

APPROVED BY

AUG 18 2025

ROCKLAND SCHOOL
COMMITTEE

**ROCKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2025 AT 6:30 PM
DAVID CABLE-MURPHY STUDIO**

TOWN CLERK, ROCKLAND
SEP 5 '25 AM 11:51

In attendance: Chair Mrs. Maroney, Vice Chair Mrs. Hennessy and member Mrs. Bissonnette. Also in attendance Superintendent Dr. Cron, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Hackett, and Mrs. Novio.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of the minutes for the May 27, 2025 and June 9, 2025 meetings need to be tabled to a later meeting as there are not the right members from both meetings to approve.

Nothing under the audience.

School newsletters we have Rockland High School, Phelps Elementary and Esten Early Childhood Center – nothing to note.

Financial Reports: School Department, Rockland High School Student Activities, Rogers Middle School Student Activities and Food Services. Four motions to approve by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bissonnette, unanimous.

Department Head monthly reports: Athletic Department; Mr. Kimball, Art; Mrs. Thompson, Computer Technology; Mr. Wells, Consumer Science/Phys. Ed; Ms. Newcomb, Dean; Mr. Damon, English; Ms. Donovan, Foreign Language; Mrs. Tabares, Math Department; Mr. Casagrande, Middle School; Mr. Griffin/ Ms. Thomas, Music; Mr. Piazza, Radio/TV Station; Ms. Breeden, Science; Ms. DiCanzio, and Social Studies; Mr. Rowe, thirteen motions for the approval of the department head monthly reports by Mrs. Hennessy, 13 seconds by Mrs. Bissonnette, unanimous.

New Business. Dr. Cron's evaluation. Opening statements from Mrs. Maroney: As a school committee member we are responsible for hiring and evaluating the Superintendent and Dr. Cron is responsible for the day-to-day operations and student outcomes. We are responsible for approving and overseeing the school budget, ensuring taxpayer dollars are used wisely to support students, staff and critical programs. We are responsible for setting district policies and priorities from curriculum

to equity and safety. The school committee guides what happens in our classrooms. With that being said, and everyone knowing our responsibilities. We as a school committee receive Dr. Cron's evaluation forms, we evaluate him and then the members give them to me to tally. I then bring them to you. I will start with your goals. The first goal is implementing year three of the RPS 5 year strategic plan. Comments on this are our school handbooks have streamlined to provide a consistent message, adequate wellness resources for both students and staff is vital. The ability to self-regulate and feel safe, create optimal learning and teaching environments. Dr. Cron continues to look for improvements within the district; reviewing the bell schedule at RMS shows openness to increase time on learning and curriculum awareness. For us to vote, I received four out of 5 forms back for Dr. Cron – one significant progress and three met goals. For goal number two – we have engaged in a comprehensive review of RPS special education. This is a two year goal. Some comments are Dr. Cron held meetings throughout the year with key stakeholders in special education. Next year I would like to have cost-saving plans as SPED is a large portion of our budget and Dr. Cron has handled the impact surrounding special education extremely well this year. Budget constraints have put pressure on this goal but I see Dr. Cron working hard to ensure service remains and students receive what they need. We have one significant progress and three meets. Number three for goal is strengthen communication between and among all stakeholders. Dr. Cron consistently fosters open communications across the district. I see many examples throughout; interactions with staff and parents. Dr. Cron does excel in communication and relationships with our town officials. Teacher learning walks in the past have been energizing, experiencing what is happening a few levels above or below, as well as, in different buildings can help staff and administration see and feel the impact of their daily teaching. Dr. Cron provided valuable one-to-one time with principals which is important giving all the leadership changes and Dr. Cron leads by example and has created a connected school district longevity with the staff. RPS is hosting the first retirement luncheon; it shows how much past staff still love RPS and Rockland. We have one significant progress, two meets and one exceeded. The fourth goal is to foster a district culture that is inclusive and equitable. It's a year two of a two year goal. Rockland has long been a very inclusive school system. Our diversity and inclusivity are powerful attributes that have allowed our students to flourish in and out of school buildings. We have one significant progress, and three meets. Another portion that we get is the evaluation reports form; a simplified process for us to go through progress towards student learning goals – one significant progress, two meets, one exceeded. Progress toward professional practice goals – one significant progress and three meets. Curriculum and planning in the assessment for proficient teaching all students – four proficient. Family community engagement – four proficient. Professional culture – three proficient, and one exemplary. Overall performance rating four for proficient and then I

