

BUSINESS MEETING

December 8, 2025

The Business Meeting of the Stafford Township Board of Education was held on December 8, 2025 at 7:07pm at the Oxycocus Elementary School and was live streamed over the web.

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 in the Atlantic City Press. 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
Matthew Regulski	Member
Christopher Smith	Member (Absent)
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

~Ocean Acres Student and Staff Recognition

- Mrs. D'Alessandro recognized two students; the first student has done a wonderful job in positive changes, showing patience and building friendships and the second student has demonstrated remarkable growth and resilience, embracing challenges with determination and making academic progress.
- Mrs. D'Alessandro recognized the incredible success of the Ocean Acres Dog Therapy Program. What began as a hopeful initiative has blossomed into a heartwarming cornerstone of student life for the students. With wagging tails and gentle companionship, the therapy dogs have brought comfort, joy and calm to classrooms and hallways. Many thanks to the handlers and the four-legged friends: Lisa Toci and Lucca, Ashley VanDeMark and Maddie; and a

big thank you for Christopher Coughlin who helps to assist with the four-legged friends for breaks and exercise.

- Mrs. D'Alessandro recognized the main office secretary, Debra Colecchia for her dedication that has shone as a beacon of strength and reliability for the Ocean Acres staff.

~Intermediate Student and Staff Recognition

- Mrs. Zaun and Mrs. Ducker thanked Justine LaBatch and her therapy dog, Angel, for coming to Intermediate.
- Mrs. Zaun and Mrs. Ducker recognized the students that took part in the E-sports Rocket League Team and congratulated them on their fall championship and placing fourth in the middle school division out of state. Staff members, Jeannine Golderer and Shannon Mastrogiovanni were recognized for heading up this team.

~Recognition of the outgoing board member

- Mr. Chidiac acknowledged Mr. Rob Morello (not present) for his time as a board member and the impact he made in the community of schools.

A few minutes break was taken.

B. SUPERINTENDENT'S EDUCATIONAL REPORT - Attachment

Mr. Chidiac gave an update on the district events:

STAC Events

Please go to our website www.stacnj.com for tickets

The American Ride – December 13, 2025 @ 7:30pm

A Legendary New Year's Eve – December 31, 2025 @ 8:00pm

Max's Magic Show – January 24, 2026 @ 7:00pm

Oxycocus - November was a busy month at the Oxycocus Elementary School, there was plenty of fun and a lot of learning in a short amount of time. Students learned about the change of seasons, the fall and Thanksgiving themed lessons.

PLC - After November break we honored the military. The staff and students wore red, white and blue and completed lessons that focused on the importance of our military branches and services. Thank you to our veterans, fellow heroes and our current military men and women. World Kindness Day is a global day that promotes the importance of being kind to each other, to yourself, and to the world. The PLC celebrated this important day by sharing activities/stories school wide on November 13th.

Ocean Acres – Parent/Teacher conferences were held, giving the staff time to meet with parents/guardians to discuss the students' progress. Classes throughout the building celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday by spending time reflecting on the things they are thankful for at school and at home. The month came to an end with classes making floats for a virtual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade that were showcased on the latest edition of the Ocean Acres News Network!

McKinley – The week of Thanksgiving, our “connector” classrooms participated in Friendsgiving, gathering in the common hallway and sharing lunch together. They exhibited what being a friend is all about! Other classes in the building participated in “Balloons Over Broadway”, recreating the original Macy's Day Thanksgiving Day Parade by drawing pictures of the live animals in the parade and then affixing their drawing to a balloon and marching through the hallways. When asked what animal was on their balloon, students were able to tell facts about their animal.

Intermediate – The Intermediate School was excited to welcome parents into the building for Parent Teacher conferences this month. This season is filled with meaningful events that strengthen our school community, including our annual Thanksgiving activities, food drive and our heartfelt Veterans Day assembly honoring those who have served. Students also look forward to our therapy dog visits, which bring comfort, joy, and emotional support to their school day. Together, these experiences help create a supportive and connected atmosphere where every child feels valued.

Mr. Chidiac also announced the Educators of the Year and Support Staff Members Educational Service Professional and noted that they will be officially honored and recognized at the May board meeting. Congratulations to the following by building:

Oxycocus Educator of the Year: Stephanie Woram
Support Staff of the Year: Mary Curtin

PLC Educator of the Year: Karen Wilson
Support Staff of the Year: Katherine Barone

Ocean Acres Educator of the Year: Shannon Pandolfo
Support Staff of the Year: Arielle Harrold

McKinley Educator of the Year: Suzanne Willadsen
Support Staff of the Year: Annette Bowers

Intermediate Educator of the Year: Shannon Mastrogiovanni
Support Staff of the Year: Christina Villani

Educational Services Professional of the Year: Kelsey Molzon

Transportation Support Staff of the Year: Michele Exel

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. November 17, 2025 Committee of the Whole – 2 Absences (K. Cooney, C. Smith)
2. November 17, 2025 Business Meeting – 2 Absences (K. Cooney, C. Smith)
3. November 17, 2025 Closed Session – 2 Absences (K. Cooney, C. Smith)

A motion was made by Dr. Regulski and seconded by Mr. Gioe to approve Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) #1-3. Roll call vote: six (6) members present voted yes; motion passed. Mr. Cooney abstained on items #1-3.

D. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

E. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD

None

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 – McKinley #1
3. To accept and appoint _____ as a member of the Stafford Township Board of Education until December 31, 2026. This candidate will fill the vacant seat until December 2026, at which time the elected members will be sworn in at Reorganization. (Vacant seat of Robert Morello)
4. BE IT RESOLVED by the Stafford Township Board of Education to approve the following Proclamation that publicly acknowledges the dedication with which Robert Morello served as a Board of Education Member from October 2023 to November 2025.

WHEREAS, Robert Morello did faithfully and conscientiously serve the Stafford Township School District as a member of the Stafford Township Board of Education representing Stafford Township; and

WHEREAS, Robert Morello has served as a member of the Board of Education from October, 2023 to November, 2025 and;

WHEREAS, Robert Morello has performed his duties as a member of the Board of Education in the best interest of the students and citizens of the Stafford Township School District; and

WHEREAS, as a result of his dedication as a member of the Board of Education, Robert Morello has earned the highest respect and deepest appreciation of the Stafford Township School District; its students and community and administration,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

- 1. The Stafford Township School District publicly acknowledges the dedication with which Robert Morello did faithfully and conscientiously perform his duties as a member of the Board of Education. The Board of Education wishes to commend and thank Robert Morello for his years of dedicated service to the school district, its pupils and staff extends these sincere best wishes in his future endeavors.*
- 2. That the resolution shall become a permanent part of the minutes of the Stafford Township School District Board of Education of Ocean County.*
- 3. That the Board Secretary be directed to cause a copy of this resolution to be appropriately reproduced and delivered to Robert Morello dated this 8th day of December 2025.*
5. To approve the following revised Annual Administrative Appointments as required by statute within employee contractual responsibilities:
 - a. To appoint Carolyn Roselli as the 504 Officer for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing January 1, 2026
 - b. To appoint Megan Banach as the I&RS Coordinator for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing January 1, 2026
 - c. To appoint Carolyn Roselli as SEMI Coordinator for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing January 1, 2026
 - d. To appoint Richard Meyer as Child Nutrition/Wellness Coordinator for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing January 1, 2026
 - e. To appoint Carolyn Roselli as Compliance Officer/Committee Coordinator under P.L. 94-142 Sec. 504 NJ Rehabilitation Act 1973 for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing January 1, 2026
6. To approve the following changes for the Board of Education meetings:
 - a. Reschedule the Reorganization Meeting from January 5, 2026 at 6:00pm to January 7, 2026 at 5:30pm at Oxycocus School.

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mr. Gioe to approve Board Business item(s) #1-2. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

Mrs. Wagner read item #3 pertaining to the Board of Education Vacant Seat and noted that three candidates were interviewed. Each board member gave a statement in support of Mr. Keith Mollema. Mrs. Wagner thanked all candidates and then said that Mr. Mollema is an excellent fit.

A motion was made by Mr. Fenlon and seconded by Mr. Cooney to approve Board Business item #3. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

A motion was made by Dr. Regulski and seconded by Mr. Fenlon to approve Board Business item(s) #4-6. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

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 December 2025 bills list totaling \$1,329,925.64 as attached. (G-1)

Fund 10 - \$834,258.49

Fund 20 - \$242,909.37

Fund 30 - \$244,207.13

Fund 40 - \$0.00
Fund 60 - \$113.00
Fund 61 - \$0.00
Fund 62 - \$8,437.65

*Note - \$663,649.75 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1a)

*To approve for payment of November 2025 additional bills list totaling \$97,510.35 as attached. (G-1b)

Fund 10 - \$63,933.53
Fund 20 - \$32,023.83
Fund 30 - \$0.00
Fund 40 - \$0.00
Fund 60 - \$0.00
Fund 61 - \$1,224.45
Fund 62 - \$328.54

*Note - \$2,818.77 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1c)

*To approve for payment of October 2025 additional bills list totaling \$234.36 as attached. (G-1d)

Fund 10 - \$0.00
Fund 20 - \$0.00
Fund 30 - \$0.00
Fund 40 - \$0.00
Fund 60 - \$0.00
Fund 61 - \$0.00
Fund 62 - \$234.36

*Note - \$0.00 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1e)

2. To approve for payment of payroll
 - a. dated November 15, 2025 totaling \$1,688,342.00.
 - b. dated November 30, 2025 totaling \$1,609,907.68.
3. To accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2025.
4. To accept the Secretary's Report for the month of October 2025.
5. To approve the attached line item transfers for October 2025.

6. To authorize the Business Administrator to make payment of post-Board meeting bills for the month of December 2025 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 approve student #24139 to receive home instruction for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing December 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025. This student will receive 10 hours of home instruction per week at the rate of \$51.44 per hour.
9. To approve student #22666 to receive home instruction for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing November 2, 2025 and ending January 1, 2026. This student will receive 5 hours of home instruction per week at the rate of \$51.44 per hour.
10. To approve the attached contract for Brett DiNovi for Behavioral Assessments for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing November 1, 2025. Clinical Associates at a rate of 57.50/hr, Behavioral Support at a rate of \$75.00/hr, Behavior Consultants at a rate of \$135.00/hr and Functional Behavioral Assessments at a rate of \$135/hr. with one one-year renewal options. (Year 2 of 3)
11. To approve a contract with Graham Behavior Services to perform an Independent Speech Evaluation for student #24840 in the amount of \$600 to include the speech evaluation, record review and a written report for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing November 13, 2025.
12. To approve an agreement with One Step Forward to provide private ABA therapy services within the school setting to student #25739 for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing November 20, 2025. There is no cost associated with this service, the provider has been retained by the parent/guardian.
13. To approve the revised resolution to accept the revised tuition contract with Y.A.L.E. School East, Inc. for student #25649 due to a delayed start date for the 2025-2026 school year, commencing September 11, 2025. Tuition is \$75,734.76 and related services is \$53,985. Stafford Township is responsible for the education of this student.
14. To the submission of the Kids Gardening Grant in the amount of \$866 to create a Little Bears Garden at the Primary Learning Center commencing February 1, 2026 and ending November 23, 2026.
15. To approve to accept two grant awards from Hackensack Meridian Health "Mini Wellness Grant" in the amount of \$1500 each for the 2025-2026 school year. The funds will be used for the Fitness Center Initiative at Intermediate School and for the Wellness Cart Initiative at Ocean Acres School.

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Dr. Regulski to approve Finance/Insurance/Transportation item(s) #1-15. Roll call vote item #1: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed. Roll call vote item #2: six (6) members present voted yes; motion passed. Mr. Gioe abstained on item #2. Roll call vote items #3-15: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

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

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.

A motion was made by Mr. Fenlon and seconded by Mr. Gioe to approve Curriculum/Instruction/Technology item(s) #1. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

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 retirement:
 - a. Eugene Mitrano, Custodian, effective January 1, 2026
5. To approve the following leaves:
 - a. Employee ID #6110, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning September 1, 2026 and returning November 30, 2026
 - b. Employee ID #6266, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning February 10, 2026 and returning May 11, 2026
 - c. Employee ID #5623, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning February 23, 2026 and returning May 4, 2026
6. To approve the teachers below as Homebound Instruction Teachers for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - a. Jullian Frangipani
 - b. Amy D'Agostino
7. To approve the rescind the employment contract for Amanda Hafner, effective December 1, 2025.
8. To approve the attached list of student fieldwork placements for the 2025-2026 school year.
9. To approve the attached addendum to the Affiliation Agreement with Stockton University.
10. To approve Anna Panacek to receive MA+15 graduate credit stipend beginning September 1, 2026.
11. To approve Natalie Albis as Elementary School Teacher, PENDING CERTIFICATION, Grade 6, Intermediate School, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step A, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of

Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenured track leave replacement position.

12. To approve Logan Adams as Elementary School Teacher, PENDING CERTIFICATION, MD Class, Intermediate School, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step A, +MA, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement.
13. To approve Erica Scheinberg as Speech Language Specialist, PENDING CERTIFICATION, Kindergarten, Ronald L. Meiners Primary Learning Center, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step A, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenured track leave replacement position.
14. To approve Amelia Flores as Probationary Custodian, McKinley Avenue Elementary School, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending March 31, 2026, Step 4, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
15. To approve John Quintana as Probationary Part Time Custodian, McKinley Avenue Elementary School, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending March 31, 2026, Step 4, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
16. To approve Shelby Frasciello as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 2, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
17. To approve Tracy Vidaurre as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, Preschool, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 1, +BA, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
18. To approve Kittrina Roberts as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, McKinley Avenue Elementary School, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 1, +BA, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
19. To approve Ellen Walsh as Part Time Hourly Teacher Aide, MD Class, Intermediate School, beginning January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2026, Step 4, 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.

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Dr. Regulski to approve Personnel item(s) #1-19. Roll call vote: seven (7) members present voted yes; motion passed.

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.

NO ACTION ITEMS

L. ADVANCED PLANNING

- Reorganization Meeting scheduled for January 7, 2026 at 5:30pm at the Oxycocus Elementary School.

M. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

N. BOARD INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**O. CLOSED SESSION**

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Regulski and seconded by Mr. Gioe to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (7-0); motion passed.

Lourdes LaGuardia
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

LL/km/12-16-2025