

# Farmington River Regional School District

## School Committee

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**Meeting #478**

Farmington River Elementary School Library

MINUTES

Monday, March 30th, 2026

7:00 PM

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**Members Present:** Denise Hardie (via Zoom), Kate Meierdiercks (via Zoom), Douglas Miner, Carl Nett (via Zoom), Stacey Schultze

**Also Present:** Superintendent Timothy Lee, Carol Sauerhoefer (via Zoom), Caroline Stamm

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Superintendent Lee.
  - a. **Roll Call:** Denise Hardie (via Zoom), Kate Meierdiercks (via Zoom), Douglas Miner, Carl Nett (via Zoom), Stacey Schultze
  - b. Superintendent Lee then turned over the meeting to Stacey Schultze who led the meeting, given that the School Committee Chair and Vice Chair are attending via Zoom.
2. **Public Comment:**
  - a. There was no public comment at this time.
3. **FY27 School District Budget:**
  - a. **Review of Budget Calendar**
    - i. Superintendent Lee reviewed the Budget Calendar to date.
  - b. **Review of FY27 Preliminary Budget, including proposed expenditures, revenues, and assessments to towns:**
    - i. Superintendent Lee reviewed key parts of the preliminary budget.
    - ii. Superintendent Lee asked if there was any feedback from School Committee Members or their towns regarding the budget following the Public Hearing. There was no feedback or comment, so Superintendent Lee proceeded.
  - c. **Revenue Revision since March 11, Public Hearing**
    - i. Following the Public Hearing, Superintendent Lee and Carol Saerhoefer learned about some changes to the PRISM award, which resulted in a reduction of funds.
      1. This is largely due to step-down funding built into the grant awards which goes into effect in the 3rd year of the grant, which we will be entering in FY27, as well as how the grant funds can be applied to the budget.
    - ii. Superintendent Lee also reviewed other updates to the budget.
    - iii. Carol Sauerhoefer also briefly reviewed changes to the Assessment Worksheet due to these changes.
  - d. **SC Discussion**
    - i. Carl Nett presented that Sandisfield is not requesting changes to the budget as presented. He did request to approve the budget with the provision that if the assessment is lower than presented due to changes in the Regional Transportation Aid from the state, that they give Tim and Carol discretion to reduce the budget.
  - e. **School Committee Vote to Approve FY27 Preliminary Budget**
    - i. **MOTION:** Carl Nett made a motion to approve the budget with the following provision: if we hear from the state that our Regional Transportation Aid increases from what is in the budget, Carol and Tim has the discretion to reduce the budget in both towns.

1. Denise Hardie seconded the motion.
2. There was no discussion.
3. VOTE - Roll Call: Denise Hardie (via Zoom), Kate Meierdiercks (via Zoom), Douglas Miner, Carl Nett (via Zoom), Stacey Schultze. The vote passed unanimously to approve the budget with the following provision: if we hear from the state that our Regional Transportation Aid increases from what is in the budget, Carol and Tim has the discretion to reduce the budget in both towns.

4. **Adjournment:**

- a. Douglas Miner made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 PM.
- b. Carl Nett seconded the motion.
- c. Roll Call: Denise Hardie (via Zoom), Kate Meierdiercks (via Zoom), Douglas Miner, Carl Nett (via Zoom), Stacey Schultze

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Respectfully submitted,  
Caroline Stamm