

FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING WITH THE SELECT BOARD MINUTES
October 27, 2025

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian Monroe, Nicole Pacheco, Erik Andersen, Stephanie Pickup, Kelly Ochoa

SELECT BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Murphy, Keith Silvia, Natalie Mello, Andrew Romano, Andrew Saunders

STAFF PRESENT: Superintendent Tara Kohler

The Select Board meeting was called to order by Mr. Murphy at 6:32pm.

The School Committee meeting was called to order by Mr. Monroe at 6:35pm

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2026 JAN 15 PM 1:17

SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT INTERVIEWS

Interview Candidates for One School Committee Vacancy and Consider Appointment of Candidates: Donna McKenna & Krystal Lunn

Mr. Romano recused himself due to a conflict and said he also did not submit questions; he exited the Banquet Room at 6:36pm.

Mr. Monroe made a statement about an email sent to the Town Administrator and Superintendent of Schools stating that the School Committee had made its decision on who was being appointed. Mr. Monroe said that at no time has the board discussed the vote outside of this meeting, no vote has been taken and nothing decided; the School Committee acts with integrity.

Ms. Mello will represent the Select Board and Mr. Monroe will represent the School Committee in the interview process. Ms. Mello and Mr. Monroe asked each candidate the same questions in rotation. At the end of the interview, both candidates were thanked for stepping forward and they discussed the process for proceeding to a vote.

Mr. Monroe motioned to appoint Donna McKenna to the Fairhaven School Committee for a term through Town Elections in June, 2026, Ms. Pickup seconded, motion passed (9-0-1), Mr. Romano abstained.

Mrs. Pickup motioned to adjourn the School Committee meeting, Mr. Andersen seconded, motion passed unanimously (5-0).

The School Committee adjourned at 6:56 pm

Select Board Chair Murphy then announced that the School Committee will be returning to do a roll call vote with the Select Board on the School Committee appointment. At 7:38 Mr. Romano recused himself, Mr. Monroe reopened the School Committee meeting at 7:39 pm and took roll call attendance: Mrs. Pickup was present via Zoom, Mr. Monroe, Mr. Andersen, Ms. Ochoa, and Mrs. Pacheco, all present in person.

Mr. Murphy announced the Select Board and School Committee will revisit the appointment of Donna McKenna to the School Committee, rescinding the earlier vote in order to do a roll call vote for the appointment. Mr. Monroe rescinded his motion and Mrs. Pickup rescinded her second.

Mr. Monroe motioned to appoint Donna McKenna to the Fairhaven School Committee for a term through Town Elections in June, 2026. Mr. Murphy seconded. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Saunders in favor, Ms. Mello in favor, Mr. Murphy in favor, Mr. Silvia in favor, Mr. Monroe in favor, Mrs. Pacheco in favor, Ms. Ochoa in favor, Mr. Andersen in favor, and Mrs. Pickup in favor. Mr. Romano abstained. The motion passed (9-0-1)

Mrs. Pacheco motioned to adjourn the School Committee meeting, Ms. Ochoa seconded. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Andersen in favor, Ms. Ochoa in favor, Mr. Monroe in favor, Mrs. Pacheco in favor and Mrs. Pickup in favor. The motion passed unanimously (5-0-0).

The School Committee adjourned at 7:46pm

Sheri Souza
Secretary to the School Committee
Fairhaven Public Schools

Approved
January 14, 2026