

READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Holland Brook School
Regular Meeting 5:00 p.m.
July 22, 2025

MINUTES

Mission Statement: We empower members of our community to lead purposeful lives with integrity, to cultivate a spirit of discovery, and to embrace connections in our diverse, global society.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT – OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mr. Rizza called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6-21) and was open to the media and public. Notices were duly posted, and the meeting was advertised in the Hunterdon County Democrat and Courier News. Formal action was taken.

Present: Mrs. Cassidy, Mrs. Fiore, Mr. Lopes, Mrs. Rad, Mrs. DePinto, Mr. Rizza

Also Present: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent, Mr. Jason M. Bohm, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Absent: Mrs. Mencer, Mrs. Ryan

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. OATH OF OFFICE

- Mr. Bohm administered the Oath of Office to new Board Member, Richard Pieros

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 5:09 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. DePinto
(Mr. Pieros abstained)

2nd: Mr. Lopes

Roll Call Vote: Carried 6 Yes

Motion to adopt the following resolution: Resolved to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975, to discuss a legal matter for approximately 30 minutes at which time the Board expects to return to Public Session where action shall be taken. The matters discussed will be made public if and when the circumstances requiring confidentiality no longer exist; however, it is not presently known when such circumstances will exist.

Michele Mencer arrived at 5:40 p.m.

V. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION - 6:02 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. DePinto

2nd: Mrs. Rad

Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

VI. BOARD RETREAT WITH JUDITH WILSON

- Judith Wilson, consultant, led a board retreat on the board’s self evaluation, good governance, best practices, thoughts for future board goals discussion among more. Board and administrator dialogue occurred for a productive retreat.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Dr. Hart highlighted the referendum and upcoming communication materials and aspects to share with the community at large in preparation for a public vote in November 2025. Mr. Rizza thanked the Policy & Communication Committee for their hard work along with administration.
- Dr. Hart shared an update on enrollment and housing in Readington Township, touching on the recent past, recent and upcoming housing development, and impact on the district and student programming.

VIII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (LIMITED TO ACTION ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)

- None

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

- Email L.S. - Community Concerns
- Email M.S. - HCRHS Monthly Newsletter

X. BOARD ACTION

A. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Motion to adopt 1.01 - 1.05
Motion: Mrs. DePinto **2nd: Mr. Lopes** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 yes**
 (Mr. Pieros abstained)
- 1.01 Motion to approve Enrollment and Drill Reports June 2025.
 (Attachment 1.01)
- 1.02 Motion to approve the Readington Middle School Discipline Report Quarter 4/April 4 - June 20, 2025.
 (Attachment 1.02)
- 1.03 Motion to approve the 2025 Board of Education meeting dates as indicated on attachment.
 (Attachment 1.03)
- 1.04 Motion to approve the Emergency Virtual or Remote Instructional Program Plan for the 2025-2026 school year.
 (Attachment 1.04)
- 1.05 Motion to accept the HIB report and affirm the Superintendent’s decision:

CASE NUMBER	SCHOOL	DATE	FINDINGS OF HARASSMENT INTIMIDATION OR BULLYING
11	TBS	05/22/2025	No

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Motion to adopt 2.01 - 2.02
Motion: Mr. Lopes **2nd: Mrs. Mencer** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes**
 (Mr. Pieros abstained)
- 2.01 Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes June 10, 2025.
- 2.02 Motion to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes June 10, 2025.
- Roll Call:
 Mrs. Cassidy_____ Mrs. Fiore_____ Mr. Lopes_____ Mrs. Mencer_____ Mr. Pieros_____
- Mrs. Rad_____ Mrs. Ryan_____ Mrs. DePinto_____ Mr. Rizza_____

C. FINANCE/FACILITIES

Committee Report: Mrs. Mencer presented minutes of the meeting held on July 2, 2025.

3. Motion to adopt 3.01 - 3.10
Motion: Mrs. Mencer **2nd: Mr. Lopes** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes**
 (Mr. Pieros abstained. Mrs. DePinto abstained from 3.01 only check #065466)
- 3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **June 12, 2025 through July 23, 2025** for a total amount of **\$4,322,931.52**.
 (Attachment 3.01)
- 3.02 Motion to approve **Travel Expenditures July 22, 2025** In the amount of **\$6,125.46**.
 (Attachment 3.02)
- 3.03 Motion to approve SAIF General Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance Renewal for the 2025-2026 school year.
 (Attachment 3.03)

- 3.04 Motion to approve Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper, for professional services for June 2025 and for the 2025-2026 school year.
(Attachment 3.04)
- 3.05 Motion to approve shared services agreement with Haddon Township School District Communications Consortium for \$12,000.00 for the 2025-2026 school year.
(Attachment 3.05)
- 3.06 Motion to approve a shared services agreement between the Readington Township Board of Education and Readington Township for technology services for the 2025-2026 school year.
(Attachment 3.06)
- 3.07 Motion to approve the following resolution: Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is the owner of certain surplus property which is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Board is desirous of selling said surplus property in an “as-is” condition without express or implied Warranties;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Readington Township Board of Education as follows: (1) The sale of the surplus property shall be conducted through GovDeals pursuant to State Contract A-70967/T2481 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the State Contract. The terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with GovDeals is available online at govdeals.com and also available from the Board of Education. (2) The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is govdeals.com. (3) The sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-9. (4) A listing of the surplus property to be sold is attached.

