



Richard DeSilva, Jr.
1st Vice President

Brett Coplin
John Dinice
Trista Daveniero

Prema C. Moorthy, PhD
President

Benjamin A. Kezmarsky
2nd Vice President

Michael Galow
Christopher L. Hughes
Janine Ting Jansen

March 6, 2024
PUBLIC ACTION MEETING
7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

PLEASE NOTE

This meeting of the Mahwah Board of Education is open to members of the public to be physically present. Members of the public that attend will be asked to follow the same procedures as all other visitors to our schools. Those procedures can be found on the agenda page of our website. Additionally, the Board meeting will be live streamed for viewing purposes only. Anyone wishing to view the meeting, may do so via Zoom (<https://zoom.us>). The webinar ID for this meeting is **867-4230-8498** and the required password is **811450**.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. President's Announcement: Adequate notice of agenda of this meeting has been provided to *The Ridgewood News and The Record* specifying that the Mahwah Board of Education will meet on March 6, 2024, in the Administrative Offices, 60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, New Jersey. A copy was filed with the Township Clerk.
4. Salute to the Flag
5. Motion to Recess to Executive Session under Chapter 231, P.L. (Sunshine Law), which authorizes a public body to discuss personnel, negotiations and legal matters.

Personnel matters
Confidential Student Matters
Legal Update

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

6. Motion to Reconvene to Public Action Meeting to take action on matters discussed in Executive Session

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

7. Agenda Questions

Please limit your questions, at this time, to resolutions under New Business on this agenda. As a matter of fairness, you are asked to limit your questions to no more than one, and your remarks to no longer than three minutes. If you are here representing a group, please identify yourself, the group and your position in the group. If you are here as an individual, please give us your name and address. This section of public participation will be limited to fifteen minutes. Please specify the resolution you are referring to in your question.

8. Motion to open meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

9. Motion to close meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

10. Mahwah Student Representative Report

11. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Michael DeTuro

12. Business Administrator/Board Secretary’s Report – Mr. Kyle J. Bleeker

- Preliminary Budget Presentation

13. Assistant Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Dennis M. Fare

14. President’s Report

15. Board Committee Reports

- Instructional & Curriculum/Special Education – P. Moorthy (Chair), T. Daveniero, M. Galow, B. Coplin
- Finance & Facilities – M. Galow (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky, P. Moorthy
- Policy – J. Dinice (Chair), R. DeSilva, C. Hughes, J. Ting Jansen
- Community Relations – T. Daveniero (Chair), B. Kezmarsky, J. Ting Jansen, C. Hughes
- Executive/Planning Committee – P. Moorthy (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky
- Negotiations – M. Galow (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky, J. Ting Jansen
- Bergen County School Boards Liaison – J. Dinice, M. Galow, C. Hughes (2-Alt.)
- New Jersey School Boards Legislative Liaison – P. Moorthy
- Mahwah Schools Foundation Liaison – J. Ting Jansen, B. Coplin (Alt.)
- Mahwah Access for All – T. Daveniero (Liaison), M. Galow (Alt.)
- Transportation Committee Ad Hoc – B. Coplin (Chair) J. Dinice, C. Hughes, T. Daveniero
- Board of Education Liaison to Town Council - B. Kezmarsky, B. Coplin (Alt.)

16. Board Member Remarks/Additional Comments on Reports or Other Non-Agenda Items

17. Old Business

- a. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the January 24, 2024 Public Work Session/Action Meeting.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

b. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the February 15, 2024 Public Work Session/Action Meeting.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

18. New Business – Other

a. Financial Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of bills for the period of February 12, 2024 to March 1, 2024.

General Current Expense	Fund 11	\$ 1,773,938.83
Capital Outlay	Fund 12	\$ 586.00
Special Revenue Funds	Fund 20	\$ 60,410.64
Region I	Fund 52	\$ 229.85
Region I-Contracted Trans.	Fund 53	\$ 2,140.73
Total of All Checks		\$ 1,837,306.05

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

b. Financial Report – Cafeteria

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of Cafeteria checks 2871 to 2873 for a total of \$180,469.40.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

c. Parent Academy

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a stipend for the following staff that provided Parent Academy Workshops for district parents; stipend to be \$100 per hour, to be paid via a submitted voucher.

