



NEW PROVIDENCE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administrative Offices
356 Elkwood Avenue
New Providence, New Jersey 07974
www.npsd.k12.nj.us

AGENDA
April 24, 2025
High School/Middle School Media Center
7:00 p.m.

[New Providence Board of Education YouTube Link](#)

I Roll Call:

_____ Mrs. Castellano	_____ Ms. Gunderman
_____ Mrs. Cuccaro	_____ Mrs. Marano
_____ Dr. Empson Hayden	_____ Mr. Walsh
_____ Mrs. Zane	

II Flag Salute

III Opening Statement by the President:

- A.** This is a public meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with PL 1975, Chapter 231, in that an actual notice was made in conformance with Section 13 of the Act.

Whenever the business of the Board requires it to convene to Closed session, the session will begin no later than 9:30 p.m. At the conclusion of the need for Closed Session, the Board will reconvene to the public portion of the meeting. At that time, the Board will complete any other business that may be before it and the public will then be given an opportunity to be heard before the meeting is adjourned.

IV Report of the Superintendent of Schools

1. Student Report – Vince Graziano/Robert Bress
2. Enrollment
3. General Information

V Presentation of Certificates of Excellence -- Joseph Walsh, Board Member

VI New Providence Education Foundation Presentation -- 2024/2025 Grants

VII 2025/2026 Budget Presentation -- Joseph Walsh, Finance Committee Chairperson

- A. President declares a Public Hearing on the proposed 2025/2026 school budget.
 - 1. Presentation of the proposed 2025/2026 Budget
 - 2. Public Comments (on proposed budget)
- B. President declares Public Hearing on the proposed 2025/2026 school budget closed.

VIII Public Comments:

- A. Opportunity for the Public to be heard (on specific agenda items)
- B. Public portion of the meeting declared closed

IX Approval of Minutes as follows:

Business Meeting: March 13, 2025
Closed Meeting: March 13, 2025

Seconded by: _____
Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano	_____ Ms. Gunderman
_____ Mrs. Cuccaro	_____ Mrs. Marano
_____ Dr. Empson Hayden	_____ Mr. Walsh
_____ Mrs. Zane	

Business Meeting: March 27, 2025
Closed Meeting: March 27, 2025

Seconded by: _____
Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano	_____ Ms. Gunderman
_____ Mrs. Cuccaro	_____ Mrs. Marano
_____ Dr. Empson Hayden	_____ Mr. Walsh
_____ Mrs. Zane	

X Action Items

A. Finance Actions – Mr. Walsh

Approve Items 1 through 9 as listed below:

- 1. After review, we hereby accept the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for March 2025. No major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- 2. Approve the payment of bills for April 2025, in the amount of \$5,231,549.27.

3. Approve the generous donation from Kevin McLane, President of the New Providence LAX Club, for the purchase of two Gilman PING Lacrosse Goals/Nets, in the amount of \$3,435.00.
4. Approve the generous donation from the Prunesti family to the John R. O'Neill Memorial Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$100.00.
5. Approve the adoption of the final budget as approved by the Executive County Superintendent:

WHEREAS, the New Providence Board of Education adopted a TENTATIVE budget on March 13, 2025 and submitted it to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval, and

WHEREAS, the TENTATIVE budget was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools, and

WHEREAS, the TENTATIVE budget was advertised in the Courier News on April 8, 2025, and

WHEREAS, the FINAL BUDGET was presented to the public during a public hearing held in the New Providence High/Middle School Media Center, 35 Pioneer Drive, New Providence, NJ on April 24, 2025.

<u>2025/2026 School Year</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenues</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total Expenditures	\$51,322,758.00	\$1,074,548.00	\$3,503,983.00	\$55,901,289.00
Less:				
<u>Anticipated Revenues</u>	<u>\$ 6,130,458.00</u>	<u>\$1,074,548.00</u>	<u>\$ 979,945.00</u>	<u>\$ 8,184,951.00</u>
Taxes to be Raised	\$45,192,300.00	\$0.00	\$2,524,038.00	\$47,716,338.00

6. Approve that the following adjustments are included in the final 2025/2026 annual school budget, was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools:

- Adjustment for enrollment: \$0.00
- Adjustment for health care costs: \$980,578.00

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the final budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$980,578.00. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums.

- Adjustment for deferred PERS pension contribution: \$0.00
- Adjustment for responsibility transferred: \$0.00
- Adjustment for banked cap: \$16.00

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the final budget the adjustment for the banked cap in the amount of \$16.00. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23a-10.3(b), the District has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority. The adjustment will be used to fund the operating expenses for educational programs of the District. The Board of Education will complete this by June 30, 2025 and acknowledges that it cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer period of time.

7. Approve the grant application submission under the 2025/2026 Safety Grant Program through the New Jersey School Insurance Group's Underwriting Surplus Fund to fund a portion of the bridge replacement with a walkway entrance at Salt Brook Elementary School, in the amount of \$4,072.00.

8. Approve the transfer of all rights, ownership, interest, equipment, and any related materials that the New Providence Board of Education holds in connection with NP-TV to the Borough of New Providence, effective 7/1/25.
9. Approve the 2025/2026 grant awards amount, \$62,305.22, from the New Providence Education Foundation.

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Cuccaro

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mr. Walsh

_____ Mrs. Zane

B. Facilities Actions – Mr. Walsh

Approve Item 1 as listed below:

1. Approve the disposal of the of the following items, as they are outdated and no longer deemed necessary for school use:

Quantity	Asset Number	Site	Room	Asset Description	Manufacture	Model #	Serial Number
3		AWR	STEM Room	Dash Robots	Wonder Workshop	DA01	BO0416300JTB0142 BO0418256JTC6448 BO418212JTC3833
1		AWR	STEM Room	Sphero Bolt Classroom Kit	Sphero	PP01	

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Cuccaro

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mr. Walsh

_____ Mrs. Zane

C. Education – Dr. Empson Hayden

Approve Items 1 through 4 as listed below:

1. Per the 2011 Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, approve the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools regarding the following 2024/2025 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying investigations:

<u>School</u>	<u>Incident Report Number(s)</u>
Allen W. Roberts:	11

2. Approve the following resolution in observance of Teacher Recognition Week May 4th through May 10th.

WHEREAS, the week of May 4th through May 10th has been declared Teacher Recognition Week throughout the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the faculty of the New Providence School District continue to provide excellent instruction, tutoring, encouragement, counseling, and understanding to the students who pass through their classrooms; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the regular educational programs many of the staff provide advice, direction, coaching, and sponsorship to extra-curricular activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

that the Board of Education acknowledges with pride and sincere appreciation the efforts of all of the teachers and its staff; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

that the members of the Board extend to these teachers their best wishes for the future, firm in the belief that they will always perform in the same fine fashion.

APPROVED THIS 24TH DAY OF APRIL, 2025, and signed by the order of the New Providence Board of Education.

3. Approve Adam Krass Consulting, LLC, for assistive technology evaluations, for the 2024/2025 school year, at a rate of \$1,600.00 per evaluation.
4. Approve the enrollment of Student #11916 at Columbia High School, for the 2024/2025 school year, at a tuition cost of \$5,025.00, effective 4/1/25.

Seconded by: _____
Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Cuccaro

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mr. Walsh

_____ Mrs. Zane

D. Personnel Action – Ms. Gunderman

Approve Items 1 through 9 as listed below:

1. Approve the appointment of the following people with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools subject to the requirements of Chapter 116 of P.L. 1986 for the 2024/2025 school year:
 - a. Tonya Donnelly, game worker
 - b. Laina Magnani, game worker
 - c. Phyllis Appiah, substitute bus driver

- d. Eduardo Lopez, substitute custodian
 - e. Christopher Puorro, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary
 - f. Kyra Licari, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary (subject to issuance of certification)
 - g. Gian Cacioppo, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary
2. Approve the appointment of the following people with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools subject to the requirements of Chapter 116 of P.L. 1986 for the 2025/2026 school year:
 - a. Rachel Winard, department head, language arts, grades 7-12, \$4,787.00, effective 7/1/25
 - b. Michael Criscitello, MS Principal, \$137,000.00, effective 7/1/25
 - c. Brian Henry, HS Principal, \$178,955.00* effective 7/1/25

*Subject to the completion of negotiations for the 2025/2026 school year:
3. Accept the resignation of the following employee:
 - a. Kristen Nazzaro, school psychologist, effective 6/30/25
4. Approve the following revision for the 2024/2025 school year:
 - a. Taylor Madden, student teacher at AWR, effective 2/1/25-6/18/25
5. Approve the following revision for the 2025/2026 school year:
 - a. Lyndsay Wittenberg, from MS Assistant Principal, 12 months, to AWR School Assistant Principal, 10.5 months, \$91,875.00* (base \$105,000.00*), effective 7/1/25

*Subject to the completion of negotiations for the 2025/2026 school year.
6. Approve the following revised 2024/2025 Employee Holiday Schedules.
 - a. 12 Month **(EXHIBIT A)**
 - b. 10/10.5 Month **(EXHIBIT B)**
7. Approve the following 2025/2026 Employee Holiday Schedules:
 - a. 12 Month **(EXHIBIT C)**
 - b. 10/10.5 Month **(EXHIBIT D)**
8. Approve the request for unpaid maternity leave for Tara Nelson, reading specialist, under the federal Family Leave Act for a period of two weeks commencing 9/12/25 and ending 9/25/25, and under the state Family Leave Act for a period of twelve weeks commencing 9/26/25 and ending 12/19/25, with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. Approve an extended leave pursuant to Article X of the Agreement between the Board and the NPEA, from 12/22/25 through and including 1/31/26. (Based on 8/14/25 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)
9. Approve the request for unpaid leave for Jennifer Morra, teacher, under the state Family Leave Act for a period of twelve weeks commencing 4/22/25 and ending 9/18/25, with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law.

Seconded by: _____
Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano	_____ Ms. Gunderman
_____ Mrs. Cuccaro	_____ Mrs. Marano
_____ Dr. Empson Hayden	_____ Mr. Walsh
_____ Mrs. Zane	

E. Board Policy – Mr. Walsh

1. Approve the following Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations on second reading:

Bylaws and Policies:

Policy 3351	Healthy Workplace Environment (Teaching Staff) (Walsh)	New
Policy 4351	Healthy Workplace Environment (Support Staff) (Walsh)	New
Policy 5512 (Mandated)	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (Walsh)	Revised
Policy 5533 (Mandated)	Student Smoking (Walsh)	Revised
Policy 7441 (Mandated)	Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds (Walsh)	Revised

Administrative Regulations:

Regulation 5533	Student Smoking (Walsh)	Revised
Regulation 7441	Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds (Walsh)	Revised
Regulation 8220	Opening Exercises (Walsh)	Revised

Seconded by: _____
Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Cuccaro

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mr. Walsh

_____ Mrs. Zane

XI Committee Reports

1. Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology
2. Finance, Facilities, and Safety/Security
3. Personnel, Management, and Communication

XII Old Business

XIII New Business

XIV Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

XV Motion to Recess to Closed Session, if necessary

XVI Adjournment