

EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 11, 2025

1. REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT (7:00 P.M.)

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT:

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, adequate public notice of this meeting has been given by the Business Administrator in the following manner:

- A. Posted written notice on the official bulletin board at the Eastampton Community School on January 8, 2025.
- B. Mailed written notice to the *Burlington County Times* and *Courier Post* on January 12, 2025.
- C. Filed written notice with the Clerk of Eastampton Township on January 8, 2025.
- D. Posted official notice on the district’s website.
- E. Mailed written notice to each person who has requested copies of the regular meeting schedule and who has prepaid any charges fixed for such service.

ROLL CALL:

Board Member	Present	Absent	Late Arrival Time
Kerry Douglas, Board President	X		
Florencia Norton, Vice President	X		
Edward Besko	X		
Edward Hill	X		
Walter Maluchnik	X		
Stephanie McHugh		X	
Jamie Smith	X		

- Lianne M. Kane, Superintendent of Schools
- Joseph A. Firetto, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

4. FIRE EXITS

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

The Board, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, is providing an opportunity for the Board to hear the public’s concerns. The Board will not publicly discuss personnel matters and may choose not to respond to comments made by members of the public during this portion of the meeting. If appropriate, the Superintendent will respond to your questions and concerns at a future time. We take your concerns and questions very seriously and want to have sufficient time to allow our administration to process and research issues, if need be.

This meeting will now be open to the public; however, if your questions or comments pertain to litigation, students, personnel or negotiations, we ask that you see the Superintendent after the meeting since we do not discuss these items in public.

- Mr. Graham asked for clarification on #11 in Personnel

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (25-26-44)

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President	X		X			
Florencia Norton, Vice President		X	X			
Edward Besko			X			
Edward Hill					X	
Walter Maluchnik			X			
Stephanie McHugh						X
Jamie Smith			X			

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

7. PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Student Recognitions – Mrs. Kane, Superintendent/Principal
 - Kindergarten – Lucy Bowlby
 - 1st Grade – Brooklyn Risoldi
 - 2nd Grade – Derek Schaffer
 - 3rd Grade – Adrian Melo-Hernandez
 - 4th Grade – Lucas Capocci
 - 5th Grade – Marbely Lopez Gonzalez
 - 6th Grade – Charley Lyman
 - 7th Grade – Ava Burdick
 - 8th Grade – Juliet Kreig

8. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION 7:15 pm:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Edward Hill	X	

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

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**Eastampton Township Board of Education
Resolution 2025-2026
Authorizing Executive Session**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a public meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Eastampton Township School District has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of this Board of Education will reconvene at the conclusion of closed session, at approximately 7:45 pm this evening.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Eastampton Township School District will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

_____Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public;

_____Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

_____Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

_____Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body (Specify contract: _____);

_____Any matter involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

_____Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

_____Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

_____Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer. Under certain circumstances, if public disclosure of the matter would have a potentially negative impact on the Board's position in the litigation or negotiation, this information may be withheld until such time that the matter is concluded or the circumstances no longer present a potential impact);

X Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective employee or employee employed or appointed by the Board, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting;

_____Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eastampton Township Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eastampton Township Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

9. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION 7:42 pm:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Edward Hill	X	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion Carries			
<input type="checkbox"/> Motion Fails			

10. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: (Lianne Kane, Superintendent/Principal)

A. Information Item(s):

- 1) Department Reports
- 2) Liaison Reports

B. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist Statement of Assurance for School Year 2025-2026. **(25-26-45)**
- 2) Recommend the Board approve the action items on the HIB Report dated November 3, 2025 as initially presented at the October 14, 2025 meeting. **(25-26-46)**
- 3) Recommend the Board approve the 2025-2026 Three-year Preschool Operational Program Plan and Annual Update.
- 4) Recommend the Board approve the 2025-2026 Preschool projected enrollment for 2026-2027.
- 5) Recommend the Board approve the 2025-2026 District DPR (District Performance Review) QSAC submission.

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President	X		X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X				
Edward Besko		X	X				
Edward Hill			X				
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh							X
Jamie Smith			X				

Motion Carries
 Motion Fails

11. PERSONNEL: (Edward Hill, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board accept the retirement of Teacher, Jacqueline deMenezes, whose last day with the district will be June 30, 2026.
- 2) Recommend the Board approve the following individuals as district substitute teachers effective November 12, 2025, pending completion of paperwork:

Samantha Jackson
Miranda Luna
- 3) Recommend the Board approve the following staff members as indicated for the 2025-2026 school year, with stipends as per the negotiated agreement:

Melanie Southard – Basketball Chaperone (scoreboard)
Briana Kraml – Basketball Chaperone Substitute (scoreboard)
- 4) Recommend the Board approve a half-day unpaid leave of absence for staff member ID #4813 on November 21, 2025.
- 5) Recommend the Board retroactively approve a paid medical leave of absence for staff member #4033 commencing October 30, 2025 with a tentative end date of January 21, 2026, using accrued sick days, with FMLA running concurrently.
- 6) Recommend the Board approve Eastampton Township resident, Kathryn Pagano, to observe one of our library classes to fulfill a course requirement for her EDmarket Certified Learning Place Specialist certification.
- 7) Recommend the Board accept the retirement of Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent, Valerie Ulyett, effective January 1, 2026.
- 8) Recommend the Board approve a paid medical leave of absence for staff member ID #4047 beginning December 12, 2025 and ending January 9, 2026, using accrued sick days, with FMLA running concurrently. The employee will return to work on January 12, 2026.
- 9) Recommend the Board approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to terminate the employment of staff member ID #4808 effective November 20, 2025.
- 10) Recommend the Board approve the employment of Tiffany Williams as a district recess aide effective November 12, 2025 at an hourly rate of \$15.49.
- 11) Recommend the Board approve the following resolution:

