMVS, including the maximum enrollment numbers per school. The table below lists the grades served and the maximum enrollment for each of the CMVS currently operating in the Commonwealth:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual School (CMVS)	Grades Served	Maximum Enrollment
Greater Commonwealth Virtual School (GCVS)	K–12	1,200
TEC Connections Academy (TECCA) Commonwealth Virtual School	K–12	3,000

Any student in the state can apply for admission to either of the two existing CMVS. If more students apply than there is space available, the CMVS must hold a lottery to determine which students will be admitted. Once a student is admitted to a CMVS, the student is entitled to attend in subsequent years without reapplying.

Restrictions

Statewide 2 Percent Cap

The statute (G. L. c. 71, § 94)¹ and the regulations (603 CMR 52.00)² state that under no circumstances can the total number of full-time students attending a CMVS exceed two percent of the total student enrollment in Massachusetts public schools. In 2025-2026 there are 900,490 public school students in Massachusetts, with 4,155 attending the two CMVS, which represents 0.46 percent of all students.

¹ G.L. c. 71, § 94 (c) is as follows, “[u]nder no circumstances shall the total number of full-time students attending commonwealth virtual schools exceed 2 per cent of the total number of students attending public schools in the commonwealth.”

² 52.05: Student Recruitment, Enrollment, and Retention: (1) Statewide Cap. The Board will use the October SIMS data to determine if the number of full-time students allowed to attend a Commonwealth of Massachusetts virtual school is above the 2% cap. Once the 2% cap is reached, no additional full-time enrollments will be allowed.

Annual Process for Statewide 2 percent Cap

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Department) annually uses the October SIMS data to calculate the maximum number of full-time students permitted to attend the CMVSs, without exceeding the two percent cap.

Discretionary Enrollment Restrictions by District

The statute (G. L. c. 71, § 94)³ and the regulations (603 CMR 52.00)⁴ indicate that the school committee of a sending district may vote to restrict enrollment of its students in a CMVS if the total enrollment of students enrolled in the CMVS from the district exceeds one percent of the total enrollment in its district; provided, however, that no student enrolled in a CMVS can be compelled to withdraw because of that vote. Only full-time CMVS students count towards the one percent threshold.

Annual Process for Discretionary Enrollment Restrictions by District

The Department annually generates a list of school districts that enroll more than one percent of their total enrollment in CMVSs based on October 1 SIMS data.

Accordingly, “[a] school committee may, by vote, restrict enrollment of its students in commonwealth virtual schools if the total enrollment of its students in commonwealth virtual schools exceeds 1 percent of the total enrollment in its district.” G.L. c. 71, § 94(t). School committees may vote to set the cap at any percentage, provided it is not less than 1 percent of the district’s total enrollment. If the school committee does not specify a percentage cap, the Department will set it at 1 percent.

The Department annually publishes the list of districts that enroll more than 1 percent and provides information about the school districts where student enrollment in CMVS is restricted and, if so, at what percentage (**See Appendix A**). Based on this information, school committees can consider whether further action is desired. **While not required, the Department encourages school committees to revisit this vote annually.**

Requirements and Process for Districts Eligible to Restrict Enrollment

If a school committee is considering restricting enrollment in the CMVS for the upcoming school year, the **Department requires the vote be taken prior to March 2, 2026**. Additionally, **once the vote is taken, the district must report the results to the Department by March 9, 2026**. If your school committee votes to restrict enrollment, please fill out and sign the attached template, **Appendix B**, and submit to: Ruth.E.Hersh@mass.gov and copy (CC) VirtualSchools@mass.gov.

These deadlines are in place to respect all stakeholders, to better prepare for the upcoming school year, and to foster transparency. Further, each CMVS must conduct the primary enrollment processes before May 1 as required by the CMVS regulations; information about the votes to restrict district enrollment guides CMVS in their enrollment processes.

³ G.L. c. 71, § 94(t) is as follows, “[a] school committee may, by vote, restrict enrollment of its students in commonwealth virtual schools if the total enrollment of its students in commonwealth virtual schools exceeds 1 per cent of the total enrollment in its district; provided, however, that no student enrolled in a commonwealth virtual school shall be compelled to withdraw as a result of that vote.”

⁴ 52.05: Student Recruitment, Enrollment, and Retention: (11) Enrollment Restrictions. In accordance with the guidance issued by the Department, a school committee may vote to restrict full-time enrollment of future students in a Commonwealth of Massachusetts virtual school if the district’s total full-time student enrollment exceeds 1% of the total enrollment in the district. The Department will publish an annual list of districts eligible to restrict future full-time enrollment. October SIMS data will be used to assess which school committees are eligible to vote to restrict future full-time enrollment.

Impact of School Committee Vote to Restrict CMVS Enrollment

An enrollment cap can only be imposed with a school committee vote as well as timely notice to the Department of such a vote. The cap cannot be less than 1 percent of overall district enrollment.

If a sending district votes to restrict enrollment to one percent or more, a CMVS will still receive full tuition for students who were enrolled in the CMVS prior to the vote of the school committee. Tuition for such students will not be prorated. The Commonwealth Virtual School statute explicitly states that “no student enrolled in a commonwealth virtual school shall be compelled to withdraw as a result of that vote.” Because the vote to restrict enrollment cannot require any student to withdraw, such a vote similarly does not limit tuition for students already enrolled.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools are, however, prohibited from enrolling any new students who live in districts that voted to impose enrollment caps, if such districts are at their caps. Should a CMVS enroll students from such a district, that CMVS will not receive tuition for those students newly admitted after a vote to restrict enrollment has taken place and has been submitted to the Department. Each CMVS must track enrollment from districts that have voted to restrict enrollment.

Students Currently Enrolled in a CMVS

A vote to cap student enrollment has no effect on currently enrolled students. No student enrolled in a CMVS must withdraw because of a district’s vote to cap enrollment. The CMVS may not ask or encourage students to withdraw from the CMVS or terminate the enrollment of any students because they reside in a district where student enrollment is capped.

No CMVS shall enroll any new students from districts that voted to cap student enrollment unless the total enrollment level in all CMVSs falls below the cap voted by the school committee.

Appendix A: FY2026 District Enrollment Information and percent enrolled in CMVS

The table below provides information about the total district enrollment, district enrollment in Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools (CMVS), as well as the percentage of each district's students enrolled in the two CMVSs, based on the October 2025 SIMS data. The six columns in the table include the following:

- 1) *Local Education Agency (LEA): school district code.*
- 2) *School District Name and Fiscal Year Eligible to Vote: This cell will include the fiscal year(s)(FYs) that the district was eligible to vote to restrict CMVS enrollment.*
- 3) *Total District Enrollment: The number of students enrolled in each district this year, based on October 2025 SIMS data.*
- 4) *CMVS Enrollment from District: The number of students from each district enrolled in either of the two CMVSs this year.*
- 5) *Percentage of Students from the District Attending the two CMVSs: Table is organized from largest percentage to smallest. (Please note several of the districts that enrolled 1 percent or more of their students, based on October 2019 (FY2020), October 2020 (FY2021), October 2021 (FY2022), October 2022 (FY2023), October 2023 (FY2024) SIMS, or October 2024 (FY2025) are no longer in that category based on October 2025 SIMS (FY2026).*
- 6) *Districts that Previously Voted to Restrict Future Enrollment to 1 percent by the required due dates in:*
 - a. *FY2020, effective for the 2020-2021 school year,*
 - b. *FY2021, effective in the 2021-2022 school year,*
 - c. *FY2022, effective in the 2022-2023 school year,*
 - d. *FY2023, effective in the 2023-2024 school year,*
 - e. *FY2024, effective in the 2024-2025 school year, or*
 - f. *FY2025, effective in the 2025-2026 school year.*

For districts that previously voted to restrict future enrollment to 1 percent by March 1, 2025, but are not at the 1 percent threshold this year, students from that district can be enrolled in a CMVS as long as enrollment remains under the 1 percent threshold.

Based on the October 2025 SIMS data, there are 34 districts that enroll 1 percent or more of total enrollment in a CMVS. These are shaded in orange below.

Org Code	School District Name and Fiscal Year (FY) if Eligible to Vote to Restrict	Total District Enrollment	CMVS Enrollment from District	% of Students from District attending CMVS	Previously Voted to Restrict
02630000	Savoy (FY23; FY24; FY25; FY26)	36	4	11.11	
00980000	Florida (FY25; FY26)	68	2	2.94	
02420000	Provincetown (FY25; FY26)	137	3	2.19	
07550000	Ralph C Mahar (FY21; FY22; FY23; FY24; FY25; FY26)	548	12	2.19	FY21
03120000	Warwick (FY25; FY26)	47	1	2.13	
02150000	North Brookfield (FY20; FY21; FY22; FY23; FY25; FY26)	389	8	2.06	
02090000	North Adams (FY22; FY23; FY24; FY25; FY26)	1,064	21	1.97	FY24 at 2%
02490000	Richmond (FY21; FY22; FY23; FY24; FY25; FY26)	157	3	1.91	FY21; FY23 at 4%; FY24 at 1%
07660000	Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School District (FY25; FY26)	1,250	20	1.60	
01610000	Ludlow (FY22; FY23; FY24; FY25; FY26)	2,158	34	1.58	FY25 at 1.5%
02780000	South Hadley (FY21; FY26)	1,563	23	1.47	
06030000	Hoosac Valley Regional (FY25; FY26)	992	14	1.41	
03000000	Truro (FY25; FY26)	71	1	1.41	FY25
01140000	Greenfield (FY20; FY21; FY22; FY23; FY26)	1,285	17	1.32	
01370000	Holyoke (FY23; FY26)	4,619	59	1.28	
00970000	Fitchburg (FY22; FY23; FY24; FY25; FY26)	5,284	67	1.27	
03090000	Ware (FY20; FY23; FY25; FY26)	1,066	13	1.22	FY20; FY23; FY25
02140000	Northbridge (FY26)	1,805	22	1.22	
00030000	Acushnet (FY24; FY25; FY26)	924	11	1.19	
00950000	Fall River (FY25; FY26)	11,184	132	1.18	FY25 at 2%
02770000	Southbridge (FY21; FY22; FY25; FY26)	1,775	21	1.18	FY21 at 1.15%; FY22 at 1.15%
02890000	Sunderland (FY23; FY26)	173	2	1.16	FY23 at 3%
00610000	Chicopee (FY23; FY24; FY26)	6,616	76	1.15	FY23; FY25 at 2%
07700000	Tantasqua (FY21; FY22; FY24; FY25; FY26)	1,662	19	1.14	FY21
07300000	Northboro-Southboro (FY25; FY26)	1,204	13	1.08	
06740000	Gill-Montague (FY21; FY22; FY23; FY25; FY26)	839	9	1.07	
00790000	Dracut (FY26)	3,456	37	1.07	
03430000	Winchendon (FY20; FY21; FY22; FY23; FY25; FY26)	1,127	12	1.06	FY22
00860000	Easthampton (FY23; FY24; FY25; FY26)	1,340	14	1.04	
02620000	Saugus (FY22; FY23; FY24; FY26)	2,614	27	1.03	
01620000	Lunenburg (FY26)	1,568	16	1.02	
00770000	Douglas (FY21; FY26)	1,077	11	1.02	

00250000	Bellingham (FY26)	2,057	21	1.02	
06700000	Frontier (FY26)	594	6	1.01	
07780000	Quaboag Regional (FY20; FY25)	1,113	11	0.99	
02260000	Oxford (FY24; FY25)	1,420	14	0.99	
01860000	Millbury	1,616	16	0.99	
03040000	Uxbridge	1,634	16	0.98	
02010000	New Bedford	12,441	119	0.96	
06620000	Farmington River Reg (FY23)	105	1	0.95	
00630000	Clarksburg	211	2	0.95	
03320000	West Springfield	3,838	36	0.94	
01510000	Leicester	1,323	12	0.91	
03400000	Williamsburg	110	1	0.91	
00990000	Foxborough	2,450	22	0.90	
07630000	Somerset Berkley Regional School District (FY20; FY24; FY25)	896	8	0.89	FY25
07530000	Quabbin (FY21)	2,126	19	0.89	FY21
07500000	Pioneer Valley	560	5	0.89	
06580000	Dudley-Charlton Reg	3,425	30	0.88	
01700000	Marlborough	4,360	38	0.87	
01420000	Hull	690	6	0.87	
03160000	Webster (FY22; FY23; FY24; FY25)	1,736	15	0.86	FY24
02360000	Pittsfield (FY20; FY24)	4,682	40	0.85	FY24
03100000	Wareham (FY21)	1,949	16	0.82	FY21; FY23; FY25 ⁵
02480000	Revere	6,930	57	0.82	
00870000	East Longmeadow (FY25)	2,355	19	0.81	FY25
07200000	Narragansett	1,365	11	0.81	
06650000	Freetown-Lakeville	2,589	21	0.81	
01820000	Middleborough	2,863	23	0.80	
02510000	Rockland	2,124	17	0.80	
03310000	Westport (FY21; FY22)	1,511	12	0.79	
02180000	Norton	2,277	18	0.79	
07150000	Mount Greylock (FY24; FY25)	1,156	9	0.78	
06320000	Chesterfield-Goshen (FY25)	128	1	0.78	
02810000	Springfield (FY24)	23,574	184	0.78	FY24
07400000	Old Rochester	1,028	8	0.78	
01030000	Gardner (FY22; FY23)	2,470	19	0.77	FY23
01500000	Lee (FY20)	648	5	0.77	FY20
03250000	Westfield	4,725	36	0.76	
00240000	Belchertown (FY21)	1,965	15	0.76	FY21
02340000	Petersham (FY23; FY24)	133	1	0.75	
00310000	Billerica	4,933	37	0.75	
01630000	Lynn	15,877	118	0.74	

⁵ While Wareham's original FY21 1% vote holds, the district was not eligible to vote in FY23 or FY25 because they were below the 1% threshold.

06900000	King Philip (FY24)	1,771	13	0.73	
02440000	Randolph (FY23; FY24)	2,875	21	0.73	
06350000	Central Berkshire (FY21; FY22; FY24; FY25)	1,530	11	0.72	
03480000	Worcester	24,677	177	0.72	
02610000	Sandwich	2,081	15	0.72	
06220000	Blackstone-Millville	1,418	10	0.71	
06830000	Hampshire (FY21; FY23)	708	5	0.71	
06800000	Hampden-Wilbraham	2,836	20	0.71	
06600000	Nauset FY25;	1,146	8	0.70	
01280000	Haverhill	7,732	54	0.70	
06150000	Athol-Royalston (FY20; FY21)	1,567	11	0.70	FY20
06720000	Gateway (FY21; FY22; FY25)	721	5	0.69	FY21
02390000	Plymouth	6,817	47	0.69	
00350000	Boston	44,416	300	0.68	
01070000	Gloucester	2,780	19	0.68	
01330000	Holbrook	1,323	9	0.68	
00480000	Burlington	3,457	23	0.67	
00050000	Agawam	3,418	23	0.67	
02920000	Swansea	1,973	13	0.66	
03470000	Woburn	4,327	28	0.65	
01910000	Monson (FY25)	800	5	0.63	FY25 at 2%
01110000	Granby	634	4	0.63	
06500000	Dighton-Rehoboth	2,524	16	0.63	
06200000	Berlin-Boylston	1,110	7	0.63	
02850000	Stoughton	3,551	22	0.62	
07750000	Wachusett	6,427	40	0.62	
00830000	East Bridgewater	1,982	12	0.61	
03140000	Watertown (FY23; FY24)	2,843	17	0.60	
00940000	Fairhaven	1,679	10	0.60	
01530000	Leominster	6,181	37	0.60	
00720000	Dartmouth	3,243	19	0.59	
03230000	West Bridgewater	1,360	8	0.59	
01170000	Hadley	511	3	0.59	
01600000	Lowell	14,387	84	0.58	
01410000	Hudson	2,275	13	0.57	
01960000	Nahant	175	1	0.57	
02580000	Salem	3,889	22	0.57	
02270000	Palmer (FY20)	1,068	6	0.56	FY20
01650000	Malden	6,072	34	0.56	
00070000	Amesbury	1,813	10	0.55	
06180000	Berkshire Hills	1,086	6	0.55	
07350000	North Middlesex	2,764	15	0.54	
07730000	Triton	2,076	11	0.53	
01720000	Mashpee (FY23)	1,349	7	0.52	FY23

06250000	Bridgewater-Raynham	5,458	28	0.51	
07650000	Southern Berkshire (FY21; FY22)	593	3	0.51	
01810000	Methuen	6,255	31	0.50	
02870000	Sturbridge	795	4	0.50	
00930000	Everett	6,908	33	0.48	
00360000	Bourne	1,473	7	0.48	
06160000	Ayer Shirley School District	1,656	8	0.48	
03420000	Wilmington	2,782	13	0.47	
01850000	Milford	4,291	20	0.47	
02310000	Pembroke	2,343	11	0.47	
01050000	Georgetown	1,061	5	0.47	
00300000	Beverly	4,497	21	0.47	
02950000	Tewksbury	3,271	15	0.46	
01350000	Holland (FY24)	218	1	0.46	FY24
06100000	Ashburnham-Westminster (FY21)	2,220	10	0.45	
06450000	Dennis-Yarmouth	2,905	13	0.45	
03220000	West Boylston (FY22)	903	4	0.44	
00180000	Avon	675	3	0.44	
07120000	Monomoy Regional School District	1,644	7	0.43	
02930000	Taunton	8,223	35	0.43	
00960000	Falmouth	2,783	12	0.43	
01670000	Mansfield	3,243	14	0.43	
01580000	Littleton	1,632	7	0.43	
02100000	Northampton	2,382	10	0.42	
00200000	Barnstable	4,511	19	0.42	
02120000	North Attleborough	3,769	16	0.42	
01490000	Lawrence	12,955	55	0.42	
01760000	Medford	4,120	17	0.41	
01740000	Maynard (FY22)	1,217	5	0.41	
02230000	Orange (FY21)	496	2	0.40	FY21
07250000	Nashoba	2,972	12	0.40	
00160000	Attleboro	6,205	24	0.39	
02840000	Stoneham	2,296	9	0.39	
00640000	Clinton	2,045	8	0.39	
02710000	Shrewsbury	5,847	22	0.38	
02200000	Norwood	3,491	13	0.37	
07600000	Silver Lake	1,620	6	0.37	
00400000	Braintree	5,058	18	0.36	
00710000	Danvers	3,123	11	0.35	
00520000	Carver	1,436	5	0.35	
02910000	Swampscott	2,083	7	0.34	
01870000	Millis	1,169	4	0.34	
01270000	Hatfield	302	1	0.33	
03360000	Weymouth	5,699	19	0.33	

07800000	Whitman-Hanson	3,423	11	0.32	
01780000	Melrose	3,730	12	0.32	
02110000	North Andover	4,362	14	0.32	
02380000	Plainville	635	2	0.32	
00730000	Dedham	2,561	8	0.31	
03080000	Waltham	5,729	18	0.31	
00440000	Brockton	14,642	46	0.31	
01010000	Franklin	4,383	13	0.30	
02650000	Seekonk	2,009	6	0.30	
01250000	Harvard	1,006	3	0.30	
02170000	North Reading	2,335	7	0.30	
01100000	Grafton	3,115	9	0.29	
01680000	Marblehead	2,389	7	0.29	
02740000	Somerville	4,876	14	0.29	
07670000	Spencer-E Brookfield (FY20; FY25)	1,443	4	0.28	FY20
03070000	Walpole	3,560	10	0.28	
00570000	Chelsea	5,749	16	0.28	
01000000	Framingham	8,482	24	0.28	
03210000	Westborough	3,649	10	0.27	
01520000	Lenox	750	2	0.27	
06730000	Groton-Dunstable	2,253	6	0.27	
00490000	Cambridge	6,960	19	0.27	
00500000	Canton	3,314	9	0.27	
03010000	Tyngsborough	1,546	4	0.26	
06980000	Manchester Essex Regional	1,156	3	0.26	
02430000	Quincy	9,598	25	0.26	
07170000	Mohawk Trail	759	2	0.26	
07450000	Pentucket	2,285	6	0.26	
07100000	Mendon-Upton	2,039	5	0.25	
00170000	Auburn	2,444	6	0.25	
02900000	Sutton	1,254	3	0.24	
00880000	Easton	3,297	8	0.24	
00270000	Berkley	846	2	0.24	
01770000	Medway	2,125	5	0.24	
06750000	Hamilton-Wenham	1,706	4	0.23	
02460000	Reading	3,862	9	0.23	
00010000	Abington	2,132	5	0.23	
01710000	Marshfield	3,552	8	0.23	
00090000	Andover	5,346	12	0.22	
00650000	Cohasset	1,382	3	0.22	
00560000	Chelmsford	5,128	11	0.21	
00140000	Ashland	2,910	6	0.21	
03350000	Westwood	2,839	6	0.21	
00230000	Bedford	2,397	5	0.21	

03460000	Winthrop	1,960	4	0.20	
03260000	Westford	4,515	9	0.20	
01360000	Holliston	2,651	5	0.19	
06550000	Dover-Sherborn	1,072	2	0.19	
01180000	Halifax	530	1	0.19	
01590000	Longmeadow	2,708	5	0.18	
01380000	Hopedale	1,111	2	0.18	
01450000	Kingston	1,109	2	0.18	
06050000	Amherst-Pelham	1,183	2	0.17	
06400000	Concord-Carlisle	1,148	2	0.17	
02660000	Sharon	3,401	5	0.15	
00820000	Duxbury	2,657	4	0.15	
02640000	Scituate	2,726	4	0.15	
01990000	Needham	5,427	8	0.15	
02040000	Newburyport	2,104	3	0.14	
07000000	Martha's Vineyard	703	1	0.14	
02290000	Peabody	5,587	8	0.14	
01550000	Lexington	6,524	9	0.14	
01890000	Milton	4,358	6	0.14	
01440000	Ipswich	1,509	2	0.13	
02730000	Somerset	1,524	2	0.13	
01980000	Natick	5,223	7	0.13	
00100000	Arlington	6,098	8	0.13	
01220000	Hanover	2,415	3	0.12	
00260000	Belmont	4,433	5	0.11	
01640000	Lynnfield	2,159	2	0.09	
02070000	Newton	11,462	10	0.09	
02760000	Southborough	1,323	1	0.08	
06000000	Acton-Boxborough	5,005	4	0.08	
02880000	Sudbury	2,535	2	0.08	
01310000	Hingham	3,593	3	0.08	
03170000	Wellesley	3,922	3	0.08	
07050000	Masconomet	1,497	1	0.07	
00460000	Brookline	6,948	5	0.07	
01390000	Hopkinton	4,243	3	0.07	
02130000	Northborough	1,588	1	0.06	
02190000	Norwell	2,172	1	0.05	
03150000	Wayland	2,662	1	0.04	
01750000	Medfield	2,442	1	0.04	
03050000	Wakefield	3,379	1	0.03	
03440000	Winchester	4,341	1	0.02	
00910000	Erving (FY21; FY22; FY23; FY24; FY25)	106	0	0.00	FY21; FY22; FY24
07280000	New Salem-Wendell (FY21)	140	0	0.00	
00430000	Brimfield (FY22)	261	0	0.00	FY22

00450000	Brookfield	288	0	0.00	
01690000	Marion	342	0	0.00	
02520000	Rockport	622	0	0.00	
06950000	Lincoln-Sudbury	1,358	0	0.00	
00080000	Amherst	1,011	0	0.00	
01970000	Nantucket	1,653	0	0.00	
00380000	Boxford	760	0	0.00	
00410000	Brewster	417	0	0.00	
00510000	Carlisle	609	0	0.00	
00670000	Concord	1,868	0	0.00	
00680000	Conway	146	0	0.00	
00740000	Deerfield	293	0	0.00	
00780000	Dover	457	0	0.00	
00850000	Eastham	178	0	0.00	
00890000	Edgartown	355	0	0.00	
01090000	Gosnold	0	0	0.00	
01210000	Hancock (FY20)	44	0	0.00	
01540000	Leverett	135	0	0.00	
01570000	Lincoln	955	0	0.00	
01730000	Mattapoisett	366	0	0.00	
01840000	Middleton	697	0	0.00	
02080000	Norfolk	1,037	0	0.00	
02210000	Oak Bluffs	390	0	0.00	
02240000	Orleans	148	0	0.00	
02300000	Pelham	127	0	0.00	
02400000	Plympton	255	0	0.00	
02500000	Rochester	451	0	0.00	
02530000	Rowe	51	0	0.00	
02690000	Sherborn	393	0	0.00	
02720000	Shutesbury	121	0	0.00	
02750000	Southampton	472	0	0.00	
02960000	Tisbury	288	0	0.00	
02980000	Topsfield	575	0	0.00	
03060000	Wales (FY23)	107	0	0.00	FY23
03180000	Wellfleet	82	0	0.00	
03270000	Westhampton	92	0	0.00	
03300000	Weston	2,079	0	0.00	
03370000	Whately	141	0	0.00	
03490000	Worthington (FY20; FY21; FY23; FY24)	73	0	0.00	
03500000	Wrentham	981	0	0.00	
06850000	Hawlemont	73	0	0.00	
07740000	Up-Island Regional	408	0	0.00	

Appendix B: Letter Template for Department Notification of School Committee Vote to Restrict CMVS Enrollment

Vote must be taken by March 2, 2026

Please send the letter via email to Ruth.E.Hersh@mass.gov and copy VirtualSchools@mass.gov by March 9, 2026.

[date]

Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
135 Santilli Highway
Everett, MA 02149

Dear Commissioner,

On behalf of the *[insert district name]* School Committee, I respectfully report that based on the October 2025 SIMS data, the *[insert district name]* School Committee has voted to restrict full-time enrollment of future students in a Commonwealth Massachusetts Virtual Schools (CMVS) and set a cap to *[insert percentage]*⁶, of the district's total enrollment because *[insert reasons]*. This goes into effect as of the 2026-2027 school year but does not affect the enrollment of district students currently attending either CMVS.

The CMVS statute (G. L. c. 71, § 94) and the CMVS regulations (603 CMR 52.00) indicate that a school committee of a sending district may vote to restrict enrollment of its students in a CMVS if the total enrollment of students enrolled the CMVS from the district exceeds 1 percent of the total enrollment in its district; provided, however, that no student enrolled in a CMVS can be compelled to withdraw because of that vote. Only full-time CMVS students count towards the 1 percent threshold.

The *[insert school name]* School Committee voted to restrict full-time enrollment on *[insert date]* at a meeting held in compliance with Massachusetts [Open Meeting Law](#) G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25, and the regulations, guidance, and directives of the Office of the Attorney General. At that meeting, the School Committee authorized me to submit this letter on their behalf *[only if the undersigned is the District's Superintendent or School Committee chairperson]*. Once we have the final minutes from that school committee meeting, I will submit the minutes as additional evidence that the *[insert district name]* School Committee has voted to restrict CMVS enrollment.

Please contact *[insert contact name, email, and phone number]* if you have any questions about this request.

Sincerely,

[Insert individual]

cc. *[School or Board personnel as appropriate]*

⁶ *The district has options about the percentage cap, provided it is not less than 1 percent of the district's total enrollment.*



Salem Derby, Mayor

EASTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EASTHAMPTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING

50 Payson Avenue, 2nd Floor
Easthampton, MA 01027
(413) 529-1500 TEL
(413) 529-1567 FAX
e-mail: superintendent@epsd.us
website: www.epsd.us



