Meeting #4

Lyndhurst, NJ
March 18, 2025

The Lyndhurst Board of Education held a Public meeting on March 18, 2025 at 6:45 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

President Dr. Anthony Scardino called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. and requested all those present to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Domenick Abbate	X	
Chris Andrinopoulos	X	
Anthony Giarrusso	X	
Anna Passamano	X	
Paul Passamano	X	
Peter Petronzio	X	
Dr. Anthony Scardino	X	
Elaine Stella	X	
Michael Valvano		X

Also present: Joseph DeCorso, Superintendent
James Hyman, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Wayne Demikoff, State Monitor
Jaclyn Morgese, Board Attorney

NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETING LAW

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the following means: Annual notice was sent to The Record Newspaper, Township Clerk and posted in the lobby of the Town Hall & Board Office, setting forthcoming scheduled work meetings and public meetings of the board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting # 4 , February 27, 2025

	Mr. Abbate	Mr. Andrinopoulos	Mr. Giarrusso	Ms. Passamano	Mr. Passamano	Mr. Petronzio	Dr. Scardino	Ms. Stella	Mr. Valvano
Motion	1st				2nd				
Aye	X	X	X			X	X	X	
Nay									
Abstain				X	X				
Absent									X

STATE MONITOR'S REPORT

I have reviewed and discussed the preliminary 2025-2026 school year budget with Mr. DeCorso and support his recommendation to the Board that they approve Finance Resolutions 1 thru 6 and Education and Curriculum Resolution 1, all related to the preliminary budget approval and submission to the County Office, and adopt the preliminary 2025-2026 budget as presented. That concludes my report for this evening.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thanked community and Mr. DeCorso or Monday's forum turnout.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Thanked the community for Monday's turnout.

Budget Procedures

Memorial/Columbus Reconfiguration

PUBLIC BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

BOARD DISCUSSION & FORMAL BUSINESS AGENDA

Elaine Stella: Questions regarding Finance, Motion #6.

Paul Passamano: Can we non-renew the Agreement with South Bergen Jointure Commission and get classes back? Superintendent response: Yes, lease is year to year.

Domenick Abbate: Are we trying to avoid layoffs? Superintendent response: Yes.

FINANCE **Peter Petronzio, Chairperson**

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Finance recommends the following resolutions be moved forward for a roll call vote.

I make a motion to move forward Finance resolutions __1__ through __6__ to be adopted.

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lyndhurst Board of Education, County of Bergen, approve the following preliminary 2025-2026 school year budget for submission to the Bergen County Office of Education for technical review:

Current General Expense (Fund 11)	$53,091,295.00
Capital Outlay (Fund 12)	$ 24,331.00
Transfer to Charter Schools	$ 328,037.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	$53,443,663.00
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	$ 1,614,729.00
Debt Service (Fund 40)	$ 1,189,800.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES/ APPROPRIATIONS	$56,248,192.00

2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the GENERAL FUND tax levy $46,237,305.00 is approved to support Current General Expense and $971,289.00 to support Debt Service, for the 2025-2026 school year budget.

3. BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 6A:23A-10.3(b)1, that the 2025-2026 school year budget includes the automatic healthcare adjustment in the amount of $644,464.00 to be approved by the Lyndhurst Board of Education.

4. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lyndhurst Board of Education approve $41,900.00 as the maximum travel budget for the 2025-2026 school year. This amount includes reimbursement for conferences, professional development workshops, regular school travel, meals and mileage for conferences/workshops, as well as any other associated costs for school related travel events. The maximum amount approved for the 2024-2025 school year was $30,000.00. As of March 17, 2025 the total amount spent was $14,237.00.

5. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lyndhurst Board of Education approve a maximum dollar budget limit for the 2025-2026 school year, for the following professional services:

Architect	$25,000
Auditor	$65,000
Legal Services	$80,000
School Doctor	$20,000
Consultants	$18,000
Environmental Services	$23,000

6. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lyndhurst Board of Education approve the Linkage Agreement for the 2025/2026 school year between the Lyndhurst Board of Education and South Bergen Jointure Commission for the use of facilities and 8 classrooms at Memorial Campus for special education instructional services.

WHEREAS, the South Bergen Jointure Commission agrees to remit payment to the Lyndhurst Board of Education an aggregate amount of $352,000.00 for 8 classrooms, payable in ten (10) equal monthly installments of $35,200.00, commencing September 1, 2025 with the last payment being made on June 1, 2026.

WHEREAS, the South Bergen Jointure Commission agrees to remit payment to the Lyndhurst Board of Education an aggregate amount of $10,000.00 annually, payable in ten (10) equal monthly installments of $1,000.00, for the use of the Board's commercial kitchen for use by the SBJC MS/HS students, commencing September 1, 2025 with the last payment being made on June 1, 2026.

Finance	Mr. Abbate	Mr. Andrinopoulos	Mr. Giarrusso	Ms. Passamano	Mr. Passamano	Mr. Petronzio	Dr. Scardino	Ms. Stella	Mr. Valvano
Motion					2nd	1st			
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									X

EDUCATION AND CURRICULUM **Anna Passamano, Chairperson**

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Education and Curriculum recommends the following resolutions be moved forward for a roll call vote.

I make a motion to move forward Education and Curriculum resolution __1__ to be adopted.

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lyndhurst Board of Education approve Memorial School's Reconfiguration. Moving forward Memorial School's first and second grade students will attend Columbus School. Memorial School's kindergarten students will attend Community School.

Education And Curriculum	Mr. Abbate	Mr. Andrinopoulos	Mr. Giarrusso	Ms. Passamano	Mr. Passamano	Mr. Petronzio	Dr. Scardino	Ms. Stella	Mr. Valvano
Motion				1st				2nd	
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									X

POLICIES AND RULES/REGULATIONS **Elaine Stella, Chairperson**

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Policies and Rules/Regulations recommends the following resolutions be moved forward for a roll call vote.

I make a motion to move forward Policies and Rules/Regulations resolutions __1__ through __2__ to be adopted.

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lyndhurst Board of Education affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB investigations for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's decision to the students' parents, and directs the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to transmit a copy of the Board's decision to the affected students' parents.

286421_JS_01282025	286523_JS_01292025
286545_LMS_01292025	286801_LMS_02032025
285562_RS_01142025	286234_LMS_01242025

2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lyndhurst Board of Education approve the following use of school facilities:

Organization	Place	Time, Date, Purpose
Franklin School PTA	Franklin School Upper Gym	8:40 am - 3:00 pm 4/28/25 - 5/2/25 Scholastic Book Fair
Roosevelt School PTA	Roosevelt School Cafeteria	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm 3/19/25 Book Bingo
Sacred Heart School Track Team	High School Track & Field	5:30 pm - 6:30 pm (after HS practices) Tuesday & Thursdays 3/25, 3/27, 4/1, 4/3, 4/8, 4/15, 4/29, 5/1,5/6, 5/8, 5/15, 5/22, 5/27, 5/29, 6/3, 6/5/25 Track Practice

Policy Rules & Regulations	Mr. Abbate	Mr. Andrinopoulos	Mr. Giarrusso	Ms. Passamano	Mr. Passamano	Mr. Petronzio	Dr. Scardino	Ms. Stella	Mr. Valvano
Motion									
Aye									
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									

PERSONNEL

This section will be available after the Executive Session (in-person only).

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC BE HEARD NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

PERSONNEL

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Committee on Personnel recommends the following resolutions be moved forward for a roll call vote.

I make a motion to move forward Personnel resolutions __A.1.__ through __M__ to be adopted.

A. EMPLOYMENT

1) Mr. Joseph DeCorso, Superintendent of Schools, recommends that the board of education confirm/approve the ***appointments*** of the following school administrators, principals, teachers, custodians and other officers and employees pursuant to N.J.S.A.18A:16-1, N.J.A.C. 23A-6.8, and Board Policies 3141 and 4125, effective through for the 2024-2025 school year, pending the results of a criminal background check:

	Name	Position	Line Account	Salary	Location	Effective Date
a	Giancarlo Di Palma	Paraprofessional		Step 6 $18,218 (prorated)	Middle School	3/14/25

B. RESIGNATION

1) Mr. Joseph DeCorso, Superintendent of Schools, recommends that the board of education ***accept*** the following employee resignations pursuant to N.J.S.A;18A:28-8; and Board of Education Policy 3141 for the 2024-2025 school year:

	Name	Position	Location	Effective Date
a	Maria Natal	Part time Receptionist	Board Office	3/11/25

C. RETIREMENT

1) Mr. Joseph DeCorso, Superintendent of Schools, recommends that the board of education ***accept*** the letter of intent to retire from Judy Tunnel, effective July 1, 2025, with regret.

D. COACHES /ADVISORS/STIPENDS

N/A

E. SUBSTITUTES

1) Mr. Joseph DeCorso, Superintendent of Schools, recommends that the board of education confirm/approve the ***re-appointment*** of the following substitutes for the 2024-2025 school year:

LuAnne Ritchie Wagner Substitute Teacher

NOTE: These appointments ***cannot*** exceed 29 hours per week and do not include benefits, vacations, health benefits, sick leave, sabbatical leave, or any other benefits provided by contract between the Lyndhurst Education Association ("LEA") and the Lyndhurst Board of Education.

F. MOVEMENT ON GUIDE/SALARY ADJUSTMENT

N/A

G. VOLUNTEER

N/A

H. FMLA/MATERNITY LEAVE/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

N/A

I. WORKSHOP/TRAINING

N/A

J. STUDENT TEACHING OBSERVATION/PRACTICUM/INTERNSHIP

N/A

K. EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS

N/A

L. JOB DESCRIPTIONS

N/A

M. GENERAL

N/A

Personnel	Mr. Abbate	Mr. Andrinopoulos	Mr. Giarrusso	Ms. Passamano	Mr. Passamano	Mr. Petronzio	Dr. Scardino	Ms. Stella	Mr. Valvano
Motion					1st		2nd		
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nay									
Abstain									
Absent									X

MOTION TO ADJOURN **Time:** 7:14 P.M.

Roll Call	Mr. Abbate	Mr. Andrinopoulos	Mr. Giarrusso	Ms. Passamano	Mr. Passamano	Mr. Petronzio	Dr. Scardino	Ms. Stella	Mr. Valvano
Motion	2nd				1st				
Aye	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Absent									X

Respectfully submitted,

James Hyman
School Business Administrator
Board Secretary