

DRAFT

COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS COLTS NECK, NEW JERSEY 07722

Mission Statement

The mission of Colts Neck Township Schools is to empower and inspire students to be confident, creative, self-sufficient learners who maximize their strengths and talents and contribute as responsible participants in their ever expanding world.

MINUTES: For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Education, **April 8, 2025**, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building at 70 Conover Road, Colts Neck, New Jersey 07722

Public Participation

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest. Public participation is governed under District Policy 0167 - Public Participation in Board Meetings as follows:

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

1. *A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, municipality of residence, and group affiliation, if applicable;*
2. *Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes' duration;*
3. *No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard; and only then if time constraints and/or the presiding officer allow.*
4. *All statements, questions, or inquiries shall be directed to the presiding officer; and any questions or inquiries directed by a participant to another Board member or Superintendent shall be redirected to the presiding officer who shall determine if such statement, question, or inquiry shall be addressed by the presiding officer on behalf of the Board or by the individual Board member or Superintendent;*
5. *It is the expectation of the Board that communications between participants and the Board will remain positive and focused around the best interest of the student(s) and the district as a whole. All communications from all stakeholders shall be conducted with mutual respect and civility. The Board will not condone communications and interactions that can be perceived as harassing, insulting, threatening, or lacking in respect or civility.*

The presiding officer may:

- a. *Interrupt, warn, and/or terminate a participant's statement, question, or inquiry when it is too lengthy;*
- b. *Interrupt and/or warn a participant when the statement, question, or inquiry is abusive, obscene, or may be defamatory;*
- c. *Request any person to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;*
- d. *Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person prevents or disrupts a meeting with an act that obstructs or interferes with a meeting;*
- e. *Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting; and*
- f. *Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or to maintain an orderly operation of the Board meeting.*

CALL TO ORDER

President Volpe called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Phyllis Camera, Sara Horowitz, Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Robert Scales, Brian Scarpa, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

Board Members Absent: None

LEGAL NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, this meeting has been duly advertised in the Asbury Park Press in a schedule of meetings dated January 16, 2025 and March 4, 2025 notice of which has been filed with the Deputy Clerk for Colts Neck Township and the requirements of posting of notices have been met.

FLAG SALUTE

Captain Kent D. Smith, Commanding Officer, Naval Weapons Station Earle and family, led the Flag Salute in recognition of Month of the Military Child.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES RESOLUTION

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the following meetings be approved as submitted

Meeting
March 5, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2025 Executive Session Minutes
March 19, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

DISCUSSION:

There was no discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES RESOLUTION	
MOVED BY	Phyllis Camera
SECONDED BY	Jason Orrico
YES	Phyllis Camera, Sara Horowitz, Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez (3/19/25), Vincent Rugnetta, Robert Scales, Brian Scarpa, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh
NO	None
ABSTAIN	Jessica Ramirez (3/5/25 COW and Executive)

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT ON INVESTIGATIONS OF HIB INCIDENTS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Board of Education hereby accepts the Superintendent will report on investigations of incidents of harassment, intimidation and bullying (“HIB”) occurring during the following period:

Period	Number of Investigations Reported	Number of Incidents HIB Was Found to Occur
3/16/25 - 3/31/25	1	0

COMMENTS FROM ATTENDING CONSTITUENTS - ALL SUBJECTS

None

ACTION ITEMS FOR APPROVAL:

The Superintendent of Schools submits the following recommendations for approval:

1. PROCLAMATION: APRIL IS MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Board of Education hereby approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the month of April 2025 has been designated nationally as the Month of the Military Child by the Department of Defense to underscore the important role military children play in the armed forces community; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Board of Education and the Department of Education aim to ensure, through the policies established, that all students are challenged to maximize their potential and to excel academically, socially, emotionally and physically for college, career and throughout life; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education encourages school districts to provide support to children of service members as they transition between schools to address their distinct needs and prepare them to graduate as well-rounded citizens; and

WHEREAS, the physical, social and emotional well-being of children in military families is essential to their success and has a direct impact on the resiliency of military families serving our country; and

WHEREAS, these efforts and supports can improve the lives of military children and help pave the way for future generations; and

WHEREAS, it is both fitting and proper that special recognition be given to ensuring military children feel safe and supported in our schools and communities, so that their parents can focus on the challenges and

missions they face in the line of duty;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colts Neck Township Board of Education recognizes April 2025 as the Month of the Military Child in New Jersey.

2. PROCLAMATION: APRIL IS AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Board of Education hereby approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the month of April is globally acknowledged as Autism Acceptance Month, dedicated to increasing awareness, understanding, and acceptance of autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize and support individuals with autism by fostering a learning environment and community that embraces neurodiversity and promotes inclusivity; and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorders are characterized by a range of challenges and strengths, impacting social communication, behavior, and sensory experiences; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness about autism is essential in promoting early diagnosis, intervention, and access to appropriate resources and support; and

WHEREAS, creating an inclusive and supportive environment for individuals with autism involves promoting understanding, empathy, and acceptance within schools, workplaces, homes, and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Colts Neck Township Board of Education acknowledges the importance of fostering understanding and support for individuals on the autism spectrum and recognizing their unique social and emotional needs; and

WHEREAS, creating inclusive and supportive learning environments that cultivate positive relationships, understanding, and empathy for all students, including those with autism, is integral to the mission of the Colts Neck Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Colts Neck Township Board of Education is committed to promoting inclusive practices within educational settings to ensure safe, supportive, and equitable learning environments for all; and

WHEREAS, collaboration among schools, families, and the broader community is essential to enhancing awareness and understanding of autism and to furthering inclusive practices that benefit every student; and

WHEREAS, the Colts Neck Township Board of Education recognizes the ongoing efforts required to advance autism awareness and acceptance, contributing to the creation of a more compassionate and inclusive community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colts Neck Township Board of Education hereby recognizes April 2025 as Autism Awareness Month in New Jersey.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE 2025 SUMMER BRIDGE PROGRAM DATES**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Board of Education hereby approves the adoption of the 2025 Summer Bridge Program to be held at the Conover Road Elementary School, from July 7, 2025 through July 24, 2025. The program will run Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

4. **EVALUATION**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Board of Education hereby approves of the following evaluations, as indicated below:

Student #	Type of Evaluation	Performed By	Cost Not to Exceed
20311629	Bilingual Speech Language Evaluation	Dr. Aida Pereira	\$825.00
20311629	Bilingual Psychological Evaluation	Jackie DeSantis	\$500.00
20311629	Bilingual Educational Evaluation	Dolly Guzman	\$750.00
20320160	Psychiatric Evaluation	Dr. Tintorer	\$500.00
20301556	Psychiatric Evaluation	Dr. Tintorer	\$500.00

(a/c # 11-000-219-320)

5. **HOME INSTRUCTORS: DISTRICT STAFF MEMBERS FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Board of Education approves the following staff member to serve as a home instructor for Student #20301759, at an hourly rate of \$52, for the period commencing April 1, 2025 through June 20, 2025 for a total number of hours per week not to exceed ten (10), as indicated below:

Name	Total Hours per week not to exceed
Jennifer Fisahn	10

(a/c # 11-150-100-101)

6. **AMENDED 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Board of Education approves the adoption of the amended School Calendar for the 2024-2025 school year.[\(Attachment # S-1\)](#)

7. **CEDAR DRIVE MIDDLE SCHOOL CHAPERONES 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Township Board of Education approve the appointment of the following Cedar Drive Middle School staff members to serve as chaperones for the following Cedar Drive Middle School events during the 2024-2025 school year, at an amount not to exceed \$80 for each staff member, as indicated below:

Name	Event	Date
Anthony Higuera	School Dance	4/2/25
Karin Londono	School Dance	4/2/25
Karla Parnagian	School Dance	4/2/25
Laila Tlack	School Dance	4/2/25

(a/c # 11-401-100-100-030-100-0)

8. CONOVER ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHAPERONES 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Township Board of Education approve the appointment of the following Conover Road Elementary School staff members to serve as chaperones for the following Conover Road Elementary School events during the 2024-2025 school year, at an amount not to exceed \$80 for each staff member, as indicated below:

Name	Event	Date
Brian J. Willis	CRES Players Show	4/9/25
Niamh Cassidy	CRES Players Show	4/9/25
Taylor Donovan	CRES Players Show	4/9/25
MaryLou Jennings	CRES Players Show	4/9/25

(a/c # 11-401-100-100-050-100-0)

9. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NO ACTION BY SUPERINTENDENT

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Board of Education acknowledges that there is no Superintendent's Action for HIB/Non-HIB investigations, as reported at its meeting of March 19, 2025, for the period commencing March 1, 2025 through March 15, 2025 wherein no incidents were reported.

10. 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR SPRING AFTER-SCHOOL INTRAMURAL PROGRAM ADVISORS: CONOVER ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BE IT RESOLVED that the Colts Neck Township Board of Education approve the appointment of the following Conover Road Elementary School staff members to serve as advisors to the Conover Road Elementary School Spring After-School Intramural Program for the 2024-2025 school year, once a week, at an hourly rate of \$47, with each session to run sixty (60) minutes, at an amount not to exceed \$47 per session, as indicated below:

Name	Activity♦	Number of Sessions	Total Amount Not To Exceed
Jennifer Caga - Collett	Social Butterflies	9	\$423
Allison Klacik	Adventures in Writing	8	\$376
Marissa Gammer	Kids on the Run Club	9	\$423
Kimberly Casone	Kids on the Run Club	9	\$423

♦ An individual activity will only run if the required minimum number of students sign up for the activity.

DISCUSSION:

ROLL CALL VOTE

ACTION ITEMS #s 1 - 10	
MOVED BY	Kevin Walsh
SECONDED BY	Phyllis Camera
YES	Phyllis Camera, Sara Horowitz, Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Robert Scales, Brian Scarpa, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh
NO	None
ABSTAIN	None

COMMUNICATIONS

Date	From	To	Subject
3/21/25	Lia Forman	Board of Education	N.J. Fair Funding Collective

BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

- Parent Advisory Committee - Sara Horowitz
- Colts Neck PTO - Sara Horowitz
- Colts Neck Township Schools Newsletter - Phyllis Camera
- Colts Neck Township Schools Arts, Sports, & Extracurricular Activities - Vincent Rugnetta
- Colts Neck Township Committee - Brian Scarpa/Phyllis Camera
- Colts Neck Township Senior Citizens - Kevin Walsh
- Naval Weapons Station Earle - Brian Scarpa/Jessica Ramirez
- State & County School Boards Association Representative - Angelique Volpe

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WORK SESSION

ADVOCACY & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

1. Invitation from Wilentz Attorneys and Frantz Law Group, APLC, for boards of education to join mass action lawsuit against a number of social media companies

AD-HOC AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS / SAFETY AND SECURITY

1. Discussion with FVHD Architects re: roofing and electrical main replacement projects.

CURRICULUM

1. 2025 Summer Bridge Updates
2. Pending Release of 23-24 New Jersey Performance Reports
3. 2025 NJSLA Testing Letter / Dates ([Attachment #C-1](#))
4. CRPS Math Parent Survey Results ([Attachment #C-2](#))
5. ST Math Staff Trial Survey Results ([Attachment #C-3](#))

FINANCE

1. Budget '25-26 update (pending County review).

POLICY

1. NEW NJSBA Policy Manual - Transition from Strauss Esmay
2. R2330 - Homework ([Attachment # P-1](#))
3. Policies / Regulations for Adoption - 4.23.25 (Approved First Reads - 3.19.25)
 - P5512 - Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying ([Attachment # P-2](#))
 - P5533 - Student Smoking ([Attachment #P-3](#))
 - R5533 - Student Smoking ([Attachment #P-4](#))
 - P7741 - Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds ([Attachment #P-5](#))
 - R7741 - Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds ([Attachment #P-6](#))
 - P9320 - Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies ([Attachment #P-7](#))
 - R9320 - Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies ([Attachment #P-8](#))

NEGOTIATIONS

None

TRANSPORTATION

None

PERSONNEL

1. 4/23/25 Recommendation for chaperones CRES
2. 4/23/25 Recommendation for amended medical disability leave CRPS - Teacher
3. 4/23/25 Recommendation for amended medical disability leave CDMS - Teacher
4. 4/23/25 Recommendation for amended child care leave CDMS - Teacher
5. 4/23/25 Recommendation for amended medical disability leave CDMS - Teacher
6. 4/23/25 Recommendation for medical disability leave CRPS - Instructional Assistant
7. 4/23/25 Recommendation for retirement - CRPS teacher
8. 4/23/25 Recommendation for substitute teacher - district
9. 4/23/25 Recommendation for amended field trip dates
10. 4/23/25 Recommendation for intermittent FMLA - staff CRES

COMMENTS FROM ATTENDING CONSTITUENTS - ALL SUBJECTS

None

NEW BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION (N.J.S.A. 10:4-9,12)

At approximately 9:01 p.m President Volpe announced that the Board would move into Executive Session for approximately twenty-five (25) minutes to discuss confidential student matters and negotiations with the CNTEA. She further announced that action would not be taken afterwards and articulated that Executive discussion may be disclosed upon future resolution.

It was moved by Brian Scarpa, seconded by Sara Horowitz and carried on a unanimous roll call vote in the affirmative to move into Executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 9:50 pm, it was moved by Jessica Ramirez, seconded by Sara Horowitz and carried on a unanimous roll call vote to adjourn the meeting.

Yes: Phyllis Camera, Sara Horowitz, Jason Orrico, Jessica Ramirez, Vincent Rugnetta, Robert Scales, Brian Scarpa, Angelique Volpe and Kevin Walsh

No: None

Absent: None

REFERENCE SHEET	
Attachment # S-1	Amended 2024-2025 School Year Calendar
Attachment # C-1	2025 NJSLA Letter / Dates
Attachment # C-2	CRPS Math Parent Survey Results
Attachment # C-3	ST Math Staff Trial Survey Results
Attachment # P-1	R2330 - Homework
Attachment # P-2	P5512 - Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
Attachment # P-3	P5533 - Student Smoking
Attachment # P-4	R5533 - Student Smoking
Attachment # P-5	P7741 - Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds
Attachment # P-6	R7741 - Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds
Attachment # P-7	P9320 - Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies
Attachment # P-8	R9320 - Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies

BOARD MEETINGS*			
April 23, 2025	June 18, 2025	August 20, 2025	October 15, 2025
May 7, 2025	July 9, 2025	September 3, 2025	November 5, 2025
May 21, 2025	July 23, 2025	September 17, 2025	November 19, 2025
June 4, 2025 @CRPS	August 6, 2025	October 7, 2025	December 3, 2025
			December 17, 2025
January 7, 2026 @ 6:00 (Organization Meeting)			

* All Regular Board Meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building unless otherwise noted and advertised.

2025		
Friday	April 11	Short Session Day - Students & Staff - Start of Spring Recess
Monday - Monday	April 14 - April 21	Spring Recess – Schools/Central Office Closed
Tuesday	April 22	Schools Reopen
Friday	May 23	Short Session Day for Students Full Day for Staff with In-Service After Student Dismissal
Monday	May 26	Memorial Day - Schools/Central Office Closed
Monday	June 23	Short Session Day for Students / Full Day for Staff
Tuesday	June 24	Last Day of School - Short Session Day for Students and Staff

Respectfully Submitted,
Vincent S. Marasco
 Vincent S. Marasco
 School Business Administrator/Board Secretary