



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 Jansen

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORK SESSION/ACTION MEETING OF THE MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION held on Wednesday, January 22nd, 2025, in the Administrative Offices, 60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, New Jersey.

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>).

1. Call to Order

Dr. Moorthy called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT:

Dr. Moorthy
Messrs. Coplin, Dinice, Galow and Hughes

ABSENT:

Mesdames Daveniero and Jansen
Mssrs. DeSilva and Kezmarsky

ALSO PRESENT:

Michael DeTuro, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Dennis M. Fare, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent
Thomas Lambe, Business Administrator, Board Secretary
Linda A. Bovino-Romeo, Ph.D., Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Lisa Rizzo, Director of Special Services
Ella Selfon, Student Representative
One (1) member of the public attended in-person
Zero (0) members of the public attended via Zoom

3. President's Announcement

Adequate notice of the agenda of this meeting has been provided to *The Ridgewood News and The Record* specifying that the Mahwah Board of Education will meet on January 22nd, 2025, 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

Moved by Mr. Galow, seconded by Mr. Coplin at 7:06 pm.
Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

6. Motion to Reconvene to Public Action Meeting

**Motion by Mr. Hughes, seconded by Mr. Coplin at 7:10 pm.
Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.**

7. Agenda Questions

There were no questions about the agenda.

8. Motion to Open the Meeting to the Public for Comments

Motion by Mr. Dinice, seconded by Mr. Hughes, to open the meeting to the public for comments at 7:11 pm. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

9. Motion to Close the Meeting to the Public for Comments

Motion by Mr. Galow, seconded by Mr. Coplin, to close the meeting to the public for comments at 7:11 pm. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

10. Mahwah Student Representative's Report

Student Representative Ella Selfon reported on a fundraiser, winter guard, and art club; seniors hosted talent show and raised \$2000. DECA sent 90 students to Ramapo College to compete, and 20 students will compete in the State DECA competition in Atlantic City. The Bergen County band and chorus performed on 1/12/25.

11. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Michael DeTuro

Dr. DeTuro reported on the following:

- *Congratulations to 8 students who were selected for North Jersey Regional Chorus. Thank you to Dylan Dylan Hofsiss of DHA Contracting for his generous donation of a scoreboard for the field at Ramapo Ridge Middle School.*
- *Strategic Planning Meeting #2 will take place on 2/27/25 at Joyce Kilmer School. T-Bird Talk series #2 will take place on 2/11/25.*
- *Thunderbird Times Issue #2 – January 2025 – showcases the great things occurring in our schools.*
- *We changed our website to showcase things across our district as well.*

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

Mr. Lambe reported that:

- *the 23-24 audit was completed with approval on tonight's agenda.*
- *that tonight's agenda includes approval of a \$380,000 contract for the replacement of the JK Rooftop HVAC unit, with 40% of the cost to be funded by a ROD grant from the State of NJ. provided during the board committee reports.*

13. Assistant Superintendent's Report – Dr. Dennis Fare

Dr. Fare reported on the following:

- *Achievements of DECA Club at MHS, including last week at Ramapo College. 20 students advanced to the state level competition in Atlantic City.*
- *Kindergarten registration opens in February 2025. We are excited to welcome our new families to the district.*

- *TEEMS (The Empathy Equality Entrepreneurship Mission) at Ramapo Ridge connect students with the community.*
- *Workshop focuses on UN sustainability goals, human rights, and curricular connections to clean water.*
- *Internship/Externship Program in action with photos of students gaining experience at local businesses.*
- *Establishment of multiyear agreement with Ramapo College School of Nursing.*
- *High School homework club, where the older students volunteer to tutor younger students in the Homework Club. Due to growth of the program, the club may be looking for new space. It is rewarding to see former younger students who sought help are now volunteering to help other in the homework club.*
- *GW and LM held programs to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*
- *BR held a visit from Loki Rose, an organization that focuses on wildlife education and animal rescue.*
- *Congratulations to MHS senior Kiersten Macri for her selection as a Bergen County Unsung Hero.*
- *Dr. Fare introduced Mr. Bryan Near, who is on the agenda for appointment as Assistant to the Business Administrator. Mr. Near has worked at Randolph Public Schools and for Nisivoccia accounting firm, where he was a former auditor of the Mahwah Public Schools.*

14. President's Report

Dr. Moorthy reported the committee and liaison assignments have been completed.

Committees:

- *Executive Committee – Moorthy (Chair), DeSilva, Kezmarsky*
- *Negotiations Committee – Jansen (Chair), Galow, Dinice, Coplin*
- *Instruction, Curriculum and Special Education – Moorthy (Chair), Galow, Dav, Coplin*
- *Finance & Facilities Committee – Galow (Chair), DeSilva, Kezmarsky, Jansen*
- *Community Relations Committee – Daveniero (Chair), KEzmarsky, Hughes, Coplin*
- *Policy Committee – Dinice (Chair), Jansen, Hughes, DeSilva*
- *Transportation Committee (ad hoc) – Coplin (Chair), Dinice, Hughes, Galow*

Liaisons:

- *Mahwah Access for All – Galow (alternate – Daveniero)*
- *BCSBA – Dinice (alternate – Hughes)*
- *MSF – Jansen (alternate – Coplin)*
- *BOE Liasion to Council – Kezmarsky (alternate – Coplin)*
- *Liaison NJSBA Legislative Committee – Moorthy*

15. Board Committee Reports

- *Transportation (ad hoc) – Mr. Coplin reported that they met this morning with Dr. DeTuro, Mr. Lambe, Ms. Spindler; school audits of ridership 39% rate; welcome Mr. Galow back to the committee.*
- *Finance & Facilities – Mr. Galow reported that they with auditor for 23-24 audit; 18 J and K; minor recommendations; in general, the audit was pretty good, but always with room for improvement; thank you to the business office.*
- *Policy – Mr. Dinice reported that they met on 1/6/25. There are 4 policies on tonight's agenda for first reading. 1540 admin code of ethics; 1550 equal employment anti-discrimination practices; 1520 – assignment of students; policy 5701 – changed title from Plagiarism to Academic Integrity.*
- *Instruction, Curriculum and Special Education – Dr. Moorthy reported that Courtney Carrehla presented Confidence Closet at the December committee meeting. The program grew and received a \$7,000 grant and is run by students – the Future Problem Solvers – who help other students. Dr. Bovino and Math*

supervisor shared diagnostic results from iReady. Dr. Moorthy reported that grades 6-12 have added new novels to the curriculum.

16. Board Member Remark/s Additional Comments

Mr. Galow praised the international food night last week, which was a great success. He invited the community to a program tomorrow at public library at 6:30 pm, to celebrate Muslim Heritage Month.

17. Old Business

**Resolution 17a was moved by Mr. Galow, seconded by Mr. Coplin.
Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.**

a. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the November 13, 2024 Public Work Session/Action Meeting.

18. New Business – Other

**Resolutions 18a – 18w, excluding 18t, were moved by Mr. Coplin, seconded by Mr. Kezmarsky.
Motion passed 5 ayes, 0 nays: Mr. Galow abstaining from check #118566 on item 17a.**

**Resolution 18t was moved by Mr. Dinice, seconded by Mr. Coplin.
Motion passed 5 ayes, 0 nays.**

a. Financial Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of bills for the period of January 4, 2025 through January 17, 2025.

General Current Expense	Fund 11	\$ 2,296,077.12
Capital Outlay	Fund 12	\$ 1,462.50
Special Revenue Funds	Fund 20	\$ 105,069.03
Region I	Fund 52	\$ 2,432.73
Region I-Contracted Trans.	Fund 53	\$ 314,898.50
Total of All Checks		\$ 2,719,939.88

b. Financial Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of the November hand checks representing net payroll and payroll agency payments, School Employees Health Benefit monthly payment, and transfer of lunch reimbursements to the cafeteria account.

General Fund	Fund 10	\$ 209,954.46
General Current Expense	Fund 11	\$ 4,719,028.47
Special Revenue Funds	Fund 20	\$ 9,438.03
Enterprise Fund	Fund 50	\$ 7,424.00
Region I	Fund 52	\$ 31,181.40
Region I Summer School	Fund 54	\$ 116.52
Total of All Checks		\$ 4,977,142.88

c. Financial Report – Payroll Agency

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of

Education approves the payment of Payroll Agency checks 8005 to 8010 for a total of \$16,983.18.

d. Financial Report – Unemployment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of Unemployment check 1273 for a total of \$11,990.55.

e. Financial Report – Cafeteria

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of Cafeteria checks 2938 to 2940 for a total of \$19,042.66.

f. Secretary’s Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Secretary’s Report for November 2024.

g. Treasurer’s Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Treasurer’s Report for November 2024.

h. Financial Report – Public School Fund

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of Public-School Fund checks 35107 to 35160 for a total of \$85,979.03.

i. Certification

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, as per New Jersey Administrative Code and New Jersey Statutes Annotated legislation and requirements, the following statement is approved:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of November 2024 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1, and

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of November 2024 no budgetary line item account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(a).

Thomas Lambe, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

j. 2023-2024 Audit-ACFR Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the Audit Management Report (AMR) of the district’s 2023-2024 records, as prepared by the firm of Nisivoccia, LLP.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the associated Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for 2023-2024, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the following recommendations were noted on the 2023-2024 audit:

1. Administrative Practices & Procedures – NONE
2. Financial Planning, Accounting & Reporting – NONE
3. School Purchasing Program – NONE

- 4. School Food Service – NONE
- 5. Student Body Activities – The negative club/activity balances be resolved and that the District ensures that balances are reviewed prior to disbursements being made to ensure that negative balances do not occur in the future
- 6. Application for State School Aid – NONE
- 7. Pupil Transportation – NONE
- 8. Facilities and Capital Assets – NONE
- 9. Miscellaneous – NONE
- 10. Status of Prior Years’ Audit Findings/Recommendations – The prior year finding/recommendation regarding more care being taken when posting transactions, including state aid deductions and payroll transfers, and ensuring that reconciling items on the General Operating account bank reconciliations are reviewed in a timely manner was resolved.

k. Corrective Action Plan for 2023-2024 Audit Recommendations

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the corrective action plan prepared by the District to address recommendations as a result of the June 30, 2024 Auditor’s Management Report.

l. Bid Results - HVAC Upgrades at the Newer Gymnasium at Joyce Kilmer School

RESOLVED: that upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education awards the following bid contract as follows:

WHEREAS, the Mahwah Board of Education (“Board”) received one bid at its public bid opening bid for the HVAC Upgrades at the Newer Gymnasium at Joyce Kilmer School on January 15, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bid was submitted by Centralpack Engineering of Hibernia, NJ; with a base bid in the amount of \$370,000, plus \$10,000 in allowances for a total bid in the amount of \$380,000; and

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by Centralpack Engineering is responsive in all materials respects, and it is the Board’s desire to award the contract for the project to by Centralpack Engineering in the amount of \$380,000,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby awards the contract for the HVAC Upgrades at the Newer Gymnasium at Joyce Kilmer School to Centralpack Engineering in the total contract amount of \$380,000.

m. 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:

First	Last	Conference/Workshop	Date	Amount
Kristen	Oroszlany	CARE Stuttering Workshop	1/22/2025	N/A
Lauren	Culkin	Balancing Ethics and Technology: Integrating Artificial Intelligence in Speech-Language Pathology	1/27/2025	\$ 29.00

First	Last	Conference/Workshop	Date	Amount
Ofeer	Kearns	Professional Learning Nonfiction Comprehension Strategies Across the Curriculum	1/28/2025	N/A
Michele	DeRosa	What is "College Writing?"	1/28/2025	\$ 300.00
Emily	Doughan	NJIDA Winter Institute Food For Thought (WIFFT)	2/1/2025	\$ 90.00
Jenna	Trien	Winter Institute Food For Thought	2/1/2025	\$ 90.00
Christina	Zucaro	Winter Institute Food for Thought (WIFFT)	2/1/2025	\$ 90.00
Ofeer	Kearns	Literacy in Focus- The Balancing Act for NJ Educators	2/6/2025	N/A
Emily	Shapiro	The Balancing Act for New Jersey Educators: MATH in Focus	2/13/2025	N/A
Talysa	Cole	Writing Test Prep Workshop: Preparing for the Demands of High-Stakes ELA Tests Across the Country	2/13/2025	\$ 150.00
Josie	VanPuttenVink	NJMEA State Conference	02/20 - 02/22/2025	\$ 443.50
Alexander	Hufford	Physical Edge	3/7/2025	\$ 199.00
Josie	VanPuttenVink	Elementary Music Round Table	3/13/2025	N/A
Kelly	De Bello	NJAGC Annual Conference 2025	4/10/2025	\$ 467.78

n. Field Trips

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following field trips:

Group/Destination	Date(s)	School	# of Students
Math (6-8) to Dwight Englewood School, Englewood, NJ	2/1/25	RR	10
Model UN Club (9-11) to Bergen County Academies, Hackensack, NJ	2/6 - 2/7/25	MHS	9
Orchestra (Grade 5) to David Geffen Hall, NYC, NY	2/7/25	JK	42
Gifted & Talented (10-11) to Joyce Kilmer School, Mahwah, NJ	2/11/25	MHS	9
Chorus (6-8) to Lyndhurst Middle School, Lyndhurst, NJ	3/7/25	RR	72
Robotics Club (9-12) to Mount Olive HS, Flanders, NJ	3/7- 3/9/25	MHS	40
Grades 6-8 to St. Elizabeth's University, Morristown, NJ	3/16/25	MHS	6
Robotics Club (9-12) to Warren HS, Washington, NJ	3/21- 3/23/25	MHS	40
Grade 11 to The College of NJ, Ewing Township, NJ, Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ & St. Joe's University, Philadelphia, PA	4/9/25	MHS	40
Math League (9-12) to Tenafly HS, Tenafly, NJ	4/10/25	MHS	12
Science Club (9-12) to George Washington School, Mahwah, NJ	4/22/25	MHS	12

Group/Destination	Date(s)	School	# of Students
Science Club (9-12) to Lenape Meadows School, Mahwah, NJ	4/24/25	MHS	12
Kindergarten to Bergen County Zoo, Paramus, NJ	4/25/25	GW	41
Performing Arts (9-12) to Philadelphia Heritage Festival, Philadelphia, PA	4/26/25	MHS	120
Grade 1 Science to Turtle Back Zoo, West Orange, NJ	5/6/25	LM	80
Incoming Kindergarten to Betsy Ross bus, Mahwah, NJ	5/21/25	BR	50
Grade 3 to George Washington School, Mahwah, NJ	5/28/25	BR	47
Football to KSA Events, Nashville, TN	8/28- 8/31/25	MHS	40

o. First Reading of Policies & Regulations

P1540 – Administrator’s Code of Ethics

P&R1550 – Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices

P5120 – Assignment of Students

P5701 – Academic Integrity

p. Curriculum Updates

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following novels for grades 6, 7, 8 & 10 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Book	Author	Grade
Front Desk	Kelly Yang	Grade 6
One Crazy Summer	Rita Williams Garcia	Grade 6
Cinder	Marissa Meyer	Grade 7
Ghost	Jason Reynolds	Grade 7
Unbroken	Laura Hillenbrand	Grade 8
They Called Us Enemy	George Takei	Grade 8
Resistance	Carla Jablonski	Grade 8
The Nickel Boys	Colson Whitehead	Grade 10
Dear Justyce	Nic Stone	Grade 10

q. Professional Learning Day (Additional Presenters)

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a stipend for staff to provide a teacher workshop on January 27, 2025, at the stipend amount of \$250 per session (stipend shared for joint presentations).

Staff Member	Workshop	Session Qty
Sarah Meakem	Lift and Learn: Supporting Multilingual Learners Together (6-12)	0.5
Christine Piotrowski	The Ready Math Experience	0.333
Eric Pragdat	The Ready Math Experience	0.333
Kelly Picarello	The Ready Math Experience	0.333

r. Transportation Waiver Forms 24/25 School Year

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the Parental Transportation Services Waiver Forms for the 2024-2025 school year for the following student:

Student ID Number
40214

s. Travel Expenditures for 2025-2026

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, in each pre-budget year, the Mahwah Board of Education is required to establish a maximum travel expenditure amount for the budget year which may not be exceeded; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that the maximum travel expenditure amount includes all travel that is supported by State and local funds; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has not elected to exclude travel expenditures supported by federal funds from the maximum travel expenditure amount,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mahwah Board of Education hereby establishes the maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2025-2026 school year as \$58,000.

t. Donation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the donation of a new Nevco Sports 3650 Scoreboard for Ramapo Ridge Middle School. This generous donation has been made by Dylan Hofsis of DHA Contracting, Mahwah, NJ.

u. Revised Withdrawal from Capital Reserve to Fund ROD Grant School Facilities Projects

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Township Board of Education approves the revised withdrawal of \$380,000 from the Capital Reserve Account to fund the local share of the ROD Grant school facilities project - DOE State Project # 02-03-2900-075-23-R501, SDA Project # 2900-075-23-G5LN, Grant # G5-6703 for HVAC System upgrades at Joyce Kilmer School.

v. George Washington School HVAC Upgrades - Change Order #4

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves change order #4 in the amount of \$2,535.50. The change order has been reviewed and verified by LAN Associates, the District's Engineering firm for this project. Project Cost is therefore modified to \$3,518,876.00.

w. Transfer from Capital Reserve

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the transfer of \$2,535.50 from the Capital Reserve Account to the Operating Account for the purpose of funding Change Order #4 associated with the George Washington School HVAC Upgrades.

19. New Business – Personnel

Resolutions 19a to 19z were moved by Mr. Coplin, seconded by Mr. Hughes.

Motion passed 5 ayes, 0 nays.

- a. Resignation
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Christine Torntore, reading specialist, at Lenape Meadows School; effective March 10, 2025.
- b. Appointment
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Bryan Near, as Assistant to the Business Administrator, for Mahwah Township Public Schools, from February 24, 2025 – June 30, 2025; salary to be \$92,000, pro-rated; pending employment verification.
- c. Appointment
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Brittany Ritterman, as school social worker, at Betsy Ross School, from March 24, 2025 – June 30, 2025; salary to be Column D, Step 11, \$75,856, pro-rated; pending employment verification.
- d. Appointment – Leave Replacement Update
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment update of Katerina Maltzan, as leave replacement for Employee #4847, pursuant to New Jersey Statute 18A:16-1.1, from February 10, 2025 – June 30, 2025; salary to be Column A, Step 2, \$56,973, pro-rated.
- e. Appointment – Leave Replacement
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Karen Petersen, as leave replacement for Employee #4645, pursuant to New Jersey Statute 18A:16-1.1, from February 3, 2025 – June 30, 2025; salary to be Column A, Step 9, \$66,011, pro-rated; pending fingerprinting, certification and employment verification.
- f. Appointment – Leave Replacement
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Alyssa Nye, as leave replacement for Employee #5132; effective April 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025; salary to be Schedule F, at level K-8, Step 11, \$55,228, pro-rated; with an additional hour per day, at the rate of 1/6th of this salary, at \$9,205, pro-rated; equaling a total salary of \$64,433, pro-rated; pending employment verification.
- g. Appointment and Change of Position
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a change in position for Charu Chadha, from paraprofessional substitute, at Mahwah Township Public Schools, to instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Joyce Kilmer School, in order to fill a vacant position; effective retroactive to January 16, 2025 – June 30, 2025; salary to be Step 1, \$21,032.88; pro-rated.
- h. NJFLA Intermittent Leave of Absence
RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves an intermittent leave of absence for Employee #9776, effective retroactive and during the following dates: January 22, 2025 – January 23, 2025.
- i. NJFLA Intermittent Leave of Absence - Update

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves an intermittent leave of absence update for Employee #5396, effective retroactive and during the following dates: October 23, 2024 – October 25, 2024; November 4, 2024; November 6, 2024; January 17, 2025.

j. Appointment – SAT Course Instructors

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following staff members, to teach English language arts and mathematics courses for SAT exam preparation from April 7, 2025, to June 6, 2025, to run based on student enrollment, for 16 hours for each cycle at $1/5^{\text{th}}$ the staff member's salary, pro-rated as follows per cycle ($1/5^{\text{th}}$ salary \div 186 days x 16 days);

First Name	Last Name	Subject	# Of Cycles
Jennifer	Chung	Math	1
Melissa	Amato	ELA	1

k. Paraprofessional Stipends

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves listed stipends for the following paraprofessional staff in accordance with the terms and conditions of employment between the Mahwah Board of Education and the Mahwah Education Association.

Building	First Name	Last Name	Bachelor's Degree	Teaching Certificate
Betsy Ross School	Mary	Flannery	\$200.00	\$800.00
Betsy Ross School	Karan	Hallak	\$200.00	\$800.00
Betsy Ross School	Deepa	Rau	\$200.00	
Betsy Ross School	Aprile	Savarese	\$200.00	
Betsy Ross School	Allison	Schlackman	\$200.00	
Betsy Ross School	Audrey	Von Zwehl	\$200.00	
George Washington School	Jessica	Curran	\$200.00	
George Washington School	Darryl	Johnson	\$200.00	
George Washington School	Rosanne	Mason	\$200.00	
George Washington School	Sandra	Steinberg	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Heather	Alesio	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Dawn	Doria	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Elwira	Fremder	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Michelle	Irie	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Shireesha	Tirumala	\$200.00	
Lenape Meadows School	Laurie	Rosen	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	David	Bernhart	\$200.00	

Building	First Name	Last Name	Bachelor's Degree	Teaching Certificate
Mahwah High School	Gemma	Cho	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Lori	Ferrar	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Jacqueline	Hall	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Lisa	LaMontagne	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Polina	Los	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Sumalatha	Maddali	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Jacqueline	Pepe	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Holly	Retcho	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Jeanine	Whitmore	\$200.00	
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Anne	Cavallo	\$200.00	\$800.00
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Sandra	Cioffi	\$200.00	\$800.00
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Virginia	DePalma	\$200.00	\$800.00
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Bharathi	Palanivelu	\$200.00	
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Lucineia	Ponzini	\$200.00	
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Mindy	Vesia	\$200.00	\$800.00

1. Stipend – Tiered Paraprofessionals - Revised

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following stipend for the 2024-2025 school year, to be awarded to instructional paraprofessionals who provide specialized services, as stipulated in the Mahwah Education Association contract; in consultation with building administration and determined by the Child Study Team, upon completion of the school year's assignment, and to be pro-rated, if applicable:

Employee ID	% of Stipend	Dates
*5467	20%	9/1/24 - 6/30/25
3160	100%	9/1/24 - 6/30/25
9897	100%	9/1/24 - 6/30/25
8162	100%	9/1/24 - 6/30/25
5290	100%	9/1/24 - 6/30/25
*5278	30%	9/1/24 - 6/30/25
*4804	30%	9/1/24 - 6/30/25
4955	100%	9/1/24 – 10/30/24, 1/8/25 – 6/30/25

m. Appointment – Advisor

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Eric Pragdat, as advisor for the chess club, from January 8, 2025 – April 30, 2025; stipend to be \$1,922 prorated, in accordance with schedule H, group V, of the MEA contract.

n. Parent Academy

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a stipend for the following staff providing Parent Academy Workshops for district parents; stipend to be \$100 per hour, to be paid via a submitted voucher.

Event Title	Event Date	Hours	Presenters
Elementary Counselors Present: Nurtured Heart	2/13/2025	2 each	Diana Capani Craig Alfano Kyla Murphy

o. Extended School Year (ESY) Program and Self-Contained Program

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the extended school year program and self-contained summer program, for grades K-12, beginning June 30, 2025 – July 29, 2025; from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, with no school on Thursday, July 3, 2025, and Friday, July 4, 2025.

p. Bergen County Special Services ABA/Autism Spectrum Pre-K Extended School Year (ESY) Program

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the Bergen County Special Services ABA/Autism Spectrum Pre-K Extended School Year (ESY) Program, for eligible students, beginning June 30, 2025 – August 1, 2025; from 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., with no school on Thursday, July 3, 2025, and Friday, July 4, 2025.

q. Booster Camp (formerly Title I Mahwah Summer School & ESL Program)

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education authorizes the Booster Camp Summer Program; to be held June 30, 2025 - July 29, 2025, with no school on Thursday, July 3, 2025, and Friday, July 4, 2025, as described in the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) application. There is no tuition cost for these programs. Students are invited to participate based upon academic need and teacher recommendation.

r. Summer Enrichment Program – Camp Invention

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education authorizes Camp Invention - Summer Enrichment Program, for incoming grades 1-6; to be held August 4, 2025 - August 8, 2025.

s. Safety Town Program

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the Safety Town program for children entering kindergarten in September 2025, to be held June 26, 2025 – July 2, 2025; from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

t. Kindergarten Kickstart Program

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the Kindergarten Kickstart Program for children entering kindergarten in September 2025, to be held August 4, 2025 – August 8, 2025; from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

u. Summer Music Program

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the Self-Sustaining Summer Music Program; to be held June 30, 2025 - July 16, 2025; classes to be run Monday to Thursday; from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., with no school on Thursday, July 3, 2025, and Friday, July 4, 2025; at no cost to the district.

v. Fieldwork/Practicum Observations

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following fieldwork/practicum observations for the 2025 spring semester, for the following students, attending the following colleges/universities:

Student Name	College/University	Supervising Staff Member
Julia Circelli Erizel Platon Alexia Rajkumar	Ramapo College School of Nursing	Emilie Brinson, School Nurse Kirsteen Diaz-Pinto, School Nurse Nancy Mertz, School Nurse

w. Clinical Internship Placement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following clinical internship placement for the 2025 spring semester, for the following student(s), attending the following colleges/universities:

Student Name	College/University	Supervising Staff Member
Francisco Verona	William Paterson University	Caitlin Yeck (Certified Teacher of Physical Education) Roger Pelletier (Supervisor of Physical Education, Mahwah High School)

x. Practicum/Clinical Internship Placement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following fieldwork/practicum/clinical internship placement for the 2025 fall semester, for the following student(s), attending the following colleges/universities:

Student Name	College/University	Supervising Staff Member
Miranda Borgos	Montclair State University College for Community Health: Communication Sciences and Disorders	Nicole Kuhrt (Speech-Language Specialist)

y. Appointment – Winter Percussion Volunteers

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following volunteers to assist periodically at practice and competitions for indoor winter percussion, for the 2024 – 2025 school year, at no cost to the district.

First Name	Last Name
Jared	Gaslow
Amy	Sasson
Miriam	Herschaft

- z. Title II ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Coordinator

RESOLVED: that the Mahwah Board of Education appoints Dr. Dennis M. Fare, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Offices, 60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, New Jersey, as Title II ADA Coordinator; retroactive from January 1, 2025 through to the reorganization meeting in January 2026.

20. 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.

21. Motion to open meeting for public comments

It was moved by Mr. Galow, seconded by Mr. Hughes to open the meeting for public comments at 7:48pm.

Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

22. Motion to close the meeting for public comments

It was moved by Mr. Coplin, seconded by Mr. Hughes to close the meeting to the public at 7:48pm.

Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

23. Motion to Adjourn

It was moved by Mr. Galow, seconded by Mr. Coplin to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 pm.

Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Upcoming Events

1/23	Ramapo Ridge HSO meeting 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)
2/3	Mahwah High School HSA 7:00 p.m.
2/11	Joyce Kilmer HSO meeting 12:00 p.m.
2/11	Betsy Ross HSO meeting 7:00 p.m. (Zoom)
2/12	George Washington HSO meeting 6:00 p.m.
2/19	Mahwah Board of Education meeting 7:00 p.m.
2/26	Lenape Meadows HSO meeting 7:00 p.m.
2/27	Mahwah Board of Education meeting 7:00 p.m.
3/5	Mahwah Board of Education meeting 7:00 p.m.
3/11	Joyce Kilmer HSO meeting 7:30 p.m.
3/12	George Washington HSO meeting 6:00 p.m. (Zoom)
3/14	Betsy Ross HSO meeting 12:15 p.m.
3/18	Lenape Meadows HSO meeting
3/20	Ramapo Ridge HSO meeting 9:00 a.m.

3/26	Mahwah Board of Education meeting 7:00 p.m.
4/7	Mahwah High School HSA meeting 7:00 p.m.
4/8	Betsy Ross HSO Zoom meeting 7:00 p.m.
4/8	Joyce Kilmer HSO Zoom meeting 12:00 p.m.
4/9	George Washington HSO meeting 6:00 p.m.
4/10	Lenape Meadows HSO meeting 2:30 p.m.
4/9	Mahwah Board of Education meeting 5 p.m. Strategic Planning meeting 6:00 p.m.
4/24	Ramapo Ridge HSO Zoom meeting 7:00 p.m.
4/30	Mahwah Board of Education meeting/Budget Hearing 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Lambe
Business Administrator/Board Secretary