

TOWN OF NATICK

Meeting Notice

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF M.G.L. CHAPTER 30A, §§ 18-25

Memorial Elementary School Council

Board or Committee Meeting

<u>In-Person Meeting</u>	<u>DAY, DATE, TIME</u>
Wednesday, April 1, 2026	7:45 am at Memorial School MEM School Council Wednesday, April 1, 2026 7:45 – 8:25 am

Please scroll down for our agendas and minutes.

Members:

Karen Ghilani, Principal	Jennifer Braman-Parikh, Parent
Pat Marra, Vice Principal	Greg Heller, Parent
Maria Sugrue, Teacher	Alex Bardin, Parent

What is a school council?

A school council is a representative, school-building-based committee composed of the principal, parents, teachers, community members, and, at the secondary level, students, required to be established by each school pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 71, Section 59C.

Who is responsible for organizing a school council?

The law explicitly gives the school principal responsibility for defining the composition and overseeing the formation of the council pursuant to a representative process approved by the superintendent and school committee. As co-chair of the council, the principal is also responsible for convening the first meeting of the council. At this meeting, the other co-chair is to be selected. The PTO will coordinate and manage the election process as new members are selected to participate.

To whom do councils report?

Councils are to assist principals by reviewing the school building budget and developing the school improvement plan. Councils may also take on other responsibilities, including procedures for the building-based handbook, as granted by the local school committee. Councils' school improvement plans are submitted to the local school committee for review and approval.

How many members should the council contain?

The law leaves it up to each principal, "pursuant to a representative process approved by the superintendent and school committee," to define the size and composition of the council. It does, however, make three stipulations about membership.

1. Parents "shall have parity with professional personnel on the school councils." Regardless of the size of the council, the number of parent representatives must be equal to the number of teachers who serve on the council plus the principal.
2. "Not more than fifty percent of the council shall be non-school members." "Non-school members" are defined as members who are "other than parents, teachers, students, and staff at the school."

3. The membership of school councils "should be broadly representative of the racial and ethnic diversity of the school building and community."

School Council Meeting Dates:

- [December 2, 2025](#)
- [January 7, 2026](#)
- [February 4, 2026](#)
- [March 4, 2026](#)
- [April 1, 2026](#)
- May 6, 2026
- June 3, 2026

Memorial School Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes

MEETING AGENDA AND MINUTES

Wednesday, April 1, 2025

7:45 - 8:30 am

TOPIC:

- MSBA Update - Educational planning statement
- Mission, Vision, Core Values planning - update
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Attendees:

Karen Ghilani/Principal
Pat Marra/Assistant Principal
Maria Sugrue/Teacher
Greg Heller/Parent
Jennifer Braman-Parikh/Parent
Alex Bardin/Parent

Facilitator: Karen Ghilani
Note Keeper: Pat Marra

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

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TO PREPARE FOR THIS MEETING, PLEASE:

- Read this agenda
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Schedule [45 minutes]

TIME	MINUTES	ACTIVITY
7:45	5	School news and review of progress to date
7:55	20	Family Survey is live until April 17 - Reminders are set to go out regarding the survey each week. The student homework assignment is live and due at the same time. Review survey data to date; discuss ideas and highlight themes.
8:25	20	Looking ahead to 26-27 - some things we are thinking about
8:35	5	Wrap up