(Attachment 3.07)

- 3.08 Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Jason Bohm, 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 (Name of 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 in 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.

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.

- 3.09 Motion to submit the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) grant application and acceptance of funds for the 2025-2026 school year:

IDEA:
Basic: \$406,710.00
Preschool: \$14,878.00

- 3.10 Motion to approve the Preliminary Eligible Costs of the Readington Township Board of Education Referendum per attached.
(Attachment 3.10)

5.01 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointment:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Adriana White	Media Specialist (WHS) 20-04-D2/akm	\$82,050.00 BA+15 Step 18	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026

5.02 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointments:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Eric Goodhart	Bus Driver (Transp) 80-06-D7/bdu	\$27.75/hr. Step 7	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
Jennifer Hardison	Aide/Special Education (HBS) 30-02-D3/ayu	\$22.23/hr. Aide C Step 2	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
Kristi Ur	LTS Teacher/Science (RMS) 20-01-D2/aeg	\$66,530.00 MA Step 3-4 (3)	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
Ashley Blanda	Teacher/Special Education (HBS) 20-02-D2/aiv	\$60,930.00 BA Step 3-4 (4)	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
Victor Cardona	Teacher/Special Education (TBS) 20-03-01/bbu	\$82,920.00 BA Step 19	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
Carrie Scherder	Speech (WHS/RMS) 20-01/d2/akg	\$68,430.00 MA+30 Step 1-2 (2)	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
Christopher Schultz	Teacher/Social Studies (RMS) 20-01-D2/aeo	\$68,030.00 MA Step 6-7 (6)	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
Christine Dudley	Clerical Aide (HBS) 50-02-D4/amq	\$20.72/hr. Step 15	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
Lauren Visco	Teacher/Social Studies/ Special Education (RMS) New Position	\$68,030.00 MA Step 6-7 (6)	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
Jordan McChesney	LTS Teacher/Grade 5 (HBS) 20-02-D2/abt LTS Teacher/LA (RMS) 20-01-D2/afb	\$60,930.00 BA Step 3-4 (3)	09/01/2025 - 11/21/2025 12/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
Anthony Gonzalez	Teacher/Spanish (RMS) 20-01-D2/afh	\$70,430.00 MA+30 Step 6-7 (6)	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026

Amanda Roper	Teacher/Grade 1 (TBS) New Position	\$83,750 MA+30 Step 15-16 (15)	09/01/2025 - 06/30/2026
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5.03 Motion to ratify and accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following resignations:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Kathryn Cecala	Teacher/Social Studies (RMS) 20-01-D2/aeo	06/30/2025
Lindsay Salaj	Clerical Aide (HBS) 50-02-D4/amq	06/30/2025
Jennifer Peist	Aide/Special Education (TBS) 30-03-D3/akw	06/30/2025
Kevin Grant	Teacher/Grade 3 (WHS) 20-04-D2/bbh	06/30/2025
Jose Fernandez	Teacher/Spanish (RMS) 20-01-D2/afh	06/30/2025
Aidan Harris	Aide (TBS) 20-03-D3/azd	06/30/2025
Mindy Bennington	Teacher/Social Studies (RMS) 20-01-D2/aen	06/30/2025
Lauryn Ingram	Teacher/Special Education (RMS) 20-01-D2/ahu	06/30/2025

5.04 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following retirement with appreciation for his years of service:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Jan Derevjanik	Head Custodian (HBS) 70-02-D5/ape	September 30, 2025

5.05 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and ratify the following Substitute Teacher/Aide/Nurse/Bus Driver for the 2025-2026 school year, paid at the applicable substitute rates, in the Readington Township District, pending satisfactory completion of employment requirements:

NAME	POSITION
Christopher Schultz	Substitute Teacher

5.06 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following position control changes and designated transfers for the 2025-2026 school year:

