



## MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION

60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430

**Richard DeSilva, Jr.**  
1st Vice President

**Brett Coplin**  
**John Dinice**  
**Trista Daveniero**

**Prema C. Moorthy, PhD**  
President

**Benjamin A. Kezmarsky**  
2nd Vice President

**Michael Galow**  
**Christopher L. Hughes**  
**Janine Ting Jansen**

---

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORK SESSION/ACTION MEETING OF THE MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION held on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, in the Administrative Offices, 60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, New Jersey.

*PLEASE NOTE: This meeting of the Mahwah Board of Education is open to members of the public to be physically present. Members of the public that attend will be asked to follow the same procedures as all other visitors to our schools. Those procedures can be found on the agenda page of our website. Additionally, the Board meeting will be live streamed for viewing purposes only. Anyone wishing to view the meeting, may do so via Zoom (<https://zoom.us>).*

### CALL TO ORDER

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Richard DeSilva, Jr. called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

### ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Ms. Daveniero  
Messrs. Coplin, DeSilva, Dinice, Kezmarsky, Galow and Hughes  
Student Representatives Ms. Pardo and Mr. Miele

ABSENT: Ms. Jansen, Dr. Moorthy

ALSO PRESENT: Michael DeTuro, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Dennis M. Fare, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent  
Thomas Lambe, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary  
Lisa Rizzo, Director of Special Services  
Jodie Craft, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

### PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of agenda of this meeting has been provided to *The Ridgewood News and The Record* specifying that the Mahwah Board of Education will meet on September 17, 2025, in the Administrative Offices, 60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, New Jersey. A copy was filed with the Township Clerk.

### SALUTE TO THE FLAG

### AGENDA QUESTIONS

There were no questions about the agenda.

### MOTION TO OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS

It was moved by Mr. Galow seconded by Mr. Coplin to open the meeting to the public for comments.

**Motion carried at 7:02 pm. 7 ayes, 0 nays.**

#### MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS

It was moved by Mr. Kezmarsky seconded by Mr. Hughes to close the meeting to the public for comments.

**Motion carried at 7:02 pm. 7 ayes, 0 nays.**

#### MAHWAH STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

*The Marching Band competed in a Band Festival this past Saturday and won 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in various categories.*

*Teachers have encouraged students to take advantage of the Dual Enrollment offerings.*

*In Fall sports, soccer just beat our rival Ramsey. The first home football game is this Saturday, September 27. Back to School Night was a success this past Thursday.*

*Mahwah Day this Saturday. A lot of clubs will be participating.*

*A Club Fair will occur during lunch next Wednesday.*

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – DR. MICHAEL DETURO AND ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – DR. DENNIS M. FARE

*Dr. DeTuro updated the Board on the Strategic Plan 2025-2030 – The Flight of the Thunderbird. He reviewed the work done during the 2020 – 2025 Strategic Plan across Curriculum & Instruction – new K-5 Math curriculum, new Science curriculum at Joyce Kilmer School, new dual enrollment offerings and partnerships with trade schools and growth of the internship/externship programs at Mahwah High School. In Community Connections, Dr. DeTuro highlighted the Thunderbird Partnership, with over 200 partners for internships and externships for Mahwah High School students. In Social & Emotional Learning, professional development has been done and social workers and guidance counselors have been added across the district. In Facilities, The Finance & Facilities Committee created a roadmap for projects across the district. The JK Innovation Lab is a highlight of our facilities enhancement.*

*After an overview of the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, Dr. DeTuro invited Ms. Craft to explain curriculum goals for the strategic plan. Ms. Craft said the overarching goal is to foster intellectual creativity and lifelong learning. She then explained the goals that support this.*

*For the Flight Calls component of the plan, Dr. Fare then explained the Community Connections goals that focused on expanding problem-based learning opportunities, connected to real-world problem solving. He said that we had over 60 internship/externship placements this year, and the Thunderbird Partnership with businesses, lauded the translation program for diverse families. We streamlined our communications and social media posts, introduced the Thunderbird Times.*

*In the Wing of Wellness component, Ms. Rizzo explained that facilitating a growth mindset that empowers student success in a complex future. Ms. Rizzo talked about CASEL competencies, where students can take risks and step outside their comfort zones. Teachers and co-curricular advisors will be ready to guide students.*

*Dr. DeTuro explained the Future Ready Habitats and World Class Learning Environments. He explained how we used a facilities audit as a roadmap for planning a referendum for building improvements. He welcomed the community to join us for the State of the Facilities meeting that will occur on Monday, September 27. Dr.*

*DeTuro summarized the district goals on Curriculum & Instruction and Finance & Facilities. Dr. DeTuro ended by emphasizing that all of the 2025 – 2030 Strategic Plan information and future updates will be on the District’s website.*

*Dr. Fare also reminded the public about State of the Facilities meeting that will occur on Monday, September 27. All members of the public are encouraged to attend. Dr. DeTuro reviewed the Opening Day and thanked the local businesses for their generosity towards the opening day barbeque. Thanks to Mr. Bittner for the Marching band. Thanks to 4 former students – who spoke to the staff about impact that staff members had on their student experience. Thank you to the administrative assistants and students and staff across the district.*

*Agenda item 18p – thank you to the vendors who donated towards the barbeque.*

*2025-26 Parent Academy Calendar – Dr. DeTuro thanked Ms. Craft for putting the academic, SEL, college ready and other events on the calendar together.*

*Dual Enrollment Flyer was shared.*

*Senior Cole Barruta featured in Bergen Magazine on the Feature Get Real.*

*Yesterday, in conjunction with American Heart Association, the NY Giants Play 60 Team visited JK and spent time with students in a range of fun activities.*

*Recent graduate Kerry Prunk earned Girls Scouts Gold Award for her Serenity Steps project at MHS.*

*Agenda item 19e – welcome to Kathryn Hiromoto as new Business Administrator next month. Dr. Fare read her biography.*

#### BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY’S REPORT – MR THOMAS LAMBE

*Mr. Lambe noted that the district is taking advantage of various grants from the State of NJ. On tonight’s agenda, item 18G is approval of a partial boiler replacement project at Betsy Ross School, 100% funded by an SDA grant for Emergent and Capital Needs. The IDEA grant of over \$500,000 is more than 70% expended, and about 90% of the Title I funds were expended on the summer booster programs. The district has begun the process of seeking reimbursement for ROD grant funds for 40% of the cost of the rooftop HVAC unit replacement at Joyce Kilmer School and the roof replacement over the Mahwah High School cafeteria.*

#### PRESIDENT’S REPORT

*No report.*

#### BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Instructional & Curriculum/Special Education – P. Moorthy (Chair), T. Daveniero, M. Galow, B. Coplin

Finance & Facilities – M. Galow (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky, P. Moorthy

Policy – J. Dinice (Chair), R. DeSilva, C. Hughes, J. Ting Jansen

Community Relations – T. Daveniero (Chair), B. Kezmarsky, J. Ting Jansen, C. Hughes

Executive/Planning Committee – P. Moorthy (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky

Negotiations – M. Galow (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky, J. Ting Jansen

Bergen County School Boards Liaison – J. Dinice, M. Galow, C. Hughes (2-Alt.)

New Jersey School Boards Legislative Liaison – P. Moorthy

Mahwah Schools Foundation Liaison – J. Ting Jansen, B. Coplin (Alt.)

Mahwah Access for All – T. Daveniero (Liaison), M. Galow (Alt.)

Transportation Committee Ad Hoc – B. Coplin (Chair) J. Dinice, C. Hughes, T. Daveniero

Board of Education Liaison to Town Council - B. Kezmarsky, B. Coplin (Alt.)

*Finance & Facilities – Mr. Galow – on September LAN Associates submitted an application to the state. From this we will find out how much state funding will provide to the district for the referendum.*

**BOARD MEMBER REMARKS/ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON REPORTS OR OTHER NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

*Mr. Kezmarsky said thank you for all of your support this summer. Thank you to Brett for stepping in for his committee assignments.*

**17. OLD BUSINESS**

**Resolution 17a was moved by Mr. Coplin and seconded by Mr. Galow.**

**a. Minutes**

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the August 27, 2025 Public Work Session/Action Meeting.

**ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 17a. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. DeSilva and Mr. Kezmarsky abstained.**

**18. NEW BUSIENSS - OTHER**

**Resolutions 18a – 18p were moved by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mr. Hughes.**

**a. Financial Report**

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of bills for the period of July 21, 2025 to September 12, 2025.

General Fund	Fund 10	\$63,247.47
General Current Expense	Fund 11	\$5,769,577.97
Capital Outlay	Fund 12	\$122,285.50
Special Revenue Funds	Fund 20	\$579,103.15
Capital Projects Funds	Fund 30	\$981,806.70
Enterprise Fund	Fund 50	\$40,666.83
Region 1	Fund 52	\$88,019.71
Region I-Contracted Trans.	Fund 53	\$1,260,274.93
Food Service Fund	Fund 60	\$417.40
Total of All Checks		\$8,905,399.66

**b. Financial Report – Unemployment**

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of Unemployment checks 1276 to 1279 for a total of \$13,135.78.

**c. Financial Report – Cafeteria**

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of Cafeteria check # 2978 for a total of \$5,809.70.

d. Financial Report – Public School Fund

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of Public-School Fund checks 36013 to 36022 for a total of \$2,994.99

e. Certification

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, as per New Jersey Administrative Code and New Jersey Statutes Annotated legislation and requirements, the following statement is approved:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of August 2025 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1, and

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of August 2025 no budgetary line item account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(a).

Thomas Lambe, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

f. Transportation – Region I

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education awards the following special education transportation routes for the 2025-2026 school year as per quote:

<b>Route</b>	<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Per diem</b>	<b>Inc/Dec</b>	<b>Aide</b>
Q658	Triumph Invalid Coach	\$401.00	\$3.00	\$144.00
Q659	Destiny 23	\$172.00	\$1.90	\$30.00
Q660	Lenoirs Transport	\$71.00	\$2.50	\$40.00
Q661	Shaddai Transportation	\$170.00	\$0.59	\$45.00
Q662	We Care School Transp.	\$254.00	\$1.99	\$88.00
Q663	Joshua Tours	\$169.00	\$3.00	\$65.00
Q664	Joshua Tours	\$169.00	\$3.00	\$65.00
Q665	Shaddai Transportation	\$190.00	\$0.89	\$45.00
Q666	Destiny 23	\$142.00	\$1.90	\$30.00
Q667	K&S Transportation	\$308.00	\$0.95	\$50.00
Q668	K&S Transportation	\$308.00	\$0.95	\$50.00
Q669	Shaddai Transportation	\$180.00	\$0.89	\$55.00
Q670	Shaddai Transportation	\$155.00	\$0.89	\$35.00
Q671	Joshua Tours	\$123.00	\$3.00	\$50.00
Q672	Destiny 23	\$162.00	\$1.90	\$30.00
Q673	Joshua Tours	\$245.00	\$3.00	\$80.00
Q674	Joshua Tours	\$230.00	\$3.00	\$80.00
Q675	J&W Financial	\$126.00	\$3.00	\$50.00
Q676	Joshua Tours	\$79.00	\$3.00	\$80.00
Q677	Joshua Tours	\$92.00	\$3.00	\$65.00

<b>Route</b>	<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Per diem</b>	<b>Inc/Dec</b>	<b>Aide</b>
Q678	Horizon Transportation	\$264.00	\$1.50	\$70.00
Q679	D&R Transportation	\$149.00	\$3.00	\$40.00
Q680	D&R Transportation	\$119.00	\$3.00	\$40.00
Q681	Joshua Tours	\$130.00	\$3.00	\$80.00

g. Cooperative Contract Bid Award – Betsy Ross School Partial Boiler Repair and Replacement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education awards a contract to C.J. Vanderbeck & Son, Inc. in the amount of \$149,725.00 to conduct a partial boiler repair and replacement at Betsy Ross Elementary School, in accordance with Educational Data Services Cooperative Bid #1271, Boiler Inspection, Cleaning and Repair, bid contract period 12/1/24 – 12/1/25, with the cost of the project funded from the New Jersey School Development Authority Emergent and Capital Needs grant.

h. Renewal of Lease Agreement with the Wyckoff YMCA

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a renewal in a lease agreement with the lessee, the Wyckoff YMCA, to run their before/after child care programs, for the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027, as per the attached agreement.

i. Resolution to Continue Membership in the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a number of Boards of Education in Bergen County have joined together to form a Joint Insurance Group as permitted by N.J. Title 18A-.18B and;

WHEREAS, said Group was approved effective July 1, 1985 by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;

WHEREAS, the Bylaws and regulations governing the creation and operation of this Insurance Group contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Group, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Mahwah has determined that membership in the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group is in the best interest of the District;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of Mahwah does hereby agree to renew membership in the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the District and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying

membership in the Group as are required by the Group's Bylaws and to deliver the same to the Executive Director.

j. Conferences/Workshops

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves attendance at the following conferences/workshops that are deemed to be educationally appropriate and for the benefit of the school district including conference/workshop fees and necessary travel expenses:

First	Last	Conference/Workshop	Date	Amount
Taylor	Kanderis	Varsity Yearbook - Advisor Workshop	9/16/2025	N/A
Joan	Stewart	Stationhouse Adj. Conf. - Understanding & Responding to At-Risk Youth	9/17/2025	N/A
James	O'Hara	NACAC 2025 in Columbus, Ohio	9/19/2025	\$1,002.00
Dennis	Jarvis	NJSLA-Adaptive and NJGPA-Adaptive Training	9/22/2025	NA
Kelly	De Bello	FPS Coaches Training	9/26/2025	\$84.64
James	Dalessio	NJSIAA Bowling Coaches Clinic	10/8/2025	N/A
Emily	Shapiro	National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) National Meeting and Exposition	10/15-10/18/2025	\$335.00
Lauren	Sullivan	New Jersey International Dyslexia Association Fall Conference 2025	10/17-10/18/2025	\$350.00
Emily	Doughan	NJIDA Fall Conference 2025	10/17-10/18/2025	\$350.00
Justin	Saputski	NJSIAA Golf Coaches Workshop	10/17/2025	N/A
Christina	Zucaro	NJIDA Fall Conference	10/18/2025	\$250.00
Christine	Hartigan Miller	Mock Trial Coaches' workshop	10/28/2025	\$33.84

k. Field Trips

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following field trips:

Group/Destination	Date(s)	School	# of Students
Robotics Club (9-12) to North Brunswick H.S., North Brunswick, NJ	10/18/25	MHS	40
Team Leadership to Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ	10/23/25	RR	7
English Language Arts (Grade 4) to Mahwah Public Library, Mahwah, NJ	9/25,9/29, 10/3, 10/10/25	JK	207
G&T (6-12) to Community Middle School, Plainsboro, NJ	3/21/26	RR/MHS	80
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade to Turtle Back Zoo, West Orange, NJ	5/15/26	BR	54

l. Vendor

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Learning Tree Multicultural/Multilingual Evaluation and Consulting to provide bilingual child study team evaluations.

<b>Language</b>	<b>Learning Evaluation</b>	<b>Speech/Language Evaluation</b>	<b>Psychological Evaluation</b>	<b>Social History Evaluation</b>
Other Languages	\$880	\$880	\$880	\$880
Spanish & English	\$830	\$830	\$830	\$830
Translation	Conference \$150/hour	Written Translation \$150/per page		

m. Change of Column on the Salary Guide

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a change of column on the MEA Teachers’ Salary Guide for the following certified staff who completed graduate/in-service credits, effective retroactive to September 1, 2025.

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>From Column</b>	<b>To Column</b>
Taryn	Browne	E - MA+15	F - MA+30
Gabriel	Castro	D - BA+45	E - MA+15
Marykate	Coakley	D - MA	E - MA+15
Shawn	Daly	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Carolyn	Ferguson	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Natalie	Labrada	D - MA	E - MA+15
Arianna	Lee	D - MA	E - MA+15
Kierstyn	Liddy	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Matthew	Miller	F - MA+30	G - MA+45
Paulina	Moritz	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Michelle	Oates	E - MA+15	F - MA+30
Brian	Rice	D - MA	E - MA+15
Amy	Rogers	F - MA+30	G - MA+45
Lauren	Saviet	F - MA+30	G - MA+45
Rebecca	Savino	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Kelly	Smith	D - MA	E - MA+15
Gabrielle	Zimmer	D - MA	E - MA+15

n. Hospital-Based Instruction

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education hereby approves student with local identification number 38704 receive education from the Center for Children’s Behavioral Health at a rate of \$99 per hour not to exceed 10 hours per week. retroactive to September 2, 2025.

o. Donation of Service

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves acceptance of the donation of service, in the renewal re-painting of the playground blacktop map at Betsy Ross School, by Mr. James Beran, a parent in the Mahwah School District, and thanks Mr. Beran for their generosity in service.

p. Donations

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following donations, and expresses its sincere gratitude for each participant’s donations of food, items, or services, to our school district’s opening day barbecue:

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Vendor</b>
Acme Markets	Mahwah Sunoco
Alphagraphics	Mom's Kitchen to Go
B & G Bagels of Ramsey	Nonna's
Bagel Express	Pomptonian Food Services
BAM	Primo Hoagies
Dunkin' of Mahwah	Shoprite of Ramsey
Lotito's	Sonny & Tony's
Mahwah Bar & Grill	Spring Street Deli
Mahwah Deli	SQ Pizza
Mahwah Pizza & Pasta	Stateline Diner
Mahwah Schools Foundation	Urban Auto Car Wash

**ROLL CALL VOTE on the resolutions 18a – 18p. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Kezmarsky recused himself from item 18a, check numbers 120857 and 121102.**

19. NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

**Resolutions 19a – 19y were moved by Mr. Coplin and seconded by Mr. Hughes.**

a. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Jennifer Osenni, teacher of biology, at Mahwah High School; effective November 15, 2025.

b. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Christine Begg, instructional paraprofessional, at Lenape Meadows School; effective retroactive to June 30, 2025.

c. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Franco Amato, school security officer, at Lenape Meadows School; effective September 30, 2025

d. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Daria Kalinowski, instructional paraprofessional, at Lenape Meadows School; effective September 30, 2025.

e. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Katherine Hiromoto, as Business Administrator, for Mahwah Public Schools, effective October 20, 2025 – June 30, 2026; salary to be \$180,000, pro-rated; pending employment verification and County approval.

f. Appointment – School Security Officer (SSO)

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Stacy Conley, as school security officer, at Lenape Meadows School, from October 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026; rate to be \$38 per hour, pro-rated; to be stipulated based on his individual contract.

g. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Vanessa Sem, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Ramapo Ridge Middle School, effective retroactive to September 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026; salary to be Step 1, \$21,298.86; pending employment verification.

h. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Anila Javed, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Lenape Meadows School, effective retroactive to September 8, 2025 - June 30, 2026; salary to be Step 1, \$21,298.86; pro-rated, pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

i. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Jacqueline Burris, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Lenape Meadows School, effective retroactive to September 15, 2025 - June 30, 2026; salary to be Step 1, \$21,298.86; pro-rated, pending employment verification.

j. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Rebecca Kruithof, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Lenape Meadows School, effective September 29, 2025 - June 30, 2026; salary to be Step 1, \$21,298.86; pro-rated.

k. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Richa Tolani, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Lenape Meadows School, effective retroactive to September 4, 2025 - June 30, 2026; salary to be Step 1, \$21,298.86; pro-rated, pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

l. Appointment – Leave Replacement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Anika Patel, as leave replacement for Employee #4124, pursuant to New Jersey Statute 18A:16-1.1, from October 21, 2025 – June 30, 2026; salary to be Column A, Step 5, \$60,891, pro-rated; pending employment verification.

m. NJFLA Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence for Employee #4124, effective October 27, 2025 – January 23, 2026, using NJFLA from October 27, 2025 – December 12, 2025, and using 21 sick days and NJFLA concurrently, from December 15, 2025 – January 23, 2026.

n. NJFLA Intermittent Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves an intermittent leave of absence for Employee #2047, effective retroactive and during the following dates, using NJFLA and 24 sick days concurrently, on the following dates: September 2, 2025 – September 5, 2025; September 9, 2025; September 14, 2025 – September 19, 2025; September 22, 2025; September 24, 2025 – September 26, 2025; October 6, 2025 – October 10, 2025; October 13, 2025 – October 17, 2025.

o. Appointment – SAT Course Instructors

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following staff members, to teach English language arts and mathematics courses for SAT exam preparation from September 8, 2025, to November 5, 2025, to run based on student enrollment, for 16 hours for each cycle at 1/5<sup>th</sup> the staff member’s salary, prorated as follows per cycle (1/5<sup>th</sup> salary ÷ 186 days x 16 days); to be paid via a submitted voucher.

First Name	Last Name	Subject	# of Cycles
Jennifer	Chung	Mathematics	1
Diana	Burkel	Mathematics	1
Melissa	Amato	English Language Arts	2

p. Additional Teaching Period

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following staff members to provide class coverage for Employee #5062; retroactively from September 4, 2025 - September 26, 2025, at 1/5<sup>th</sup> of their salary prorated, per diem, to teach various periods; to be paid via submitted voucher:

Name	Course
Michele Del Rey	CPE Biology
Mary Devine	CPE Biology
Jennifer Osenni	CPE Biology & Environmental Science
Christin Freet	CPE Biology & Environmental Science
Cathy Schwartz	Environmental Science

q. Change in Assignment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the change in assignment for Lucinea Ponzini, from 5.5 instructional paraprofessional, at Lenape Meadows School, to 5.5 instructional paraprofessional, at Ramapo Ridge Middle School; effective September 29, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

r. Paraprofessional Stipends

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves listed stipends for the following paraprofessional staff in accordance with the terms and conditions of employment between the Mahwah Board of Education and the Mahwah Education Association; to be awarded at the end of the 2025 -2026 school year.

School	First Name	Last Name	Bachelor's Degree Stipend	Teaching Certificate Stipend
Betsy Ross School	Mary	Flannery	\$200.00	\$800.00
Betsy Ross School	Karan	Hallak	\$200.00	\$800.00
Betsy Ross School	Deepa	Rau	\$200.00	
Betsy Ross School	Allison	Schlackman	\$200.00	
Betsy Ross School	Audrey	Von Zwehl	\$200.00	
George Washington School	Jessica	Curran	\$200.00	
George Washington School	Darryl	Johnson	\$200.00	
George Washington School	Rosanne	Mason	\$200.00	
George Washington School	Sandra	Steinberg	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Heather	Alesio	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Charu	Chadha	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Dawn	Doria	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Elwira	Fremder	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Michelle	Irie	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Shireesha	Tirumala	\$200.00	
Joyce Kilmer School	Fakhira	Yosofzad	\$200.00	
Lenape Meadows School	Lori	Ferrar	\$200.00	
Lenape Meadows School	Sumalatha	Maddali	\$200.00	

<b>School</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Bachelor's Degree Stipend</b>	<b>Teaching Certificate Stipend</b>
Lenape Meadows School	Mary Ann	Pagliaroli	\$200.00	
Lenape Meadows School	Lucineia	Ponzini	\$200.00	
Lenape Meadows School	Laurie	Rosen	\$200.00	
Lenape Meadows School	Rachi	Tolani	\$200.00	
Lenape Meadows School	Jeanine	Whitmore	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	David	Bernhart	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Polina	Los	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Jacqueline	Pepe	\$200.00	
Mahwah High School	Holly	Retcho	\$200.00	
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Anne	Cavallo	\$200.00	\$800.00
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Sandra	Cioffi	\$200.00	\$800.00
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Virginia	DePalma	\$200.00	\$800.00
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Vanessa	Sem	\$200.00	
Ramapo Ridge Middle School	Mindy	Vesia	\$200.00	\$800.00

s. Appointment – Option Two: Academic and Career Internship Program Locations

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following sites for the 2025-2026 school year for students approved to participate in Option Two – Academic and Career Internship Program. All sites have been approved by the Work-Based Learning Coordinator, in accordance with NJDOE regulations, application requirements, and insurance verification.

<b>Center For Food Action</b> 90 Ridge Road Mahwah, NJ 07430	<b>Camp Acorn</b> 10 Leighton Place Mahwah, NJ 07430
<b>DSW-Designer Shoe Warehouse</b> 77 Interstate Shop Center Unit 23 Ramsey, NJ 07446	<b>Leistritz Advanced Technologies Corp.</b> 165 Chestnut Street Allendale, NJ 07401

<b>Mahwah Public Library</b> 100 Ridge Rd Mahwah, NJ 07430	<b>Pomptonian Food Service</b> (MHS Location) 50 Ridge Road Mahwah, NJ 07430
<b>RI- Arm Farm</b> 127 McCoy Road Oakland, NJ 07436	

t. Fieldwork/Practicum Observations - Revised

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following fieldwork/practicum observations for the 2025 fall semester, for the following students, attending the following colleges/universities:

Student Name	College/University	Supervising Staff Member
Ashley Munno Brianna Almanzar Joey Angco Niah Murphy	Ramapo College School of Nursing	Emilie Brinson, School Nurse

u. Home Instructor

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following staff members to provide home instruction for the 2025-2026 school year, as needed, for those students who require home instruction:

<u>Mahwah School District</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Betsy Ross School</li> <li>• George Washington School</li> <li>• Lenape Meadows School</li> <li>• Joyce Kilmer School</li> <li>• Ramapo Ridge Middle School</li> <li>• Mahwah High School</li> </ul>	Any identified certificated staff member available to provide home instruction.

v. Stipend - Extra Service Position Rescission

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education rescinds the extra service stipend for the following staff, for the 2025-2026 school year:

First Name	Last Name	Building	Assignment
Maria	Pico	Ramapo Ridge Middle School	PM Bus Duty

w. Stipend - Extra Service Positions

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the extra service stipend for the following staff, for the 2025-2026 school year; at the negotiated stipend rate:

First Name	Last Name	Building	Assignment
------------	-----------	----------	------------

x. Parent Volunteers

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following individuals, as volunteers, to assist Mahwah Township Public Schools for 2025-2026 school year:

**Joyce Kilmer School**

First Name	Last Name	First Name	Last Name
Erin	Sussman	Sarah	Carton
Kait	O'Donohue	Janine	Jansen
Tess	Miller	Dana	Bossert
Anita	Chau	Samantha	Turco
Jennifer	Campana	Sarah	Ursillo
Elwira	Fremder	Shannon	Doherty
Kelly	Saverino	Lisa	Georgiou
Mary	Timberg	Nicole	Castiglia
Hema	Bellara	Aradhana	Kapoor
Alyson	Dunaev	Jennifer	Petrie
Kristin	Patterson	Elena	Christie
Christine	Decker	Irene	Mulvihill
Rebecca	Ayoubi	Megan	Duffy Casella
Veronica	Colon	Lydia	Hanna
Beth	Manzella	Patricia	Barsella
Disha	Shah	Kaitlyn	Kennedy
Kim	Freitag	Jennifer	Paul
Samantha	Palmer	Olga	Shikhris
Jennifer	Hill	Ashley	Jijon
Kristen	Goldberg	Vicky	Miller
Lauren	Calijone		

**George Washington School**

First Name	Last Name
Elli	Gourna
Kristy	Agliardi
Marian	Fahmy-Hawash
Jennifer	Campana
Lisa	Siervo
Christina	Theile-Blayer
Michelle	Loeb
Kylie	DeMaggio

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>
Erica	Mircovich
Alison	Rigby
Anna	Jang
Rachel	Hirsch
Roxana	LaRosa
Min	Huang
Andrea	Corrao
Madeleine	Hassankhani
Maria	Trujillo
Elena	Christie
Amanda	Osborn
Jennifer	Petrie
Katy	Mei
Arielle	Sikra
Nora	Respanti
Natalie	Tremblay
Denise	Nicolosi

**Lenape Meadows School**

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>
Jennifer	Hill
Erin	Del Moro
Karen	Robator
Christine	Bowns
Lisa	Kovalsky
Olga	Shikhris
Kristen	Zaccaria Goldberg
Elissa	Kingsley
Stephanie	Ledogar
Melissa	DeFeese
Kristen	Acosta

**Betsy Ross School**

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>
Jim	Beran	Heather	Kohen
Anabela	Bouvery	Julie	Lee
Lauren	Caljone	Jennifer	Levine
Nicole	Castiglia	Caroline	Londahl-Smidt
Trisha	Chait	Melissa	Matysiak
Nicole	Chinnici	Lauren	Modi

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>
Dana	Condosta	John	Morin
Joe	Cross	Denise	Nicolosi
Alyson	Dunaev	Kristin	Patterson
Eugene	Dunaev	Cinzia	Pelletier
Kathleen	Fearnside	Melissa	Polster
Kim	Freitag	Keith	Reiser
Lisa	Georgiou	Renee	Salemno
Samantha	Goldman	Cheyenne	Sargent
Renuka	Hare	Staci	Silberstein
Sarah	Horn	Shannon	Testa
Kerry	Johnson	Audrey	Tommassini
Kate	Kezmarsky	Christina	Ullrich
Paul	Kezmarsky	Kellye	Vallario
Melanie	Klingbiel	Diane	Warnet
		Melissa	Zablocki

- y. Appointment – Summer 2025 Thunderbird Career Pathway Program Locations – Externship Updated

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following sites for the 2025 Summer for students approved to participate in 2025 Thunderbird Career Pathway Internship Program: Career and Academic Externship. All sites have been approved by the Externship Program Coordinator in accordance with NJDOE regulations, application requirements, and insurance verification.

<b>Becton Dickinson and Company</b> 1 Becton Drive Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417	<b>Mahwah High School Counseling</b> 50 Ridge Road Mahwah, NJ 07430
<b>University of Pennsylvania</b> Penn Medicine, Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine, Department of Otorhinolaryngology: 3400 Civic Center Blvd Philadelphia, PA	<b>The Doctors Inn</b> 171 Lake St Ramsey, NJ 07446
<b>Maggy London</b> 225 W. 37th St New York, NY 10018	<b>Fulton, Menfi, Frega, Straubinger &amp; Berlamino</b> 6 Arrow Rd #200 Ramsey, NJ 07446
<b>Earthcam, Inc</b> 650 East Crescent Ave Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458	<b>SharpHat, Inc</b> 333 Sylvan Ave, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632
<b>Wayne Tile</b> 2 Doig Road Wayne, NJ 07470	<b>Pamela Weiler's Piano Studio</b> 244 Summit Ave New Milford, NJ 07464
<b>Bank of China</b> 1045 6th Ave	<b>Home Supply at Hawthorne</b> 439 Santiago Court

New York, New York 10018	Mahwah, NJ 07430
<b>Interim Health Care</b> 502 Hamburg Turnpike Suite #102 Wayne, NJ 07470	<b>Vida Group International</b> 29 West 56th St New York, New York 10019
<b>Comer Power</b> PO Box 883 Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417	<b>Mirion (Capintec)</b> 7 Vreeland Road Florham Park, NJ 07932
<b>DMR Architects: Heights Plaza</b> 777 Terrace Avenue 6th Floor, Suite 607 Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604	<b>Novino Ristorante</b> 64 Ramapo Valley Road Mahwah, NJ 07430
<b>Cathay Home New York Corporate Office</b> 411 5th Avenue, 3rd & 4th Floors New York, New York 10001	<b>La Gondola Pizzeria Ramsey</b> 1300 St Rt 17 Ramsey, NJ 07446
<b>Valley Hospital</b> 4 Valley Health Plaza Paramus, NJ 07652	<b>Schneider Electric</b> 160 Chubb Ave Suite 201 Lyndhurst, NJ 07071
<b>Raem Digital Solutions (Remote)</b> Lutherville Timonium, MD 21093	<b>Mahwah Public Schools</b> 60 Ridge Road Mahwah, NJ 07430
<b>Movado Group Inc</b> 650 From Rd Paramus, NJ 07652	

**ROLL CALL VOTE on the resolutions 19a – 19p. Motion carried 7 ayes, 0 nays. Mr. Kezmarsky said that Stacey Conley is a great addition to Lenape Meadows School. Several Board Members welcomed Ms. Hiramoto.**

PUBLIC QUESTION OR COMMENT

Public participation at Board meetings is in accordance with Bylaw 0167.

At this time, members of the public may ask questions or make a comment on educational issues or school matters of community interest. As a matter of fairness, you are asked to limit your questions to no more than one, and your remarks to no longer than three minutes. If you are here representing a group, please identify yourself, the group, and your position in the group. If you are here as an individual, please give us your name and address.

Note: This section of public participation will be limited to fifteen minutes.

PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS

**Motion by Mr. Hughes, second by Mr. Coplin to open public comments.**

**Motion passed 7 ayes, 0 nays at 7:49 pm.**

A parent with children at Lenape Meadows School asked how AI is incorporated into the programs. Dr. DeTuro answered the question and follow up questions related to LinkIt!, I-Ready and tiered levels of support.

A new parent to the district asked about the process for sharing the testing results with the parents, to which Dr. DeTuro explained the process.

**Motion by Mr. Kezmarsky, second by Mr. Coplin to close public comments at 7:57 pm.**

MOTION TO ADJOURN

It was moved by Mr. Hughes and seconded by Mr. Coplin to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion carried at 7:57 pm. The meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,



---

Thomas Lambe  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary