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The following items are contained in the July 9, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Special Recognition - Tracy Santoro Scholarship
4. Public Comment
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6. Superintendent's Report & Principals' Updates
7. MEF Report
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13. Approval of Minutes: June 11, 2025 Regular & Executive Sessions
14. Board Secretary's Financial Reports for May 2025
15. Board of Education Certification as of May 2025
16. Report of Receipts and Disbursements for May 2025
17. Cash Report for May 2025

18. Bills and Payroll

19. Transfer of Funds

20. New Business

21. Other Matters

22. Public Comment

23. Adjournment

The Regular Meeting of the Margate City Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 P.M. on July 9, 2025 by Board President, Mr. Joseph Pepe, at the Eugene A. Tighe Media Center.

Certification of Notice:

Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary, announced that adequate notice of this meeting had been provided and read the following Certification Notice:

On May 17, 2025 a notice of this meeting was posted on the district website, the bulletin board in the Board of Education Administration Office, the Eugene A. Tighe School, the William H. Ross III School and emailed to the City Clerk and advertised in *The Press*.

Roll Call - Members Present: Mr. Joseph Pepe; Mr. Jack Sorensen; Mrs. Amy Brog; Mrs. Shannon Wray-Norris; Mr. Nicholas Palmisano; Mr. Steve Swift

Others Present: Mr. Ryan Gaskill, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; Mrs. Samantha Dulude, Principal; Mr. Eric Goldstein, Solicitor

2025 Tracy Santoro Scholarships:

The Tracy Santoro Memorial Scholarship recognizes two Margate graduates with a strong background in community service. Eileen Roach is recognized for her efforts with Hoops for All. Christopher Garrabrant is recognized for his efforts with post-crashers and assisting veterans in need. Congratulations!

Public Comment:

No members of the community commented.

Fire Drill and Security Drill Report:

Mr. Gaskill distributed the Fire & Security Drill Reports for Eugene A. Tighe School & William H. Ross School for the month of June 2025 attached as Exhibit # 1, pages 30,424-30,425.

Superintendent's Report & Principals' Updates:

Mr. Ryan Gaskill shared that the Ross School Third Floor HVAC project was in progress and currently on schedule. He shared that the Safety and Security Drill Statement of Assurance for the 2024-2025 school year was submitted to the County Office of Education for approval. He also shared that the District's Virtual Instruction Plan has been reviewed and submitted for review.

Mrs. Dulude shared information on current activities at Ross & Tighe School.

Ms. Navlen presented the 2024-2025 MEF year in review. She recapped the annual fundraisers including the Boo Fest, Winter Social, and Spring Fling. The MEF awarded \$19,400 in grants to teachers and district staff for school activities this year. In total, they had fifty-one sponsors for their events. The MEF is looking to launch annual sponsorships this year, for all their events. Be on the lookout for the annual sponsorships and upcoming events.

Personnel Matters:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Personnel matters:

1. Approve, in accordance with the Article VIII, A, 2: *The number of unused personal days, sick days, and family illness days allowed to be carried over into the following year will not exceed a total of 15. Any unused days in excess of 15, will be paid to the teacher at the current rate per day (\$125) in Article VI E under SEVERANCE/RETIREMENT*
Day Left Payout
 - Chris Andersen 2 days @ \$125.00 per day = \$250.00
2. Approve payout of \$125 per day for unused sick days as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Margate Board of Education and the Margate Education Association, maximum 200 days payable in a one time grant for retirees, as follows: (Attached)
As per MEA contract:
 - Sandra LeVan - 200 days @ \$125.00 per day = \$25,000.00
3. Approve the following employees to work on an as-needed basis in the Lucky Kids aftercare program at the Ross School for the 2025-2026 school year at a rate of \$20.00 per hour. Staff: Sofia Bechtel, Christina Campbell, Lisa Carey, Lindsey Evans, Holly Ferry, Dylan Frasier, Rebecca Kanter, Kalliopi Kounis, Hailey Loewenstern, Erin Merenich, Angel Molina, Hillary Morris, Barbara Myers, Jodi Weber, Donna Vetrone.
4. Approve the following club/activity stipends for advisor at Tighe Middle School for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - Student Council Advisors - \$2,750.00 each –Tracy Magel and Christopher Anderson
 - Tighe Pride Committee - \$2,000.00 each –Jacque Jones, Louis Sanchez, and Mark Winterbottom
 - National Junior Honor Society Advisors - \$2,000.00 each – Natasa Coughlin and Jamie Bean
 - Academic Trivia Team - \$900.00 each –Tracy Magel and Sherry Scott
 - MathCounts Advisor - \$1,800.00 – Sherry Scott
 - Mathletes Advisor - \$1,200.00 – Sherry Scott
 - Tighe Environmental Club Advisor - \$1,000.00 – Chelsi Crompton
 - Yearbook Facilitators - \$1,800.00 each – Jacque Jones and Veronica Valencia
 - Webpage Facilitator - \$1,000.00 – Amy Hughes
 - PAC/Tighe Tech/AV Facilitator - \$1,000.00 – Debbie Roland, Asst AV - \$1000.00 – Lisa Drexler
 - Art Club Advisor – \$1,500.00– Barbara Farrell
 - Family STEM Night Advisor - \$1,000.00 – Chelsi Crompton