NAME	CHANGE	POSITION	LOCATION	SALARY
Katie DaQuisto	From: To:	20-05-D2/bcn new position	(BOE) Instructional Coach/Preschool (BOE) Supervisor of Early Childhood Education	\$90,000.00
Meredith Kane	From: To:	30-01-D3/bba 30-01-D3/bba	(HBS) Aide/Special Education (RMS) Aide/Special Education	No Change
Anna Hackett	From: To:	80-06-D7/bdu 80-06-D7/bdw (new position)	(Transp) Bus Driver (Transp) OOD Bus Driver	No Change
Tanya Cavallo	From: To:	20-05-D2/bcf 20-05-D2/bcr 20-05-D2/bcq 20-05-D2/bcr	(BOE) .4 Preschool Instructional Coach (BOE) .4 Preschool Intervention Specialist (BOE) .2 Preschool Coordinator (BOE) FT Preschool Intervention & Referral Specialist	No Change
Natalie Placencia	From: To:	20-05-D2/bcl 20-05-D2/bcs 20-05-D2/bcm 20-05-D2/bcl	(BOE) .5 Preschool Relief Teacher (BOE) .3 Preschool ESL (BOE) .2 Teacher/Preschool Community Parent Involvement Specialist (WHS) FT Preschool Intervention & Referral Specialist	No Change
Anthony Tumolo	From: To:	10-05-D1/bat 10-05-D1/bat	(BOE) Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction (Social/Emotional Learning and Special Projects) (BOE) Supervisor of Special Projects: Pupil Services and Professional Development	No Change

5.07 Motion to ratify and approve Amie Walsh, Teacher, to teach the Extended School Year Program during the summer of 2025, for 16 days, 5 hrs./day at the summer rate based on a salary of \$65,430.00.

5.08 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the attached list of Readington Middle School coaching assignments for the 2025-2026 school year at their contractual rate. (Attachment 5.08)

5.09 Motion to approve Jennifer Rourke, RMS Teacher, to teach a seventh class for consecutive days of a single assignment beyond her contractual workday for the 2025-2026 school year in the amount of \$7,234.64 per the RTEA contract.

5.10 Motion to to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following job descriptions: (Attachment 5.10)

- Mentor Coordinator
- Supervisor of Special Projects: Pupil Services and Professional Development

5.11 Motion to approve Nicole Maravantano and Jodi Rehrig as Mentor Coordinators for the 2025-2026 school year at a stipend of \$4,000.00 each.

5.12 Motion to accept the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Readington Township Board of Education (the "Board") and the Readington Township Administrators' Association (the "Association") are parties to a Collective Negotiations Agreement governing the terms and conditions of employment for administrative and supervisory personnel for the period beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027 (the "CNA"); and

- 1120 - Management Team
- 1210 - Board-Superintendent Relations
- 1220 - Employment of Chief School Administrator
- 1240 - Evaluation of Superintendent
- 1540 - Administrator's Code of Ethics
- 1643 - Family Leave

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Mr. Rizza highlighted the Board Member Election Deadline is July 28, 2025 by 4:00 p.m.

XII. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

- Mr. Rizza highlighted and welcomed Mr. Pieros once again to the board, who was appointed following Mrs. Podgorski's resignation from the board.

XIII. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- Many community members asked questions regarding Ryerson Road and the EV buses.
- A member of the public thanked the retired staff for their hard work
- Mr. Rizza thanked everyone for their comments. He mentioned that the Green Committee meeting is next week administratively and in September for full committee. Goals are discussed at the administration meeting.
- Mr. Rizza read the following statement:
Due to multiple correspondences and requests from the community in regards to the District property on Ryerson Road, Mr. Rizza, Ms. Mencer, and Dr. Hart prepared a statement to provide further details. The Finance Committee has discussed the district owned property on Ryerson Road at the committee meetings on April 2nd, May 16th and July 2nd. The discussions originated with a request to allow bow hunting on the property and no consensus was reached. The Finance committee also discussed the history of the property, location, and current and past usage. This led to further conversations about future District plans for the property. All discussions around the property are preliminary and at the committee level. There is no Board action on the agenda regarding the Ryerson Road property.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 8:45 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Cassidy
(Mr. Pieros abstained)

2nd: Mrs. Rad

Roll Call Vote: Carried 7 Yes

Motion to adopt the following resolution: Resolved to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975, to discuss HIBs for approximately 30 minutes at which time the Board expects to return to Public Session where action shall not be taken. The matters discussed will be made public if and when the circumstances requiring confidentiality no longer exist; however, it is not presently known when such circumstances will exist.

XV. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION - 9:23 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Cassidy

2nd: Mrs. DePinto

Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

XVI. ADJOURNMENT - 9:24 p.m.

Motion: Mrs. Cassidy

2nd: Mrs. DePinto

Roll Call Vote: Carried 8 Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Jason M. Bohm
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mr. David Rizza
President, Board of Education