Michelle Balch, Superintendent

February 5, 2026

TO: Members of the Easthampton School Committee

FROM: Julia Saari-Franks, Director of Business Services

1. FY26 LOCAL APPROPRIATION REPORT – According to data as of 01/31/2026, 56% of the local appropriation has either been spent or is encumbered.
2. GRADUATED CLASS FUNDS – Per the current School Committee policy JJF, funds that remain on deposit from Graduated Classes more than two years after their date of graduation are forfeited. See the attached memo and supporting documents. A copy of policy has been included in the packet for your reference.
 - a. The Easthampton High School classes of 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2022 have funds remaining on deposit in the Student Activity Account of EHS totaling \$11,679.95.
 - i. *Suggested Motion: Motion to declare funds totaling \$11,679.95 as forfeited by the graduated classes of 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2022 and the transfer of these funds to the EHS Student Activity Agency Account to be allocated at a future date.*
 - b. The Easthampton High School class of 2017 has funds remaining on deposit in the amount of \$5,724.66. They have requested that these funds be donated to a worthy charity.
 - i. *Suggested Motion: Motion to suspend School Committee Policy JJF -Student Activity Accounts, so that a check can be issued to the Class of 2017 or a donation made to a charity in the name of the Class of 2017.*
3. PERSONNEL REPORT FOR JANUARY 2026 – Enclosed is the Personnel Report for the month of January 2026.

Enclosures – (4)



Salem Derby, Mayor

EASTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EASTHAMPTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING

50 Payson Avenue, 2nd Floor
Easthampton, MA 01027
(413) 529-1500 TEL
(413) 529-1567 FAX
e-mail: superintendent@epsd.us
website: www.epsd.us



Michelle Balch, Superintendent

February 5, 2026

TO: Members of the Easthampton School Committee
FROM: Julia Saari-Franks, Director of Business Services *JRSF*
RE: Disposition of Graduated Class Funds

I am requesting that the School Committee take action pursuant to current School Committee policies regarding funds remaining on deposit within the High School Student Activity Account. See the attached School Committee Policy JJF – Student Activity Accounts.

The Student Activity Accounts Manager at Easthampton High School has confirmed that the following Graduated classes, with graduation dates more than two years ago, still have funds on deposit within the Student Activity Account in the amounts shown below:

- CLASS OF 2017 – balance - \$ 5,724.66
- CLASS OF 2018 – balance - \$ 875.31
- CLASS OF 2019 – balance - \$ 186.00
- CLASS OF 2020 – balance - \$ 5,960.64
- CLASS OF 2022 – balance - \$ 4,658.00

School administration has reached out to the class officers of these graduating classes regarding these balances. Officers from the Class of 2017 have requested to withdraw their funds and to donate the funds to charities. See the attached statement from the officer. No other class officers have responded.

I am asking the School Committee to take the following actions:

1. Declare the remaining balances of the graduating classes of 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2022 as forfeited per committee policy.
 - a. Allow the EHS administration and students to provide a proposal to the Committee outlining how they would like these funds allocated at a later date to best serve the EHS student body.
2. Vote to suspend the current policy for the Class of 2017, and authorize the removal of the funds for the Class of 2017.
 - a. The Class of 2017 would have until June 1st, 2026 to establish an appropriate bank account for the receipt of these funds and a check can be issued to the class of 2017.
 - b. Or the Class of 2017 can authorize Easthampton Public Schools to donate their funds to a named charity in their honor.
 - c. If evidence of such account is not provided or authorization to process the donation is not received by the business office by June 1, 2026, the funds can be deemed forfeited by the Class of 2017.

Professional Statement Regarding the Allocation of Class of 2017 Funds

Submitted by:

Diamond Smith

Class of 2017 President

Easthampton High School

Submitted to:

Easthampton School Committee

Date:

January, 2026

As the Class of 2017 President, I am submitting my perspective regarding the remaining senior class funds. After thoughtful consideration, I believe the most meaningful and appropriate use of these resources is to donate them to an organization that supports young people navigating significant life challenges, particularly those who may feel unseen or unsupported during their adolescent years.

My time in high school was marked by circumstances that required early maturity and sustained resilience. Those experiences made clear how essential it is for young people facing hardship to receive consistent support and understanding. Allocating the remaining class funds toward organizations that serve youth in similar situations reflects the values of both care and community that I hoped to uphold as a student leader.

For this reason, I request that the remaining Class of 2017 funds be donated to a charitable organization that provides direct assistance to youth who are caregivers or navigating difficult transitions. I believe this use aligns with the spirit of service and empathy that I committed to representing as Class President.

If the committee votes to permit the distribution of the Class of 2017 funds, I respectfully recommend that they be donated to one of the following organizations, whose missions align with supporting young people navigating significant responsibility and transition:

- Caregiver Action Network (Youth Caregivers Program)
- Bridge Over Troubled Waters (Boston, MA)

I offer these as recommendations only and fully respect the committee's discretion in determining the final allocation. I believe donating the funds honors the spirit of the Class of

2017 by allowing them to support young people during formative transitions, which reflects the values of responsibility and care that education aims to foster.

For context, at the time of graduation, I looked to access and appropriately allocate these funds but lacked sufficient institutional guidance to do so effectively. My intent now is ethical stewardship, and I respect the Committee's final determination.

Respectfully,

Diamond Smith

Class of 2017 President

STUDENT ACTIVITY ACCOUNTS

Student funds may be raised to finance the activities of authorized student organizations. Student activity funds are considered a part of the total fiscal operation of the District and are subject to policies established by the School Committee and the Office of the Superintendent. The funds shall be only for the benefit of students and managed in accordance with sound business practices, which include accepted budgetary, accounting, and internal control practices. The Superintendent shall ensure that, annually, all Principals and student organizations receive a copy of this policy as well as a copy of established procedures for control of receipts and expenditures that meet or exceed DESE guidelines.

In compliance with Massachusetts General Law, the School Committee:

1. Authorizes the Principals to accept money for recognized student activity organizations, which currently exist, or as from time to time may be revised. All funds received for student activities must be deposited into the Student Activity Agency Account and no funds shall be directly deposited to a Student Activity Checking Account except from the Student Activity Agency Account.
2. Authorizes the Town or District Treasurer to establish and maintain a Student Activity Agency Account(s) which is to be audited as part of the Town's annual audit. The interest that is earned on such accounts shall be maintained in the Agency Account and distributed annually among the Student Activity Checking Accounts as directed by the procedures established by the Superintendent.
3. Authorizes Student Activity Checking Accounts for use by the Principals with specific maximum balances established annually for each school by vote of the School Committee. Payments for expenditures shall be made, whenever possible, by check, debit, or EFT directly from the Student Activity Checking Account. Reimbursements to personal credit card holders shall require the prior authorization of the Superintendent. Signatory authorization for Student Activity Checking Accounts shall be restricted to the Principal and (Superintendent or Treasurer). Student Activity Checking Accounts shall be audited annually in accordance with DESE guidelines.
4. Directs Principals to provide the Treasurer with a bond in an amount agreeable to the Treasurer.
5. Shall annually, prior to the start of each school year, vote to establish or change the maximum balance that may be on deposit in each Student Activity Checking Account.

For accounts with maximum balance limits that exceed \$25,000.00, the School Committee shall consider, in accordance with DESE guidelines, that an audit be conducted by an outside audit firm every three years

Graduating Class Funds

Funds held on behalf of graduating classes are to be held within the Student Activity Checking Account for the High School. Such funds shall be designated by the class' Year of Graduation.

Once a class has graduated from High School, their funds should be removed from the High School Student Activity Checking Account no later than two years from the date of graduation. It is the responsibility of the class officers to arrange for these funds to be removed from the High School Activity Checking Account. When requested, and once all outstanding financial obligations of the graduating class have been met, the remaining

balance should be removed from the fund by check transfer payable to the Class of XXXX. Checks payable to individual members of the graduating class are not permitted.

Should the class officers not request to have their funds removed from the Student Activity Checking Account within two years of their graduating, the funds will be forfeited by the class and transferred into the General Sub-fund portion of the Student Activity Agency Account. These funds will then be allocated by a vote of the School Committee.

Class officers should be given a copy of this policy during the course of their senior year to ensure their knowledge of their obligations to perform under this policy.

Inactive Student Activities

When a student activity ceases to be active for a period of three years or more the Principal or other authorized administrator shall require the following actions:

1. Obtain written notice from the faculty advisor or student officer that the activity will cease to be a viable account. If unable to obtain such notification the Principal shall request action to close the account from the School Committee.
2. Identify in writing all assets of the student activity. The disposition of any assets shall be determined by the School Committee and may not benefit specific individuals.
3. Annually notify all students of the required actions if an activity ceases to exist.

Student Activity Deficits

Individual student activity accounts are not permitted to be in a deficit position. Whenever a deficit exists that is not the result of timing, the Superintendent shall recommend remedial action to the School Committee in a timely manner.

SOURCE: MASC July 2018

1st Reading: 4/9/2019

2nd Reading: 4/23/2019

Adopted: 4/23/2019

Easthampton Public Schools

Personnel Report for January, 2026

New Hires:

Name	Position	Location	Hire Date
Delaney Cantwell	Substitute	District	01/05/2026
Nancy Weld	Special Education Coordinator	MVS	01/05/2026
Devin O'Brien	Substitute	District	01/15/2026
Anthony Torchia	Substitute	District	01/20/2026
Brian Merriam	Paraeducator	EHS	01/21/2026
Andrea Robare	Substitute	District	01/30/2026

Separations:

Name	Position	Location	Separation Date
Karalyn Bachand	Nurse	MVS	01/13/2026

Transfers:

Name	Position	Location	Transfer Date

Current Vacancies:

Paraeducator – EHS

Nurse - MVS