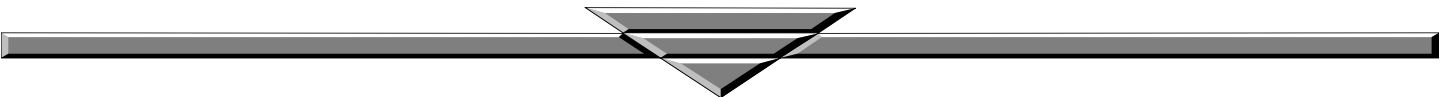


HAWTHORNE, NEW JERSEY



Tuesday, December 10, 2024
Regular Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
Lincoln Middle School

This Meeting is Being Recorded

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Abigail Goff, President
Alex Clavijo, Vice President

Joseph Carr
Michael Doyle
Jennifer Ehrentraut
Erica Mulkey-Koltzan
Anthony Puluse
Jay Shortway
Marco Totaro

Richard A. Spirito, Superintendent of Schools
Jenine Murray, Business Administrator/Board Secretary



Next Meeting
Reorganization Meeting
January 7, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.



MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Time: _____

PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING BEGINS:

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the rights 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 acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted on the bulletin board of the municipal building, communicated to The Herald News, The Record, and filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Hawthorne.

(Ask for Roll Call)

ROLL CALL:	PRESENT	ABSENT	Time of arrival after meeting has been called to order.
Joseph Carr			
Alex Clavijo			
Michael Doyle			
Jennifer Ehrentraut			
Erica Mulkey-Koltzan			
Anthony Puluse			
Jay Shortway			
Marco Totaro			
Abigail Goff			

Also Present: Richard A. Spirito, Superintendent of Schools
 Jenine Murray, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 And approximately _____ members of the public.

FLAG SALUTE:**MEETING REGULATIONS:**

During each regular meeting, two opportunities are provided for citizens to ask questions and to make comments. During the first opportunity, early on the agenda, the meeting is open to the public for the purpose of addressing items listed for approval on this agenda only. The second opportunity occurs just prior to adjournment, when citizens may address any subject matter that is pertinent to and/or directly related to the operation of the school district.

Persons wishing to speak must upon being recognized, rise, state their name, address and subject matter. Comments and questions shall be addressed to the Board President or the presiding officer and shall be limited to five minutes per person. The Board may (or may not) respond to issues raised by members of the public at the time they are raised, but will provide a response if and when appropriate.

The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Please note that the Board will not respond to comments regarding students or board employees in light of the privacy rights held by those individuals. Moreover, the Board discourages comments about such individuals, and will not be responsible for such comments. Members of the public who choose to speak during this public session should carefully consider their comments, since they could be held personally liable for any statements they make.

Finally, please note that in accordance with District Policy the Board will not officially comment or respond to any matter mentioned unless it can confirm that the matter has first been brought to the attention of the appropriate school personnel in an attempt to resolve the issue.

PUBLIC BE HEARD - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

November 12, 2024 –Regular Meeting - Public

Board of Education Roll Call Vote

	Mr. <u>Carr</u>	Mr. <u>Clavijo</u>	Mr. <u>Doyle</u>	Ms. <u>Ehrentraut</u>	Ms. <u>Mulkey-Koltzan</u>	Mr. <u>Puluse</u>	Mr. <u>Shortway</u>	Mr. <u>Totaro</u>	Mrs. <u>Goff</u>
Motion									
Aye									
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									

CORRESPONDENCE:**REPORTS:**

- A. Student Council Representative's Report – William Goff
- B. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Richard A. Spirito
- Presentations to Students
 - Chronic Absenteeism Presentation – Dr. Kristen Trabona

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION:**Jennifer Ehrentraut, Chairperson****ACTION ITEMS:**

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Curriculum and Instruction recommends the following resolutions:

CI-1. Approval of Field Trips

Be it resolved, that the Hawthorne Board of Education approve the following in accordance with Policy 2340:

School	Group	Destination	Transportation	Cost Per Student	Outside Funding
HHS	Esports Club	Georgian Court University	HPS	\$0.00	\$0.00
LMS	Enrichment & Mrs. Teeling's Class	Jefferson School	HPS	\$0.00	\$0.00
LMS	Student Council	Roosevelt School	HPS	\$0.00	\$0.00
LMS	Enrichment- The Network- Grade 6	Haskell Public School	HPS	\$0.00	\$0.00
LMS	Enrichment	Morristown Unitarian Fellowship	HPS	\$35.00	\$0.00
LMS	Enrichment- Network	JP Holland Charter School	HPS	\$0.00	\$0.00
ELE	Enrichment- Path Program- Grade 5	Newark Museum	HPS	\$25.00	\$0.00
LMS	Enrichment- Network- Grade 8	Wanaque Public School	HPS	\$0.00	\$0.00
LMS	Enrichment- Network- Grade 7/8	Drew University	HPS	\$100 per delegation	\$0.00
*RS	Grade 4 – All Classes	Museum Village	HPS	\$0.00	Funded by the PTO

- CI-2. Approval of an agreement with Bergen County Special Services School District for Speech Therapy Services from December 2, 2024 through May 9, 2025 at a rate of \$39,119.08.

- CI-3. Approval of an agreement with Bergen County Special Services School District for behavior services for one resident student (file # 120124) at a yearly rate not to exceed \$5,440.00 for the 2024–2025 school year.
- CI-4. Approval of an agreement with Learn Well for 10 hours of educational services per week for one resident student (file # 120224) beginning November 14, 2024 at a rate of \$60.75 per hour.
- CI-5. Approval of an agreement with Learn Well for 10 hours of educational services per week for one resident student (file # 120324) beginning November 12, 2024 at a rate of \$60.75 per hour.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hawthorne Board of Education approve the following student out of district placements based upon NJ Department of Education Maximum:

	School	SY Tuition	Additional Services	ESY Tuition	Student #	Dates of Term	Discussion
CI-6.	The Forum School	\$463.00 per diem for 122 days \$56,486.00	\$265.00 per diem for 122 days \$32,330.00		Student (file # 120424)	12/2/24 – 6/30/2025	24–25 SY
CI-7.	Shepard Preparatory High School	\$336.60 per diem for 132 days \$44,431.20	N/A		Student (file # 120524)	11/18/24 – 6/2025	24–25 SY

- CI-8. Approval of home instruction for Hawthorne resident pupil(s) as follows:
- Student (file #120624) – Instruction starting date: 11/22/24
Home Instructor(s) – Educere
 - Student (file #120724) – Instruction starting date: 11/26/24
Home Instructor(s) – Educere
 - Student (file #120824) – Instruction starting date: 1/4/25
Home Instructor(s) – Educere
- CI-9. Approval of the partnership with Connect for Freedom Inc. to provide relevant instructional resources, professional development training materials and parent presentations around online safety and exploitation aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and Mandates at no cost to the district.
- CI-10. Approval of the submission of the Title 1 Comparability for the 2023-2024 school year
- CI-11. Approval of the submission of the Title 1 Performance Report for the 2023-2024 school year.
- CI-12. Approval of Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for Addressing Chronic Absenteeism for the 2024-2025 school year for Roosevelt and Washington Elementary Schools.
- *CI-13. Approval of placement in the alternative HOPE Program for Hawthorne resident pupil(s) as follows:
- Student (file #121424) – Instruction starting date: 12/11/24
Home Instructor(s) – Educere

- *CI-14. Approval of an agreement with Learn Well for 10 hours of educational services per week for one resident student (file # 121524) beginning December 5, 2024 at a rate of \$60.75 per hour.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hawthorne Board of Education approve the following student out of district placements based upon NJ Department of Education Maximum:

	School	SY Tuition	Additional Services	ESY Tuition	Student #	Dates of Term	Discussion
*CI-15.	Shepard Preparatory High School	\$336.60 per diem for 114 days \$38,372.40	N/A		Student (file # 121624)	12/16/24 – 6/2025	24 – 25 SY

Board of Education Roll Call Vote

	Mr. <u>Clavijo</u>	Mr. <u>Doyle</u>	Ms. <u>Ehrentraut</u>	Ms. <u>Mulkey-Koltzan</u>	Mr. <u>Puluse</u>	Mr. <u>Shortway</u>	Mr. <u>Totaro</u>	Mr. <u>Carr</u>	Mrs. <u>Goff</u>
Motion									
Aye									
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									

PERSONNEL:

Jennifer Ehrentraut, Chairperson

The following resolutions are pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

ACTION ITEMS:

Appointments, Retirements, Terminations, Resignations, Rescissions:

Item #	Name	Action	Position	Degree /Step	Salary	School	Effective Date	Notice Date or Ending Date	Reason/ Account
P-1.	Richard A. Spirito	Retire	Superintendent of Schools	n/a	n/a	District	8/1/25	Last Day on Payroll 7/31/25	Retirement
P-2.	Jenine Murray	Resign	School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary	n/a	n/a	District	1/24/25	Last Day on Payroll 1/24/25	Resignation
P-3.	Karen Skae	Adjust	Administrative Assistant/ Accounts Payable	n/a	n/a	CO	2/1/25	Last Day on Payroll 1/31/25	Adjustment of Last Day on Payroll from 1/17/25 to 1/31/25 approved on the 10/15/24 agenda item *P-30.
P-4.	Jalal Abaza	Adjust	Computer Technician	n/a	n/a	District	10/21/24	Last Day on Payroll 10/21/24	Adjustment of Last Day on Payroll from 10/18/24 to 10/21/24 approved on the 10/15/24 agenda item P-1.

Item #	Name	Action	Position	Degree /Step	Salary	School	Effective Date	Notice Date or Ending Date	Reason/ Account
P-5.	Meaghan Kelly	Adjust	BCBA	n/a	n/a	HHS	12/2/24	6/30/25	Adjustment of Dates for leave approved on 9/23/24 agenda item # P-11.
P-6.	Mary Vargas	Adjust	Teacher of Students with Disabilities	n/a	n/a	RS	8/28/24	6/30/25	Adjustment of Child Rearing Leave Dates for leave approved on 7/16/24 agenda item # P-30.
P-7.	Denise DeMarco	Adjust	Long Term Substitute	n/a	\$285 per diem No Benefits	RS	10/16/24	6/18/24 or the Return of the Regular Teacher	Extension of assignment due to extension of the Leave of Mary Vargas
P-8.	Grace Mariani	Adjust	Long Term Substitute	n/a	\$282 per diem No Benefits	JS/WS	1/2/25	6/18/25 or until the return of the regular teacher	To Fill a Vacancy Created by the Leave of Cassandra Parkin
P-9.	Brianna Smith	Hire	Teacher of Students with Disabilities	BA/3	Pro-rated on the basis of an annual salary of \$56,965	RS	Pending Completion of Criminal History Review and Receipt of Teaching Certification	6/30/25	To Fill a Vacancy Created by the Resignation of Sihana Asani
P-10.	Kathryn Barbetta	Extra Duty	Italian Club Advisor	n/a	Stipend of \$1,338	HHS	2024-2025 SY	n/a	Extra Duty Assignment
P-11.	Kathryn Barbetta	Extra Duty	Italian Honor Society Advisor	n/a	Stipend of \$1,946	HHS	2024-2025 SY	n/a	Extra Duty Assignment
P-12.	Theresa DiGeronimo	Extra Duty	Book Club Advisor	n/a	Stipend of \$1,338	HHS	2024-2025 SY	n/a	Extra Duty Assignment
P-13.	Joseph Walker	Extra Duty	Chaperone	n/a	\$33.66 per hour	HHS	2024-2025 SY	n/a	Chaperone for Student (file# 120924) for Varsity Wrestling
P-14.	Matthew Trejos	Extra Duty	Chaperone	n/a	\$33.66 per hour	HHS	12/12/24	n/a	Chaperone for Student (file# 120924) for the Holiday Dance
P-15.	Faiza Jaktar	Extra Duty	Chaperone	n/a	\$33.66 per hour	HHS	12/12/24	n/a	Chaperone for Student (file# 121024) for the Holiday Dance
P-16.	Julie Schmidberger	Extra Duty	Chaperone	n/a	\$33.66 per hour	HHS	12/12/24	n/a	Chaperone for Student (file# 121124) for the Holiday Dance
P-17.	Teresa Davenport	Extra Duty	Chaperone	n/a	\$33.66 per hour	HHS	12/12/24	n/a	Chaperone for Student (file# 121224) for the Holiday Dance
P-18.	Matthew Trejos	Extra Duty	Chaperone	n/a	\$33.66 per hour	HHS	12/17/24	n/a	Chaperone for Student (file# 121324) for the Chorus Concert

