



**MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION**

60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430

**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**

**August 7, 2024**  
**PUBLIC ACTION MEETING**  
**9:00 a.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 **894-3637-8120** and the required password is **568921**.

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 August 7, 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

- Access
- NJGPA
- Graduation Pathway

12. Business Administrator/Board Secretary's Report – Mr. Thomas Lambe

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. New Business – Other

## a. 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:

<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>Conference/Workshop</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Craig	Jandoli	Autism and Threat Assessment Training (Full-Day Training)	7/25/2024	N/A
Faisal	Sheikh	LinkIt's 2024 Data Forward Summer Institute (DFSI)	08/07- 08/08/24	\$350.00
Brian	Cory	LinkIt's 2024 Data Forward Summer Institute (DFSI)	08/07- 08/08/24	\$350.00
Michael	McCabe	LinkIt's 2024 Data Forward Summer Institute (DFSI)	08/07- 08/08/24	\$350.00
John	Pascale	LinkIt-2024 Data Forward Summer Institute	08/07- 08/08/24	\$350.00

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

## b. School Improvement Panel (ScIP)

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the School Improvement Panel (ScIP) for the 2024-2025 school year.

<b>Betsy Ross School</b>	<b>George Washington School</b>	<b>Lenape Meadows School</b>	<b>Joyce Kilmer School</b>	<b>Ramapo Ridge Middle School</b>	<b>Mahwah High School</b>
Michael Henzel	Michael Hagopian	Paul Wyka	Billy Bowie	Brian Cory	John Pascale
Ofeer Kearns	Christine Piotrowski	Natasha Carrera	Ashley Adams	Suzanne Whalen	Craig Jandoli
Lauren Sullivan	Kalliopi Triantafillakis	Mary DiRienzo	Allison Bowden	Alison Malone	Michael McCabe
Emma Conroy	Emily Doughan	Jennifer Koby	Micaela Tarzian	Anthony Fiore	Dennis Jarvis
Courtney Byrnes		Julie Contey	Jennifer Fitzgerald	Danielle Dworak	Samantha Lontine
		Urszula Uzar	Michele Giannattasio		Jaclyn Nelson
					David Torosian

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

18. New Business – Personnel

a. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Nicole Kahwaty, leave replacement for employee #5174, effective retroactive to July 26, 2024.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

b. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Nancy Rabin, paraprofessional at Lenape Meadows School, effective retroactive to August 1, 2024.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

c. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Irene Maltzan, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Betsy Ross School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025; salary to be Step 1, \$21,032.88; pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

d. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Mary Flannery, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Betsy Ross School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025; salary to be Step 1, \$21,032.88; pending fingerprinting and 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 Kathy DeAngelis, as non-instructional paraprofessional, 11 hours per week, at Mahwah High School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025; salary to be Step 1, \$8,413.15; pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

f. Appointment – Revised

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the revised appointment of Dorian Messina, as non-instructional paraprofessional, 16.5 hours per week, at Mahwah High School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025; salary to be Step 2, \$13,086.21.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

g. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Elwira Fremder, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Joyce Kilmer School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025; salary to be Step 1, \$21,032.88; pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

h. Appointment – Leave Replacement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Natalie Franke, as leave replacement for Employee #5174, pursuant to New Jersey Statute 18A:16-1.1, from September 1, 2024 – December 20, 2024; salary to be Column A, Step 2, \$56,973, pro-rated; pending employment verification.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

i. Change in Position and Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the change in position and appointment for Kirsteen Diaz-Pinto; from non-certificated school nurse, for Mahwah Township Public Schools, to the position of non-certificated school nurse for Lenape Meadows School; effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

j. Increase in Hours

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the increase in hours of Jennifer Mellana-Rosenblatt, instructional paraprofessional, at Lenape Meadows School, from 5.0 hours per day to 5.5 hours per day; effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

k. Decrease in Hours

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the decrease in hours of Anri Nakaarai, instructional paraprofessional, at Lenape Meadows School, from 5.5 hours per day to 4.75 hours per day; effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

l. NJFLA 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 #5396, effective September 3, 2024 – September 13, 2024, using NJFLA from September 3, 2024 – September 13, 2024.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

m. NJFLA 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 #5243, effective on September 19, 2024 – October 2, 2024, taking NJFLA from September 19, 2024 – October 2, 2024.

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

n. Appointment - Extra Service Positions

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the extra service positions for the 2024-2025 school year at the negotiated stipend rate, as shown on Schedule L of the MEA contract.

**Lenape Meadows School**

Activity	Name	Amount
Dismissal (PM)	Darelle Dunbar	\$1,909
Dismissal (PM)	Jamie Brisby	\$1,909
Dismissal (PM)	Jennifer Koby	\$1,909
Dismissal (PM)	Christina Korcak	\$1,909

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

o. School Safety/School Climate Committee Members – Betsy Ross School

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following committee members, for Betsy Ross School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025:

<b>School Safety/School Climate Committee</b>	<b>Anti-Bullying Specialists</b>
Michael Henzel	Alyssa Cipriano
Stephanie Engstrom	
Jason Schmitt	
Lisa Rizzo	
Shannon Testa	

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

p. School Safety/School Climate Committee Members – George Washington School

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following committee members, for George Washington School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025:

<b>School Safety/School Climate Committee</b>	<b>Anti-Bullying Specialists</b>
Michael Hagopian	John Macri
Nancy Mertz	
Cathleen Scarpelli	
Christopher O'Shaughnessy (Parent)	
Lisa Rizzo	

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

q. School Safety/School Climate Committee Members – Lenape Meadows School

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following committee members, for Lenape Meadows School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025:

<b>School Safety/School Climate Committee</b>	<b>Anti-Bullying Specialists</b>
Paul Wyka	Natasha Carrera
Natasha Carrera	
Nancy Merrigan	
Gladys Fernandez	
Christina Korcak	
Julie Contey	
Courtney Neglia	
Laura Kaufman	
Amanda Strasser (Parent)	
Lisa Rizzo	

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

## r. School Safety/School Climate Committee Members – Joyce Kilmer School

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following committee members, for Joyce Kilmer School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025:

<b>School Safety/School Climate Committee</b>	<b>Anti-Bullying Specialists</b>
Billy Bowie	Ashley Adams
Ashley Adams	
Kierstyn Liddy	
Allison Bowden	
Craig Alfano	
Lisa Rizzo	
Laura Grassi (Parent)	

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

## s. School Safety/School Climate Committee Members – Ramapo Ridge Middle School

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following committee members, for Ramapo Ridge Middle School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025:

<b>School Safety/School Climate Committee</b>	<b>Anti-Bullying Specialists</b>
Brian Cory	Marykate Coakley
Suzanne Whalen	Cassidy Sarka
Kelly Duffield	Peter Gangemi
Michael Dlugo	
Catherine Carisi	
Marykate Coakley	
Cassidy Sarka	
Peter Gangemi	
Lisa Rizzo	
Rachel Goldstein (Parent)	

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

## t. School Safety/School Climate Committee Members – Mahwah High School

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following committee members, for Mahwah High School, effective September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025:

<b>School Safety/School Climate Committee</b>	<b>Anti-Bullying Specialists</b>
John Pascale	Joan Stewart
Craig Jandoli	Craig Jandoli
Michael McCabe	Michael McCabe

School Safety/School Climate Committee	Anti-Bullying Specialists
Mary Rosen	
Allison Krannich	
Joan Stewart	
Megan Beatty	
Cindy Buchalter (Parent)	
Lisa Rizzo	

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

u. Sick Leave Bank Committee: 2024-20245School Year

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following committee members, comprised of members from the district Board of Education, Central Office, Mahwah Education Association, Mahwah Administrator Association, and Mahwah Supervisors Association for the 2024 – 2025 school year; to have related cases reported by Dennis M. Fare, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, as Non-Voting Chair:

Members		
Prema Moorthy, Ph.D.	Board President	Board of Education
Michael DeTuro, Ed.D.	Superintendent	Central Office
Lisa Rizzo	Director of Special Services	Central Office
John Pascale	Principal	Mahwah High School
Natasha Carrera	Assistant Principal	Lenape Meadows School
Roger Pelletier	Supervisor	Mahwah High School
Lori Bregman	Teacher	Betsy Ross School
Nancy Mertz	School Nurse	George Washington School
Justin Saputski	Teacher	Mahwah High School

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

v. New Hire Orientation – Presentations

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following hours for the following participants in our New Hire Orientation, presenting on a range of topics; with great appreciation for sharing their insights with our new incoming employees; to be paid at the Thunderbird Academy rate:

Staff Member	Presentation Topic	Hours
Ofeer Kearns	Responsive Classroom	1.5 hours
Ofeer Kearns	Instructional Coaching Model	2.0 hours
Courtney Dodd	iReady Introduction Training (PreK-8)	1.5 hours
Brian Donovan	iReady Introduction Training (PreK-8)	1.5 hours
Jennifer Hogan	Instructional Coaching Model	2.0 hours
Talysa Cole	Instructional Coaching Model	2.0 hours
Christine Piotrowski	Social-Emotional Learning Introduction (Elementary)	2.0 hours

<b>Staff Member</b>	<b>Presentation Topic</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Nicole Kuhrt	Social-Emotional Learning Introduction (Elementary)	2.0 hours
Jennifer Chung	Social-Emotional Learning Introduction (Secondary)	1.5 hours
Heather Tirino	Social-Emotional Learning Introduction (Secondary)	1.5 hours
Courtney Carrelha	Small-Group Instruction (Secondary)	2.0 hours
Julie Henehan	Small-Group Instruction (Secondary)	2.0 hours

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

w. New Hire Orientation – Teacher Discussion Panel

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following hours for the following teacher-participants in our New Hire Orientation Teacher Discussion Panel; with great appreciation for sharing their insights with our incoming new employees, to be paid at the Thunderbird Academy rate:

<b>Staff Member</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Walker Larsen	Mahwah High School	1.5 hours
Courtney Dodd	Joyce Kilmer School	1.5 hours
Kelly Smith	Betsy Ross School	1.5 hours
Bridget Powers	Mahwah High School	1.5 hours
Catherine Scudieri	Ramapo Ridge Middle School	1.5 hours
Kathleen Altomare	Joyce Kilmer School	1.5 hours

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

19. 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.

20. Motion to open meeting to the public

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

21. Motion to close meeting to the public

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

22. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

24. Motion to Adjourn

MOVED \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED \_\_\_\_\_ VOTE \_\_\_\_\_

Upcoming Events

8/7	Board of Education Meeting – 9:00 a.m. (Personnel Only)
8/28	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
9/2	Labor Day – Schools Closed
9/3	Opening Day for Staff/School Meetings – No Students
9/4	Staff Only – No Students
9/5	Schools Open – Opening Day for Students
9/18	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
10/3	Rosh Hashanah- Schools Closed
10/14	Staff Development Day/Columbus Day – Schools Closed
10/9	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
10/30	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
11/1	Diwali – Schools Closed
11/4-11/6	Parent/Teacher Conferences PreK-5 – Single Session PreK-5 Only
11/7 & 11/8	NJEA Convention – Schools Closed
11/13	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
11/27	Single Session
11/28 & 11/29	Thanksgiving Recess – Schools Closed
12/11	Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
12/20	Single Session
12/23-12/31	Holiday Recess – Schools Closed
1/1/25	New Year’s Day – Schools Closed
1/8	Board of Education Meeting (Reorganization)