

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641
Minutes
December 17, 2025**

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:30 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

All requirements of the Open Public Business Meetings Law have been met for this meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of Haworth. On January 7, 2025 advance written notice was emailed to **The Record and The Ridgewood News**, filed with the Borough Clerk, posted on the school website and forwarded to the Presidents of the Home and School Association and Teachers Association, and all persons requesting such notice.

IV. MISSION STATEMENT

The Haworth Public School District, a safe and nurturing small school environment, in partnership with our community, is dedicated to providing every student with educational excellence through a comprehensive, innovative and rigorous curriculum that fosters productive and responsible life-long learners in a global society. Adopted—May 28, 2013.

V. ROLL CALL:

Mr. Tae Chang
Mr. Charles Crowley
Dr. Danielle Insalaco-Egan
Mr. Drew Krasny
Mrs. Deborah Munoz-Maniscalco
Mrs. Courtney Russell
Mrs. Jennifer Samples
Mr. Paul Wolford, Superintendent
Mr. Kevin Lane, Business Administrator/MS Principal
Mrs. Kristi Giambona, Board Secretary

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - 7:31 p.m.

The Board is interested in hearing your comments. In order to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak, we are asking that you speak once and limit your comments to three minutes. We further ask that all comments be directed to the Board. We recognize that everyone has the freedom to speak but advise you that anything said in public may have legal ramifications. There is no protection regarding statements made by the public. Please state your name, address and group affiliation (if any) before you begin.

VII. CLOSE THE PUBLIC PORTION - 7:31 p.m. NO PUBLIC COMMENT

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S/BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

a. **November Student Shout Outs:**

Kindergarten: Kate Alley, Emma Amato, Alder Bursae, Luna Choi, Marina Agosto, Colin Marschiano, Avery Steiner, Eli Yetinson

Grade 1: Daphne Castellano, Emma Eng, Sophie Esgh, Rahyl Fernando, Olive Goldberg, Zoe Kahana, Remi Napoli, Ben Rapaport

Grade 2: Ms. Olsen's whole class, Claire Bacci, Rosie Jeong, Julianna Mateo, Chase Montgomery, Stella Occhiuzzi, Tobi Okunseinde, Tyler Papadam

Grade 3: Austin Alex, Mackenzie Dodd, Adam Elangbawy, Raoul Fernando, Amelia Fox, Oliver Handman, Harley Harris, Sahana Kancherla, Ryan Kim, Suno Kim, Daniel Lamberta, Matthias Lee, Gianna Mateo, Brody Mills, Bella Reynoso, Eva Samples, Rafael Sruugo

Grade 4: Logan Bacci, Lizzie Baldino, Claire Esposito, Taiyo Hallowell, Dorothy Sippo-shih, William Yanofsky

Grade 5: Jaclyn Adler, Shane Heregthy, Carlo Karalian, Catherine Knaggs, Ellie Lebel, Hunter Lee, Jayden Lee, Skyler Molluzzo, Fletcher Volpi

Staff Shout Out's: Bianca Archetto, Janet Cohen, Erin Ehlers, Alston Homan, Jacyn Honovich, Alicia Kosakowski, Shari Peykar, Michael Rucereto, Camille Taveras, Danielle Villone, Paul Wolford

b. **Confidence Closet Initiative - Mr. Paul Wolford**

P. Wolford - shared that the district has received a Grant from the county to provide a "Confidence Closet" for students in need. He noted that this is the first time the district has received a Grant outside of federal funding. The school was awarded \$1,750.00 to provide personal hygiene items and healthy snacks for those students that would like to partake in the items that are provided in the closet. The closet will be brought to the attention of the students in their health and family life classes.

c. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER RECOGNITION:**

WHEREAS Mrs. Munoz-Maniscalco has served as a member of the Haworth Board of Education since January 4, 2023 and

WHEREAS Mrs. Munoz-Maniscalco's term will conclude from the Haworth Board of Education effective December 31, 2025 and,

WHEREAS Mrs. Munoz-Maniscalco gave 3 years of dedicated and effective service to the community and the children of Haworth and,

WHEREAS during that time, Mrs. Munoz-Maniscalco served as a member of the Curriculum & Instruction Committee, and also served as the liaison to the HHS & the NVRHS/NVEF,

WHEREAS the Haworth Board of Education is desirous of recognizing her years of service to the school district and also wishes to express their appreciation and gratitude for her efforts,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be read into the record of the December 17, 2025 Haworth Board of Education Minutes as permanent testimony to her outstanding service as a member of the Haworth Board of Education.

WHEREAS Mr. Chang has served as a member of the Haworth Board of Education since January 4, 2023 and

WHEREAS Mr. Chang's term will conclude from the Haworth Board of Education effective December 31, 2025 and,

WHEREAS Mr. Chang gave 3 years of dedicated and effective service to the community and the children of Haworth and,

WHEREAS during that time, Mr. Chang served as a member of the Finance & Facilities Committee, and also served as the legislative chairperson & liaison to the Town Council,

WHEREAS the Haworth Board of Education is desirous of recognizing his years of service to the school district and also wishes to express their appreciation and gratitude for his efforts,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be read into the record of the December 17, 2025 Haworth Board of Education Minutes as permanent testimony to his outstanding service as a member of the Haworth Board of Education.

C. Crowley - thanked both outgoing Board members for their outstanding service to the community. He noted that they were both a pleasure to work with and their ideas, perspectives, and contributions to the Board were greatly appreciated. He noted that he is proud to have worked with both of them and that they will be missed.

P. Wolford - thanked both outgoing Board members for all of their support and guidance.

C. Crowley Moved, D. Egan Seconded
All in favor

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

The following resolutions are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be voted on by one vote. Any Board of Education member wishing to remove any items from the consent agenda and request an individual vote may do so.

- a. **Enrollment Report to Date - 530**
- b. **Emergency & Crisis Situations Drill Record: November**
 - Fire Drill: November 24, 2025
 - Security Drill: November 5, 2025
 - Administrator in charge: Mr. Paul Wolford

MINUTES:

- c. Approval of meeting minutes from the November 19, 2025 Regular Business meeting.

SUBMISSIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS:

- d. 2026-2027 ASSA Report
- e. 2025 Audit and Audit Summary
- f. 2026 Governor’s Educator of the Year
- g. Annual Staff Matrix
- h. Mid-year Budget Review

i. HIB Report for November, 2025:

Reported Cases: 0
Number of Cases Open: 0
Number of Cases Closed: 0

D. Egan Moved, D. Krasney Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items IX. a. through i.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Chang	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny	✓			

Mrs. Maniscalco	✓			
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			

X. CURRICULUM

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following field trips. Transportation costs will apply where applicable.

#	DATE	GRADE/ CLUB	LOCATION	COST PER STUDENT	STAFF IN CHARGE
1.	April 9, 2026 <i>Alt. date 4/8/26</i>	Gr. 3	Newark, NJ	\$20.00	L. Carboneri
2.	May 19, 2026	Gr. 4	New York, NY	\$6.00	J. Winik

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the revised 2025-26 12-month Staff Calendar.

J. Samples - asked what the change was to the 12-month calendar?

K. Giambona - responded that since the district calendar was revised to include a school closure in recognition of Passover, the building still needed to be open for the TIP Program students. Therefore, the 12-month calendar was revised to have the custodians work on April 2nd instead of another day that was scheduled for them. This avoided the district having to pay overtime costs.

D. Maniscalco Moved, D. Egan Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items X. a. and b.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Chang	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny	✓			

Mrs. Maniscalco	✓			
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			

XI. PERSONNEL

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Lauren Blitz-Kessler as a substitute teacher for the 2025-26 school year, not benefit eligible.
- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2025 graduate level courses for the following staff members; reimbursement to be paid at the 2025-26 state college or university graduate level course rate, pursuant to Article VII of the Haworth Teachers Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.

#	NAME	COURSE	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
1.	Janet Cohen	ED 5123 Diverse Learners CI 5091 Capstone Experience for Curriculum & Instruction	American College of Education
2.	Elizabeth Rocchio	TL 5091 Capstone Experience for Instructional Coaching and Teacher Leadership	American College of Education
3.	Cristina Martell	PWLC 9139 Advanced Italian Grammar for Education PWLC 9216 Survey of Italian History	University of the Pacific

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) annual membership for Kristi Giambona, at a rate of \$299.00.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the attendance and registration costs, if applicable, for the below indicated professional development and/or training workshops or conferences for the following employees. Travel & accommodation expenditures reimbursed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.

#	NAME	DATE(S)	CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP	LOCATION	REGISTRATION COST
1.	Michael Rucereto	January 8, 2025	NGSS & an Introduction to	Montclair, NJ	\$200.00

			Open Science Education		
2.	Kylie Porcelli	February 4, 2026	Best Practices in Gifted & Talented Education Programming	Monroe, NJ	\$125.00

- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Patricia Alderton, Teacher, effective December 17, 2025.

D. Egan Moved, J. Samples Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XI. a. through e.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Chang	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny	✓			
Mrs. Maniscalco	✓			
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			

XII. FINANCE & FACILITIES

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the bills for the period of November 1, 2025 to November 30, 2025 which has previously been approved by the various committees and payment made through the Valley National Bank from funds in the appropriate accounts as follows:

<u><i>Bills Description</i></u>	<u><i>Dated</i></u>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
---------------------------------	---------------------	----------------------

Payroll - Operating	11/15/2025	\$378,204.63
Board Share - FICA	11/15/2025	\$7,669.18
State Share - FICA	11/15/2025	\$19,581.87
	TOTAL:	\$405,455.68

<u><i>Bills Description</i></u>	<u><i>Dated</i></u>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
Payroll - Operating	11/26/2025	\$341,068.23
Board Share - FICA	11/26/2025	\$4827.27
State Share - FICA	11/26/2025	\$19,208.40
	TOTAL:	\$365,103.90

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bills and Claims for the month of December, 2025.
- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Report of the Board Secretary, Report of the Treasurer, and the Report of Monthly Transfers for the month of October, 2025.

C. Russell Moved, D. Egan Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XII. a. through c.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
-----------------------	------------	-----------	----------------	---------------

Mr. Chang	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny	✓			
Mrs. Maniscalco	✓			
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			

XIII. NEGOTIATIONS

NO RESOLUTIONS

XIV. POLICY

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the first reading of the following new/revised district policies and regulations:

Policy or Regulation	Title	New/Revised /Abolished	Designation	1st Reading	2nd Reading
P 2530	Resource Materials	Revised	Recommended	December 17, 2025	
R 2530	Resource Materials	Revised	Recommended	December 17, 2025	
P 2535	Library Material	New	Mandated	December 17, 2025	
R 2535	Library Material	New	Mandated	December 17, 2025	
P 9130	Public Complaints	Revised	Recommended	December 17, 2025	
R 9130	Public Complaints	Revised	Recommended	December 17, 2025	

P. Wolford - noted that all of these policies and regulations are in response to the Freedom to Read Act.

D. Egan Moved, D. Krasny Seconded

Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XIV. a.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Chang	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny	✓			
Mrs. Maniscalco	✓			
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			

XV. EDUCATION

NO RESOLUTIONS

XVI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Facilities
Curriculum & Instruction
Negotiations
Public Relations
BCSBA/NJSBA
Haworth Home & School Association
Northern Valley Regional High School & NV Educational Foundation
Legislative Chairperson
Senior Citizens Liaison
Town Council Liaison
Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS

XIX. Open to the Public on any item – 7:53 p.m.

The Board is interested in hearing your comments. In order to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak, we are asking that you speak once and limit your comments to three minutes. We further ask that all comments be directed to the Board. We recognize that everyone has the freedom to speak but advise you that anything said in public may have legal ramifications. There is no protection regarding statements made by the public. Please state your name, address and group affiliation (if any) before you begin.

Close the Public portion: 7:53 p.m. - NO PUBLIC COMMENT

XX. MOTION TO ADJOURN

C. Russell Moved, D. Egan Seconded
All in favor

ADJOURNMENT:

Charles Crowley, President
Haworth Board of Education

Kristi Giambona
Board Secretary