

**HANOVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING
MINUTES
JANUARY 28, 2025**

I. OPENING

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 7:00 p.m. in the IMC at Memorial Junior School, 61 Highland Avenue, Whippany, NJ 07981.

The Board Secretary read the following statement:

In accordance with P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, notice of this meeting was provided to the newspaper of record, appropriately posted and sent to the Township Clerk on January 8, 2025. Ad was in the Daily Record on January 12, 2025 and the Hanover Eagle January 16, 2025.

Mrs. Bomengo led the flag salute.

Present: Board Members	Mrs. Christine Egbert Mrs. Gina Johnston Mr. Gregory Skiff Mr. Christopher Mattessich Mr. William McCabe Mrs. Michelle Stricchiola Mr. Marc Amoresano Mrs. Karin Coffey Mrs. Lisa Bomengo, President
------------------------	--

Interim Business Administrator & Board Secretary	Dr. Edward Izbicki
---	--------------------

Superintendent	Mr. Justin Toomey
----------------	-------------------

II. MOTION TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

**III. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
Patriot's Pen Essay Contest Winners**

Mr. Anderson, Principal at Memorial Junior School gave the following presentation;

Good evening, everyone! Thank you, Mr. Toomey and the Board of Education, for giving us the opportunity tonight to celebrate three outstanding students from Memorial Junior School. It's always a privilege to take a moment to shine a spotlight on the incredible talent and hard work happening in our schools every day.

When our nation's founders took up their pens nearly 250 years ago to draft the Declaration of Independence, they showed us the enduring power of words. Today, the middle school Patriots of Memorial Junior School carry on that same

spirit, using their voices to reflect on what democracy means to them. Each year, our students rise to the challenge of the Patriot's Pen Essay Contest, a tradition sponsored by the Whippany VFW Post #5351 that invites students in all three grade levels to share their patriotic perspectives. This year's theme, "My Voice in America's Democracy," offered a meaningful opportunity for students to explore the impact of their voices in shaping our nation's future.

I was blown away by the creativity, passion, and insight in our students' essays, and I could not be more proud of the three exceptional writers we're here to and have made all of us at Memorial Junior School incredibly proud.

Joining us to recognize these talented students is Regina Karlok from the Whippany VFW Post 5351 Auxiliary. I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the VFW and, especially, Mary Nemec, who was unable to be here tonight, for their continued dedication to encouraging and celebrating student voices through this incredible contest.

Now, it's time to meet our winners! Each student will receive a certificate from the Board of Education, along with a plaque and award from the VFW. And for a special treat, our first-place winner will share their essay with us tonight!

Let's begin by recognizing our third-place winner...

Third Place – Audrey Chang (7th Grade)

Second Place – Alyssa Kishbaugh (6th Grade)

First Place – Anaya Dhruva (6th Grade)

Again, congratulations to our students and thank you to the VFW and the Board for taking the time to honor our winners!

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Public Meeting 12/17/24

Reorganization Meeting 1/7/25

Motion: Mrs. Johnston **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Approved:** Yes 9, No 0
Mr. Skiff Abstain from Reorganization Meeting 1/7/25 Minutes as he was absent

V. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT -

Dr. Izbicki stated all funds are in balance, there is no over expenditures and the cash balance ties to the Treasurer of School Monies Report. Cash balance as of 12/31/2024 was \$5,411,978.22

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT-

Mr. Toomey gave the following report:

Good evening, everyone!

As we begin this new calendar year, it's hard to believe we're already approaching the halfway point of the school year. What a year it's been so far! While we are proudly a Community that Inspires Excellence, we are also deeply committed to this endless pursuit of excellence in all that we do. Tonight, you had the opportunity to see one of the many examples of this excellence with our students, who were honored for their Patriot's Pen essays. Congratulations to all of them, and a special thanks to Ms. Nemec, who is dedicated to this wonderful initiative year after year.

Earlier this afternoon, we released our "Excellence Spotlight" District Newsletter, which provides a glimpse into the many amazing things happening across our schools and district. If you haven't had the chance to check it out yet, I encourage you to take a look. It truly captures the spirit of our district and the hard work and dedication of our students, staff, and school community.

A few important updates to share:

- Kindergarten Registration is officially open. While we are working toward centralizing the registration process with a district registrar, this year's registration will continue to be conducted at the school level. Thank you to our principals and school staff for ensuring this important process runs smoothly for our incoming families.
- We are excited about our upcoming Parent Academy, which you'll hear more about during the Public Relations Committee Report. Save the date for Thursday, February 27, when we will host a very important presentation on Internet Safety. This is a critical topic in today's world, and we hope to see many of our parents and guardians there.
- Also, we are continuing to work through the process of meeting with food service providers, which is very involved but will be well worth it. We will be narrowing it down to 2 vendors and have them present to a committee of various stakeholders. Once As we prepare for the second half of the school year, we also look ahead to the important planning work required for the 2025-2026 school year. This work will ensure we continue to meet the needs of our students and maintain the high standards of excellence that define our district.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership as we work together to inspire excellence in all of our students. Let's make 2025 a year to remember!

Have a great evening, and thank you.

VII. DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

Mrs. Koeppen gave the following report:

Today, I share with you the ins and outs of the monitoring process as presented by the Department of Education's office of special education.

This process was no small feat. The child study team members were assigned tasks based upon their current caseloads, but worked collectively to gather and review each other's mini-assignments. There were many days and weeks of effort that were devoted in committing to this process.

The copy you are provided with is a template. We included initials and student state ID numbers, which for confidentiality reasons I did not share. Moreso wanted you to see the areas of review and complexity of this task.

This process of remote review was released last year. It is a cycle that is new to everyone and enlightening.

While we are still awaiting the final results of the monitoring process, today we celebrate the progress we've made. Each entry or box you see on the spreadsheet/rubric required documents of evidence to be uploaded to demonstrate that this process was completed. The options are clearly that we were compliant, noncompliant, or it did not apply. I will share with you, I reviewed each rubric and supporting document. Can't share individual results, I will share that mathematically, less than 1% of all of the 380 possible marks were noncompliant. My hats off to all efforts of the staff for all that was done from April 2024 until today to make that possible.

I hope to have an update for you with the close of the summer to report our results. The state is employing a response to intervention approach where 20% of the districts will be visited on site to develop action plans as a result of the monitoring process, while 80% will receive notice of a passing grade. Either way, we are excited to have feedback that will be resourceful moving forward.

This monitoring cycle wasn't just a task; it was a journey—providing valuable insight. While waiting for a passing grade, the thoroughness of this review has resulted in immediate, minor adjustments to our current practices—adjustments that may seem small, but are absolutely vital. These changes are already making a difference, ensuring that we meet the diverse and evolving needs of every student we serve. Again, they are minimal.

Completing this cycle is an achievement in itself—an achievement that speaks to the commitment and professionalism of everyone involved in the process, from our educators to our administrators to the families who support our students. Their hard work, attention to detail, and passion for continuous improvement have made this milestone possible.

The work does not stop here. This is a pause to celebrate the hard work that has been accomplished. I applaud what was done before me to get to brag to you tonight.

We are looking ahead and already preparing for the next five years, ensuring that we not only meet the standards set before us but that we exceed them. This process isn't just about compliance—it's about making sure that our students, especially those with special needs, have the support, the resources, and the opportunities they deserve to achieve excellence.

Thank you for the opportunity to share tonight and your time.

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Mr. Wasserman gave the following report:

Good evening, I want to thank Mr. Toomey and the Board of Education, for the opportunity to present this evening.

I'm pleased to report on the success of our Professional Development Day held on January 17th, which focused on advancing district goals and supporting our educators. A similar afternoon is scheduled for Friday, February 14th.

The day included targeted sessions such as **Supporting ELL Learners**, where teachers gained practical strategies to help multilingual students succeed, and **LinkIt! Training**, which strengthened teachers' ability to use data to drive instruction. Grades 3-5 educators reviewed enhancements to the **ELA program**, refining practices to improve literacy outcomes. We also held **IEP Training**, equipping staff with tools to better support students with disabilities and ensure compliance. Teachers also participated in **building-based subject area meetings** to collaborate and align instructional goals, fostering teamwork and consistency across grade levels and subjects.

Additionally, the last two days were spent working collaboratively with **Whippany Park High School on Grade 8 to 9 articulation**. Eighth-grade Mathematics and English Language Arts teachers had the opportunity to observe high school classes and discuss best practices with their colleagues. In a few weeks, high school teachers will visit Memorial Junior School to continue this important process of alignment and collaboration.

The success of these initiatives reflects the hard work of our educators and the support of the Board. Thank you for your continued commitment to professional development that directly impacts our students' success.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS :

Personnel- The Committee met on January 21, 2025

Board members present:

Justin Toomey (CSA), Lisa Bomengo (Board President), Christine Egbert (Chair), Gina Johnson & Karin Coffey.

The following was discussed:

4 Retirements (7/1/2025):

Two Special aides retiring, a bus driver and BSI teacher:

Doreen Anderson - Special Education Aide @ BMS

Teresa Graziano - Special Education Aide @ MJS

Debbie Lamb - Bus Driver

Laura Petro - BSI Teacher @ MTV

One Leave of Absence:

Extend Employee # 4286 - originally 9/30/24 to 3/17/25, to be effective through 4/21/25

Appointments:

Extend the appointment of Jamie Rehus (4286- Long term sub), previously approved effective 10/7/24 or sooner to 3/18/25, to be effective through 4/9/25.

Amend the appointment of Eduardo Martinez Arriaga to position of full time custodian at MTV, previously approved effective 1/21/25 to 5/21/25, to effective 1/27/25 to 5/27/25.

Amend the 2024-2025 employment contract for Ashy Angulo Special Education teacher Aide, BMS from part time to full time, effective 1/29/25 to 6/30/25.

Transfer:

Approve the transfer and reassignment of Adam Papa (Day Custodian) from MTV to BMS, effective 1/27/25.

Authorize Tuition Reimbursement Applications for 2024-2025 school year:

Teacher Credits

- George Dakak 6
- Lori Prout 15
- Sandra Wylie 6

Approve the 2024-2025 Extra Compensation assignments:

Approve Advisor(s) @ BMS

- Art Club Lily Yee @ 6 hours
- Art Club Lori Prout @ 15 hours

Approve Advisor(s) @ SDS

- Chess Club Rosemary Cataliotti @ 7 hours
- Chess Club Eddie Cashen @ 7 hours
- Classic Games Club Dawn Baron @ 7 hours
- Grade 3 Lego Club Rosemary Pierone @ 5 hours
- Grade 3 Lego Club Christine Carey @ 5 hours

Approve Advisor(s) @ MJS

- Honors Band Tracy Currie @ 5 hours
- Honors Band Natalie Donoghue @ 5 hours
- Honors Band Carolyn Masi @ 5 hours
- Honors Band Jessica White @ 5 hours

Open Discussion:

Potential class size modifications due to increased student enrollment.

Potential new teacher positions with upcoming budget process.

Curriculum, Technology and Student Achievement Committee – The Committee Meet January 21, 2025. In attendance was, Gina Johnston - Committee Chair Michelle Stricchiola, Karin Coffey, Lisa Bomengo – Board President, Aaron Wasserman Director of Curriculum, Sherry Koeppen – Director of Special Service, Justin Toomey, CSA

Agenda Items:

1. Approvals to date:

Completion of all required fire and crisis drills in compliance with regulations

Regarding the following approvals:

- Director of special education's recommendation to approve Platt Psychiatric, LLC, to provide psychiatric evaluations as part of the CST assessments on an as need basis
 - Would be another option
 - Would be for the evaluation component only
- Director of Special Education's recommendation to contract with the Educational Services Commission of NJ to provide bilingual evaluation services on an as needed basis for the 24-25 school year
 - For evals to be written and conducted in Spanish
- Tuition contracts between HT and Paterson under McKinney-Vento for students with a tuition rate of \$31,675.25 for the 2024-25 SY and between HT and Phillipsburg for the tuition rate of \$31,675.25 for the 2024-25 SY
 - One of the students attend our district but are domiciled in another district
 - These were never billed previously and now we are collecting
- Director of special Education's recommendation for a student to attend PG Chambers School, effective 1/29/25 for the rest of the 2024-25 SY with a tuition cost not to exceed \$46,479.54

Approve venues for field trips and vendors for onsite assemblies for Camp HTSACC 2025 (list of venues and vendors are agenda items 8 and 9 on the regular agenda under Curriculum, Tech., and Student Achievement)

Discussion of proposed district calendar for the 2025-2026 SY

2. District Professional Development Afternoons

Occurred on Jan. 17th and is scheduled for Feb.14

The 2/14 agenda was reviewed and discussed

- K-2 teachers will go to the dyslexia screener training
- 3rd grade will get that training at a different time
- There is a new law that states that all K-3 students need to be screened three times a year for dyslexia – going into effect for next year.
- Feb. 3rd – continue training in Guided Reading for grades 3-5

3. Reviewed and discussed the 5 Year NJSLA Peer Comparison from LinkIt!

4. TMI Strategic Planning Process

Reviewed and discussed the 5-year plan

- Will be a total of 8 sessions, plus additional session meetings with sub committees
- Hope to implement for the 2026-27 SY

5. ELA Steering Committee Update

From Feb-June – Guided Reading training will continue with Steering Committee going to other districts to see the program in action

6. Professional Development Updates

Progress and highlights

Techspo

“For the Good of the Order”

PowerSchool Breach question was asked – PowerSchool will be reaching out to those who were affected

Discussed PD that the staff assistants attend

Discussed the Parent Advisory Group for Children with Special Needs – projected to start in March

Update - For next year's Pre-K, student numbers are high. We are looking to open a F/T PSD Pre-K class and also continue with the ½ day Pre-K inclusive classes.

Finance/Transportation/Physical Plant Committee - The Committee met on January 22, 2025. Members in attendance, Lisa Bomengo, President, Marc Amoresano, Chair, Chris Mattessich member, Justin Toomey CSA, Dr. Edward Izbicki, Interim B.A, Billy Padavano, Supervisor Building & Grounds, Lauren Beretin, HTSACC, Ricardo Santiago, Supervisor Transportation.

Transportation Updates, two buses will be leased, as opposed to saving and buying n one lump sum as was previously the district's policy. The small savings in interest caused a large amount of cost when the buses are down and the district had to pay outside sources to infill. This will save the district approximately \$330,000. The buses will be available as soon as October 2025, whereas the other policy would make the buses available only after 18-24 months.

HTSACC Updates for the upcoming camp season:

Higher than usual price increase, but still well within the costs of similar districts and still well below private camps. The increase will help to cover the cost of a full time nurse on site.

Counselor in Training (CIT) is being revamped.

The Language for employee discounts is being reworked to better reflect policy. Also discussed was how to provide additional benefits to district staff who also work at HTSACC.

Also the policy used for the reduced fee schedule for those who need it, will be aligned with the free and reduced lunch program.

Technology had no updates.

Physical Plant Updates, Architect Anthony Gianforcaro discussed the ROD Grants.

Roof section replacements, discussed amount of replacement, cost savings idea. There must be replacement of the entire area or leaks are possible, so it is not recommended to reduce the area.

The cost has risen from the budgeted \$38.00 per square foot to around \$43.00 per square foot (the number was based on construction costs almost 18 mounts ago when the grants

were filled out), and the ROD grant is based only on 40% of the budgeted amount. The heating and ventilation in the gyms, this does not include the small Viking Gym at MJS. The will be a resolution in January to move forward with the ROD Grant process. A donated bench at Mountview Road School was damaged during the snow removal. Billy is working on a repair or a replacement.

There was a minor car accident between a district crew member and a civilian. There were no injuries.

Mountview Road School, the new mural location indoors in moving forward.

Eastern Data was on site to review the intercom upgrade. Working to do a temporary restoration of the Salem Drive system in the interim while the new system is being implemented.

Met with another food vendor for an additional bid.

Work is being done to fix all broken/dim exterior lights on all district buildings.

Memorial Junior School is hosting the Morris County Girls' Basketball Tournament.

Discussed was signage update to make the district consistent.

Finance was discussed with Dr. Izbicki as follows: the Regular Agenda, Bills List, Board Secretary and Reconciliation Reports.

The budgeting review process has begun. Due to the budgeting confusion caused by the previous system, the new administration is going to a cost per pupil budgeting system to make the budgeting for all schools more equitable.

For The Good of the Order, Chris Mattessich discussed shared services with the Township for vehicle maintenance. Justin will follow up.

Public Relations Committee – The Committee met on January 21, 2025.

Members in attendance; Michelle Stricchiola - Committee Chair, Lisa Bomengo

Board President, Justin Toomey – CSA, Christine Egbert, Board Member

William McCabe, Board Member

1) BOE Approvals/Donations for the following were discussed:

- Approval for artist, Caren Olmsted, for an in-house residency at Mountview Road School to complete a mural project with students, staff, and parents to create the mural in the main hallway, in February 2025 (February 05-19, 2025), with installation by the end of the following school year.
- Accept the MTV PTA's donation of the mural, along with outdoor benches as part of the project, to Mountview Road School, valued at approximately \$19,000.
- Accept the BMS PTA's donation of a Gaga Pit @ Bee Meadow School, valued at approximately \$6,100. This figure does not include the cost of installation.
- An approval for the participation in the Hanover Township Public Schools 2024-2025 Teacher Recognition Program, and authorize a local grant of \$250 to each recipient to be used for an educational purpose within their respective classroom and/or school. In addition to this, Superintendent Toomey discussed other ideas he has to recognize the honorees from this program.
- Adoption:
 - We discussed the adoption of the 2025-2026 Calendar for Students and Staff.