Item #	Name	Action	Position	Degree /Step	Salary	School	Effective Date	Notice Date or Ending Date	Reason/ Account
P-19.	Rachel Louis	Adjust	From Part Time Para to Full Time Paraprofessional	n/a	Pro-rated on the basis of an annual salary of \$34,480 plus \$1,800 ABA Stipend if applicable Subject to adjustment at the end of negotiations	District	1/2/25	6/30/25	To Fill a Vacancy Created by the Retirement of Suzanne Hesse
P-20.	Tania Mercado	Adjust	Part Time Para	n/a	Pro-rated on the basis of an annual salary of \$17,020	District	Week of 12/18/24	6/18/25	Adjustment from 5 days per week to 4 days per week
P-21.	Maria Zalokostas	Hire	Part Time Para	n/a	Pro-rated on the basis of an annual salary of \$21,275 plus a stipend of \$1,800 for ABA if applicable	District	1/2/25 or sooner Pending Completion of Criminal History Review	6/18/25	To Fill a Vacancy
*P-22.	Item Removed								
P-23.	Peggie Cruz	Adjust	Bus Driver	n/a	n/a	District	11/15/24	Last Day on Payroll 11/15/24	Adjustment of Last Day on Payroll from 11/14/24 to 11/15/24 approved on the 11/12/24 agenda item P-14.
P-24.	Nancy Rosa	Hire	Bus Driver	Step 1	\$29.92 per hour	District	12/11/24	6/30/25	To Fill a Vacancy Created by the Resignation of Peggie Cruz
P-25.	Jamie Favia	Resign	Bus Aide	n/a	n/a	District	11/20/24	Last Day on Payroll 11/20/24	Resignation
P-26.	Patricia Ortiz; Kristen Fischer	Hire	Substitute SACC Staff	n/a	\$26.00 per hour No Benefits	District	12/11/24	6/18/25	Substitutes in SACC Program

** All appointments are subject to the satisfactory completion of the criminal history records check required by law and subject to verification of job qualifications and prior experience if necessary. In the event the criminal history checks are not completed, these applications are subject to the approval of the County Superintendent for emergent hiring procedures.*

- P-27. Approval for the following staff member to plan and deliver workshops at the contractual stipends of \$100.00 to plan the workshops and \$100.00 to deliver the workshops during staff development for the 2024-2025 SY.

Christopher Warner		
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- P-28. Approval of the following person(s) to serve as (a) substitute teacher(s) in the Hawthorne Public School District for the 2024-2025 school year, subject to satisfactory completion

of the criminal history records check required by law and subject to verification of job qualifications and prior experience if necessary, with the provision that he/she/they remain on call to serve as (a) daily substitute teacher(s) as the need may arise for which he/she/they will be compensated \$105.00 per full day, no benefits. Substitutes working a half day schedule shall receive \$52.50, no benefits. In the event the criminal history check(s) is/are not completed, this/these application(s) is/are subject to the approval of the County Superintendent for emergent hiring procedures. The employment of this/these individual(s) is/are subject to the determination of the administration as to when he/she/they is/are needed.