just have some closing remarks. On my own regard here as the chair, I will say that there would be no surprises in this evaluation. Dr. Cron, Jane and I have a very open and honest relationship. I just want to take a moment and say how proud we are of the incredible work you have done as Superintendent of Rockland Public Schools. Your leadership, dedication and steady hand have made a real difference in our schools and in the lives of our students. Thank you for your hard work, your vision and your commitment to doing what's best for our kids, our teachers and our community. You've truly done a great job and we are grateful. Mrs. Hennessy added that we appreciate you and the open communication, always keeping us well informed of everything happening in the district. Mrs. Bissonnette added that for somebody who was in the district for 30 years I had no idea how many moving parts there were and that's been very eye opening for me as well. Dr. Cron added, I'm very proud of this town and school district and incredibly grateful. I'm happy to go through this process every year, it holds me accountable. Jane and I say every day we try to do the next right thing and you make it very easy because we communicate so I thank you for the feedback.

One change to the School committee calendar – change Monday, August 18 to Monday, August 25 and we would like to have June 8th be our last meeting and not have June 22nd. A motion to approve by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bissonnette, unanimous.

We have a new fundraiser; the WRPS Festival. An annual fundraiser to raise money for the WRPS scholarship fund for a graduating senior. A motion to approve by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bissonnette, unanimous. It will be held on August 23.

We have the 2024 History and Social Studies Surplus books – these are old books that have been replaced. Motion to approve by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bissonnette, unanimous.

Superintendent's Report. I'm responsible for nearly 2400 children and nearly 500 employees and leadership to me is building a team and everyone has strengths and everyone has challenges. Putting that team together whether you look at the Red Sox or the Patriots, it's about putting the right people in the right place. I rely on a handful of people who have a tremendous amount of responsibility around me and make everything work because I believe this district functions in an exceptional way. I am very proud of this place and thank you to a handful of people in no particular order; Mark Shom, Tim Wells, Kris Howe, Adele Leonard, Linda Maniglia, Cheryl Schipper, Rich MacAllister, Michelle Scheufele, Kelsey Holbrook, Jan Sheehan, Heather MacDonald, Marisa Hoadley, Janet Tait, and to Fire Chief Duffy, Police Chief Zeoli – we

are in constant communication to make our school safer – invaluable Doug Lapp, our Town Manager, Tiffany Needham, Michael O'Loughlin, John Pumphrey, Dave Taylor, Dan Kimball, Rich Furlong, Peter Ewell, Rich Penney, Lisa Breeden, Sharon McGonnigal, Noelle Novio, Mary Jo Lipson, Betsy Low and Ira Kohler, our State Representative DeCoste and our Senator John Keenan and to thank this committee as you are invaluable partners to Jane and I.

Mrs. Maroney added to thank Officer Schnabel and Officer Theroux for keeping our school safe. Mrs. Hennessy added hope everyone has a great summer and have fun at Phelps Camp and we will see you in August. Mrs. Bissonette - read, read, read. Our library is terrific. Mrs. Maroney also wanted to say that a retired secretary Karen Armstrong passed away, thank you for your service to RPS and thoughts and prayers to her family.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Hennessy, seconded by Mrs. Bissonnette at 6:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Emily Davidson", with a stylized, flowing script.

Emily Davidson
Secretary