Personnel Matters (Continued):

- Band Club - \$750.00 – Debbie Roland
 - After school Homework Club Mentors – contractual hourly rate (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday up to 6 hours per week) – Veronica Valencia, Chris Andersen, Sherry Scott, Chelsi Crompton, Christopher Bruscato, and Jen Carey
 - Substitute Homework Club Mentors-contractual hourly rate as needed-Natasa Coughlin, Danielle Ujcich, Kelly Crawford, Brian Pasternak, Popi Kounis, Michelle Cossaboon, and Lisa Drexler
 - After school Detention Monitors – contractual hourly rate (60-minutes per day, Tuesday and Thursday) – Mauricio Saavedra and Christopher Andersen.
5. Approve the hiring of Nicole Schwegman as a full time elementary teacher for the 2025-2026 school year at a salary of \$80,100.00 (Step 5 MA) with benefits, pending completion of paperwork.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Instructional Support Activities:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Wray-Norris, to approve the following Instructional Support Activities request:

1. Approve to purchase and implement the digital program Camp Timber and Circle of Friends K-8 Suite for both Ross and Tighe Schools as a way to deliver classroom Social and Emotional learning to students. Cost: \$3,000.00.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Facilities/PAC:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Wray-Norris, to approve the following Facilities/PAC requests:

1. Approve Tara Mangold and Toning Up with T, LLC to use the Ross playground for a Circuit Training Bootcamp from 7:30 am to 10:30 am on July 6, July 13, July 20, July 27, August 3, August 10, August 17, August 24, and August 31, 2025. Cost: \$30.00 per hour. Total: 27 hours x \$30.00 = \$810.00.
2. Approve Bob Colombo with Fudgy Wudgy Cold Brew to sell cold brew to Toning up with T attendees on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the Summer 2025. Not to be sold to the public to maintain compliance with their Margate City business permit.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Workshops:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Workshop matters:

1. Approve Ryan Gaskill, Samantha Dulude and Melina Skwarek to attend the School Law Boot Camp for School Administrators Summer 2025 through SRI/ETTC Stockton. Cost: 12 ETTC hours each.
2. Approve Melina Skwarek to attend the What Schools Need to Know About 504 Plans to Ensure Compliance workshop through SRI/ETTC Stockton. Cost: 3 ETTC hours.
3. Approve Ryan Gaskill to attend the Atlantic County AI Summit. Cost: Travel.
4. Approve Samantha Dulude to attend Structuring Your I&RS Team for a Successful Year. Cost: 4 ETTC hours.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Students:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Student matters:

1. Approve the final determination of HIB Report Investigation R04-202425.
2. Approve the final determination of HIB Report Investigation R05-202425.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, the board unanimously agreed to accept the June 11, 2025 Regular Session and Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Financial Reports:

Motion by Mrs. Brog seconded by Mr. Sorensen to accept the Secretary's Financial Reports for the month of May 2025 as attached to these minutes and certifying that no budgetary account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(a). See Exhibit # 2, pages 30,426 - 30,449. The Secretary's Reports agree with the Report of Receipts and Disbursements.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Board of Education Certification:

Motion by Mrs. Brog seconded by Mr. Sorensen, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11, the Margate City Board of Education certifies that as of May 31, 2025 after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Reports (Revenue and Appropriation Sections) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge there have been no changes in anticipated revenue sources and/or amounts and no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)2-3 so that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Report of Receipts and Disbursements:

Motion by Mrs. Brog seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to accept the Report of Receipts and Disbursements for the month of May 2025, attached as Exhibit # 3, pages 30,450 – 30,462.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Cash Report:

Motion by Mrs. Brog seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to accept the Cash Report for the month of May 2025, attached as Exhibit # 4, page 30,463.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman; Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Bills and Payrolls:

Motion by Mrs. Brog seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the payment of bills and payrolls, as listed on Exhibit # 5, pages 30,464 - 30,486.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Transfer of Funds:

Motion by Mrs. Brog seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Transfer of Funds:

Transfer of Funds within the General Current Expense Account

Ratified Budget Transfers for 2024-2025

TO:	11-000-216-320-00-00-025	COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND	\$2,000.00
	11-000-217-320-00-00-025	OT & SPEECH SERVICES	\$6,500.00
	11-000-230-590-00-00	LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS	\$350.00
	12-130-100-730-00-00	PAC LIGHTBOARD	\$9,100.00
	11-000-222-600-0-00-010	PAC LIGHTBOARD SERVICES	\$4,500.00
	11-120-100-101-18-00-025	SUBSTITUTES	\$9,000.00
	11-213-100-106-00-00-025	RESOURCE ROOM AIDE	\$160.00
	11-215-100-106-0-00-025	PREK AIDE	\$2,500.00
		TOTAL	\$34,110.00
FROM:	11-000-216-600-00-00-025	COMMISSION FOR THE BLIND	\$2,000.00
	11-000-211-100-00-00	OT & SPEECH SERVICES	\$3,000.00
	11-000-217-320-00-00-010	OT & SPEECH SERVICES	\$3,500.00
	11-000-230-585-00-00	LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS	\$350.00
	11-000-100-565-00-00	PAC LIGHTBOARD	\$9,100.00
	11-000-222-600-00-00-025	PAC LIGHTBOARD SERVICES	\$4,500.00
	11-120-100-101-00-00-025	SUBSTITUTES	\$9,000.00
	11-213-100-106-00-00-010	RESOURCE ROOM AIDE	\$160.00
	11-213-100-106-00-00-010	PREK AIDE	\$2,500.00
		TOTAL	\$34,110.00

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

New Business:

Motion by Mrs. Brog seconded by Mr. Swift, to approve the following New Business:

- A. Approve the amended Lucky Kids rates for the 2025-2026 school year as follows:
Monthly rate = \$264 (2nd child - \$176; 3rd child \$88; 4th child free)
First child daily rate = \$15.00, 2nd child = \$10, 3rd child = \$5, 4th child = Free
First child half day rate = \$25, 2nd child = \$15, 3rd child = \$10, 4th child = Free
Emergency daily one time rate = \$25 Additional siblings emergency rate = \$15
Registration one time fee for each child = \$50
Registration fee waived for all returning children registered prior to August 8, 2025.
- B. Approve the second reading of new policy and regulation:
Policy 5111.5 Inclusive Preschool Admission Policy
Regulation 5111.5 Preschool Attendance Regulation
- C. Approve a Joint Transportation Agreement with Dennis Township for field trips and athletic events for the 2025-2026 school year, as needed.
- D. Approve the list of lunch prices for the 2025-2026 school year Exhibit # 6, pages 30,487 - 30,488.
- E. Approve the Margate School District Virtual Instruction Plan for the 2025-2026 School Year.
- F. Approve the non-resident tuition student rate at \$6,000 annually for students enrolled in the district prior to July 1, 2025, for the 2025-2026 school year.
- G. Approve the attendance of Matt Burton and Melina Skwarek at the monthly NJSBGA meetings as approved for the 2025-2026 school year.
- H. Approve and confirm the submission of the FY25 School Violence Prevention Program - COPS Programmatic grant application in the amount of \$111,087.00, with a local share allocation in the amount of \$27,772.00.
- I. WHEREAS, Melina Skwarek, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, possesses a Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) certificate;
WHEREAS, the State Treasurer, in consultation with the Governor and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-7 and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (b), has increased the bid threshold amount for school districts with a Qualified Purchasing Agent, from \$44,000 to \$53,000, effective July 1, 2025;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Margate City Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a), establishes and sets the bid threshold amount of \$53,000 for the school district, and further authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, the Qualified Purchasing Agent, to award contracts, in full accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a), for those purchases that do not exceed the aggregate of the newly established bid threshold amount.
Furthermore, for contracts in the aggregate that are less than the bid threshold but fifteen (15%) or more of the amount, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall award contracts after soliciting at least two competitive quotations.

New Business (Continued):

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-37 (c), is authorized to award contracts that are in the aggregate less than fifteen (15%) percent of the bid threshold without soliciting competitive quotations.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Other Matters:

Motion by Mrs. Brog seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Other Matters:

- A. Approve the revised medical leave of Bernadette Marino from June 27, 2025 through an anticipated return date of July 21, 2025.
- B. Approve a professional services contract through competitive contracting with the following services providers for Occupational Therapy services, as needed, not to exceed \$100,000.00 for one year commencing July 9, 2025.

Vendor	RFP Points	OT	Evals
EPIC	395	\$85/hr	\$85/hr
Stepping Stones	380	\$89/hr	\$425
Elevate	377	\$89/hr	\$335
Kaleidoscope	310	\$96/hr	\$400
Oxford	298	\$88/hr	\$500
Therascend	220	\$90/hr	\$370

Other Matters (Continued):

- C. Approve a professional services contract through competitive contracting with the following services providers for Physical Therapy services, as needed, not to exceed \$100,000.00 for one year commencing July 9, 2025.

Vendor	RFP Points	PT	Evals
EPIC	395	\$85/hr	\$85/hr
Stepping Stones	375	\$89/hr	\$425
Kaleidoscope	315	\$98/hr	\$450
Oxford	293	\$88/hr	\$400
Therascend	210	\$90/hr	\$370
Practically Perfect	176	\$150/hr	\$160

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Public Comment:

No members of the community commented.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 6:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melina Skwarek
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator