



York School Committee Meeting - Minutes

A regular meeting for the York School Committee was held in the:

York Public Library
on
Wednesday, February 4, 2026
6:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Chair Julie Kelbert
Marie Evans
Meg Martinson
Rick Clark

Committee Members Absent:

Darryk Kelly

1.0 Meeting Called to order:

- 1.1 Chair Julie Kelbert welcomed the audience and called the meeting to order at: 6:05pm.
- 1.2 Chair Julie Kelbert Lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1.3 Chair Julie Kelbert read the land acknowledgment.

York is located on the land of the Pennacook and Abenaki Peoples of the Wabanaki Confederacy, who have ongoing cultural and spiritual connections to this land. We acknowledge and honor with gratitude the land and the people who have stewarded it through the generations, and we recognize York's responsibility to maintain and protect these homelands for future generations.

- 1.3 Chair Julie Kelbert asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda
Superintendent Doak informed the Committee that there were the following adjustments:

- The Chair has asked that they move the Reorganization plan vote up to section 3 rather than under the Chair Report or New Business.
- Addition of Policies: BED, BEDB, BEDD, BEDH, BEDJ, BEDL for first read.

2.0 Approval of the Consent Agenda:

[January 7, 2026 Consent Agenda](#)

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

3.0 Communications

Chair Julie Kelbert Announced the communications for the upcoming meeting dates and events.

3.1 Presentations for the FY27 YSD proposed budget to the Budget Committee began on February 3rd.

Members of the Committee and YSD Administration will meet with the Budget Committee on Tuesdays & Thursdays for the next few weeks.

3.2 Reorganization Plan Progression Vote

The Committee engaged in an extensive discussion regarding the proposed school facility plans. Members noted that to move beyond the broad conceptual stage (comparing the "no change," "three-school," and "two-school" models), a formal selection was required to focus resources effectively.

The Committee voted to advance the two-school model for further development. This vote does not constitute a final proposal to the town voters; rather, it authorizes the Superintendent to collaborate with Harriman and York School Department (YSD) Administration to refine the granular details of this specific option. Significant preparatory work remains before a final recommendation is presented to the Town for a vote.

Committee Vice Chair, Marie Evans made the following motion: "I moved to direct the superintendent to direct Harriman to pursue the two School option."

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

4.0 Correspondence, Presentations, or Recognition

The Committee heard a presentation from Sally Manninen, Director of Community Health at York Hospital, regarding the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS). Working in coordination with the State, Ms. Manninen helps collect and analyze this biennial data, which monitors student trends in drug, alcohol, nicotine use, and mental health. This data is instrumental in helping schools identify necessary supports, access funding, and implement programs for students facing substance use and mental health challenges. The results of the study will be available on the YSD website.

[Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey Results, 2025 Presentation](#)

[MIYHS Data 2009-2025](#)

5.0 Approval of the Financials

5.1 **Business Administrator's Report presented by:**

Rick Kusturin

5.1.1 Approval of Bills and Payroll

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|-------------------|----------------|
| AP on | 01/08/2026 | In the amount of: | \$204,001.12 |
| AP on | 01/22/2026 | In the amount of: | \$381,993.59 |
| PR on | 01/15/2026 | In the amount of: | \$1,083,925.55 |
| PR on | 01/29/2026 | In the amount of: | \$1,138,876.92 |
| Total AP & PR in the amount of: | | | \$2,808,797.18 |

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

5.2.2 Acceptance of Donations

The Committee approved a donation of three "Classroom Cruiser" stationary bicycles for Village Elementary School (VES), valued at \$2,600.49. Principal Jay Delehanty explained that the initiative began when teacher Caitlin Barnard and counselor Amanda Benoit secured a York Education Foundation (YEF) grant for two initial bikes. After staff and parents observed a marked increase in student focus and productivity, a community fundraising effort was launched. Led by parent Trevor Capon and brought to the attention of the community with the help of reporter Max Sullivan, the campaign successfully raised enough funds to purchase these three additional units.

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Motioned by: Marie Evans | Motion carried by a vote: 4-0 |
| Seconded by: Rick Clark | In Favor |
| Discussion Needed: No | |

6.0 Reports

6.1 Chair

6.1.1 York School Department Reorganization Plan

No further discussions regarding reorganization took place.

6.2 Superintendent

6.2.1 Resignations

6.2.2 Retirements

Jeff Wilford, YMS Science Teacher, has submitted his notice to retire at the end of FY26.

6.2.3 Transfers

6.2.4 New Hires

6.3 Assistant Superintendent

6.3.1 No report this evening.

6.4 Student Representatives

Representative A shared a reminder from Village Elementary School (VES) for families to pack extra clothes for their children; with the recent snow, students are often heading back to class damp despite wearing full gear. Moving to high school news, he reported that a recent "pickle pizza" trial at YHS was a massive hit. Students are already buzzing about it and hope to see it become a permanent fixture on the lunch rotation.

7.0 Current Openings

Superintendent Doak shared the current openings/vacancies for the York School Department:

| Posting: | Location: |
|--|------------|
| Boys High School Head Tennis Coach | YHS |
| Boys High School Varsity Soccer Coach | YHS |
| High School Varsity Girls Volleyball Coach | YHS |
| Middle School Boys Lacrosse Coach | YMS |
| Custodian | Facilities |
| Substitute Van Drivers | Facilities |
| Substitute School Nurses K-12 | YSD |
| Substitute Teachers K-12 | YSD |

Public Comment

No public comment presented.

(If a public comment is needed, the Chair reads the following statement)

The York School Committee values public input and encourages community members to share their thoughts. To allow for a diverse range of perspectives and maintain a timely meeting, we ask that each public comment be limited to three (3) minutes.

*The York School Committee recognizes the value of public comment and participation in school and educational matters. The York School Department's policy, **BEDH Public Participation at York School Committee Meetings**, is attached to this agenda and can be found on the York School Department website.*

[YSD Policy BEDH](#)

8.0 New Business

8.1 Model UN Trip Request

The Committee welcomed YHS teacher Adrianna Fioretti and student representative Gabe, who requested approval for the Model UN team to attend the conference at Boston University this coming weekend. They shared how this experience builds student confidence and interpersonal skills while providing valuable practice in public speaking and debate. Now in York's second year of participation, the program offers our students the unique opportunity to connect with and learn from peers on both a national and global scale.

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

8.2 Request for Addition of a New YHS Co-Curricular Student Club: Best Buddies

Topic deferred to the March 4th Meeting due to scheduling conflicts.

8.3 Portable Classroom at VES

Superintendent Doak provided an update on the decommissioned portable classroom located behind Village Elementary School. Due to the lack of plumbing, presence of mold, and overall poor condition, the unit is unfit for student use and must be removed. After the Town declined an offer to take ownership of the structure, a \$6,000 quote was secured from "The Dump Guy" for demolition and removal. These funds will be allocated from the Facilities Services budget line, with the work scheduled to take place during the February break.

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

8.4 First Read of policies: BED, BEDB, BEDD, BEDH, BEDJ, BEDL.

The Committee Members reviewed the following policies and made motions to move them to a second read.

2025-26 YSC draft BED - REMOTE PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Motioned by: Rick Clark

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Marie Evans

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

2025-26 YSC draft BEDB-SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

2025-26 YSC draft BEDD - Rules Of Order

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

2025-26 YSC draft BEDH - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT YORK SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

2025-26 YSC draft BEDJ -BROADCASTING/RECORDING OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

2025-26 YSC draft BEDL-ADJOURNMENT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

9.0 Unfinished Business

10.0 Other Matters

11.0 Executive Session

12.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:59pm.

Motioned by: Marie Evans

Motion carried by a vote: 4-0

Seconded by: Rick Clark

In Favor

Discussion Needed: No

Respectfully submitted by Heather Gilchrest