Presenter	Hours
Courtney Carrelha	2
Jennifer Glebocki	2

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

d. Conferences/Workshops

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves attendance at the following conferences/workshops that are deemed to be educationally appropriate and for the benefit of the school district including conference/workshop fees and necessary travel expenses:

First Name	Last Name	Conference/Workshop	Date	Amount
Debi	Benvenuto	Using Decodable Text for More Than Just Phonics Instruction	02/3/2024	\$30.00
Natasha	Carrera	Legal One Anti-Bullying Specialist Online Certificate Program	02/21/2024	\$500.00
Sarah	Meakem	NFHS Learning Center: Coaching Track and Field	03/11/2024	\$75.00
Heather	Tirino	NJ DECA States Development Conference Competition	03/04/2024 02/05/2024 02/06/2024	\$307.50
Matthew	Surich	DECA States	03/04/2024 03/05/2024 03/06/2024	\$307.50
Carolyn	Carolyn	DECA State Competition	03/04/2024 03/05/2024 03/06/2024	\$307.50
Justin	Saputski	DECA State Development Conference	03/04/2024 03/05/2024 03/06/2024	\$307.50
Christine	Hartigan Miller	NJ DECA State Career Development Conference	03/04/2024 03/05/2024 03/06/2024	\$307.50
Nikki	Van Ess	DECA State Competition	03/04/2024 03/05/2024 03/06/2024	\$548.86
Roger	Pelletier	Director of Athletics Association of NJ Annua Conference & Workshop	03/11/2024 03/12/2024 03/13/2024 03/14/2024	\$1,248.61
Amy	Matulevich	NJECC Annual Conference Workshops	03/12/2024	\$115.00
Andy	Beutel	NJECC	03/12/2024	\$130
Taylor	Grbelja	Yearbook Spring Workday	03/21/2024	N/A
Laura	Beattie	Empowering Voices- The Student Advocacy Conference	03/22/2024	N/A
Rebekah	Cusick	Empowering Voices: The Student Advocacy Conference	03/22/2024	N/A
Linda	Raven	Criminal History and School Bus Safety Training Program	03/26/2024	N/A
Gregory	Romero	New Jersey Lead Inspector and Risk Assessor	04/15/2024 04/16/2024 04/17/2024 04/18/2024	\$850.00

First Name	Last Name	Conference/Workshop	Date	Amount
Lauren	Kaufman	Elementary Music Teacher Roundtable	04/23/2024	N/A

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

e. Field Trips

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following field trips:

Group/Destination	Date(s)	School	# of Students
World Language (9-12) to Ramapo Ridge Middle School	3/11/24	MHS	9
Select Strings (9-12) to Betsy Ross, George Washington, and Lenape Meadows & Cars, Ramsey, NJ	3/11, 3/13, 3/14/24	MHS	12
Engineering & Tech Career Pathway (9-11)	3/14/24	MHS	40
Self-Contained (7-8) to LifeTown, Livingston, NJ	3/18/24	RR	5
Grade 5 to Ramapo Ridge	3/19/24	JK	201
Symphonic Band (9-12) to Parsippany Hills High School, Morris Plains, NJ	3/20/24	MHS	66
Self-Contained (11, 12) to Ramapo College, NJ	3/22/24	MHS	10
Winter Percussion (9-12) to RWJ Barnabas Health Arena, Toms River, NJ	3/23/24	MHS	25
Winter Percussion (9-12) to Fair Lawn High School, Fair Lawn, NJ	4/6/24	MHS	25
Grade K to Van Saun Park, Paramus, NJ	4/10/24	LM	83
Winter Percussion (9-12) to Stabler Arena, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA	4/13/24	MHS	25
Science (9-12) to Betsy Ross	4/19/24	MHS	18
Orchestra (6-8) to West Essex High School, North Caldwell, NJ	4/24/24	RR	60
Grade 1 to Turtle Back Zoo, West Orange, NJ	5/6/24	LM	92
Self-Contained to Bergen County Zoo, Paramus, NJ	5/14/24	RR	5
Orchestra (9-12) to Mayo Performing Arts, Morristown, NJ	5/16/24	MHS	40
Grade 7 to Museum of Natural History, NYC, NY	5/21/24	RR	230
Grade 6-8 Music to Mahwah Senior Center, Mahwah, NJ	6/5/24	RR	45
Grade 3 to Maritime Aquarium, Norwalk, CT	6/10/24	LM	66

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

* f. Out of District Placement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves student with local identification number 39857 be placed at the Upper Saddle River Public Schools Archways Program. The estimated prorated tuition cost including a 1:1 aide is

\$36,000.00 with the anticipated start date of March 18, 2024.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

g. Transportation-Region I

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education awards the following special education transportation routes for the 2023-2024 school year as per bids received February 15, 2024 (original bid date of February 13 was moved due to inclement weather):

Route	Contractor	Per diem	Inc/Dec	Aide
E1559	ProTrans School Trans	\$150.00	\$5.00	\$75.00
E1560	Triumph Invalid Coach	\$347.00	\$3.00	\$45.00
E1561	J&W Financial	\$193.00	\$0.01	\$50.00
E1562	ProTrans School Trans	\$285.00	\$5.00	\$75.00
E1563	R&May	\$370.00	\$1.00	\$40.00

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

h. Vendor

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following vendor; to be appointed to provide communications services; for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year, and to support communication efforts in the upcoming 2024-2025 school year:

VENDOR	DISCIPLINE/DESCRIPTION	COST
Laura Bishop Communications, LLC	Communications Strategy	\$35,000

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

i. Contract Award-Asbestos Abatement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the award of a contract to BAKO Construction in the amount of \$12,950 for an asbestos abatement at Mahwah High School.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

j. SDA Grant

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the fiscal year 2024 NJSDA Emergent Project and Capital Maintenance program SDA grant award of \$65,002.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

k. 2024-2025 Preliminary Budget

RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves submission of the preliminary 2024-2025 school district budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools, with a total budget of \$80,396,562 with \$70,548,364 to be raised by local tax levy for the General Fund and the following fund expenditures:

10-11 Fund Current Expense	\$ 79,514,678
12 Fund Capital Outlay	\$ 249,684
20 Fund Special Revenue	\$ 632,200
40 Fund Debt Service	\$ 0

FURTHER RESOLVED: that the following also be incorporated:

10 Fund Balance	\$ 3,324,526
40 Fund Balance	\$ 0

WHEREAS the Mahwah Board of Education includes in the proposed budget an unemployment reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$400,000.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

l. Travel Expenditures for 2024-2025

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, in each pre-budget year, the Mahwah Board of Education is required to establish a maximum travel expenditure amount for the budget year which may not be exceeded; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that the maximum travel expenditure amount includes all travel that is supported by State and local funds; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has not elected to exclude travel expenditures supported by federal funds from the maximum travel expenditure amount;

WHEREAS, the board of education allocated \$57,000 for the 2023-2024 school year travel expenditures and to date the actual travel expenditures are \$26,877;

RESOLVED, that the Mahwah Board of Education hereby establishes the maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2024-2025 school year as \$58,000.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

m. Grant Amendments

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves an amendment to the 23/24 ESEA allocations to represent carryover funds from the 22/23 allocation as follows:

Program	Amount
Title IIA	\$ 426.00

Program	Amount
Title III	\$ 3,200.00
Title IV	\$ 14,186.00

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

n. Contract-Computer Solutions, Inc.

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the software support renewal with Computer Solutions to provide back up and software support for the budget and personnel software and cloud monthly access service from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 for an annual cost of \$17,110.80, which reflects a 2 percent discount for software support.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

19. New Business – Personnel

a. Retirement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Linda Walter, teacher of science at Ramapo Ridge Middle School, for the purpose of retirement, with a final date of employment June 30, 2024.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mahwah Board of Education expresses its sincere appreciation for her 42 years of dedication and service to the Mahwah Public Schools.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

b. Retirement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Lorraine Pierro, non-instructional paraprofessional at Mahwah High School, for the purpose of retirement, with a final date of employment June 30, 2024.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mahwah Board of Education expresses its sincere appreciation for her 10 years of dedication and service to the Mahwah Public Schools.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

c. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Juliana Peterson, instructional paraprofessional, at Ramapo Ridge Middle School, effective March 13, 2024.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

* d. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board

of Education approves the appointment of Keri Lakawicz, as teacher of self-contained, at Lenape Meadows School, from April 8, 2024 – June 30, 2024; salary to be Column B, Step 12, \$72,867, pro-rated; pending employment verification.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

e. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Meghan Brophy-Surgent, as administrative assistant for the transportation department, to service Region I and the district transportation office, as a 12-month position, effective retroactive to March 4, 2024 – June 30, 2024; salary to be \$48,000, pro-rated; pending employment verification.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

f. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Filomena Bonura to the position of administrative assistant (12-month) to the Director of Special Services, effective March 18, 2024 – June 30, 2024; Step 2, salary to be \$50,080, pro-rated.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

g. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Timothy Miller, as alternate support driver, for the marching band program competitions outside of the school district, for Mahwah High School, effective retroactive February to 15, 2024 – June 30, 2024; to be paid an hourly rate of \$25.00, via a submitted voucher for hours worked; pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

h. Appointment Update – Leave Replacement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment update of Danielle Baquerizo, as leave replacement for Employee #4645, pursuant to New Jersey Statute 18A:16-1.1, effective retroactive to February 21, 2024 – June 30, 2024; salary to be Column D, Step 1, \$60,087, pro-rated; pending employment verification.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

i. Appointment - Revision

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves Drew Churchson, to assist Region 1 with clerical and logistical responsibilities, retroactive from February 21, 2024, to March 8, 2024; to be paid an hourly rate of \$27.30, via a submitted voucher for hours worked.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

j. Summer Music Program - Adjustment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the Self-Sustaining Summer Music Program adjustment of program dates; to be held June 24, 2024 - July 11, 2024; classes to be run Monday to Thursday; from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., and no classes to be held on Thursday, July 4, 2024, and Friday, July 5, 2024; at no cost to the district.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

k. FMLA/Childcare/Maternity Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence for Employee #2267, using 39 sick days, effective May 28, 2024 – September 30, 2024, and taking FMLA from October 1, 2024 – December 20, 2024.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

l. Vendor

RESOLVED; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves Olive Tree, LLC, to provide direct speech serves; at a rate of \$105 per hour, and written evaluations, as needed; at a rate of \$450 per evaluation; effective retroactive to March 4, 2024 – June 30, 2024.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

m. Clinical Internship/Student Teaching

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a clinical internship and student teacher placement for Noah Cabassa, a William Paterson University student, to be placed at Joyce Kilmer School, under the supervision of Dena Scudieri and Dr. Billy Bowie, during the university’s semester schedules, within the date range from September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

n. Recruiting Events

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves attendance at the following recruiting events, for the purposes of recruiting future educators/employees in preparation for the 2024-2025 school year:

Name	Recruiting Events	Date	Amount
Dr. Dennis M. Fare	BCASA Job Fair	3/9/24	N/A
	Montclair State University	4/11/24	\$125

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

o. Job Description

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following job descriptions:

- School Nurse – Instructional
- Non-certificated School Nurse
- Teacher of Special Education
- Instructional Paraprofessional

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

20. Public Questions or Comment

Public participation at Board meetings is in accordance with Bylaw 0167.

At this time, members of the public may ask questions or make a comment on educational issues or school matters of community interest. As a matter of fairness, you are asked to limit your questions to no more than one, and your remarks to no longer than three minutes. If you are here representing a group, please identify yourself, the group, and your position in the group. If you are here as an individual, please give us your name and address.

Note: This section of public participation will be limited to fifteen minutes.

21. Motion to open meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

22. Motion to close meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

23. Motion to Recess to Executive Session under Chapter 231, P.L. (Sunshine Law), which authorizes a public body to discuss personnel, negotiations and legal matters.

- Personnel matters
- Confidential Student Matters
- Legal Update

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

24. Motion to Reconvene to Public Action Meeting to take action on matters discussed in Executive Session

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

25. Motion to Adjourn

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

Upcoming Events

3/12	Betsy Ross HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m. Zoom
3/13	Joyce Kilmer HSO meeting – 9:30 a.m. Zoom
3/15	Single Session for Students – Staff Development Day
3/19	Lenape Meadows HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m. Zoom
3/21	Ramapo Ridge HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m. Zoom
3/27	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
3/29	Good Friday – Schools Closed
4/1-4/5	Spring Recess – Schools Closed
4/8	Mahwah HS HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m.
4/9	Betsy Ross HSO meeting -7:00 p.m. Zoom
4/10	Joyce Kilmer HSO meeting – 9:30 a.m. Zoom
4/11	Ramapo Ridge HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m. Zoom
4/17	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
4/23	Lenape Meadows HSO meeting – 2:00 p.m.
5/1	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
5/2	George Washington HSO meeting – 9:30 a.m. In-person & Zoom
5/8	Joyce Kilmer HSO meeting – 9:30 a.m. Zoom
5/14	Betsy Ross HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m. Zoom
5/20	Mahwah HS HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m.
5/21	Lenape Meadows HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m. Zoom
5/22	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
5/23	Ramapo Ridge HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m. Zoom
5/27	Memorial Day – Schools Closed
6/5	George Washington HSO meeting – 9:30 a.m. In-person & Zoom
6/5	Joyce Kilmer HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m.
6/6	Ramapo Ridge HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m. Zoom
6/11	Betsy Ross HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m.
6/11	Lenape Meadow HSO meeting – 7:00 p.m. Zoom
6/12	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
6/19	Single Session for Students & Grade 8 Promotion Exercises
6/20	Last Day of School/High School Graduation – Single Session for Students
6/21	Last Day for Staff
7/3	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
7/24	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.