

EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 9, 2025

1. REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT (6:00 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. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION: (6:05 pm)

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

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

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 7:00 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.

6. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: (7:00 pm)

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

7. 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 our climate and culture mission

8. Addition of Hand Carry Vote for #11 in Finance

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is recommended the Board approves the bid proposal for Legal Services from Capehart Scatchard for the 2026 calendar year.

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				
Edward Hill			X				
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh		X	X				
Jamie Smith			X				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails						

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (25-26-54)

November 11, 2025 (Regular and Executive Sessions)

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			
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					

10. PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Student Recognitions – Mrs. Kane, Superintendent/Principal
- B. Kindergarten – Jaxon Lease
- C. 1st Grade – Cooper Lebak
- D. 2nd Grade – Aria Freeman
- E. 3rd Grade – Blake Hilton
- F. 4th Grade – Jayda Rech
- G. 5th Grade – Brynlee Gergich
- H. 6th Grade – Aubrey Asberry
- I. 7th Grade – Mackenzie Spector
- J. 8th Grade – Noah Shannon

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

A. Information Item(s):

- 1) Department Reports
- 2) HIB Report dated December 3, 2025 (25-26-55)
- 3) Liaison Reports
 - The property next to the police station si in the process of being sold

4) Mid Year Budget Review – December 10, 2025 (documentation submitted on 10.3.25)

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				
Edward Hill			X				
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh			X				
Jamie Smith		X	X				

Motion Carries
 Motion Fails

12. PERSONNEL: (Edward Hill, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board retroactively approve the employment of William Buffa as Interim Facilities Manager with a start date of December 1, 2025 and an end date of December 23, 2025. Mr. Buffa will work three days per week (not to exceed 24 hours per week) at an hourly rate of \$75.
- 2) Recommend the Board approve a twelve-month pro-rated contract for SY 2025-2026 for Brandon Aaronson as Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent, at an annual salary of \$70,500 (pro-rated from January 5, 2026 through June 30, 2026), effective January 5, 2026, pending completion of paperwork.
- 3) Recommend the Board approve teacher, Jordan Pintinalli, to serve on the School Culture and Climate Team, as well as the district SCIP Team, for the 2025-2026 school year.
- 4) Recommend the Board approve the following candidates as district substitute teachers effective December 10, 2025, pending completion of paperwork.

Elissa Kirtley
 Angelina Colgan

- 5) Recommend the Board approve Stockton University student, Riley Forsyth, to observe Staci Lipenta, Speech Pathologist, for a total of 15 hours over the period of December 10, 2025 to January 19, 2026. There will be no cost to the district.
- 6) Recommend the Board retroactively approve Morgan Whitley as a long term substitute teacher from December 2, 2025 through January 30, 2026 with a daily compensation rate of \$150.
- 7) Recommend the Board retroactively approve Kathryn Oppermann as a long term substitute teacher from November 17, 2025 with an end date to be determined at a daily compensation rate of \$150.
- 8) Recommend the Board retroactively approve Jessica Masella as a long term substitute teacher from December 8, 2025 through January 16, 2026 at a daily compensation rate of \$150.

- 9) Recommend the Board approve a request from staff member #4402 to extend the previously approved leave of absence through January 30, 2026, with a return to work date of February 2, 2026.

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				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails						

13. FINANCE: (Stephanie McHugh, Chairperson)

A. Information Item(s):

- 1) Audit completed. Will be presented at January Reorganization meeting.
- 2) State Aid testing has begun for the 2025-2026 Audit.
- 3) Budget process has officially begun for the 2026-2027 school year.

B. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the following payroll:
 - a. November 30, 2025 - \$292,959.07
- 2) Recommend the Board approve the following revised November invoices for payment: **(25-26-56)**
 - a. Regular Bills - \$37,945.85
- 3) Recommend the Board approve the following December invoices for payment: **(25-26-57)**
 - a. Regular Bills - \$408,995.15
- 4) Recommend the Board approve Line Item Transfers dated November 30, 2025. **(25-26-58)**
- 5) Recommend the Board approve the attached Student Activity expenses. **(25-26-59)**
- 6) Recommend the Board approve the attached request for professional development. **(25-26-60)**

- 7) Recommend the Board approve the addendum to adjust the pay rate with ESS Support Services LLC for the 2025-2026 school year to provide staffing to fill positions at the request of the district. **(25-26-61)**
- 8) Recommend the Board approve the Treasurer of School Monies Services Agreement with Jodi Lennon, for the remainder of the 25-26 school year, at the prorated amount of \$4,500.00.
- 9) Recommend the Board retroactively approve the following appointment from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026:

Personnel:

- Joseph Firetto as Qualified Purchasing Agent

10) Recommend the Board approve the following 2025-2026 McKinney-Vento placements:

Placement	Student(s) ID #	Tuition per Student	1:1 Aide	1:1 Nurse (estimated)	OOC Fee
City of Burlington	JK	\$13,121.64 - \$103.32 per diem (prorated for 1/3/26 to 6/24/26 – 127 days)			
City of Burlington	AK	\$13,121.64 - \$103.32 per diem (prorated for 1/3/26 to 6/24/26 – 127 days)			
City of Burlington	ND	\$13,121.64 - \$103.32 per diem (prorated for 1/3/26 to 6/24/26 – 127 days)			
City of Burlington	DK	\$13,883.64 - \$109.32 per diem (prorated for 1/3/26 to 6/24/26- 127 days)			

- 11) Recommend the Board approve the bid proposal for Legal Services from Capehart Scatchard for the 2026 calendar year.

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 1 TO 10			X - 11	
Edward Besko		X	X				
Edward Hill			X				
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh	X		X				
Jamie Smith			X				

- Motion Carries
 Motion Fails

14. CURRICULUM: (Jamie Smith, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

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

Date	Students	Destination	Time	Chaperones
2/23/26	8 th Grade Band	RVRHS Side-by-Side Band Day	8:45 am – 1:30 pm	1 staff
6/4/26	5 th Grade Band	RVRHS South Jersey Elementary Band Festival	8:45 am – 1:30 pm	1 staff / 4 parents
5/28/26	3 rd Grade	Camden Adventure Aquarium	9:00 am – 2:15 pm	7 staff / 45 parents

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

15. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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.

- Mrs. Harris has an issue with a bus, Mrs. Kane let her know it would be investigated
- Mr. Graham asked if there was a policy to review books distributed by the district. Mrs. Kane replied it is done by virtual tags for the district

16. ADJOURNMENT: (7:40 pm)

	Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
	Kerry Douglas	Walter Maluchnik	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