

NORTH ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
NORTH ARLINGTON, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC WORK SESSION
December 15, 2025

5:41 p.m.

Board of Education Office

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Dr. Hughes	Present
Mr. McDermott	Present
Mrs. Higgins	Present – 5:57 p.m.
Mr. Smith	Absent
Mr. Dorsett	Present
Student Board Member	Present

III. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

IV. STATEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

This Public Meeting of December 15, 2025, of the Board of Education of the Borough of North Arlington, in the County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, is called pursuant to a schedule of meetings adopted on January 6, 2025, as amended, and of notice given to the Clerk of the Borough of North Arlington and to the Librarian of the Free Public Library of North Arlington for posting therein as election notices are posted and of notice given to the Editor of the following newspapers: the Bergen RECORD of Hackensack and the Newark Star Ledger.

1. The student board member inquired about having the away and home game sign back in the gym. The Superintendent said that they haven’t put them back up yet since the gym was painted and that he would speak to the Athletic Director about putting them back up. The student board member also inquired about having dance bars put up in the dance room on the 3rd floor of the high school. She said that students said that they would like the room to be more of a dance room. The Superintendent stated that he would discuss it with the principal and supervisor of buildings and grounds. The Board discussed portable bars as a possibility. The Superintendent said that he would look into those as well.
2. The Superintendent discussed the breakdown of costs involved with ads and the overall cost of the yearbook. He stated that after speaking with our rep from Herf Jones that he is understanding and comfortable with the amount being charged per book.
3. The Superintendent discussed prom dues and that the high school administration would consider using another program to record dues and issue receipts. The School Business Administrator explained why PaySchools would not work for school dues and further stated that we are looking into a program called Account Tree for student dues.
4. Mr. Dorsett inquired about lunch debt in the district. The Superintendent and School Business Administrator explained that letters are being sent monthly that explain the penalties associated with not updating the lunch accounts.
5. The Superintendent discussed a proposal regarding an afterschool craft program at Susan B. Anthony Elementary School. The Board discussed the program and supported the initiative. The Superintendent asked the Board to update the existing policy on the topic and that he would send them the current language. The Board agreed.
6. The Superintendent stated that our athletic director was contacted approached by Harrison’s Athletic Director to discuss a potential co-op with our football program. It would still be considered North Arlington football. We would just be co-oping and welcoming players from Harrison. All were in favor of the merge, if allowed by the NJIC.

Mrs. Higgins entered the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

The Superintendent updated Mrs. Higgins on the prior discussions that occurred before her entry to the meeting.

7. The Superintendent explained the revamping of our EIS program that will now run from January through May. He also explained the estimated hours for staff.
8. Mr. Dorsett inquired if the football coach vacancy has been posted. The Superintendent said that it has been posted and that we had applicants. The high school administration was still completing the first or second round of interviews.
9. The Superintendent and Board discussed office space for the residency officers. The Superintendent stated that he would discuss this matter with the Supervisor of Guidance.
10. The Board asked to have a 12-month secretarial position budgeted for 26/27. This person would handle district-wide registration and residency concerns.

Motion to move to Executive Session at 6:12 p.m. made by Mr. McDermott, second by Mrs. Higgins. There was no discussion. On Roll Call all Board members present voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, it was so ordered.

Respectfully,

Samantha Dembowski
SD:at