

STAFFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Manahawkin, NJ 08050

PUBLIC AGENDA

BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: Stafford Township Arts Center (STAC)

DATE: January 22, 2026

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Stafford Township Board of Education is called to order in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act Law - 1975 Chapter 231 (P.L. 1975-231C). This meeting was advertised on TAPinto. Notice has been posted in the office of the Stafford Township Clerk, all school buildings and on the district website. A mechanical device is being used to video record this meeting.

ROLL CALL

Brian Fenlon	Member
Gregory Gioe	Member
Keith Mollema	Member
Matthew Regulski	Member
Christopher Smith	Member
Bonnie Strouse	Member
Joseph Washco	Member
Kevin Cooney	Vice President
Tammy Wagner	President

ALSO PRESENT

George J. Chidiac	Superintendent
Lourdes LaGuardia	Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary
Martin J. Buckley, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney

FLAG SALUTE

A. RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

~SSDS Presentation (July 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025) –
Richard Meyer and Kristin Ducker

~School Board Recognition

B. SUPERINTENDENT'S EDUCATIONAL REPORT - Attachment**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

*NOTE: If a board member was absent (listed below), they are to abstain from the vote on that item/meeting.

To approve the minutes of the following meeting(s):

1. December 8, 2025 Committee of the Whole – 1 Absence (C. Smith)
2. December 8, 2025 Business Meeting – 1 Absence (C. Smith)
3. December 8, 2025 Closed Session – 1 Absence (C. Smith)

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

D. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

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While public education can be an emotional issue, the school board strives to maintain a certain level of decorum at its meeting. As such, all persons speaking during the public comment period should maintain a tone of respect and civility. Courteous behavior is extremely important by all members and attendees.

To allow all speakers to address their comments to the board, it may be necessary for the board and/or administration to hold any responses until after the conclusion of the public comment period; rather than respond to individual speakers. The board cannot recognize proxies, nor will the board tolerate persons that call out, shout down or disrupt others in attendance during public comment; any person who cannot abide by this will be asked to leave.

The Stafford Township Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest, especially when it is intended to assist the Board of Education.

Please feel free to speak to the Board during the public session. Pursuant to Board Policy 0167, comments and discussion will be limited to one three (3) minute period per individual unless requested by the chairperson to continue on a point of clarification.

Public comment at special meetings of the Board shall be related to the call of the meeting. In accordance with the Board of Education Policy, each participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address and group affiliation, if applicable.

Your anticipated courtesy to the members of the public and the Board is appreciated.

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E. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD

F. BOARD BUSINESS

1. There was one incident of harassment, intimidation, and bullying.
2. To affirm the determination of the Superintendent regarding harassment, intimidation, and bullying incident investigation – Intermediate #2.
3. To approve the following Resolution to cite School Board Recognition Month.

Resolution: Stafford Township Board of Education

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2026 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time when all residents can acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Stafford Township Board of Education is one of 581 local school boards in New Jersey, which sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Stafford Township Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine the educational goals for approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 5,000 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in key achievement indicators such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, and the preparation for college through advanced placement offerings and SAT assessments; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Stafford Township Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2026 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Stafford Township Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the advancement of our children's education.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

NEW BUSINESS

G. FINANCE/INSURANCE/TRANSPORTATION

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent, school business administrator/board secretary and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached bill list and are satisfied that curriculum related expenditures are directly related to the results of assessment data and that professional development expenditures are directly related to professional development plans.

Board Secretary's Certification:

I, Lourdes LaGuardia, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that no line item has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-A-16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Date

1. To approve for payment of January 2026 bills list totaling \$1,746,378.86 as attached. (G-1)

Fund 10 - \$1,177,893.12
Fund 20 - \$204,880.18
Fund 30 - \$254,063.71
Fund 40 - \$101,525.00
Fund 60 - \$0
Fund 61 - \$1,456.20
Fund 62 - \$6,560.65

*Note - \$903,814.18 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1a)

*To approve for payment of December 2025 additional bills list totaling \$603,616.69 as attached. (G-1b)

Fund 10 - \$350,427.65
Fund 20 - \$77,157.00
Fund 30 - \$737.68
Fund 40 - \$0

Fund 60 - \$162,683.14 (Refund 60/62 \$121.40)
Fund 61 - \$1,322.37
Fund 62 - \$11,288.85

*Note - \$1,322.37 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1c)

*To approve for payment of November 2025 additional bills list totaling \$728,690.13 as attached. (G-1d)

Fund 10 - \$650.00
Fund 20 - \$36,157.00
Fund 30 - \$0
Fund 40 - \$0
Fund 60 - \$24.20 (Refund 60/62 \$24.20)
Fund 61 - \$591,858.93
Fund 62 - \$100,000.00

*Note - \$728,665.93 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1e)

2. To approve for payment of payroll
 - a. dated December 15, 2025 totaling \$1,636,505.48
 - b. dated December 23, 2025 totaling \$1,668,133.91
3. To accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2025.
4. To accept the Secretary's Report for the month of November 2025.
5. To approve the attached line item transfers for November 2025.
6. To authorize the Business Administrator to make payment of post-Board meeting bills for the month of January 2026 and to execute mid-cycle contracts such as utilities and out-of-district contracts. Specifics of these transactions, if any, will be provided for ratification at the next regular scheduled board meeting.
7. To approve the attached list of donations.
8. To authorize the Business Administrator to transfer \$200,000 from the NJ Unemployment Fund to the General Fund.
9. To authorize the Business Administrator to transfer \$400,000 from the STAC Enterprise Fund to the General Fund.

10. To approve Leonard Evaluations as a consultant to the Child Study Team for 2025-2026 school year, commencing January 1, 2026. This consultant provides psychological and educational evaluations as per the attached fee sheet.
11. To approve the Center for Emotional Fitness as a consultant to the Child Study Team for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing January 1, 2026. This consultant provides psychiatric evaluations as per the attached fee sheet.
12. To approve Foundations Behavioral Health to provide 10 hours of academic tutoring per week at a rate of \$56 per hour of instruction to student #22509 while in the hospital for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing December 4, 2025 and ending December 23, 2025.
13. To approve student #24190 to receive home instruction for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing December 1, 2025 to December 7, 2025. This student will receive ten hours of home instruction per week at the rate of \$51.44 per hour.
14. BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford Township Board of Education to accept and approve the bid proposal from G.B.I. Inc T/A Thermal Piping of Wrightstown, NJ in the total amount not to exceed \$3,253,000 for the Base Bid, which includes Allowance AL-1: \$150,000 and Alternate Bid AB-1 in the total amount not to exceed \$110,000 for the HVAC Upgrades at Multiple Schools. This was one of seven bids received and was selected based on the lowest bid amount. Attached is the Bid Tabulation. This project is part of the Referendum Projects. This resolution has been REVISED to reflect a correction to the final bid amount of \$3,253,000, which includes the Base Bid, Allowance and Alternate Bid. This supersedes the resolution previously approved on November 17, 2025.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

H. BUILDINGS/GROUNDS/CAFETERIA

The Buildings/Grounds/Cafeteria Committee has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the school business administrator/board secretary and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals.

NO ACTION ITEMS

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

I. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION/TECHNOLOGY

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached professional development request list and are satisfied that each professional development event is directly related to the employee's duties, each event is fiscally prudent (consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12), that teaching staff requests are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, and that administrator requests are aligned to the Professional Standards for School Leaders.

1. To approve the professional development requests shown on the attached listing.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

J. PERSONNEL

The following Personnel items were discussed:

Chairperson of the Personnel Committee – Tammy Wagner

Report: The superintendent recommends the board approve/ratify the appointment of the following named individuals who constitute a careful selection and screening of applicants, in accordance with the board/district hiring policies/procedures, and are hereby recommended for an employment contract contingent upon the successful completion of their accredited degree program, New Jersey Department of Education certification requirements, Federal NCLB Highly qualified Teacher requirements, a criminal history clearance and the successful completion of a medical examination as required by the board of education. These initial assignments/appointments may be changed as district needs develop unless otherwise stipulated. The Personnel/Policy Committee has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals.

1. To approve the attached list of substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year.
2. To approve the change of assignment for the attached list of personnel for the 2025-2026 school year.
3. To approve the transfers for the attached list of personnel for the 2025-2026 school year.
4. To approve the following retirements:
 - a. Tracy Sinatra, Teacher, effective March 1, 2026
 - b. Dorine Thompson, Teacher Aide, effective July 1, 2026
 - c. Maureen Coppola, Teacher Aide, effective April 1, 2026
5. To approve the following resignations:
 - a. Patricia Cirone, Teacher Aide, effective December 23, 2025
 - b. Crystal Leone, Teacher Aide, effective January 1, 2026
 - c. Cody Toro, Teacher Aide, effective January 16, 2026
6. To approve the following leaves:
 - a. Employee ID #5825, unpaid leave of absence, beginning January 5, 2026 and returning March 26, 2026
 - b. Employee ID #6981, unpaid leave of absence, beginning January 16, 2026 and returning January 26, 2026
 - c. Employee ID #4459, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning January 5, 2026 and returning January 20, 2026

- d. Employee ID #6608, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning December 15, 2025 and returning January 28, 2026
 - e. Employee ID #6237, unpaid intermittent family leave FMLA, beginning January 27, 2026 and returning July 1, 2026
7. To approve the revised job titles for the following attached job descriptions:
 - a. A-20 Director of Technology
 - b. A-22 Transportation Supervisor
 - c. A-23 Assistant Transportation Supervisor
 8. To approve to rescind the offer of employment for Logan Adams for the 2025-2026 school year.
 9. To approve to rescind the employment contract for Ellen Walsh, effective January 1, 2026
 10. To approve the removal of the BA stipend for Kittrina Roberts, Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, beginning January 1, 2026.
 11. To approve Christopher DiMicco to receive MA+15 graduate credit stipend per the STAA contract, beginning September 1, 2026.
 12. To approve Denice de la Cruz Chuzeville to receive 60 college credit stipend as per the STEA contract, beginning September 1, 2026.
 13. To approve the attached addendum to the Affiliation Agreement with Stockton University.
 14. To approve the additional staff as Mentors for Novice Teachers for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - a. Michele Kelly
 - b. Alicia Segalla
 - c. Amber Myhre
 15. To approve the attached list of student fieldwork placements for the 2025-2026 school year.
 16. To approve the below as Homebound Instruction Teachers for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - a. John Davellis
 17. To approve Kathryn Archer as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, ERI Class, Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 6, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.

18. To approve Adreiana Cocciolillo as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Intermediate School, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 1, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
19. To approve Alexandra Chorman as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Intermediate School, beginning January 16, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 2, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
20. To approve Lee Ann Holmberg as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Intermediate School, beginning February 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 11, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
21. To approve Ying Wang as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Intermediate School, beginning February 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 2, +BA, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
22. To approve Pam Nicholais as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Intermediate School, beginning February 16, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 2, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
23. To approve Jennifer Rivera as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, PSD Class, Oxycocus Elementary School, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 1, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
24. To approve Cherie Keene as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, PSD Class, Oxycocus Elementary School, beginning January 16, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 4, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
25. To approve Kelly Van Dyk as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, PSD Class, Oxycocus Elementary School, beginning January 16, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 2, +BA, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
26. To approve Ashleigh Maul as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, ERI Class, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning January 16, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 1, +60 college credits, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.

27. To approve Michelle Sutter as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, Reg Ed, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning January 16, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 1, +AA, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.

28. To approve Jaclyn Accatatta as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, McKinley Avenue Elementary School, beginning January 16, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 1, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.

Employee appointments are provisional pending satisfactory completion of the Criminal History Background Check, Pre-employment P.L. 2018,C.5 Disclosure and Physical Exam Requirements required by the State of New Jersey.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

K. POLICY/LEGISLATIVE

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following policies and regulations, has consulted with the board attorney and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certify, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1, that the attached policies and regulations are in compliance with all applicable statutes and administrative code provisions and are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals.

1. To approve the **first reading** of following **new** policies and regulations:

- 1552 Sexual Harassment – Staff (M)
- 2535 Library Material (M)
- R1552 Sexual Harassment – Staff (M)
- R2535 Library Material (M)

2. To approve the **first reading** of following **revised** policies and regulations:

- 0142.1 Nepotism (M)
- 1220 Employment of Chief School Administrator (M)
- 2530 Resource Materials
- 5511 Dress and Grooming
- 9130 Public Complaints
- R2530 Resource Materials
- R9130 Public Complaints

3. To approve to **rescind** the following policies and regulations:

- 3362 Sexual Harassment
- 4352 Sexual Harassment
- R3362 Sexual Harassment of Teaching Staff Members Complaint Procedure
- R4352 Sexual Harassment of Support Staff Members Complaint Procedure

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

L. ADVANCED PLANNING

M. PUBLIC COMMENT

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N. BOARD INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

O. CLOSED SESSION (IF NEEDED)

Whereas Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

Whereas, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Stafford Township Board of Education, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action of the hereinafter specified subject matters.

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated subject matters shall be made public at such time as the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exists.

ADJOURNMENT

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				