

Oakland Public Schools
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 16, 2025
7:00 PM

A Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Education was held on September 16, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Mr. Scerbo.

Mr. Scerbo led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the Open Public Meeting announcement as follows: The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Oakland Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on January 12, 2025 and September 10, 2025 in the Municipal Building, the Board Offices, all school offices and copies sent to newspapers Serving Oakland: The Record News. The Board reserves the right to limit public discussion of personnel items, so as to preserve individual privacy.

The Board appreciates the concerns and comments expressed by the public and will take them into consideration. However, please remain advised that, neither the Board nor the administration may comment on or respond to public inquiries or statements regarding any internal personnel matters involving a District employee.

Please be further advised that there is no privilege or qualified privilege with regard to any statements that you make before the Board of Education. Furthermore, in addition to their respective rights to privacy, employees of this school district retains all rights regarding defamation and slander according the laws of New Jersey.

Persons wishing to speak must, upon being recognized, rise, sign in, and state their names and addresses. Each speaker shall be limited to three minutes. A speaker who has not finished in the allotted time will be directed by the presiding officer to summarize quickly and relinquish the floor within 30 seconds.

Roll Call

The following members were present: Ms. Cooper, Mr. Mazzilli, Mr. Scerbo and Ms. Shelkin.

The following members were absent: Ms. Kilday.

Also present: Dr. Gina M. Coffaro, Superintendent of Schools, and Ms. Annette M. Wells, Board Secretary/Business Administrator and 9 members of the public.

Dr. Coffaro welcomed everyone back to the new school year. She introduced and thanked each administrative team member.

I. MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Cooper and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve the following Minute item A as follows:

- A. Approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes from August 19, 2025.

Upon call of the roll, Mr. Mazzilli and Mr. Scerbo abstained, all others voted yes. Motion carried.

II. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

A motion was made by Ms. Shelkin and seconded by Ms. Cooper to approve the following Buildings and Grounds items A and B as follows:

- A. Approve the safety drill report for the month of July 2025.
- B. Approve the monthly schedule of Safety Drills in all District Schools for the 2025-2026 school year as follows. These safety drills are in addition to one fire drill per month at each school.

September	Tornado and Lockdown
October	Evacuation - Non-Fire
November	Active Shooter
December	Lockdown
January	Bomb Threat
February	Active Shooter
March	Lockdown
April	Evacuation - Non-Fire
May	Bomb Threat
June	Shelter on Site
July*	Tornado (*Suggested drill for any Summer Programs, as required.)

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

Mr. Scerbo thanked Mr. Tumminia, Ms. Wells and Dr. Coffaro for air conditioning in the schools.

A motion was made by Ms. Cooper and seconded by Mr. Mazzilli to approve Personnel items A through Q as follows:

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve Personnel Resolutions as per the attached.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

IV. REGULAR EDUCATION

A motion was made by Ms. Shelkin and seconded by Ms. Cooper to approve Regular Education items A and B as follows:

- A. Approve the submission of the required New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) Biannual Statement of Assurance regarding the use of Paraprofessional Staff for the 2025-2026 school to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools.
- B. Approve the attached list of Valley Middle School afterschool clubs and advisors for the 2025-2026 school year.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

V. SPECIAL EDUCATION

A motion was made by Mr. Mazzilli and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve Special Education items A through F as follows:

- A. Approve the Settlement Agreement and Release from July 1, 2025 to August 30, 2025 and September 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 between the District and the parents of one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office.
- B. Approve the Letter of Agreement with Good Talking People LLC for Speech/Language Therapy for one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, to provide two hours of Speech Language Therapy in an amount not to exceed \$340.
- C. Approve the Independent Contractor Agreement with Hirsch Enterprises LLC for the 2025-2026 school year, as needed to provide occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy direct services and evaluations at the following rates:
 - Direct Services- \$120 per hour
 - Evaluations- \$425 per evaluation

- D. Approve the Contract for School Nursing Services with BAYADA Home Health Care, Inc. to provide a registered nurse for the T.O.P.S. Early Childhood Learning for the 2025-2026 school year at the rate of \$75 per hour.
- E. Approve the Innovations in Modern Education Proposal for Tiered Home Instruction Programs for the 2025-2026 school year at the following hourly rates:
- Home Instruction- \$70
 - Speech Language or Counseling-\$110
- F. Approve the 2025-2026 Transportation contract with Barnstable Academy for one student, whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, at a cost not to exceed \$11,543.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

VI. FINANCE

A motion was made by Mr. Mazzilli and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve Finance items A through K as follows:

- A. Approve the August 2025 certified gross (net & agency) payroll in the amount of \$456,291.33.
- B. Approve the payment of the attached list of bills in the amount of \$2,436,471.67 which in proper legal form and subject to audit, provided funds are available in their respective accounts.
- C. Approve the Board Secretary's certification to the Oakland Board of Education that, as of August 31, 2025 no line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which, in total, exceed the line-item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c)3; and further,
- Approve the Oakland Board of Education's certification that, after a review of the Board Secretary's and Board Treasurer's monthly financial reports and the advice of District officials, there is no reason to doubt that any major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A 16.10(c)4.
- D. Approve the school year 2025-2026 Budget appropriation transfers for the month ending August 31, 2025.
- E. Approve the Board Secretary's Financial Report for the month August 31, 2025.
- F. Approve the Treasurer of School Monies Report for the month ending August 31, 2025.
- G. Approve staff participation in professional conferences/workshops outside the District, as per the attached.
- H. Accept with appreciation the donation of a Milk cooler from Mr. Randy Pratt for the Valley Middle School Cafeteria.

- I. Approve a Title III consortium for the 2025-26 school year for a total funding allocation of \$29,773 (\$5,401 Oakland), with Oakland Board of Education as the lead agency and with the following other school districts: Wyckoff, Glen Rock, North Haledon, and Oradell.
- J. Approve a consortium for the 2025-26 school year for Title III funds, with Oakland Board of Education as the lead agency and with the following other school districts: Wyckoff, Glen Rock, North Haledon, and Oradell.
- K. Approve Reichman Educational Consulting LLC to provide Professional Development for Differentiation/Multi-Tiered Support and Gifted & Talented for the 2025-2026 school year in an amount not to exceed \$6,500 using Title IIA Funds.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

VII. ADMINISTRATION

A motion was made by Ms. Cooper and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve Administration item A as follows:

- A. Approve the following staff to serve on the 2025-2026 QSAC committee:

Dr. Gina Coffaro	Joseph Tumminia
Annette Wells	Matthew McQuillen
Pam Baykal	Kim Salacki
John Scerbo	Adam Silverstein
Toni Taglieri	Michelle Andrawis

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

VIII. TRANSPORTATION

Board Liaison: Ms. Kilday

A motion was made by Ms. Cooper and seconded by Mr. Mazzilli to approve Transportation item A as follows:

- A. Approve the list of field trips for students in the Oakland School District for the 2025-2026 school year as per the attached.

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

A motion was made by Ms. Cooper and seconded by Ms. Shelkin to approve Policy item A as follows:

A. Approve the *second* reading of new/revised Board policies/regulations as listed below:

- P 5112 Entrance Age
- P&R 5533 Student Smoking
- P 5339.01 Student Sun Protection
- P&R 7441 Electronic Surveillance In School Buildings
- P 8561 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs
- P&R 9320 Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies

Upon call of the roll, the motion carried with a unanimous vote recorded.

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

One member of the public questioned the new grade K to 3 Literacy Screening Tests. Dr. Coffaro stated that the information will be sent out to parents as indicated in the email sent to grade K to 3 parents on Monday, September 15, 2025. All Grade K to 3 parents will receive information via US mail which will be mailed to families on Friday, September 19th with detailed information on the new literacy screening requirements from the State.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Shelkin and seconded by Ms. Cooper that the meeting be adjourned at 7:17 PM.

Upon call of the question, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette M. Wells
School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

All approved policies can be found on the
Oakland Board of Education Website under
Board of Education/Board Policies:

<https://www.oaklandschoolsnj.org/>