Brianna Smith		*Sarah Melli		*Anjela Aguiro
*Tricia Collova				

- P-29. Acceptance of the following student(s) to complete his/her/their student field experience(s) in education in the Hawthorne Public School District during the 2024-2025 school year. This/these placement(s) is/are subject to the satisfactory completion of the criminal history records check required by law. In the event the criminal history checks(s) is/are not completed this/these placement(s) is/are subject to the approval of the County Superintendent for emergent hiring procedures. Per this resolution this/these student(s) is/are also approved as (a) substitute teacher(s) in the Hawthorne Public School District contingent upon obtaining a county substitute certificate.

Student	College	Type	Subject Area	Coop. Teacher/Admin.	Loc
Timothy Barral	WPU	Student Teaching	6-12 Music	Richard Prezioso	LMS
Kristen Kabous	Monmouth	Intern	Guidance	Erin Harney/Natasha Saavedra	LMS

Appointments, Retirements, Terminations, Resignations, Rescissions:

Item #	Name	Action	Position	Degree /Step	Salary	School	Effective Date	Notice Date or Ending Date	Reason/Account
*P-30.	Elizabeth Graber	Extra Duty	MS Play Director	n/a	Stipend of \$2,919	LMS	2024-2025 SY	n/a	Extra Duty Assignment
*P-31.	Marchelle Roniet	Extra Duty	Assistance with LMS Drama Production	n/a	\$33.66 per hour not to exceed 25 hours	LMS	2024-2025 SY	n/a	Assistance with the LMS Drama Production
*P-32.	Merima Bajramoski	Adjust	Day Custodian	n/a	Pro-rated on the basis of an annual salary of \$40,607	From RS to WS/HS	10/15/24	6/30/25	Adjustment in Assignment from Night Custodian to Day Custodian
*P-33.	Maria Anastasopoulos	Hire	Part Time Para	n/a	Pro-rated on the basis of an annual salary of \$21,275 plus a stipend of \$1,800 for ABA if applicable	District	1/2/25 or sooner Pending Completion of Criminal History Review	6/18/25	To Fill a Vacancy

Board of Education Roll Call Vote

	Mr. <u>Doyle</u>	Ms. <u>Ehrentraut</u>	Ms. <u>Mulkey-Koltzan</u>	Mr. <u>Puluse</u>	Mr. <u>Shortway</u>	Mr. <u>Totaro</u>	Mr. <u>Carr</u>	Mr. <u>Clavijo</u>	Mrs. <u>Goff</u>
Motion									
Aye									
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION:**Alex Clavijo, Chairperson****DONATIONS:**

- A. Acceptance of a donation of gifts for the LMS Boys Soccer team from the Clavijo family.

ACTION ITEMS:

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Finance and Administration recommends the following resolutions:

- F-1. Acceptance of the Secretary's and Treasurer's Report for September 2024 and the Board Secretary certifies that no budgetary line item account has been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligation.
- F-2. Approval to make the necessary transfers for the period September 1 through September 30, 2024, for the budget year 2024-2025 in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:232.11. A list of these transfers is submitted under separate cover and shall be made an integral part of this resolution.
- F-3. Approval of travel to events for Board members and employees in compliance with the travel policy. A list of these events has been submitted under separate cover and shall be made an integral part of this resolution.
- A-1. Be it resolved that the Board of Education affirms the Superintendent's decision on HIB #2024-2025: TJE 271697 and authorizes the Superintendent to notify the parents of the Board's decision.
- A-2. Be it resolved that the Board of Education affirms the Superintendent's decision on HIB #2024-2025: LMS 271227 and authorizes the Superintendent to notify the parents of the Board's decision.
- A-3. Be it resolved that the Board of Education affirms the Superintendent's decision on HIB #2024-2025: LMS 270727 and authorizes the Superintendent to notify the parents of the Board's decision.
- A-4. Be it resolved that the Board of Education affirms the Superintendent's decision on HIB #2024-2025: HHS 271527 and authorizes the Superintendent to notify the parents of the Board's decision.

Board of Education Roll Call Vote

	Ms. <u>Ehrentraut</u>	Ms. <u>Mulkey-Koltzan</u>	Mr. <u>Puluse</u>	Mr. <u>Shortway</u>	Mr. <u>Totaro</u>	Mr. <u>Carr</u>	Mr. <u>Clavijo</u>	Mr. <u>Doyle</u>	Mrs. <u>Goff</u>
Motion									
Aye									
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									

CLAIMS:**Anthony Puluse**

In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2:11(b), (c) 3, and (c) 4;

CL-1. Approval of the December 2024 Bill List.

It is recommended that the Board approve the bill list for the month of December 2024.

Board of Education Roll Call Vote

	Ms. <u>Mulkey-Koltzan</u>	Mr. <u>Puluse</u>	Mr. <u>Shortway</u>	Mr. <u>Totaro</u>	Mr. <u>Carr</u>	Mr. <u>Clavijo</u>	Mr. <u>Doyle</u>	Ms. <u>Ehrentraut</u>	Mrs. <u>Goff</u>
Motion									
Aye									
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:**Marco Totaro, Chairperson****ACTION ITEMS:**

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Buildings and Grounds recommends the following resolutions:

BG-1. Approval of applications for use of school property, subject to non-interference with school activities and the execution of the appropriate releases, including receipt of a Certificate of Insurance.

HAWTHORNE HIGH SCHOOL:

Facilities	Date and Times	Applicant
Gyms, Locker Rooms, Cafeteria	Friday, December 27, 2024 Saturday, December 28, 2024 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<u>Hawthorne Athletics Booster Club</u> Basketball Tournament
Gyms, Locker Rooms, Cafeteria	Saturday, February 1, 2025 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	<u>Hawthorne Athletics Booster Club</u> JV Wrestling Tournament
Cafeteria, New Cafeteria, and Room 113	Saturday, April 26, 2025 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	<u>Hawthorne Environmental Commission</u> 33 rd Cel Earth Bration
Auditorium	Monday, June 9, 2025 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	<u>Hawthorne Environmental Commission</u> Annual June Environmental Program

JEFFERSON SCHOOL:

Facilities	Date and Times	Applicant
Gym	Tuesdays 1/7/25 – 2/25/25 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	<u>Hawthorne Baseball Softball Association</u> Baseball/Softball Clinics

- BG-2. Award of a transportation contract to the Northern Region Educational Services Commission, 82 Totowa Road, Wayne, NJ, for transportation of Hawthorne students to and from the school indicated in the amount and date listed on the contract:

ROUTE #	School	Contractor	# of Students	Cost + Surcharge	Dates
Q3691	BCSS Venture Program	Omar Transportation	1	\$8,580.00 + \$514.80	10/10/24 – 11/29/24

- BG-3. Approval of Pascack Construction Management and Consulting for summer projects on an as-needed basis, at the rate of \$150.00 per hour, not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Board of Education Roll Call Vote

	Mr. <u>Puluse</u>	Mr. <u>Shortway</u>	Mr. <u>Totaro</u>	Mr. <u>Carr</u>	Mr. <u>Clavijo</u>	Mr. <u>Doyle</u>	Ms. <u>Ehrentraut</u>	Ms. <u>Mulkey-Koltzan</u>	Mrs. <u>Goff</u>
Motion									
Aye									
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									

COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:**COMMITTEE**

Legislative	<u>CHAIRPERSON</u> Joseph Carr
Finance & Administration	Alex Clavijo
Policy	Michael Doyle
Council Liaison	Jennifer Ehrentraut
Curriculum & Instruction	Jennifer Ehrentraut
NJSBA	Abigail Goff
PCSBA	Erica Mulkey-Koltzan
HEF/SEPAC/PTOs	Anthony Puluse
Buildings & Grounds	Marco Totaro

PUBLIC BE HEARD:

At this time, members of the public may ask questions or make comments on educational issues or school matters.

GENERAL COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE BOARD RELATED TO SCHOOL DISTRICT:**NEW BUSINESS:****OLD BUSINESS:****PRIVATE SESSION:**

Be it resolved that the Hawthorne Board of Education convenes an Executive Session to discuss exempt matters pertaining to:

1. A matter rendered confidential by federal or state law
2. A matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds

- [illegible]