HAWTHORNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HAWTHORNE, NEW JERSEY
Tuesday, November 12, 2024
Regular Meeting – 7:00 P.M.
Lincoln Middle School

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: **Time**: 7:00 p.m.

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	X		
Alex Clavijo	X		
Michael Doyle	X		
Jennifer Ehrentraut	X		
Erica Mulkey-Koltzan	X		
Anthony Puluse	X		
Jay Shortway	X		
Marco Totaro	X		
Abigail Goff	X		

Also Present: Richard A. Spirito, Superintendent of Schools
Jenine Murray, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
And approximately 4 members of the public and 6 via YouTube.

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: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

October 15, 2024 –Regular Meeting - Public

Minutes – Moved by Ms. Ehrentraut, seconded by Mr. Totaro

Ayes	-	**Mr. Carr, Mr. Clavijo, Mr. Doyle, Ms. Ehrentraut, Ms. Mulkey-Koltzan, Mr. Puluse, Mr. Shortway, Mr. Totaro, Ms. Goff**
Nays	-	**None**
Abstain	-	**None**
Absent	-	**None**

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS:

A. Student Council Representative's Report – William Goff
- HHS Fall Sports wrapped up
- PTO Bake Sale
- School Dance
- Hallway Decorating
- Several upcoming dates
- Club updates

B. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Richard A. Spirito
- Congratulations to fall teams
- Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations for Governor's Educator of the Year and Educational Service Professionals
- Highlight Heroes & Cool Kids – 3rd year running
- E Sports Program is the largest club right now
- Dr. Spirito and Mr. Pfister looking to expand E Sports into classrooms
- HHS & Hackensack Medical Center working on creating a partnership for students interested in health professions.
- Standard Based Report Cards, meeting presentations and documents are on the Curriculum and Instruction webpage.
- Reviewed event dates for November and December events at the schools. All information is on the websites and in weekly announcements from the principals.

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	Italian Club	Little Italy	Sussex Regional	$40.00	$0.00
LMS	7th Grade (half)	Nyoda Hills	HPS	$37.00	$5.00 PTO
LMS	7th Grade (half)	Nyoda Hills	HPS	$37.00	$5.00 PTO
LMS	6th Grade	Medieval Times	HPS	$41.00	$5.00 PTO
LMS	8th Grade	Black Bear Lakes Country Club	Coach Buses	$105.00	Class Dues
HHS	E-Sports Club	Seton Hall University	HPS	$0.00	$0.00
HHS	HS ARCH Program	Bergen Town Center	HPS	$0.00	$0.00
HHS	A subset of Heroes & Cool Kids	Ramapo College	HPS	$0.00	$0.00

CI-2. Approval of home instruction for Hawthorne resident pupil(s) as follows:

a. Student (file #110124) – Instruction starting date: 10/21/24
Home Instructor(s) – Educere

b. Student (file #110224) – Instruction starting date: 10/22/24
Home Instructor(s) – Educere

CI-3. Acceptance of the FY 2024IDEA carryover funds.

IDEA BASIC	
Public	$35,633.00
Non-Public	$82,305.00
Total	$117,938.00

CI-4. Acceptance of the FY 2024 carryover funds for ESEA grants in the following amounts:

Title IA	
Hawthorne Public Schools	$54,695.00
Title IIA	
Hawthorne Public Schools	$3,424.00
St. Anthony's	$295.00
HCA	$813.00
Total Carryover	$4,532.00
Title III	
Hawthorne Public Schools	$5,411.00
St. Anthony's	$105.00
Total Carryover	$5,516.00
Title III – Immigrant	
Hawthorne Public Schools	$12,621.00
Title IV	
Hawthorne Public Schools	$15,146.00
St. Anthony's	$1,307.00

HCA	$3,596.00
Total Carryover	$20,049.00

CI-5. Approval of an agreement with Springboard Pediatric Therapy to provide the following services on an as needed basis, for the 2024 – 2025 school year:

Augmentative Alternative Communication Evaluation	$1,195.00
Augmentative Alternative Communication Consultation	$ 125.00 per hour
Augmentative Alternative Communication & Speech Language Evaluation	$1,495.00
Articulation/Dysfluency/Voice Evaluation	$ 425.00
Speech-Language Evaluation	$ 595.00
Speech-Language & Articulation Evaluation	$ 695.00
Speech Language Therapy	$ 120.00 per hour
Workshops	Prices Vary
Communication Device Lease Program	Prices Vary
Occupational Therapy Evaluation	$ 500.00
Occupational Therapy	$ 145.00 per hour
Block Bill Rate (more than 4 hours per day)	$ 110.00 per hour
Physical Therapy Evaluation	$ 500.00
Physical Therapy	$ 115.00 per hour
Block Bill Rate (more than 4 hours per day)	$ 110.00 per hour

CI-1-5 - Moved by Ms. Ehrentraut, seconded by Mr. Shortway

Ayes - Mr. Clavijo, Mr. Doyle, Ms. Ehrentraut, Ms. Mulkey-Koltzan, Mr. Puluse, Mr. Shortway, Mr. Totaro, Mr. Carr, Ms. Goff
Nays - None
Abstain - None
Absent - None

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.	Megan Faucett	Leave	Teacher of Music	n/a	n/a	LMS	8/28/24	1/1/25	Adjustment of Dates for leave approved on 4/16/24 agenda item # P-2.
P-2.	Christina Lovermi	Leave	Speech Language Specialist	n/a	n/a	JS	10/28/24	5/8/25	Adjustment of Dates for leave approved on 8/13/24 agenda item # P-4.
P-3.	Zoe Alvarez	Hire	Basketball – Ass't – G	n/a	Stipend of $5,849	HHS	2024-2025 Season	End of Season	To Fill a Vacancy

Item #	Name	Action	Position	Degree /Step	Salary	School	Effective Date	Notice Date or Ending Date	Reason/ Account
P-4.	Philip Habib	Hire	Basketball – Ass't – B	n/a	Stipend of $5,849	HHS	2024-2025 Season	End of Season	To Fill a Vacancy
P-5.	Matthew Spagnuolo; Julia Waldron	Extra Duty	NJSLA Morning Math Support Program Teacher	n/a	$35.94 per hour	WS	11/2024	5/2025	NJSLA Before School Math Support Program
P-6.	Rachel Ambrogio; Colin Harty; Teresa Magna Davenport; Thomas McKinley; Nikolas Douvris; Scott Crimmel; Chung Yi Lin; Jennifer Trentacosta; Bailey Hansen; Danielle Russo; Nicole Tise; Ryan Mc Mann; Lisa Thompson: Kathryn Barbetta	Extra Duty	Chaperones	n/a	$33.66 per hour	HHS	10/18/24	n/a	Chaperones for Homecoming Dance
P-7.	Danielle Russo; Bailey Hansen; Ryan Mc Mann; Angelo Guarnieri; Gustav Schell; Fatmir Mimini; Edward Iannacone; John La Forge; Christopher Warner; Olivia Wagner; Krista Maher; Rachel Shea; John Passero; Megan Carr; Gregory Carr; Matthew Ambrose; Danielle Just; Danielle Popis; Osvaldo Duran; Mark Rulli	Extra Duty	Chaperones	n/a	$33.66 per hour	HHS	10/18/24	n/a	Chaperones for High School Open House
P-8.	Kristine Blau	Extra Duty	Chaperone	n/a	$33.66 per hour	HHS	2024-2025 SY	n/a	Substitute Chaperone for Student (file# 110324) for Tech Club
P-9.	Kristine Blau	Extra Duty	Chaperone	n/a	$33.66 per hour	LMS	11/1/24	n/a	(file # 110424) 6th Grade Dance

Item #	Name	Action	Position	Degree /Step	Salary	School	Effective Date	Notice Date or Ending Date	Reason/ Account
P-10.	Alyssa Schlossberg	Extra Duty	Home Instructor	n/a	$35.94 per hour	District	2024-2025 SY	n/a	Home Instructor
P-11.	Suzanne Hesse	Retire	Paraprofessional	n/a	n/a	WS	1/1/2025	Last Day on Payroll 12/31/24	Retirement
P-12.	Lori Stroh	Retire	Paraprofessional	n/a	n/a	WS	11/13/24	Last Day on Payroll 11/12/24	Retirement
P-13.	Jennifer Latorre	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	11/13/24 Pending Completion of Criminal History Review	6/18/25	To Fill a Vacancy
P-14.	Peggie Cruz	Resign	Bus Driver	n/a	n/a	District	11/15/24	Last Day on Payroll 11/14/24	Resignation

**** 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-15. 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.

Tonya Barnes		

P-16. Approval for use of FY 2025 Title I Funds to compensate the following employees:

Name	School	% Title	Title Funded	Title
Krista Maher	WES	100%	$60,815.00	I A
Tara Temprano	RES	100%	$95,254.00	I A
Kathleen Senituli	LMS	50%	$33,763.00	I A
Kristen Rudd	LMS	60%	$39,984.00	I A
Megan Cohn	LMS	30%	$23,055.00	I A

P-17. 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.

Elizabeth Davila		Sheila Gatti		Kristen Rudd	

P-18. 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
Katherine Gratto	Ramapo	Intern	Elementary	Kirsten Leister	WS

Item #	Name	Action	Position	Degree /Step	Salary	School	Effective Date	Notice Date or Ending Date	Reason/ Account
*P-19.	Jennifer Reimels	Leave	Teacher of Students with Disabilities	n/a	n/a	JS	1/29/25	6/30/25	Approval of Maternity Leave and Federal/State Family Leave of Absence in accordance with the Federal/State Family Leave Act followed by Child Rearing Leave

P-1-19 – Moved by Ms. Ehrentraut, seconded by Mr. Totaro

Ayes - Mr. Doyle, Ms. Ehrentraut, Ms. Mulkey-Koltzan, Mr. Puluse, Mr. Shortway, Mr. Totaro, Mr. Carr, Mr. Clavijo, Ms. Goff
Nays - None
Abstain - None
Absent - None

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: Alex Clavijo, Chairperson

DONATIONS:

A. Acceptance of a donation of 2 Nikon cameras and 1 Panasonic camera with backpacks from William Nicolos Photography with an estimated value of $500.00 to the Hawthorne High School broadcasting class.

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 August, 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 August 1 through August 31, 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. Resolved, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Hawthorne Board of Education approves Advanced Roofing & Sheet Metal. Payment Application #3 in the amount of $40,375.00 for roof retrofit.

*F-4. Approval of the Consultation Contract with Grant Specialties to manage and complete all required grant acceptance requirements, performance reports, financial reports, modification or extension requests within Justgrants, as well as any other management services required in connection with the awarded COPS grant. The cost of this service is $1,900.00.

F-4 – Moved by Mr. Clavijo, seconded by Mr. Puluse

Ayes - Ms. Ehrentraut, Ms. Mulkey-Koltzan, Mr. Puluse, Mr. Shortway, Mr. Totaro, Mr. Carr, Mr. Clavijo, Mr. Doyle, Ms. Goff
Nays - None
Abstain - None
Absent - None

CLAIMS: **Jay Shortway**

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

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

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

CL-1 – Moved by Mr. Shortway, seconded by Mr. Carr

Ayes - Ms. Mulkey-Koltzan, Mr. Puluse, Mr. Shortway, Mr. Totaro, Mr. Carr, Mr. Clavijo, Mr. Doyle, Ms. Ehrentraut, Ms. Goff
Nays - None
Abstain - None
Absent - None

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
Den and HS gym and cafeteria	11/25/24 – 3/7/25* Mon.–Fri. 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Hawthorne Junior Wrestling Practices Matches

Facilities	Date and Times	Applicant
	1/4/25 – 2/15/25* Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. *Note: To be coordinated with Athletic Director	

BG-1 – Moved by Mr. Totaro, seconded by Mr. Clavijo

Ayes - Mr. Puluse, Mr. Shortway, Mr. Totaro, Mr. Carr, Mr. Clavijo, Mr. Doyle, Ms. Ehrentraut, Ms. Mulkey-Koltzan, Ms. Goff
Nays - None
Abstain - None
Absent - None

COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS:

COMMITTEE — **CHAIRPERSON**

Legislative ..... Joseph Carr
None

Finance & Administration ..... Alex Clavijo
Update on remaining referendum funds.
Audit is ongoing.

Policy ..... Michael Doyle
None

Council Liaison ..... Jennifer Ehrentraut
None

Curriculum & Instruction ..... Jennifer Ehrentraut
Standards based report cards
Five district wide data days
Connect for freedom program

NJSBA ..... Abigail Goff
Reminder to complete mandated trainings.
Ms. Goff is reaching out to our representative for January meeting to attend and help with goals.

PCSBA ..... Erica Mulkey-Koltzan
Meeting is on December 9, 2024. Hybrid meeting which will discuss social media and technology.
Also mentioned her time at NJSBA.

HEF/SEPAC/PTOs ..... Anthony Puluse
SEPAC information is on their Facebook page regarding webinars coming up.
LMS PTO is having a holiday wear sale and candy and cookie sale.
Jefferson PTO is having a give back this Friday at Parkwood Deli.
HEF is selling raffle tickets for a gift card basket valued at $1,500.00.

Buildings & Grounds ..... Marco Totaro
Athletic assessment
Feminine products in the restrooms

Acquiring quotes for vape detectors.
Reviewing brick assessment.
Obtaining various quotes for maintenance work at Jefferson School.

PUBLIC BE HEARD: None
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:

Mr. Shortway congratulated Fall Sports and wished Winter Sports and E Sports good luck. Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Doyle thanked our veterans and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Clavijo congratulated LMS PTO and newly elected BOE members.

Mr. Totaro said there are so many great things and hopefully we continue to highlight those. He also said it's a great time to give thanks. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Ms. Ehrentraut congratulated LMS and the student who completed her Silver for Girl Scouts.

Mr. Puluse made general comments regarding E Sports and Hackensack Hospital Partnership.

Ms. Goff said that a recent HHS graduate has put 5 little libraries throughout the park.

The next board meeting will be on December 10, 2024 at Lincoln Middle School.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Mulkey-Koltzan congratulated Lincoln Middle School for raising $18,500 from Laps for Lincoln for new projector and screen for the gym.

Ms. Goff stated that at Candidates Night they celebrated students that were up 30 points or more and students with perfect scores on state testing. She would like to add some recognitions throughout the year at the meetings. If any Board Members have anyone or anything they would like to recognize please bring it forward. Ms. Goff wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

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
3. Material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy
4. A collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiation related to it
5. A matter involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds

6. Protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law
7. Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege
8. Specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session
9. Deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss

Be it further resolved that it is anticipated that executive session will be for 45 minutes in duration and that public action may/may not be taken:

Be it further resolved that the minutes of the Executive Session will be made available upon a determination by the Board that the disclosure of the minutes will not detrimentally affect any right or interest of the Board and the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

At 8:01 p.m. Mr. Totaro moved the board adjourn, seconded by Mr. Puluse

Ayes -	**Mr. Carr, Mr. Clavijo, Mr. Doyle, Ms. Ehrentraut, Ms. Mulkey-Koltzan, Mr. Puluse, Mr. Shortway, Mr. Totaro, Ms. Goff**
Nays -	**None**
Abstain -	**None**
Absent -	**None**

Respectfully submitted,

Jenine M. Murray
Board Secretary