



CONSENT AGENDA

Items that need to be approved via a vote by the School Committee can be placed on the consent agenda. The decision to place an item on the consent agenda is made by those setting the agenda for the overall School Committee meeting.

The intention is to place items on the consent agenda that are not likely to need discussion. By placing an item on the consent agenda, it is assumed that School Committee members will be able to cast a vote for or against the item on the basis of reading material provided in the packet, without any discussion or explanation occurring during the School Committee meeting.

The same type of written background information is provided for consent agenda items in the packet as would be the case if those items were not placed on the consent agenda. People who can answer detailed questions about an item on the consent agenda will not be requested to be available at the School Committee meeting to present their information or to answer questions.

Near the beginning of each School Committee meeting, the Chairperson describes the item(s) that are on the consent agenda. Any individual member of the School Committee may request that an item on the consent agenda be held out. In doing so, they may request either that the item be held out for discussion and vote later on (under New Business) at that meeting, or be held out for discussion and vote at the next School Committee meeting. The later action would be appropriate if the member felt that they needed someone present to answer questions about the item who is not in attendance at the meeting.

In all cases, the Chairperson moves that the Committee vote to approve any and all items remaining on the consent agenda that have not been held out. Once seconded, the Committee votes on the consent agenda. If the motion to approve the consent agenda passes, then any items remaining within the consent agenda are considered approved. If the motion to approve the consent agenda does not pass, then all items remaining within the consent agenda are considered not approved.

Ref: Policy BEDB – Agenda Preparation

Adopted at School Committee Meeting of January 13, 2005
Revised at School Committee Meeting of July 23, 2014
Revised at School Committee Meeting of December 17, 2020