

MISSION STATEMENT: To foster a safe and equitable learning environment that celebrates our diverse learners, and provides the necessary resources and supports to prioritize the social-emotional and academic development of all students.

SPECIAL MEETING was held on March 25, 2024, Cambridge Park Elementary School, 1 Crest Way, Aberdeen, NJ

I. CALL TO ORDER

President, Ms. Pell called the Workshop Meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

II. STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Ms. Pell read the following statement:

“The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or agreed upon. In accordance with the provision of this act, the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education advertised this meeting on March 25, 2024 in the Asbury Park Press and the Star Ledger. This notice was sent to the Municipal Clerks of the Borough of Matawan and the Township of Aberdeen, and the Matawan-Aberdeen Joint Free Public Library. The notice was also placed on the district’s web site.”

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ROLL CALL

Present:	Ms. Pell - President	Ms. Feiles
	Ms. Martinez (arrived at 6:37 pm)	Mr. McGovern
	Mr. Montone	Ms. Spruell
	Ms. Werneke	

Absent: Ms. Ascoli, Ms. Skop

Also Ms. Perez, Superintendent of Schools
Present: Ms. Case, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Liebmann, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

V. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT – None

VI. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – None

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATING TO AGENDA – None

VIII. FINANCE

Motion by Ms. Feiles seconded by Ms. Werneke to approve the following resolution(s):

The Superintendent recommends that the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education approve the following:

1. Tentative Budget Approval - Fiscal Year 2024-2025

The Superintendent recommends approval to adopt the Tentative Budget for FY 2024-2025:

BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2024-2025 school year using the 2024-2025 state aid figures and the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary be authorized to submit the

following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education approve the 2024-2025 budget supported by a general fund local tax levy in the following amounts:

General Fund	\$81,479,346
Special Revenue Fund	\$8,674,026
Debt Service Fund	\$2,693,055
Total Budget	\$92,846,427

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education approves the tax levy to be raised in the following amounts:

	Total	Matawan	Aberdeen
General Fund	\$62,995,444	\$20,129,967	\$42,865,477
Debt Service Fund	\$2,357,457	\$753,317	\$1,604,140
Total Taxes to be Raised	\$65,352,901	\$20,883,284	\$44,469,617

And to advertise said tentative budget in the Asbury Park Press in accordance with the form required by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a public hearing be held at the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education Regular Action Meeting, Cliffwood Elementary School, 422 Cliffwood Ave, Cliffwood, NJ 07721 on April 25, 2024, at 6:30 pm for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2024-2025 school year.

Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal

BE IT RESOLVED that as per N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-12.2(d) the general fund appropriations include a \$650,000 withdrawal from the Maintenance Reserve Account for use on required maintenance activities for a school facility as reported in the comprehensive maintenance plan pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.5.

Adjustment for HEALTH CARE COSTS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education includes in the final budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$535,700. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums.

Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement

WHEREAS, the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education established \$153,901 as the maximum travel amount for the current school year and has expended \$40,481.05 as of this date; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursement in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, to a maximum expenditure of \$135,000 for the 2024-2025 school year.

2. Tuition costs for the 2024-2025 School Year

The Superintendent recommends that the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education approve the tuition costs for the 2024-2025 school year as follows:

Grade	Cost
Kindergarten	\$15,985.00
Grades 1-5	\$17,134.00
Grades 6-8	\$18,142.00
Grades 9-12	\$17,854.00
Language Learning Disability (Mild to Moderate)	\$18,125.00
Emotional Regulation Impairment (Behavioral Disability)	\$19,232.00
Autism	\$47,746.00
Multiple Disability	\$13,199.00
Preschool Disabled – FT	\$27,413.00
KEYS	\$57,527.00
REACH	\$41,650.00

3. Approve Cancellation of Capital Projects Balances

The Superintendent recommends that the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District Board of Education approve the cancellation of the following completed Capital Projects; the actual costs were less than the estimated cost. These projects were funded through Capital Reserve, therefore, \$107,250 will be returned to the Capital Reserve Fund.

Matawan HS	Boiler & Fire Alarm Replacement	\$44,900
Strathmore ES	Fire Alarm Replacement	\$62,350
	TOTAL	\$107,250

IX. VOTE/ROLL CALL ON AGENDA ITEMS

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	COMMENTS
Ms. Feiles	X				
Ms. Martinez	X				
Mr. McGovern	X				
Mr. Montone	X				
Ms. Skop				X	
Ms. Spruell	X				
Ms. Werneke	X				

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	COMMENTS
Ms. Ascoli				X	
Ms. Pell	X				

On a roll call vote, seven (7) members voted yes, zero (0) members voted no, two (2) members were absent

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATING TO ADDITIONAL MATTERS - None

6:59 pm

- C. Barilka (MAREA President)– What makes up the other money after taxes and state aid?
- Ms. Case – Tuition from other districts, transportation jointures, SEMI, EXAID
- M. Hurl – Summer program discontinued and was loved. Parents do book vacations and heard low attendance. Petition for summer school and hope it makes changes and should be for all students. Pay a lot of money and should use appropriately.
- Ms. Pell – Agreed
- Mr. Liebmann – Combination of factors: student attendance, required to have a full staff, received data and it didn’t help, loss of COVID funding.
- M.H. – Teacher was absent a lot and students were. Maybe look into it.
- Ms. Martinez – Can we see the summer school attendance.
- D. Lazada – ESY is given to children with special needs. Why do students in inclusion not receive it?
- Ms. Perez – ESY is required by law who have a student IEP.
- N. Sluze – Told by CST that the budget can’t afford it.
- Ms. Perez – Please reach out to Ms. Steffich to discuss specific student needs.
- Ms. Pell – There are funds for ESY.
- Ms. Perez – Please phone number so we can reach out.
- D. Lazada – Can you send emails out for interest in ESY program? Why can’t we do that?
- Ms. Perez- They would have received an email if it’s in their IEP. It would say child’s name with summer school with dates.
- M. Hurl – Cambridge Park the fire alarm went off, without sweaters with puddles and before it was paved. Teachers need to be properly trained. Children were cold and got sick. There needs to be more drills.
- Ms. Pell – It was not a drill.
- Mr. Liebmann – Not a lot of detail with public. We are training twice a month and staff are trained. What you said is important and will address with principals.
- Ms. Spruell – Can you tell how many drills we are required to have?
- Mr. Liebmann – 1 fire drill, 1 emergency drill.

7:18 pm

XI. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Ms. Feiles and seconded by Ms. Spruell and a unanimous roll call vote the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:19 pm.