OAKLAND K-8 PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent

and

Secretary of the Board

BOARD OF EDUCATION Regular Monthly Meeting Administrative Offices 7:00 PM

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD Ms. Cooper Ms. Kilday Mr. Mazzilli Mr. Scerbo Ms. Shelkin

Dr. Gina M. Coffaro, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Annette M. Wells, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Schedule of Board of Education Meetings can be found on the District Website: www.oaklandschoolsnj.org

> Next Regular Monthly Meeting: March 18, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Regular	Monthly	Meeting
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DATE: _____

TIME:

Administration Office

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

PRESIDING OFFICER: _____

FLAG SALUTE

STATEMENT ON OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS AND POLICY CONCERNING PERSONNEL

PRESIDING OFFICER:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Oakland Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on January 12, 2025 and February 4, 2025 in the Municipal Building, the Board Offices, all school offices and copies sent to <u>The Record Newspaper</u>. The Board reserves the right to limit public discussion of personnel items, so as to preserve individual privacy.

The Board appreciates the concerns and comments expressed by the public and will take them into consideration. However, please remain advised that, neither the Board nor the administration may comment on or respond to public inquiries or statements regarding any internal personnel matters involving a District employee.

Please be further advised that there is no privilege or qualified privilege with regard to any statements that you make before the Board of Education. Furthermore, in addition to their respective rights to privacy, employees of this school district retain all rights regarding defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey.

Persons wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise, sign in, and state their names and addresses. Each speaker shall be limited to two minutes. A speaker who has not finished in the allotted time will be directed by the presiding officer to summarize quickly and relinquish the floor within 30 seconds.

ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent	Time of Arrival After Meeting Called to Order
Ms. Cooper			
Ms. Kilday Mr. Mazzilli			
Ms. Shelkin			
Mr. Scerbo			

Also Present: Dr. Gina M. Coffaro, Superintendent of Schools Ms. Annette M. Wells, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and approximately _____ members of the public.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

American Legion Essay winner recognitions

I. <u>MINUTES</u>

- A. Approve the Reorganization Meeting minutes from January 7, 2025.
- B. Approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes from January 7, 2025.
- C. Approve the Work Session minutes from January 7, 2025.
- D. Approve the Executive Session minutes from January 7, 2025.

MINUTES ITEMS A through D

Second: _____

Motion: ______ (*Discussion*)

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cooper _____ Ms. Kilday _____ Mr. Mazzilli _____ Ms. Shelkin _____ Mr. Scerbo

Regular Monthly Meeting II. <u>BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS</u>

February 11, 2025 <u>Ms. Shelkin</u> Board Liaison

A. Approve the safety drill report for the month of January 2025.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS ITEM A

Motion:	Second:	
(Discussion)		

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cooper _____ Ms. Kilday _____ Mr. Mazzilli _____ Ms. Shelkin _____ Mr. Scerbo

Regular Monthly Meeting III. <u>PERSONNEL</u>

- A. Rescind the approval of Julie Louis, student at William Paterson University, as speech-language pathology extern at Manito Elementary School for the 2024-2025 school year.
- B. Extend the end date of Gertrude Naples, Leave Replacement Special Education Teacher at Manito Elementary School for Gabrielle Iannucci, to the end of the 2024-2025 school year.
- C. Amend the annual salary of Tasha Bushnauskas, Night Custodian at Valley Middle School, to include an \$800 boiler license stipend to be prorated for the 2024-2025 school year, effective January 16, 2025.
- D. Approve the request of Nicole Duno, Teacher at Heights Elementary School, for Board Leave (unpaid, no benefits) starting on February 13, 2025 through May 16, 2025. Ms. Duno plans to return to District on or about May 19, 2025.
- E. Approve the request of Gabrielle Iannucci, Special Education Teacher at Manito Elementary School, for Board Leave (unpaid, no benefits) starting on April 2, 2025 through April 1, 2026. Ms. Iannucci plans to return to District on or about April 2, 2026.
- F. Approve the request of Jennifer Karasek, Teacher at Heights Elementary School, for FMLA starting on January 27, 2025, using 30 sick days through March 14, 2025, paid with benefits. Ms. Karasek plans to return to District on or about March 17, 2025.
- G. Approve the request of Mark Sheridan, District Vehicle Driver, for FMLA starting on February 3, 2025, using 43.5 sick days through April 10, 2025, paid with benefits. Beginning on April 10, 2025, continuing FMLA, unpaid with benefits, until April 25, 2025. Mr. Sheridan plans to return to District on or about April 28, 2025.
- H. Approve the request of Rina Costello, Full-time Paraprofessional at Heights Elementary School, for FMLA/NJFLA starting on or about February 10, 2025, using 5 sick days through February 14, 2025, paid with benefits. Ms. Costello plans to return to District on or about February 17, 2025.
- I. Approve the request of Cynthia Parr, Teacher at Manito Elementary School, for FMLA starting on or about February 24, 2025, using 17 sick days through March 18, 2025, paid with benefits. Ms. Parr plans to return to District on or about March 19, 2025.
- J. Approve the request of Alyssa Buske, Teacher at Heights Elementary School, for FMLA starting on or about May 5, 2025, using 35 sick days through the end of the 2024-2025 school year, paid with benefits. Beginning on September 1, 2025, continuing FMLA, unpaid with benefits, until FMLA is exhausted. NJFLA, unpaid with benefits, beginning September 1, 2025 through November 21, 2025. Ms. Buske plans to return to District on or about November 24, 2025.
- K. Approve the request of Vanessa Pucciarelli, District Art Teacher, for FMLA starting on or about June 11, 2025, using 10 sick days through the end of the 2024-2025 school year, paid with benefits. Beginning on September 1, 2025, continuing FMLA, unpaid with benefits, until FMLA is exhausted. NJFLA, unpaid with benefits, beginning September 1, 2025 through November 21, 2025. Ms. Pucciarelli plans to return to District on or about November 24, 2025.

Regular Monthly Meeting <u>PERSONNEL</u> (continued)

- L. Approve the request of Sarah Freeman, Speech/Language Specialist at Heights Elementary School, for FMLA/NJFLA starting on or about September 1, 2025 through November 21, 2025, unpaid with benefits. Ms. Freeman plans to return to District on or about November 24, 2025.
- M. Approve the following appointments of certified staff for the 2024-2025 school year, upon satisfactory completion of all employment obligations:

Name	Position	Location	Replacing	Step	Degree	Salary	Effective
Kaitlyn Pipolo	Leave Replacement Special Education Teacher TCHR.VM.LLD.MG.01	Valley	Allison Perkins	1	MA	\$67,934 *To be prorated	On or about 2/7/2025 through the end of the 2024-2025 school year
Crystal Santiago	Special Education Teacher TCHR.MT.ERI.MG.01	Manito	New Tenure Track Position	7	BA	\$73,091 *To be prorated	On or about 2/24/2025

N. Approve the following appointments of non-certified staff for the 2024-2025 school year, upon satisfactory completion of all employment obligations:

Name	Position	Location	Replacing	Hourly Rate	Effective
Claudina Kass	Part-time Paraprofessional AIDE.MT.RES.MG.07	Manito	Grace Luinenburg	\$19.10	On or about 2/24/2025
Linda Rutz	Full-time ABA Therapist Paraprofessional AIDE.MT.ERI.MG.01	Manito	New Position	\$23.00	On or about 2/24/2025

O. Approve the appointment of the following staff members to the stipend positions listed below for the 2024-2025 school year, effective February 16, 2025, at annual pensionable stipends as per the negotiated agreement, to be prorated:

Name	Stipend Position
Ryan Gilligan	Technology Education and Information Services
Travis Hunt	Testing, Assessment and Analysis

P. Approve the appointment of Stacy Contreras and Jamie Opalka as mentors for novice School Library Media Specialist Kelly Bosgra for the 2024-2025 school year, effective January 13, 2025.

Regular Monthly Meeting <u>PERSONNEL</u> (continued)

Q. Approve the appointment of the following Valley Middle School teachers as chaperones for students participating in the overnight Grade 8 trip to Gettysburg and Hershey Park on Thursday, June 12, 2025 to Friday, June 13, 2025. Salary payment will be consistent with the stipend for overnight trip supervision contained within the Employment Agreement between the Oakland Board of Education and the Oakland Education Association and upon submission of an approved voucher:

Lauren Binder	Saul Gondelman	Leonard Parra
Jason Clark	Jake Gursaly	Lauren Russo
Steven Cohen	Kevin Jacobsen	Stanley Saja (Paraprofessional)
Kim Festa	Alea Mayer-Costa	Mary Gael Strohmeyer
Phylissa Gallotta	Matthew Myones	Graziella Valenti

- Jennifer Zimmerle (Administrator)
- TBD (Nurse)
- Mark Sinclair (Overnight Trip Coordinator)

Alternate Staff: Natalie DeLuca, Matthew Fichter, Christopher Lawrence, John Messina, Joel Noonan

R. Approve the appointment of the following as daily substitute personnel for the 2024-2025 school year, upon satisfactory completion of all employment obligations:

Name	Substitute Assignment
Robyn Caporuscio	Teacher/Paraprofessional
Martha Coffman	Teacher
Ashley Eskholme	ABA Therapist Paraprofessional
Tara Farley	ABA Therapist Paraprofessional, Paraprofessional, Bus Aide
Peppi Gardner	ABA Therapist Paraprofessional
Claudina Kass	Bus Aide
David Le Parc	Teacher/Paraprofessional
Linda Rutz	Bus Aide
Stanley Saja	Teacher
Isabella Taglieri	Teacher/Paraprofessional

Regular Monthly Meeting **<u>PERSONNEL</u>** (continued)

Acknowledge the following employees' days without pay for the 2024-2025 school year as listed below: S.

Name	School	Dates
Dolores Baills	T.O.P.S. ECL	1/13/2025-1/24/2025
Maria Glasson	Heights	1/17/2025, 1/31/2025
Nicole Marino	Valley	2/3/2025 (0.5)
Lucia Mucci	Heights	2/3/2025
Lauren Harkins	Heights	2/7/2025 (0.5)
Majella Wagnes	Dogwood	5/9/2025, 5/12/2025

PERSONNEL ITEMS A through S

Motion:

(Discussion)

Roll Call Vote:

- Ms. Cooper
- Ms. Kilday _____
- Mr. Mazzilli _____
- Ms. Shelkin
- Mr. Scerbo

Second: _____

A. Approve the HIB Report for the period January 7, 2025 through February 11, 2025 as follows:

Number of HIB Investigations4Number of Affirmed HIB Incidents0

- B. Approve the submission of the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) Report to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for period 1, September 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.
- C. Approve the revised 2024-2025 Calendar as per the attached.
- D. Approve the Grade 8 Overnight Trip as per the attached itinerary, departing from Valley Middle School on June 12, 2025 and returning on June 13, 2025.
- E. Approve the attached Music Elective, "Creativity in Music Technology", to be offered at Valley Middle School in the 2025-2026 school year.
- F. Approve the revised VMS Basketball Schedules and locations for the 2024-2025 school year as per the attached.

REGULAR EDUCATION ITEM A through F

Motion:	
(Discussion)	

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cooper	
Ms. Kilday	
Mr. Mazzilli	
Ms. Shelkin	
Mr. Scerbo	

Second:

Regular Monthly MeetingV.SPECIAL EDUCATION

February 11, 2025 <u>Ms. Kilday</u> Board Liaison

- A. Amend the out-of-district 2024-2025 school year placement which was board approved June 25, 2024 for one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, to attend the ARCH Program at Lincoln Middle School, Hawthorne, New Jersey. Last day the student attended school in Hawthorne was January 17, 2025.
- B. Amend the out-of-district 2024-2025 school year placement which was board approved January 7, 2025 for one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, to attend the Elmwood Park Public Schools, Elmwood Park, New Jersey. The student attended school in Elmwood Park from January 2, 2025 to January 17, 2025.
- C. Approve the Contract with Bergen County Special Services to provide home instruction services for one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, from December 9, 2024 to June 27, 2025, for a maximum of three hours per week, with additional prep time as required, amount not to exceed \$8,000.00.
- D. Approve Innovations in Online Education, Inc. for virtual home instruction as needed for the 2024-2025 school year at the rate of \$75.00 per hour.
- E. Approve the following out-of-district placements for the 2024-2025 school year for students whose names are on file in the Superintendent's office:

School	Start Date	Amount
Teen P.L.A.C.E. Program, Lakeside Middle School,	January 21, 2025	\$70,223.00 Prorated
Pompton Lakes, NJ		
Sage Alliance: Sage Day Lower and Middle School,	January 27, 2025	\$74,878.20 Prorated
Mahwah, NJ		
REALM program, Peter Cooper Elementary School,	February 24, 2025	\$47,001.97 Prorated
Ringwood, NJ	-	

F. Approve the revised 2024-2025 1:1 Aide contract with Shepard School, Kinnelon, New Jersey, for one outof-district student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, from January 16, 2025 to June 20, 2025.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ITEMS A through F

Second: _____

(Discussion)

Motion:

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cooper _____ Ms. Kilday _____ Mr. Mazzilli _____ Ms. Shelkin _____ Mr. Scerbo

Regular Monthly Meeting VI. <u>FINANCE</u>

February 11, 2025 <u>Mr. Mazzilli</u> Board Liaison

- A. Approve the January 2025 certified gross (net & agency) payroll in the amount of \$2,027,723.82.
- B. Approve the payment of the attached list of bills in the amount of \$4,790,927.69 which in proper legal form and subject to audit, provided funds are available in their respective accounts.
- C. Approve the Board Secretary's certification to the Oakland Board of Education that, as of November 30, 2024 no line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which, in total, exceed the line-item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c)3; and further,

Approve the Oakland Board of Education's certification that, after a review of the Board Secretary's and Board Treasurer's monthly financial reports and the advice of District officials, there is no reason to doubt that any major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c)4.

- D. Approve the school year 2024-2025 Budget appropriation transfers for the month ending January 31, 2025.
- E. Approve the Board Secretary's Financial Report for the month ending January 31, 2025.
- F. Approve the Treasurer of School Monies Report for the month ending January 31, 2025.
- G. Approve staff participation in professional conferences/workshops outside the District, as per the attached.
- H. Approve Velez Educational Services to complete staff and student related State and Federal reports beginning February 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025 a fee not to exceed \$34,000.
- I. Approve Focus Staffing Group to provide staffing services for the 2024-2025 school year as per the attached fee schedule, amount not to exceed \$43,000.
- J. Accept, with appreciation, the donation of fish and fish food from Pet Supplies Plus in Oakland for the Valley Middle School Environmental Club.
- K. Approve additional funding under the provisions of Chapters 192/193, Nonpublic Auxiliary and Handicapped Services, in the amount \$2,938.00 for the 2024-2025 school year to be allocated as follows:

	Current Allocation	Additional Funding	Year to Date
Chapter 192 Compensatory Education	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Chapter 192 E.S.L	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Chapter 192 Total	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Chapter 193 Initial Exam and Classification	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,326.00	\$ 1,326.00
Chapter 193 Annual Exam and Classification	\$ 760.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 760.00
Chapter 193 Corrective Speech	\$5,301.00	\$ 1,116.00	\$ 6,417.00
Chapter 193 Supplementary Instruction	\$1,652.00	\$ 496.00	\$ 2,148.00
Chapter 193 Total	\$7,713.00	\$2,938.00	\$10,651.00

Regular Monthly Meeting <u>FINANCE (continued)</u>

- L. Approve the request to the Bergen County Special Education Specialist for a waiver of the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) requirements for the 2025-2026 school year, due to the fact that the eligible student count will be less than 40.
- M. WHEREAS, a number of Boards of Education in Bergen County have joined together to form a Joint Insurance Group as permitted by N.J. Title 18A-.18B and;

WHEREAS, said Group was approved effective July 1, 1985 by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;

WHEREAS, the Bylaws and regulations governing the creation and operation of this Insurance Group contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Group, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Oakland has determined that membership in the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group is in the best interest of the District;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of Oakland does hereby agree to renew membership in the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the District and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the Group as are required by the Group's Bylaws and to deliver the same to the Executive Director.

FINANCE ITEMS A through M

Second:

Motion: ______ (Discussion)

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cooper	
Ms. Kilday	
Mr. Mazzilli	
Ms. Shelkin	
Mr. Scerbo	

Regular Monthly MeetingVIIADMINISTRATION

- A. Approve the revised list of Board of Education meeting dates as per the attached.
- B. Approve the District Data Specialist and Analysis Coordinator job description.

ADMINISTRATION ITEM A through B

Motion: ______(*Discussion*)

Second:

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cooper _____ Ms. Kilday _____ Mr. Mazzilli _____ Ms. Shelkin _____ Mr. Scerbo _____

VIII. TRANSPORTATION

<u>Ms. Kilday</u> Board Liaison

- A. Approve the list of field trips for students in the Oakland School District for the 2024-2025 school year as per the attached.
- B. Approve the Oakland School District's membership in the Northwest Bergen Council for Special Education (NWBCSE) Region I/Mahwah Board of Education, for the 2025-2026 school year.
- C. BE IT RESOLVED that the Oakland Public Schools Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education, a Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, for the purpose of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the 2025-2026 school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the coordinated transportation of public, nonpublic and special education students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oakland Public Schools Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education and attached to this resolution.

TRANSPORTATION ITEM A through C

Motion:	_
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Second: _____

(Discussion)

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cooper Ms. Kilday Mr. Mazzilli Ms. Shelkin Mr. Scerbo

Regular Monthly Meeting IX. <u>POLICY</u>

A. Approve the *first* reading of new/revised Board policies/regulations as listed below:

8500 Food Services

POLICY ITEM A

Second: _____

(Discussion)

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Cooper _____ Ms. Kilday _____ Mr. Mazzilli _____ Ms. Shelkin _____ Mr. Scerbo _____

Motion:

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION (If requested)

WHEREAS, The Board of Education must discuss subjects concerning personnel matters, legal
issues, Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying, and/or contract negotiations concerning the
District, and

- WHEREAS, the aforesaid subjects are not appropriate subjects to be discussed in a public meeting; and
- WHEREAS, the aforesaid subjects to be discussed are within the exemptions which are permitted to be discussed and acted upon in closed executive session pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, it is therefore
- RESOLVED, that the aforesaid subjects shall be discussed in a closed executive session by this Board and administrative and information pertaining thereto will be made available to the public as soon thereafter as possible and once the reasons for nondisclosure no longer exist.

Time Entered Execu	tive Session:	
Motion:	Second:	to Enter Executive Session
Roll Call Vote:		
Ms. Cooper		
Ms. Kilday		
Mr. Mazzilli		
Ms. Shelkin		
Mr. Scerbo		
Time Executive Sess	sion closed:	
Motion:	Second:	to Close Executive Session and return to Open Session
ADJOURNMENT:		
Motion:	Second:	Time of Adjournment:
		16

Regular Monthly Meeting

February 11, 2025

Attachments

Minutes:	Reorganization Meeting- January 7, 2025 Regular Monthly Meeting- January 7, 2025 Work Session Regular- January 7, 2025	
Buildings & Grounds:	January 2025 Security Drill	
Personnel:	None	
Regular Education:	February 2025 Enrollment Music Elective- Creativity in Music Technology 24-25 Revised Calendar Basketball Schedules 8 th Grade trip itinerary	
Special Education:	None	
Finance:	January 2025 Treasurer Report January 2025 Transfers January 2025 Board Secretary Report Bills List Conferences/Workshops Fee Schedule	
Administration:	Job Description Revised list of Board of Education meeting dates	
Transportation:	Field Trips	
Policy:	8500 Food Services	