

Meetings

The School Committee will transact all business at official meetings. These may be either regular or special meetings, defined as follows:

Regular Meetings

The usual official meetings, held during the school year according to a schedule determined by the Superintendent and the Chairperson and provided to all School Committee members prior to the commencement of the year. All regular meetings of the School Committee (typically held on Tuesdays at 7:30 pm) are open to the public and the media.

Special Meeting

An official meeting called between scheduled regular meetings to consider specific topics.

Emergency Meeting

A meeting held in response to a situation which requires prompt action to prevent imminent disruption or harm to the system. An emergency meeting may be held without complying with the notice provisions for regular meetings. Notice shall be posted as far in advance as is practicable. All other requirements for regular meetings will be observed.

Adjourned Meeting

A meeting deferred or suspended by majority vote of the School Committee to a later time and place which shall be specified in an order of adjournment. Notice of such adjournment shall be posted within 24 hours after the time of adjournment and 48 hours in advance of the date to which the meeting is deferred.

Organizational Meeting

~~The first meeting of the School Committee following the annual town election. The most senior member of the School Committee present shall preside as Chairperson Pro Tempore, and the next most senior member shall serve as Secretary Pro Tempore. At this meeting officers are elected and policies are adopted.~~

~~At this meeting officers are elected~~

~~For the purpose of organizing, the School Committee, at its first regular meeting following the district's annual elections or no less than one year from the preceding organizational meeting, will elect from its membership a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and a secretary, all of whom will hold their respective offices for a term of one year or until a successor is elected.~~

~~A majority of the members of the School Committee will constitute a quorum. The election will proceed as follows:~~

- ~~1. The most senior member of the School Committee present shall preside as Chairperson Pro Tempore, and the next most senior member shall serve as Secretary Pro Tempore.~~

2. Nominations for the office of chairperson will be made from the floor. The chairperson will be elected by a majority roll-call vote of the members present and voting. If no nominee receives a majority vote, the election will be declared null and void and nominations will be reopened.

3. Upon election, the new chairperson will preside, calling for the election of a vice-chairperson and secretary, in order. The procedure used for their election will be the same as that for electing the chairperson.

Any vacancy among the officers occurring between organizational meetings will be filled by a member elected by the School Committee. The election will be conducted as described above.

Following election of officers at its organizational meeting, the School Committee may proceed into such regular or special business as scheduled on the agenda.

Public Hearings

A meeting of the School Committee to obtain public testimony or comment. A public hearing may occur as part of a regular or special meeting, or it may be the sole purpose of a special meeting, with no other matters addressed. If a public hearing is held pursuant to state law, all statutory requirements for notice and conduct of the hearing shall be met.

Executive Session

A meeting of the School Committee closed to the public conducted only to discuss confidential matters as specified by law. An executive session may be held at any time during any meeting in accordance with law. The School Committee shall state in open session the matters to be discussed in executive session and whether it will return to open session. In the executive session, the School Committee may consider only those matters covered in its statement.

Legal References:

MGL: 71, 38N, 37, 23A, B & C