

STAFFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Manahawkin, NJ 08050

PUBLIC AGENDA

BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: Oxycocus Elementary School
Stafford Room

DATE: October 2, 2025

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Stafford Township Board of Education is called to order in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act Law - 1975 Chapter 231 (P.L. 1975-231C). This meeting was advertised in the Atlantic City Press. Notice has been posted in the office of the Stafford Township Clerk, all school buildings and on the district website. A mechanical device is being used to video record this meeting.

ROLL CALL

Brian Fenlon	Member
Gregory Gioe	Member
Robert Morello	Member
Matthew Regulski	Member
Christopher Smith	Member
Bonnie Strouse	Member
Joseph Washco	Member
Kevin Cooney	Vice President
Tammy Wagner	President

ALSO PRESENT

George J. Chidiac	Superintendent
Lourdes LaGuardia	Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary
Martin J. Buckley, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney

FLAG SALUTE

A. RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

~PLC Student and Staff Recognition

~Statewide Assessment Spring 2025 Results – Presentation

B. SUPERINTENDENT’S EDUCATIONAL REPORT - Attachment**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

*NOTE: If a board member was absent (listed below), they are to abstain from the vote on that item/meeting.

To approve the attached minutes of the following meeting(s):

1. September 22, 2025 Committee of the Whole – 1 Absence (J. Washco)
2. September 22, 2025 Business Meeting – 2 Absences (B. Fenlon, J. Washco)
3. September 22, 2025 Closed Session – 1 Absence (J. Washco)

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

D. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

School boards are required to set aside a portion of every meeting for public comments. School boards use the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to community concerns - not to debate issues or enter into a question-and-answer session. School boards are not required to respond to questions but may choose to respond to public comments by seeking additional information or delegating authority to the superintendent or a designee to investigate an issue brought forth during public comment.

While public education can be an emotional issue, the school board strives to maintain a certain level of decorum at its meeting. As such, all persons speaking during the public comment period should maintain a tone of respect and civility. Courteous behavior is extremely important by all members and attendees.

To allow all speakers to address their comments to the board, it may be necessary for the board and/or administration to hold any responses until after the conclusion of the public comment period; rather than respond to individual speakers. The board cannot recognize proxies, nor will the board tolerate persons that call out, shout down or disrupt others in attendance during public comment; any person who cannot abide by this will be asked to leave.

The Stafford Township 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, especially when it is intended to assist the Board of Education.

Please feel free to speak to the Board during the public session. Pursuant to Board Policy 0167, comments and discussion will be limited to one three (3) minute period per individual unless requested by the chairperson to continue on a point of clarification.

Public comment at special meetings of the Board shall be related to the call of the meeting. In accordance with the Board of Education Policy, each participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address and group affiliation, if applicable.

Your anticipated courtesy to the members of the public and the Board is appreciated.

For additional information, please review the "Guide to Board of Education Meetings in New Jersey" available on the New Jersey Boards Association website at www.njsba.org.

E. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD

F. BOARD BUSINESS

1. There was one incident of harassment, intimidation, and bullying.
2. To approve the following revised Annual Administrative Appointments as required by statute within employee contractual responsibilities:
 - a. To appoint Anthony Clayton as the Right-To-Know Officer, Asbestos Management Officer, Safety and Health Designee, Indoor Air Quality Designee, District Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, Chemical Hygiene Officer (as per Policy 7420 – Director of Facilities), PEOSHA, Occupational & Environmental Analysis, and AHERA Coordinator for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing October 15, 2025.
 - b. To appoint Anthony Clayton as the Americans with Disabilities designated district person for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing October 15, 2025.

3. To approve the following Resolution:

Participation in the Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification Program

Whereas—The Stafford Township Board of Education seeks to participate in Sustainable Jersey for Schools to focus attention and efforts on matters of sustainability and pursue initiatives that will lead to Sustainable Jersey for Schools Certification.

Whereas—The Stafford Township Board of Education and District Superintendent seek to support and work with school staff and administrators, students, and parents to ensure a safe and healthy environment for students by encouraging our school community to implement sustainable, energy-smart, eco-friendly, and cost-effective solutions.

Whereas—Extensive opportunities exist to teach students about ecological, economic and social sustainability, environmental health, and nutrition; to integrate sustainability education into classroom learning; and to support students in becoming leaders in making their schools healthier and more sustainable places.

Whereas—Many options and choices exist for schools to use resources more efficiently; to reduce, reuse, and recycle; to follow Green Building Standards for construction and major renovations; to form school partnerships; to eliminate toxic chemicals; to purchase (or produce) clean energy; and to purchase recycled paper, energy-efficient equipment and other green products to protect our global environment.

Whereas—Sustainability means using resources wisely, saving money, and reducing our impact on the environment, all of which will ensure the future health, safety, and prosperity of our children.

Whereas—The Stafford Township Board of Education commits to the formation of at least one Sustainability Leadership Team, based on the guidance of Sustainable Jersey for School.

Whereas—Green Team members help schools adopt policies and practices addressing areas such as sustainability education and professional training, green purchasing, waste reduction, indoor air quality, energy-saving initiatives, and community partnerships.

Whereas—The Stafford Township Board of Education will encourage Green Teams at all district schools by providing networking and educational opportunities.

Therefore, it is resolved that the Stafford Township Board of Education agrees to participate in Sustainable Jersey for Schools, and it is the board's intention to pursue certification for schools in the district.

We hereby appoint Richard Meyer to be the district's liaison to Sustainable Jersey for Schools.

We do hereby recognize our School(s) as the agent(s) to carry out our commitment to building a sustainable school district through the implementation of Sustainable Jersey for Schools actions.

We agree to complete district actions and to support the district's schools in completing their actions.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

NEW BUSINESS

G. FINANCE/INSURANCE/TRANSPORTATION

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent, school business administrator/board secretary and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached bill list and are satisfied that curriculum related expenditures are directly related to the results of assessment data and that professional development expenditures are directly related to professional development plans.

Board Secretary's Certification:

I, Lourdes LaGuardia, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that no line item has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-A-16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Date

1. To approve for payment of October 2025 bills list totaling \$1,981,245.15 as attached. (G-1)

Fund 10 - \$1,145,210.55
Fund 20 - \$256,210.57
Fund 30 - \$574,811.34
Fund 40 - \$0
Fund 60 - \$893.22
Fund 61 - \$0
Fund 62 - \$4,119.47

*Note - \$827,078.98 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1a)

*To approve for payment of September 2025 additional bills list totaling \$460,400.68 as attached. (G-1b)

Fund 10 - \$161,041.95
Fund 20 - \$213,761.75
Fund 30 - \$84,261.11
Fund 40 - \$0
Fund 60 - \$86.55 Refund 60/62 \$86.55
Fund 61 - \$1,150
Fund 62 - \$99.32

*Note - \$259,445.11 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1c)

2. To approve for payment of payroll
 - a. dated September 15, 2025 totaling \$1,578,580.99
 - b. dated September 30, 2025 totaling \$1,626,682.65
3. To accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2025.
4. To accept the Secretary's Report for the month of August 2025.
5. To approve the attached line item transfers for August 2025.
6. To authorize the Business Administrator to make payment of post-Board meeting bills for the month of October 2025 and to execute mid-cycle contracts such as utilities and out-of-district contracts. Specifics of these transactions, if any, will be provided for ratification at the next regular scheduled board meeting.

7. To approve the attached list of donations.
8. To approve the contract with the Commission for the Blind & Visually Impaired for student #28184 in the amount of \$2,541 for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing September 1, 2025.
9. To approve the contract with Bayada Nursing Services for student #23052 in the amount of \$65/hr for RN and \$65/hr for LPN for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing July 1, 2025. This student requires one to one nursing services.
10. To approve the attached **revised** Jointure Transportation Contract with Eagleswood Board of Education for a homeless transportation route from Galloway/Little Egg Harbor to Eagleswood School for the 2025-2026 school year at a cost of \$227.80 per diem for a total Joiner cost of \$41,004.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

H. BUILDINGS/GROUNDS/CAFETERIA

The Buildings/Grounds/Cafeteria Committee has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the school business administrator/board secretary and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals.

NO ACTION ITEMS

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

I. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION/TECHNOLOGY

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached professional development request list and are satisfied that each professional development event is directly related to the employee's duties, each event is fiscally prudent (consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12), that teaching staff requests are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, and that administrator requests are aligned to the Professional Standards for School Leaders.

1. To approve the professional development requests shown on the attached listing.
2. To approve the attached revised Dyslexia Protocol.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

J. PERSONNEL

The following Personnel items were discussed:

Chairperson of the Personnel Committee – Tammy Wagner

Report: The superintendent recommends the board approve/ratify the appointment of the following named individuals who constitute a careful selection and screening of applicants, in accordance with the board/district hiring policies/procedures, and are hereby recommended for an employment contract contingent upon the successful completion of their accredited degree program, New Jersey Department of Education certification requirements, Federal NCLB Highly qualified Teacher requirements, a criminal history clearance and the successful completion of a medical examination as required by the board of education. These initial assignments/appointments may be changed as district needs develop unless otherwise stipulated. The Personnel/Policy Committee has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals.

1. To approve the attached list of substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year.
2. To approve the change of assignment for the attached list of personnel for the 2025-2026 school year.
3. To approve the transfers for the attached list of personnel for the 2025-2026 school year.
4. To approve the following resignation:
 - a. Heather Bernstein, Teacher Aide, effective September 24, 2025
5. To approve the following leaves:
 - a. Employee ID #4459, unpaid leave of absence, beginning October 20, 2025 and returning October 27, 2025
 - b. Employee ID #6525, unpaid family leave FMLA, REVISED, beginning September 22, 2025 and returning December 22, 2025
 - c. Employee ID #6617, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning January 20, 2026 and returning April 20, 2026
6. To approve the attached revised job description:
 - a. C-10 Lead Custodian
7. To approve to rescind the offer of Lead Custodian to Julie Palmieri for the 2025-2026 school year.
8. To approve the attached REVISED personnel as Lead Custodians for the 2025-2026 school year.
9. To approve the attached affiliation agreement between Western Governors University and Stafford Township School District for the 2025-2026 school year.
10. To approve Alicia Segalla as Homebound Instruction Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year.
11. To approve Sarah Strickler as Elementary School Teacher, Preschool/Kindergarten, Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, Step A, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenured track leave replacement position.
12. To approve Meredith Devereaux as Elementary School Teacher, Grade 5, Intermediate School, beginning November 1, 2025 and May 15, 2026, Step F, +MA, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenure track leave replacement position.

13. To approve Paula LaRocca as Long Term Substitute Floater Nurse, Intermediate School, beginning October 20, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, Step B, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
14. To approve Sarah Poley as Probationary Part Time Custodian, Intermediate School, beginning October 16, 2025 and ending January 15, 2026, Step 1, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
15. To approve Susan Townsend as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 3, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a new position due to an IEP.
16. To approve Leiana Urso as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, Kindergarten, Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 2, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
17. To approve April Clayton as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, PSD Class, Oxycocus Elementary School, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 2, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
18. To approve Brenda Gomez as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, PSD Class, Oxycocus Elementary School, beginning October 20, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 1, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
19. To approve Diane Vadovic as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, LLD Class, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning October 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 3, +30 college credits, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
20. To approve Jenna Trail as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Intermediate School, beginning October 16, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 5, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.

Employee appointments are provisional pending satisfactory completion of the Criminal History Background Check, Pre-employment P.L. 2018,C.5 Disclosure and Physical Exam Requirements required by the State of New Jersey.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

K. POLICY/LEGISLATIVE

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following policies and regulations, has consulted with the board attorney and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certify, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1, that the attached policies and regulations are in compliance with all applicable statutes and administrative code provisions and are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals.

1. To approve the **first reading** of following **revised** regulation:

- R7510 Use of School Facilities

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

L. ADVANCED PLANNING

M. PUBLIC COMMENT

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N. BOARD INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

O. CLOSED SESSION (IF NEEDED)

Whereas Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

Whereas, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Stafford Township Board of Education, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action of the hereinafter specified subject matters.

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated subject matters shall be made public at such time as the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exists.

ADJOURNMENT

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				