Resolution of the Eastampton Township Board of Education Requiring Employee #4660 to Undergo Examinations

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of the Eastampton School District (hereinafter the “Board”) is statutorily authorized to require employees to undergo examinations when, in the

judgment of the Board, an employee shows evidence of deviation from normal physical and/or mental health; and

WHEREAS, the Board has received and reviewed information from the Superintendent concerning the physical and mental well-being of employee #4660 and has made certain conclusions with respect to same; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education as follows:

1. Employee #4660 is hereby ordered and directed to submit to evaluations to be administered by the physician appointed by the Board of Education, at the Board of Education’s expense, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:16-2.
2. The administration is directed to undertake appropriate action necessary to facilitate scheduling of the aforementioned evaluations/examinations and to receive the reports of the physician providing these evaluations/examinations.
3. Employee #4660 is hereby placed on paid administrative leave, effective November 6, 2025, pending the results of the above examinations.

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President			X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X				
Edward Besko			X				
Edward Hill	X		X				
Walter Maluchnik		X	X				
Stephanie McHugh							X
Jamie Smith			X				

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

12. FINANCE: (Stephanie McHugh, Chairperson)

A. Information Item(s):

- 1) Unofficial & Preliminary Election Results
 - a. Eddie Besko – 2,211
 - b. Kerry Douglas– 1,997
 - c. Personal Choice – 43
- 2) RFP – Legal Services due 11/10/2025 – 2 received
Caphart Scatchard and Parker McCay

B. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the following payrolls:

- a. October 30, 2025 - \$296,032.72
- b. November 14, 2025- \$299,143.41

- 2) Recommend the Board approve the following November invoices for payment: **(25-26-47)**
 - a. Regular Bills: \$384,448.70
- 3) Recommend the Board approve Line Item Transfers dated October 31, 2025. **(25-26-48)**
- 4) Recommend the Board approve the Treasurer’s Report dated August 31, 2025. **(25-26-49)**
- 5) Recommend the Board approve the Board Secretary’s Report dated August 31, 2025. **(25-26-50)**
- 6) Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)4*, we certify that as of August 31, 2025 after review of the Secretary's monthly financial reports (appropriations section) and upon consultation with appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)3* and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. It is also certified that the Board Secretary’s report matches the Treasurer’s Report. *Citations are subject to change due to periodic amendments, new rules, repeals. Figures subject to final audit.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)8*, I certify that as of August 31, 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. *Citations are subject to change due to periodic amendments, new rules, and repeals. Figures subject to final audit.

- 7) Recommend the Board approve the attached Cafeteria expense. **(25-26-51)**
- 8) Recommend the Board approve the attached Student Activity expenses. **(25-26-52)**
- 9) Recommend the Board approve the attached request for professional development. **(25-26-53)**
- 10) Recommend rescinding the Board approval of the following 2025-2026 Out-of-District placements for failure to provide residency documentation:

Placement	Student(s) ID #	Tuition per Student	1:1 Aide	1:1 Nurse (estimated)	OOB Fee
BCSSSD	DA	\$61,959.00	\$50,240.00		

11) Recommend the approve the following 2025-2026 Out-of-District placements:

Placement	Student(s) ID #	Tuition per Student	1:1 Aide	1:1 Nurse (estimated)	OOB Fee
Hampton Academy	MS	\$69,913.80 (prorated over 143 days)	\$41,400.00 (prorated over 143 days)		

12) Recommend the Board accept a donation of the following items from Kathryn Pagano, Regional Sales Manager at Haskell Education:

- Standing Desk
- Echo Table Student Desk
- Disco Stool
- Two chairs

13) Recommend the Board accept the awarded grant funds for the FOCUS Grant in the amount of \$2,410.00

14) Recommend the Board approve the submission of the TPAF FICA Reimbursement to the Department of Education in the amount of \$11,090.18

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President	X		X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X				
Edward Besko		X	X				
Edward Hill			X				
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh							X
Jamie Smith			X				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails						

13. CURRICULUM: (Jamie Smith, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

1) Recommend the Board approve the following field trip(s):

2)

Date	Students	Destination	Time	Chaperones
12/9/25	4 th -8 th Special Education	Lumberton Plaza (Aldi, Five Below, Pretzel Factory)	9:00 am – 12:00 pm	6 Staff / 1 Parent
1/22/26	3 rd -8 th Special Education	O'Sweet Savannah's Medford	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	6 Staff / 1 Parent

4/15/26	Battle of the Books Club 7 th -8 th	William Allen Middle School Moorestown	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	1 Staff
4/15/26	4 th -8 th Special Education	Rancocas Nature Center	9:00 am – 1:00 pm	5 Staff
4/17/26	Battle of the Books Club 5 th -6 th	St. Mary of the Lakes School Medford	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	2 Staff

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President			X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President			X				
Edward Besko			X				
Edward Hill		X	X				
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh							X
Jamie Smith	X		X				

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

14. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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- Mr. Graham asked about the Free & Reduced numbers and the IEP numbers

15. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION 8:17 pm:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Jamie Smith	X	

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

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_____Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

 X Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer. Under certain circumstances, if public disclosure of the matter would have a potentially negative impact on the Board's position in the litigation or negotiation, this information may be withheld until such time that the matter is concluded or the circumstances no longer present a potential impact);

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_____Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eastampton Township Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

16. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION 8:59 pm:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Jamie Smith	X	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails		

17. ADJOURNMENT 9:00 pm:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Edward Hill	X	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails		

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph A. Firetto

Joseph A. Firetto
 School Business Administrator/Board Secretary