

Monthly School Board Meeting (Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 7:00 PM)**Board Members present**

Board President, Megan Ryan; Vice President, Tracey Miller, Ed Corona; Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Administration present:

Dr. Cynthia Seniuk, Superintendent of Schools

Mrs. Kate Caporusso, Superintendent for Personnel and Instruction

Mrs. Marie Donnelly, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations

Dr. Edward Murphy, Assistant to the Superintendent for PPS and Special Education

Mr. Sam Carder, Director of Facilities

Steve Goodstat, Esq., Ingerman Smith

Mrs. Joanne Long, District Clerk

1. OPENING

Procedural: A. Call to Order

Called to order by 6:05 PM by Board President, Ms. Ryan

Action, Procedural: B. Executive Session

Executive session for matters of personnel.

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action, Procedural: C. Reconvene to the Public

Reconvene to the Public at 7:02 PM

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Kathy Moran.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Information, Procedural: D. Call to Order

Call to Order at 7:03 PM by Board President Ms. Ryan.

Information, Procedural: E. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board President, Ms. Ryan, led in the pledge.

Board President Megan Ryan thanked Dr. Seniuk and her team for a great welcome back and smooth opening for faculty, staff, and students. She also expressed the Board's gratitude to principals, administrators, and staff for ensuring a successful first day. The Board enjoyed touring the buildings last night, noting how beautiful they looked, and thanked Mr. Carder and his team for all their hard work, both inside and out.

2. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Procedural: A. Superintendent's comments

Dr. Seniuk welcomed everyone to the first Board of Education meeting of the 2025–26 school year. Summer programs ended on a high note, followed by Superintendent's Conference Days and the annual meet, greet, and treat, which helps ease first-day anxieties. Students received creative gifts, from pencil cases for kindergarteners to whiteboards for older grades.

School openings went smoothly, with perfect weather and many smiles. The central office team visited schools, and the first PTA District Council meeting set the stage for collaborative events.

At Camp Avenue, a generous donation from Merrick Belmore Little League is bringing a new turf field, nearly complete despite weather delays. PTA meetings are scheduled tomorrow at all three schools.

Dr. Seniuk thanked the Board of Education for touring the buildings and Mr. Carder's team for their outstanding work, ensuring a strong and successful start to the year.

3. ROUTINE APPROVALS

Action, Information, Minutes, Procedural: A. Approval of Minutes - 8-19-2025 Public Hearing/ Monthly School Board Meeting Minutes

Consent agenda Item 3A-3C

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action: B. Approval of Treasurer's Report

Consent agenda Item 3A-3C

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Ed Corona.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action: C. Approval of Warrants, Wires, Budget Transfers
Consent agenda Item 3A-3C

Motion by Tracey Miller, second by Steve Enella.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (agenda items only)

Information, Procedural: A. Guidelines for Public Comments - Any person wishing to make comments or raise questions shall fill out a comment card. After you are called, come forward to the microphone and state your full name. All comments or questions shall be directed to the Board President or Superintendent of Schools. The Board or Administration will do their best to immediately respond to any questions. Out of courtesy and fairness to the rest of the audience, each person will limit his/her remarks to no more than 3 minutes, not to exceed a 30 minute session. Public discussion with respect to confidential matters is prohibited.

None

Discussion, Information, Procedural: B. Comments

None

5. BUSINESS

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the schools' cardiac emergency response plan for Old Mill Road, Harold D. Fayette, and Camp Avenue School for the 2025-2026 school year to be added to the already approved Building Level Safety Plan.
Consent agenda Item 5A-5B

Motion by Will Luciani, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action: B. The Board of Education approves the revised "Nurses - Terms of Employment," as detailed in the mailing.
Consent agenda Item 5A-5B

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

6. POLICIES

Action, Procedural: A. First Read (No Action) Policy #9200 School Board Powers and Duties, which has been revised for the Board of Education's further review and comment.

7. PERSONNEL ACTIONS REPORT

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the Personnel Actions Report, as detailed in the mailing

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

8. SPECIAL SERVICES

Action: A. The Board of Education approves the two (2) Individualized Education Programs (IEPS) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Pre-School Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.
Consent agenda Item 8A-8C

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Will Luciani.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action: B. The Board of Education approves the six (6) Individualized Education Plans (IEP's) which were developed by the North Merrick Committee on Special Education, as detailed in the mailing.
Consent agenda Item 8A-8C

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Will Luciani.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

Action: C. The Board of Education approves the agreement between Sage Psychology, PLLC, and Kathleen Hurley, Psy.D., and the North Merrick School District to conduct an independent educational evaluation (neuropsychological evaluation) for the 2024-2025 school year. (retroactive)

Consent agenda Item 8A-8C

Motion by Kathy Moran, second by Will Luciani.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani

9. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Procedural: A. High School

Board Trustee, Mr. Corona, reported that Superintendent Harrington shared that students adapted smoothly to the new state cell phone ban. The high school board also honored students and their advisor for their work in the National Reach Challenge, assisting a student with special needs.

Assistant Superintendent Scott Bersin reviewed the 2024–25 academic year: Regents scores were above the Nassau County average, with mastery levels up in half of the subjects. AP participation continues to grow—90% of students take AP or dual enrollment courses—and the district maintains a 97% graduation rate. Career programs in electrical trades, cosmetology, and culinary arts remain highly popular, with demand exceeding capacity.

Procedural: B. School Community Relations/PTA Council

Board Trustee, Mary Keene, shared PTA updates across the district: Camp Avenue: The August 28 “Meet, Greet, and Treat” was a success. Upcoming events include Reflections kickoff (Sept 25), Walk to School Day (Oct 1), Book Fair (Oct 22), Pioneer Sports lottery (open until Sept 21), and the Welcome Back Picnic this Friday (5:30–7:30).

Fayette: The first day went smoothly, with the HDF Teachers Lounge stocked with treats. Upcoming events: Class Captains and PTA meetings tomorrow, International Walk to School Day (Oct 1), Reflections (Oct 6), Red Ribbon Week (Oct 20), and the annual Outdoor Movie Night this Friday.

Old Mill Road: PTA events include a virtual “Draw Rocky” classroom event (Sept 29), Welcome Back Picnic (Sept 12), Rico’s Pizza fundraiser (Sept 15), Mum Sale (began Sept 8), and weekly 6th-grade pretzel sales. Upcoming: Book Fair (Oct 9), Red Ribbon Week (Oct 28), and the Fall Festival with a magician and yoga instructor.

SEPTA: Looking forward to the Welcome Back Ice Cream Social at Fayette on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at 6 p.m., with new events planned to boost attendance and membership.

Procedural: C. Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Carder, Director of Facilities, highlighted the building tour and praised the custodial and grounds teams for their hard work. The buildings and grounds looked immaculate for the first day—mowed, edged, trimmed, and mulched. He thanked Frank and Anthony for their efforts, noting the whirlwind of summer cleaning, classroom setup, and furniture moves leading up to opening day. The first day was beautiful, with perfect weather and excited students.

Our Business Official, Ms. Donnelly, and I will meet with the architect tomorrow to discuss the Camp roof project. We’ll finalize the drawings and materials, submit them for state approval, and aim to hire a contractor in the spring to begin work the following summer. As for the turf field, progress is moving quickly—a second stone layer was placed today, and we hope to see the green carpet installed tomorrow. It’s going to look amazing, and we’re all very excited.

This year, staff handled the gym floor work in-house, allowing more flexible scheduling than using the outside vendor. They did an excellent job, saving the district money while earning overtime themselves instead of paying a company.

Board Trustee, Ms. Moran, commented that having worked here for over 20 summers, I’m impressed by how quickly everything gets done. Whether it’s building walls or assembling bookshelves, the work is done efficiently, and the buildings look fabulous.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

Information, Procedural: A. Communication

District Clerk Joanne Long commented that no communications were received.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. Unfinished business

None

12. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. New business

None

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Discussion, Information, Procedural: A. Comments

None

14. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS (BOE only)

Reports: A. Appropriation Status Report; Revenue Status Report; Trial Balance; Cash Flow;

Information: B. Absences of Five Consecutive Days

Information, Procedural: C. Enrollment

Information: D. Building and Grounds Reports

15. ADJOURNMENT

Action, Procedural: A. Adjournment

Adjournment at 7:18 PM

Motion by Mary Keene, second by Tracey Miller.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Tracey Miller, Megan Ryan, Ed Corona, Steve Enella, Mary Keene, Kathy Moran, Will Luciani