- Some noteworthy highlights of the calendar are that it indicates which dates there will be early dismissals for conferences at the elementary schools and MJS. There will also be a four day weekend over the Presidents' Day weekend in February and there will be an early dismissal on March 13, 2026 for staff professional development. The Friday of Memorial Weekend 2026 will be an early dismissal.
- The calendar also has a very helpful key at the bottom that reviews relevant information to the academic calendar.
- Board Orientation Recap
 - Superintendent Toomey hosted a tour of the schools and luncheon to welcome incoming board members.
 - On January 7th, board members attended a training session about "School Board Ethics".
- Website Updates
 - The new website has launched and the district has received positive feedback about it. Over time, more content will be added to the website and the district is looking into discontinuing the mobile app now that the website is mobile friendly.
 -
- Internet Safety Assembly
 - As part of a partnership with the Mayor's Wellness Campaign, students in Grades 5-8 will attend the assembly on February 26th and parents have the opportunity to attend on February 27th @ 6:30pm.
 - We discussed the various media outlets and organizations that can help advertise this worthwhile presentation.
 - The district will also be extending an invitation to the East Hanover and Florham Park communities.
- Kindergarten Registration
 - Information regarding Kindergarten Registration will be distributed via e-mail and the website on January 22nd. The registration forms and the requirement guidelines for registration have been updated to help the registration process run smoothly for families and district staff.
- Strategic Planning Update
 - The district is looking into hiring a firm to assist in formulating a 5 year action plan encompassing all areas of the district. Once a firm is selected, a committee will be formed with various stakeholders in the community and district to complete the process.
- Lunch Program Update
 - The district is in the process of narrowing down potential vendors to two vendors and reviewing proposals for the lunch program.
 - A committee will be formed to attend presentations and tastings by the selected vendor(s).

- PTA Visits
 - Superintendent Toomey has visited PTA Meetings at Mountview Road and Salem Drive Schools. He is looking forward to attending meetings at Bee Meadow and Memorial Junior School in the coming weeks.
- PTA Advisory
 - The next PTA Advisory meeting will be on February 12, 2025.
- Open Discussion
 - At this time we discussed the Hanover Heritage Association's invitation for district participation in the 250th anniversary of America which will be on July 4, 2026. Superintendent Toomey said that the district will work with the Association to support and promote activities for this celebration.

Policy Committee – The Committee meet January 22, 2025

Present: Justin Toomey, *CSA*, Lisa Bomengo, *Board President*, William McCabe, *Member*, Marc Amoresano, *Member*, Gregory Skiff, *Chair*

Discussion by all concerning the following:

Agenda Items Recommended for Approval:

Pursuant to the recommendations of Strauss Esmay:

Abolish:

Policy & Regulation No. 7430 School Safety

Conduct the first reading of the following Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations:

Policy No. 5722 Student Journalism

Discussion concerning removal of subsections 1 through 5 and replacement with citation to underlying statute containing said subsections

Policy No. 5750 Equitable Educational Opportunity

Include term “and equal” where appropriate

Policy and Regulation No. 5751 Sexual Harassment of Students

Discussion regarding Strauss Esmay's recommendation to revert to prior policy as a result of Federal Court decision vacating Biden Administration's August 2024 Title IX Regulations

Specifically, a recent Federal Court case out of the Eastern District of Kentucky ruled the Biden Administration's August 2024 Title IX regulations violated the United States Constitution. This ruling vacates the new regulations which were released in August

2024. Therefore, districts should revert to complying with the previous Title IX regulations that were released by the Trump Administration in May 2020. In October 2021, Strauss Esmay released Policy and Regulation Guides 5751 in Policy Alert 225 that aligned with the Trump Administration's Title IX regulations. If a district adopted Policy and Regulation Guides 5751 from October 2021, no further action is required. A district may want to confer with their Board Attorney should a Title IX matter arise.

Policy No. 5842 Equal Access of Student Organizations

Discussions regarding necessity of such a policy given our K-8 (and not K-12) status. Agreed to table for now.

For the Good of the Order: Concluded the meeting.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items--None

A. PERSONNEL

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, move to:

1. Accept, with regret, the resignation of Doreen Anderson, Special Education Aide, Bee Meadow School, effective 7/1/25, for the purpose of retirement.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

2. Accept, with regret, the resignation of Teresa Graziano, Special Education Aide, Memorial Junior School, effective 7/1/25, for the purpose of retirement.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

3. Accept, with regret, the resignation of Deborah Lamb, Bus Driver, effective 7/1/25, for the purpose of retirement.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

4. Accept, with regret, the resignation of Laura Petro, Basic Skills Teacher, Mountview Road School, effective 7/1/25, for the purpose of retirement.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

5. Approve to extend the leave of absence for Employee ID# 4286, previously approved effective 9/30/24 to 3/17/25, to be effective through 4/21/25.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

6. Approve to extend the appointment of Jamie Rehus as temporary full time (1.0 FTE) Long Term Substitute Replacement Kindergarten Teacher, Mountview Road School, at the BA Step 1 rate of \$306 per diem, when school is in session, *previously approved effective 10/7/24 or sooner to 3/18/25*, to be effective through 4/9/25.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert**Second:** Mr. Skiff**Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

7. Amend the 2024-2025 employment contract for Aysegul Zeybek Angulo Gomez, Special Education Aide, Bee Meadow School, from the previously approved part time (.69 FTE), to full time (1.0 FTE) at a salary of Step 8 \$25,765, prorated, effective 1/29/25 to 6/30/25, in accordance with the Agreement between the Board and the HTEA.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert**Second:** Mr. Skiff**Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

8. Amend the appointment of Eduardo Martinez Arriaga to the position of full time (1.0 FTE) Custodian, Mountview Road School, at a salary of Step 2, \$39,795, prorated, *previously approved effective 1/21/25 to 5/21/25*, to effective 2/3/25 to 6/3/25, (120 day probationary period) in accordance with the Agreement between the Board and the HTEA. Continued employment will be subject to approval by the New Jersey Department of Education, and the results of a criminal history check as required by applicable law.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert**Second:** Mr. Skiff**Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

9. Approve the transfer and reassignment of Adam Papa from the position of full time (1.0 FTE) Custodian at Mountview Road School, to the position of full time (1.0 FTE) Custodian at Bee Meadow School, effective 2/3/25.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert**Second:** Mr. Skiff**Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

10. Authorize the following tuition reimbursement applications for the **2024-2025** school year, in accordance with the Agreement between the Board and the HTEA:

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Credits</u>
George Dakak	6
Carolyn Masi	3
Lori Prout	15
Sandra Wylie	6

Motion: Mrs. Egbert**Second:** Mr. Skiff**Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

11. Approve the **2024-2025** extra-compensation assignment(s) as **Advisor(s)** at **Bee Meadow School**, with payments in accordance with the Agreement between the Board and the HTEA, as follows:

<u>Club/Activity</u>	<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Art Club	Lily Yee	6 hours
Art Club	Lori Prout	15 hours

Motion: Mrs. Egbert**Second:** Mr. Skiff**Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

12. Approve the **2024-2025** extra-compensation assignment(s) as **Advisor(s)** at **Salem Drive School**, with payments in accordance with the Agreement between the Board and the HTEA, as follows:

<u>Club/Activity</u>	<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Chess Club	Rosemary Cataliotti	7 hours

Chess Club	Eddie Cashen	7 hours
Classic Games Club	Dawn Baron	7 hours
Grade 3 Lego Club	Rosemary Pierone	5 hours
Grade 3 Lego Club	Christine Carey	5 hours

Motion: Mrs. Egbert **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

13. Approve the **2024-2025** extra-compensation assignments as **Advisors** at **Memorial Junior School** with payments in accordance with the Agreement between the Board and the HTEA as follows.

<u>Club/Activity</u>	<u>Advisor</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Honors Band	Tracy Currie	5 hours
Honors Band	Natalie Donoghue	5 hours
Honors Band	Carolyn Masi	5 hours
Honors Band	Jessica White	5 hours

Motion: Mrs. Egbert **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

14. Acknowledge the student suspensions as reported by the school principals for the month of December 2024, **Attachment "A"**.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

15. Accept the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying report and affirm the Superintendent's decisions for the period ending January 24, 2025, **Attachment "B"**.

Motion: Mrs. Egbert **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

16. Approve the following addition(s) to the substitute list for the 2024-2025 school year.

Teacher: Dartagnan Warnke

Motion: Mrs. Egbert **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

B. CURRICULUM, TECHNOLOGY & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, move to:

1. Acknowledge the following fire drills, as reported by the school principals, for the month of December 2024:

<u>School</u>	<u>Date</u>
Bee Meadow School	12/17/24
Mountview Road School	12/17/24
Salem Drive School	12/18/24
Memorial Junior School	12/9/24

Motion: Mrs. Johnston **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

2. Acknowledge that crisis management drills were conducted at the

following schools, as reported by the school principals, for the month of December 2024:

School

Bee Meadow School
Mountview Road School
Salem Drive School
Memorial Junior School

Motion: Mrs. Johnston **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

3. Approve the Director of Special Education's recommendation to contract with the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey to provide bilingual evaluation services on an as needed basis for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion: Mrs. Johnston **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

4. Approve the Director of Special Education's recommendation to approve Platt Psychiatric, LLC, to provide psychiatric evaluations as part of the child study team assessments on an as needed basis, as per the published rate sheet.

Motion: Mrs. Johnston **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

5. Approve the tuition contracts between Hanover Township and Paterson under McKinney Vento for Students CST # 11761 and CST # 11767 for the tuition rate of 31,675.25 for the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion: Mrs. Johnston **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

6. Approve the tuition contract between Hanover Township and Phillipsburg for Student CST # 11510 for the tuition rate of \$31,675.25 for 2024-2025 school year.

Motion: Mrs. Johnston **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

7. Approve the Director of Special Education's recommendation for Student CST #11596 to attend P.G. Chambers School, effective 1/29/25 for the rest of the 2024-2025 school year, at a tuition cost not to exceed \$46,479.54.

Motion: Mrs. Johnston **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

8. Approve the following venues for field trips for Camp HTSACC 2025:
- American Dream Mall (Sea Life Aquarium & Legoland) – East Rutherford, NJ
 - Center Court Mt. Olive – Flanders, NJ
 - Hangdog Outdoor Adventure – Easton, PA
 - Sterling Hill Mining Museum – Ogdensburg, NJ

Motion: Mrs. Johnston **Second:** Mrs. Stricchiola **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

9. Approve the following vendors to provide onsite assemblies for Camp HTSACC 2025:
- Awesome Laser Assemblies (Prismatic Magic)
 - Bounce House Mom

- Brainwash Game Show
- Bubble Show Plus
- Eyes of the Wild
- Headphone Disco
- Mad Science
- Mr. Lucky's Game Truck
- Official Fun Guys
- Pearl Observatory
- Reading Rocks with Joe Holiday
- Snakes n Scales
- St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center
- Tale Wise
- Team Makers of NJ
- The Seeing Eye
- Young Audiences of New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania

Motion: Mrs. Johnston

Second: Mrs. Stricchiola

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

C. FINANCE, TRANSPORTATION, PHYSICAL PLANT

I. FINANCE

Upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, move to:

Discussion: Dr. Izbicki stated on Physical Plant item # 1 should also include the HVAC at Memorial Junior School gym.

1. Approve transfers in the 2024-25 Budget, **Attachment "C"**.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano

Second: Mr. Skiff

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

2. Accept the certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that as of 12/31/24 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)3, no budgetary line item has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).

Motion: Mr. Amoresano

Second: Mr. Skiff

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

3. Certify that as of 12/31/24 after reviewing the Business Administrator/Board Secretary's financial reports, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b) and sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano

Second: Mr. Skiff

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

4. Accept the report of the Secretary A-148 and the reconciliation report A-149, for the month ended 12/31/24.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano

Second: Mr. Skiff

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

5. Authorize the following payments:

<u>Bills List Dated</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Payroll 12/20/24	\$ 964,873.48
Payroll 1/15/25	\$1,026,894.22
Bills & Voids 12/17/24 - 1/28/25	\$1,955,549.90

Motion: Mr. Amoresano

Second: Mr. Skiff

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

6. Approve the attendance of staff members and board members at workshops and travel expenses that are in accordance with the allowable room rate and meal reimbursement rate as outlined in the NJ OMB Circular 602B and mileage **at the state approved rate**, as per **Attachment(s) "D", "E", "F", and "G"**.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano

Second: Mr. Skiff

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

7. Accept carried over IDEA Basic Public funds in the amount of \$10.00 and carried over IDEA Nonpublic funds in the amount of \$4,561.00, and submit an amendment to the District's FY25 IDEA application to include these funds.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano

Second: Mr. Skiff

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

8. Approve participation in cooperative bidding services with Educational Data Services, Inc. through the Morris County Educational Services Commission for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano

Second: Mr. Skiff

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

9. Adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION TO CONTINUE MEMBERSHIP IN THE
MORRIS ESSEX INSURANCE GROUP**

WHEREAS, a number of Boards of Education in Morris County have joined together to form a Joint Insurance Pool as permitted by N.J. Title 18A-.18B and;

WHEREAS, said Pool was approved effective February 10, 1984 by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;

WHEREAS, the Pool contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Pool, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Hanover Township has determined that membership in the **MORRIS ESSEX INSURANCE GROUP** is in the best interest of the District;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of

Hanover Township Board of Education does hereby agree to renew membership in the

MORRIS ESSEX 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 Pool as are required by the Pool's Bylaws and to deliver the same to the Executive Director.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

10. Approve the amended Employee Discount clause for HTSACC programs, **Attachment “H”**.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

11. Approve the revised version of the Reduced Fee schedule, **Attachment “I”**.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

12. Approve the Camp HTSACC 2025 program fees, **Attachment “J”**.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

13. Approve the attendance of staff members and board members at workshops and travel expenses that are in accordance with the allowable room rate and meal reimbursement rate as outlined in the NJ OMB Circular 602B and mileage **at the state approved rate**, as per **Attachment(s) “N”**.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

14. Approve an ad hoc Negotiations Committee of the Board with Marc Amoresano, Chris Mattessich, Greg Skiff, and Lisa Bomengo as the Chair, to enter into contract negotiations with the HTAA.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

II. TRANSPORTATION

Upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, move to:

1. Authorize entering into a traditional 5-year lease purchase agreement with Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for 2 new 54 passenger school buses, at a total cost of \$403,041.45, as per **Attachment “K”** (option 1).

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mr. Skiff **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

III. PHYSICAL PLANT

Upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, move to:

1. Authorize to prepare the necessary paperwork to go out to bid for a replacement roof at Memorial Junior School and the HVAC Memorial Junior School Gym.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano

Second: Mr. Skiff

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

D. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Discussion: Mrs. Bomengo thanked the Mayor's Wellness Campaign. She thanked Mr. Toomey, Mr. Anderson, Mayor Gallaher and Mrs. Egbert for working on this. Mrs. Egbert said it is important and was happy to be a part of it. Mr. Skiff wanted to say how impressed he was with the Patriot's Pen Essay winner. He was encouraged by the speech and how well she read her essay. He wishes her the best in all her endeavors and encourages her to read newspapers and keep up to date on current affairs.

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, move to:

1. Approve artist, Caren Olmsted for an in-house residency at Mountview Road School to complete a mural project with students, staff, and parents to create the mural in the main hallway, in February 2025 (February 05-19, 2025), with installation by the end of the following school year.

Motion: Mrs. Stricchiola

Second: Mrs. Johnston

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

2. Accept with appreciation the donation of the mural, along with outdoor benches as part of the project, to Mountview Road School, from the MTV PTA, valued at approximately \$19,000.

Motion: Mrs. Stricchiola

Second: Mrs. Johnston

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

3. Accept with appreciation the donation of a GAGA Pit to the Bee Meadow School playground, valued at approximately \$6,700, from the Bee Meadow School PTA.

Motion: Mrs. Stricchiola

Second: Mrs. Johnston

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

4. Approve participation in the Hanover Township Public Schools 2024-2025 Teacher Recognition Program, and authorize a local grant of \$250 to each recipient to be used for an educational purpose within their respective classroom and/or school.

Motion: Mrs. Stricchiola

Second: Mrs. Johnston

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

5. Adopt the **2025-2026** Academic Calendar, as outlined in **Attachment "L"**.

Motion: Mrs. Stricchiola

Second: Mrs. Johnston

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

6. Adopt the **2025-2026** Calendar for Support Staff Paid Holidays, as

outlined in **Attachment “M”**.

Motion: Mrs. Stricchiola

Second: Mrs. Johnston

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

E. POLICY

1. Abolish the following Policies and Regulations:

- Policy and Regulation # 7430 School Safety.

Motion: Mr. Skiff

Second: Mr. Amoresano

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

2. Conduct the second reading of the following Policies, and Regulations, and if approved, adopt:

- Policy # 4161 Examination for Cause.
- Policy # 4212 Attendance.
- Policy # 4219 Commercial Driver’s License Controlled Substance and Alcohol Use Testing.
- Policy and Regulation # 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students.
- Policy and Regulation # 5116 Education of Homeless Children and Youths.
- Regulation #5330.01 Administration of Medical Cannabis.
- Policy and Regulation #5330.04 Administering an Opioid Antidote.
- Policy and Regulation # 5513 Care of School Property.
- Policy # 5514 Student Use of Vehicles on School Grounds.
- Policy # 5570 Sportsmanship.

Motion: Mr. Skiff

Second: Mr. Amoresano

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

3. Conduct the first reading of the following Policies, and Regulations:

- Policy #5722 Student Journalism.
- Policy # 5750 Equal and Equitable Educational Opportunity.
- Policy and Regulation # 5751 Sexual Harassment of Students.

Motion: Mr. Skiff

Second: Mr. Amoresano

Roll Call: 9 yes, 0 no

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

XII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION – Mr. Bill McCabe Board Member spoke about how the Eagles Football Team inspire excellence the same as Hanover Township Schools inspire excellence. Mr. McCabe brought several memorabilia Eagle items with him to talk about.

Mrs. Bomengo is looking forward to 2025, she stated with the Committee Reports being so robust and full of information the Board knows what they are voting for and there is not a need for a lot of discussion. She thanked Mr. Toomey, Dr. Izibicki, Lauren, Ricardo, Billy, Aaron and Sherry and knows it will be a wonderful 2025.

Mr. Toomey thanked Mrs. Bomengo and stated she is the hardest working Board President anywhere.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – 7:55 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Amoresano **Second:** Mrs. Egbert **Approved:** Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Edward Izibicki
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary