



Falmouth Public Schools
A Community Committed to Excellence:
Every Student. Every Day.

School Committee Members

Terri Medeiros, Chair
Glenda Cohen, Vice-Chair
Melissa Keefe, Secretary

Susan Augusta
Michael Heylin
Christopher Lumping
Katrina Nevin
Margaret Souza
Kelly Welch

340 Teaticket Hwy; East Falmouth, MA 02536

Lori Duerr, Superintendent

FPS Mission: The Falmouth Public Schools creates world-class student learning experiences. Our Clippers are empowered to pursue their goals with curiosity, integrity, and resiliency.

FPS Vision: Clippers are creative, inquisitive, and engaged learners who participate in their community as socially responsible citizens. Clippers effectively communicate and solve problems that impact the world around them.

School Committee Agenda

January 27, 2026

5:30 PM Executive Session, 6:30 PM Public Session

Location: East Falmouth School Library, 33 Davisville Road, East Falmouth MA

5:30 PM OPEN Public Meeting

The School Committee meeting will be in-person for School Committee Members and the Public. A remote option will remain available for community members unable to attend in person. Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device: Please click this URL to join: <https://falmouth-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/83825609592>

Move into Executive Session to discuss litigation (regarding open meeting law complaint). And pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, sec. 21(a)(7) "to comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requires (Purpose 7); specifically, the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c 30A, sections 22(f), (g). Having these discussions in open session may have a detrimental effect on the position of the School Committee. It is anticipated that the School Committee will return to open session.

6:30 PM Re-Open Public Session

6:35 PM Student Advisory

6:40 PM READING of Wampanoag Land Acknowledgement

6:45 PM PRESENTATION of East Falmouth School Highlights

7:05 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment will be limited to 20 minutes. Members of the public are welcome to speak during public comment. Comments will be limited to 2 minutes in length. Due to the Open Meeting Law, the Committee cannot respond to or act on public comment. Additional comments and feedback can be submitted by email: SchoolCommittee@falmouth.k12.ma.us

7:25 PM SUPERINTENDENT Update

- DESE School of Recognition- East Falmouth Elementary School
- Other

7:35 PM ACT on FY27 Budget

7:45 PM ACT on Overnight Trip for DECA Students to Attend State Competition 3/12/26-3/14/26

7:50 PM **Routine Business**
Approval of January 13, 2026 Minutes
Approval of December 16, 2025 Minutes

7:55 PM **Committee Reports**

8:00 PM **Request for Follow-Up**

8:05 PM **ADJOURN**

Falmouth School Committee
Operating Protocols
2025-2026

As elected members of the Falmouth School Committee, we, including the Superintendent, accept the high honor and trust that has been placed in us to ensure that the Falmouth Public Schools creates world-class learning experiences. Our Clippers are empowered to pursue their goals with curiosity, integrity, and resiliency. – To that end, we hereby publicly commit, collectively and individually, to the following operating protocols. We shall...

IN OUR OPERATIONS:

1. Represent the needs, interests, and achievements of all students in the District and place these above all else in the decisions we make.
2. Honor the School Committee's Policy AB "The People and Their School District," which recognizes our roles and obligations as elected members of the community, remembering that we represent the entire community at all times.
3. Exercise leadership in vision, planning, policymaking, evaluation, accountability, and advocacy on behalf of the students and district while respecting the authority of the Superintendent and District staff to manage day-to-day operations.
4. Acknowledge that a School Committee meeting is a business meeting of the School Committee that is held in public-not a public meeting.
5. Make every effort to ensure meetings are effective and efficient by being well-prepared and conducting District business through a set agenda, with emerging items addressed in subsequent meetings through agenda items.
6. Accept the office of Committee member as service to the community and agree that our positions shall not be used for personal or partisan gain.
7. Operate respectfully and in accordance with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Open Meeting Law in deliberations while maintaining operational and executive session confidentiality.
8. Honor the School Committee's Policy BAA "Evaluation of School Committee Operational Procedures" by evaluating our performance and striving for continual improvement.

IN OUR COMMUNICATIONS:

9. Make every effort to promote a positive image for our school district.
10. Work to build trust between and among School Committee members, the Superintendent, staff, students, parents/guardians, and the Town Administration by treating everyone with dignity and respect.
11. Maintain an open environment where each member, the Superintendent, and the public is empowered to respectfully express opinions, concerns, and ideas, even in times of disagreement.
12. Strive to communicate questions and concerns ahead of a public meeting to enable the Committee, The Superintendent, and staff to be prepared and avoid 'surprises.'
13. Channel questions, concerns, and requests for information/data through the School Committee Chair and Superintendent, rather than directly to district staff.

IN OUR DECISION MAKING:

14. Keep an open mind and strive to make decisions by consensus using the best information available at the time, considering available facts, research, best practice, public input, and the Superintendent's and other members' recommendations, proposals, and suggestions.
15. Engage in critical thinking, expecting all Committee members to freely offer differing points of view as part of the discussion, prior to making a board decision.
16. Recognize and respect our authority exists only when a quorum of the Committee meets and is derived only through a majority decision of the Committee acting as a whole during an open, public meeting.
17. Accept that individual members do not have authority, will not take unilateral action, and when attending meetings, boards, or acting as a liaison from the School Committee, will only speak as individuals and not for the committee except when reporting a decision of the majority. When speaking as an individual, clearly state "*I (name) am not speaking as a School Committee member*"

These protocols are to be reviewed and signed yearly at the first meeting following the spring election, and/or whenever a new committee member or superintendent begins their term of service.