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The following items are contained in the December 10, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes:

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6. General Board Discussion
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21. Adjournment

The Regular Meeting of the Margate City Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 P.M. on December 10, 2025 by Board President, Mr. Joseph Pepe, at the Eugene A. Tighe Media Center.

Certification of Notice:

Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary, announced that adequate notice of this meeting had been provided and read the following Certification Notice:

On May 17, 2025 a notice of this meeting was posted on the district website, the bulletin board in the Board of Education Administration Office, the Eugene A. Tighe School, the William H. Ross III School and emailed to the City Clerk and advertised in *The Press*.

Roll Call - Members Present: Mr. Joseph Pepe; Mr. Jack Sorensen; Mrs. Wray-Norris; Mrs. Gomes-Chapman; Mr. Nicholas Palmisano; Mr. Steve Swift
Others Present: Mr. Ryan Gaskill, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; Mrs. Samantha Dulude, Principal; Mrs. Bernadette Marino, Principal; Mr. Eric Goldstein, Solicitor

Public Comment:

A member of the community commented on the Ross School playground Summer exercise program. The member requested the program be relocated.

Fire Drill and Security Drill Report:

Mr. Gaskill distributed the Fire, Security, and Bus Evacuation Drill Reports for Eugene A. Tighe School & William H. Ross School for the month of November 2025 attached as Exhibit # 1, pages 30,817-30,818.

Superintendent's Report & Principals' Updates:

Mr. Ryan Gaskill commented on the numerous holiday season events taking place in the Ross and Tighe Schools. The events are focused on giving and supporting people in need. He thanked the schools for their efforts. He recognized Mrs. Roland and the Singasons group for their performance at the Bloom Pavilion luncheon. He shared details for the upcoming Winter Wonderland event that brings together a number of community partners for a very eventful evening. He commented on the ongoing facilities projects including the chiller and cooling tower replacements at the Ross School. He shared that a flooring project was scheduled to begin at Ross after the holidays. He added that the Board of School Estimates approved the ordinance for a bond sale for the Ross roofing and solar projects and the Tighe PAC lighting upgrades.

Mrs. Marino shared information on current activities at Ross School.
Mrs. Dulude shared information on current activities at Tighe School.

MEF Update:

Ms. Liz Navlen provided a brief recap of the fundraiser since July 2025. She shared that to date the MEF has raised approximately \$30,000. The Ocean City wristband event raised \$2,100. The Boo Fest raised approximately \$7,000, even with a steep decrease in the ticket pricing. Upcoming events include a table at Winter Wonderland, SuperSweepstakes, BINGO night, and the Spring Fling which has been scheduled for Friday, May 2, 2026.

General Board Discussion:

Mr. Pepe thanked the Margate Commissioners for their support all year long.

Personnel Matters:

Motion by Mr. Sorensen, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Personnel matters:

1. Approve the following Stockton University Students to complete the Fieldwork Assignments in the Margate School District:
 - Grace Mozitis-CP1-Introductore Fieldwork with Erin McGuigan 1/26/26-5/8/26
 - Olivia Azulay-CP2-Intermediate Fieldwork with Amy Hughes 1/26/26-5/8/26
 - Olivia Azulay-CP2-Fulltime Student Teaching with Amy Hughes 8/27/26-12/18/26
2. Approve 2 hours of prep time for Anita Grimley to present at the staff PD day (Anxious Generation). Cost: \$56.00 per hour x 2 = \$112.00.
3. Approve a revised medical leave for employee 10903607 starting on August 27, 2025 with a new anticipated return date of January 5, 2026.
4. Approve Wilson Pendleton as a Black Seal Maintenance/Custodial Employee effective January 5, 2026, at a prorated salary of \$48,500, pending successful completion of paperwork and Board sponsored Functional Capacity Examination.
5. Approve Melissa Hudson, LCSW, as a part-time (25 hours per week) long-term maternity leave replacement from approximately February 9, 2026 through June 5, 2026 at a prorated salary of \$48,390 (Step 1, MA) pending completion of paperwork.
6. Approve the Substitute Nurse rate increase to \$200.00 per day.
7. Approve homebound instruction for the 2025/2026 school year on an as needed basis. Staff: Christina Campbell, Natasa Coughlin, Kelly Crawford, Danielle Ujcich. Cost: \$56.00 per hour as per MEA contract.
8. Approve Jaime Collins for the position of Ross Homework Club Advisor for 45 minutes per day on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays. Staff: Lora Blanco, Emily Rubino & Erin Gorman as substitutes. Cost: MEA contractual hourly rate.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Motion by Mr. Sorensen, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Instructional Support Activities request:

1. Approve the Tighe School NJHS weekly after school Bake Sale and Pretzel Sale fundraisers from January 2026-May 2026. Staff: Natasa Coughlin and Jamie Bean.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Facilities/PAC:

Motion by Mr. Sorensen, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Facilities/PAC requests:

1. Approve the Margate Library rental of the PAC on December 31, 2025, for a performance by the Bay Atlantic Symphony. Cost: PAC Rental Fee waived, Consumable Fee \$100.00 Staff: Custodians and Site Supervisor 20 hours = \$1,000.00, Sound and Lighting 16 hours = \$800.00
Total \$1,900.00.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Workshops:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mr. Swift, to approve the following Workshop matters:

1. Approve the attendance of Bonnie Marino at the Revealing Blindspots: Overlooked Strategies to Increase Engagement and Reduce Oppositional Behavior online workshop in December. Cost: \$80.00 registration fee.
2. Approve the attendance of Barbara Farrell at A Teacher's Workshop: Altered Book Making Workshop presented in partnership with The Noyes Museum of Art at Stockton University in March. Cost: Substitute 1 day = \$125.00.
3. Approve the attendance of Lisa Carey at Best Strategies for Strengthening Your PreK-2 Physical Education Program workshop in February. Cost: \$295.00 registration fee + substitute for 1 day at \$125.00. Total Cost: \$445.00.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Contracts:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mr. Swift, to approve the following contracts:

1. Approve the purchase and installation of security cameras, licenses, and NVR upgrades for the Ross and Tighe Schools, through Turnkey Technologies Inc., in the amount of \$86,100.86 (#ESCNJ 22/23-38).
2. Approve the services contract with ACCSES NJ for afternoon/evening janitorial services for the Eugene A. Tighe School from January 5, 2026 through June 30, 2026, in the amount of \$21,341.61 (NJSTART State Contract T-1480/77110).

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mr. Swift, the board unanimously agreed to accept the November 12, 2025 Regular Session Meeting Minutes.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Financial Reports:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mr. Swift to accept the Secretary's Financial Reports for the month of October 2025 as attached to these minutes and certifying that no budgetary account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(a). See Exhibit # 2, pages 30,819 - 30,842. The Secretary's Reports agree with the Report of Receipts and Disbursements.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Board of Education Certification:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano seconded by Mr. Swift, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11, the Margate City Board of Education certifies that as of October 31, 2025 after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Reports (Revenue and Appropriation Sections) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge there have been no changes in anticipated revenue sources and/or amounts and no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)2-3 so that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Report of Receipts and Disbursements:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano seconded by Mr. Swift, to accept the Report of Receipts and Disbursements for the month of October 2025, attached as Exhibit # 3, pages 30,843 – 30,855.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Cash Report:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano seconded by Mr. Swift, to accept the Cash Report for the month of October 2025, attached as Exhibit # 4, page 30,856.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Bills and Payrolls:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano seconded by Mr. Swift, to approve the payment of bills and payrolls, as listed on Exhibit # 5, pages 30,857 - 30,884.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Transfer of Funds:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano seconded by Mr. Swift, to approve the following Transfer of Funds:

Transfer of Funds within the General Current Expense Account

Ratified Budget Transfers for 2025-2026

TO:	11-230-100-101-00-00-025	BASIC SKILLS SALARIES	\$500.00
	11-000-240-800-00-04-025	PRINCIPAL'S DUES	\$300.00
	11-000-223-800-00-00-025	STAFF PROFESSIONAL DUES	\$200.00
	11-000-223-104-00-00	STAFF PD	\$600.00
	11-000-223-800-00-00-010	STAFF PROFESSIONAL DUES	\$150.00
	11-000-223-320-00-00-025	PHYS ED PD	\$650.00
	11-190-100-610-22-04-025	PRESCHOOL SUPPLIES	\$589.30
	11-190-100-640-00-04-025	PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM	\$4,650.00
			\$7,639.30
FROM:	11-230-100-610-00-00	BASIC SKILLS SALARIES	\$500.00
	11-190-100-610-01-04-025	PRINCIPAL'S DUES	\$300.00
	11-190-100-610-01-04-025	STAFF PROFESSIONAL DUES	\$200.00
	11-000-221-105-00-00-025	STAFF PD	\$600.00
	11-000-223-320-00-00-010	STAFF PROFESSIONAL DUES	\$150.00
	11-000-221-105-00-00-025	PHYS ED PD	\$650.00
	11-105-100-610-00-00	PRESCHOOL SUPPLIES	\$589.30
	11-105-100-640-00-00	PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM	\$4,650.00
		TOTAL	\$7,639.30

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

New Business:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following New Business:

- A. Approve and affirm the submission of the Water Infrastructure Improvement Grant application. There is availability of local funds if the estimated costs of the proposed work exceed the grant allowance.
- B. Approve increasing Lunch Aide wages to \$15.92 per hour effective January 1, 2026 to align with New Jersey State Minimum Wage Laws.
- C. Accept and approve the School District Payment schedule by the City of Margate to the Margate City School District for the period of January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026.
- D. Approve the submission of the Bi-annual Statement of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff (SOA) to the County Office as required under state regulation N.J.A.C. 6A:32-4.
- E. BE IT RESOLVED, by the Margate City Board of Education to approve the submission of the Roofing Restoration & Photovoltaic System Replacement at William H Ross III School, and PAC Lighting Upgrades at Eugene A Tighe Middle School, to the New Jersey Department of Education for review and Department approval of a “school facilities project” with debt service aid state funding and amendment of the long-range facilities plan to be consistent with the projects.
Further, the Board authorizes Spiegle Architectural Group Inc, to make the submission to the Department of Education on behalf of the district.
- F. Approve the updated Margate Board of Education 504 Packet.
- G. Approve the first reading of the following policies and regulations to be revised and added:
 - Revisions
 - Policy 2530-Resource Materials
 - Policy 9130-Public Complaints ~~and Grievances~~
 - Regulation 2530-Resource Materials
 - Regulation 9130-Public Complaints ~~and Grievances~~
 - Additions
 - Policy 2535 Library Materials
 - Regulation 2535 Library Materials

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Public Comment:

No members of the community commented.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Mr. Sorensen, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 6:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melina Skwarek
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator