Palisades Park Board of Education
Work Session/Regular Business Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, December 17, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.
Early Childhood Center, 270 First Street, Palisades Park, NJ

A. CALL TO ORDER: Board President

B. FLAG SALUTE

C. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Ms. Soo Chung	☒	☐
Mr. Anthony Kim	☒	☐
Ms. Rebekah Lee	☒	☐
Ms. Sookyung Park	☒	☐
Ms. Boyoung Yu	☒	☐
Mr. Aaron Pak	☒	☐
Mr. Jun Yim	☒	☐
Mr. Sergio Calle	☐	☒
Mr. Ray Park	☐	☒
Mr. Carl Albano	☒	☐
Mr. Emidio D'Andrea	☒	☐
Busch Law Group	☒	☐
Tyler Jung - Student Rep	☐	☒

D. STATEMENT OF PRESIDING OFFICER

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), I hereby state that notice of this **Regular Meeting** has been provided to the public by a written notice dated January 15, 2025 (date of published notice)

The Meeting Notice has been:
1. Emailed to all staff members at the district's 3 school locations.
2. Communicated to The Record.
3. Filed with the Borough Clerk of Palisades Park.
4. Posted on District Website.

E. RECOGNITION OF WRITING CONTEST WINNERS

The following students were winners of the 25th Annual High School Writing Contest sponsored by the Korean American Writers Association of Eastern USA:

Brandon Imm
Rham Hwang
Chaeyoon Lee
Cheonha Sim
Ryan Kim
Jihee Ryu
Jonathan Lee
Lighbert Cho
Eunhae Yeo
Rhyool Hwang

F. REVIEW AND DISCUSS RESOLUTIONS TO BE VOTED ON AT THE REGULAR MEETING

Buildings and Grounds: Mr. Aaron Pak raised a concern regarding the use of district buildings and grounds by certain groups without fees and asked whether the policy should be amended. President Soo Chung indicated that the matter has been under discussion. She suggested that the committee should review the current policy and the Board can discuss further in a future meeting.

Personnel: Ms. Boyoung Yu inquired about the rationale for appointing a vice principal for a short duration. Superintendent Carl Albano explained that both the Elementary and High Schools began the year without vice principals, resulting in a backlog of required teacher observations. The temporary appointment would assist in completing the observations, and funding is available due to the prior vacancies.

G. ADJOURN WORK SESSION: OPEN REGULAR MEETING

Motion to adjourn the work session and open the regular meeting.
Moved by: Aaron Pak
Seconded by: Jun Yim
All in favor – aye – 6:50 p.m.

H. REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

President Soo Chung noted that this was the Board's final meeting of 2025 and thanked attendees for their continued interest and support of the Palisades Park School District. She expressed appreciation to the Board Office administrators and all district staff for their hard work and dedication throughout a challenging year. President Chung also thanked current Board members for their service and commitment to the district.

President Chung recognized departing Board members Anthony Kim and Rebekah Lee for their years of service and contributions to the Board. Mr. Kim and Ms. Lee each offered brief remarks expressing gratitude for the opportunity to serve the community. President Chung also acknowledged former Board member William Kim, who resigned earlier in the year, and recognized his service as Vice President and chairperson of the negotiation committee and the evaluation advisory committee.

President Chung reported that she attended the Lindbergh School concert with Superintendent Carl Albano and Ms. Sookyung Park and thanked staff for their efforts. She noted the upcoming high school winter concert and a community concert at Borough Hall.

I. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Superintendent extended holiday greetings and thanked Board members for their service and behind-the-scenes work. He reported attending the Lindbergh School concert and praised the students' performance, and noted the upcoming high school concert. He also reported visiting the Lindbergh Elementary School pantry and wardrobe program, commending staff and families for their donations and support. The Superintendent advised that the district has begun the budget development process and reported meeting with the County Office for early planning support. He stated that budget information will be shared with the Board after the break and later presented to the public, and encouraged everyone to be involved in the budget process.

J. REPORT OF THE BOARD ATTORNEY

K. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

1. **Approval of Minutes**
   Regular Business Meeting – November 19, 2025

   Move that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the minutes of the following meetings:

   - November 19, 2025 Regular Business Meeting Minutes
   - November 19, 2025 Executive Meeting Minutes

   Moved by: Aaron Pak Seconded By: Jun Yim
   All in favor - aye
   Ms. Boyoung Yu and Ms. Rebekah Lee abstained

COMMITTEE REPORTS

L. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Consent agenda for Items 1-3 – Aaron Pak

1. **ELKS LODGE - HOOP SHOOT COMPETITION**

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the use of the High School gym to the Elks Lodge to hold a Hoop Shoot Competition on Sunday, January 4, 2025 and Sunday, January 11, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

2. **PALISADES PARK LITTLE LEAGUE - PRACTICE**

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the request from the Palisades Park Little League organization to use district facilities according to the schedule below, when such facilities are not in use by school teams or for school-sponsored events:

   - Indoor Practices: Palisades Park High School Gym — December 2025 through April 2026, Monday through Thursday, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
   - Outdoor Practices: Lindbergh Field — January 1, 2026 through July 15, 2026, as needed and based on availability.

3. **LEARN AND GROW ACADEMY - HOLIDAY CONCERT (DATE CHANGE)**

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves a date change for the previously authorized use of the High School Auditorium by "Learn & Grow Academy" Preschool for its Holiday Concert. The event, originally approved for Thursday, December 11, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., is now scheduled for Monday, December 22, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

   Moved by: Aaron Pak Seconded By: Anthony Kim
   All in favor - aye
   No objections, no abstentions

M. EDUCATION

Consent agenda for Item 1 – Sookyung Park

1. FIELD TRIPS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following Field Trips:

- Destination: Big Snow at American Dream
- Date: Tuesday, January 20, 2026
- Time: 9:15 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- Group: Pre K3, Pre K4
- Cost per Student: $0 ($43/student covered by PEA Grant)

- Destination: Xtreme Energy in Paramus, NJ
- Date: Thursday, February 05, 2026
- Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Group: Pre K3, Pre K4
- Cost per Student: $0 ($43/student covered by PEA Grant)

Moved by: Sookyung Park Seconded By: Aaron Pak
All in favor - aye
No objections, no abstentions

N. FINANCE

Consent agenda for Items 1-5 – Boyoung Yu

1. STAFF MEMBER VISITATIONS/WORKSHOPS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following requests for professional Visitations/Workshops:

Staff Member	Activity	Date(s)	Cost
Vera Csizmadia	Nurtured Heart Approach Training	12/01/2025 - 12/05/2025	$0
Aldo Deodino John Sarcone	Legal One Anti Bullying Specialist Certification	Online Self-Paced	$500/attendee
Aldo Deodino John Sarcone	Stronge Evaluation Tool Training	01/14/2026, 01/21/2026, 01/28/2026	$705/attendee
Laurie Nova Leslie Rodas	2026 Spring TESOL Conference	5/20/2026	$335/attendee
Amy Munn	2026 Spring TESOL Conference	5/21/2026	$335
Annette Cruz	Bergen County School Counselor Professional Development: Trauma Informed Care	1/23/2026	$0

2. TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following tuition reimbursement requests:

Staff Member	College/University	Course Name	Credits
Nicole Turro	American College of Education	Cultivate Historical Thinking with Inquiry Based Labs	3
Kristin Ellingsen	Colorado State University Pueblo	Building Gross and Fine Motor Skills for Students with Down Syndrome	3
Caroline Gannon	American College of Education	Fundamentals of Literacy	3
Caroline Gannon	American College of Education	Literacy for Exceptional Learners	3
Caroline Gannon	American College of Education	Digital Media for Literary Instruction	3

3. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER BILL LIST

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the November bill list in the amount of $1,745,890.27

- Fund 10 (General/Current Expenses) $1,442,699.01
- Fund 20 (Special Revenue) $207,166.73
- Fund 30 (Capital Projects Fund) $0
- Fund 60 (Food Service) $96,024.53

4. APPROVAL OF PAYROLL – 11/30/2025, 12/15/2025

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following payroll amount:

Payroll Date	Amount
11/30/2025	$908,752.23
12/15/2025	$987,965.24

5. STUDENT ACTIVITIES ACCOUNTS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the financial reports for the High School and the Lindbergh School Activities Accounts, for the month ending 11/30/2025 (on file in BOE Office).

Moved by: Aaron Pak Seconded By: Sookyung Park

VOTE

Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P	Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P
Soo Chung	☒	☐	☐	☐	Jun Yim	☒	☐	☐	☐
Sergio Calle	☐	☐	☐	☒	Boyoung Yu	☒	☐	☐	☐
Rebekah Lee	☒	☐	☐	☐	Sookyung Park	☒	☐	☐	☐
Anthony Kim	☒	☐	☐	☐	Aaron Pak	☒	☐	☐	☐
Ray Park	☐	☐	☐	☒					

O. PERSONNEL

Consent agenda for Items 1-3 – Jun Yim

1. APPOINTMENT OF STAFF

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of the following personnel for the 2025-2026 school year:

Employee Name	Position	Salary/Stipend	Start Date	Building
Veronica Nasr	Substitute Nurse	$50/hour	12/18/2025	PPHS
Jade Cruz	Per Diem Assistant Nurse	$150/day	01/05/2026	All
Manae Caputo	Grade 1 Teacher	BA, Step 3 $60,825 prorated	01/04/2026	Lindbergh
Madison Levine	Leave Replacement	BA+15, Step 2 $61,000, prorated	02/23/2026	Lindbergh
Zulayca Castillo	Permanent Substitute	$150/day	01/04/2026	Lindbergh

2. APPROVAL OF PER DIEM VICE PRINCIPAL

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves John Sarcone for the position of Per Diem Vice Principal, effective December 17, 2025 through June 30, 2026, at a rate of $500 per diem, not to exceed twenty (20) days of work or $10,000 for the term of the agreement. The Per Diem Vice Principal will serve in a limited, specialized administrative role for the exclusive purpose of conducting formal teacher observations and evaluations in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Education's educator evaluation system.

3. HOME INSTRUCTION TEACHERS

BE IT RESOLVED that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following home instruction:

Staff Member	Student ID	Anticipated Start Date
Jodi Burrows	10588	12/16/2025

Up to 10 hours per week
$50 per hour

Moved by: Aaron Pak Seconded By: Anthony Kim

VOTE

Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P	Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P
Soo Chung	☒	☐	☐	☐	Jun Yim	☒	☐	☐	☐
Sergio Calle	☐	☐	☐	☒	Boyoung Yu	☒	☐	☐	☐
Rebekah Lee	☒	☐	☐	☐	Sookyung Park	☒	☐	☐	☐
Anthony Kim	☒	☐	☐	☐	Aaron Pak	☒	☐	☐	☐
Ray Park	☐	☐	☐	☒					

P. SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE – Rebekah Lee

Q. NEGOTIATIONS – TBD

R. COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS REP/ALTERNATE – Anthony Kim

S. EVALUATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – TBD

T. NJ SCHOOL BOARDS LIAISON/ALTERNATE – Anthony Kim

U. POLICY – Boyoung Yu

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

W. NEW BUSINESS

President Soo Chung asked the Board members if they are available to attend the Board Reorganization meeting on January 7th.

X. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Motion to open meeting to public participation.
Moved by: Aaron Pak
Seconded by: Sookyung Park
All in favor – aye – 7:09 p.m.

Mr. Anthony Rotundo asked why the per diem Vice Principal appointed that evening was conducting anti-bullying training if hired to perform evaluations. Superintendent Carl Albano clarified that the individual appointed has the same name but is different from the Lindbergh School Vice Principal, who will be attending the anti-bullying training. Mr. Rotundo also inquired about the newly hired first grade teacher. Superintendent Albano explained that the district conducted a selective hiring process and outlined the teacher's qualifications and experience. He stated that the teacher's start date will be January 5.

Motion to close public participation.
Moved by: Aaron Pak
Seconded by: Sookyung Park
All in favor – aye – 7:13 p.m.

Mr. Anthony Kim departed at 7:17 p.m.

Y. CLOSED SESSION

The Board of Education convened in Closed Session in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, *N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)*, for the purpose of discussing:

- Legal Matters

Motion to open meeting to public.
Moved by: Aaron Pak
Seconded by: Jun Yim
All in favor – aye – 8:27 p.m.

The Board reconvened after Closed Session and introduced two new Finance items.

6. SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH M&M

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the settlement agreement in the matter of claims for payment for transportation services by M & M Group, Inc., and authorizes the Board President, Board Secretary and Board Counsel to take all actions that are necessary to implement the terms of the agreement and this action of the Board.

7. AGREEMENT WITH LJ SCHOOL CONSULTING

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves an agreement with LJ School Consulting to provide bid preparation and execution services for Athletics and Field Trips, at a total cost not to exceed $2,000.00 based on 20 hours of professional services.

Ms. Rebekah Lee requested that approval of Item #7 be contingent upon correction of a typographical error in the contract.

Moved by: Jun Yim Seconded By: Soo Chung
VOTE

Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P	Board Member	Yes	No	Abs.	N/P
Soo Chung	☒	☐	☐	☐	Jun Yim	☒	☐	☐	☐
Sergio Calle	☐	☐	☐	☒	Boyoung Yu	☐	☐	☒	☐
Rebekah Lee	☒	☐	☐	☐	Sookyung Park	☒	☐	☐	☐
Anthony Kim	☐	☐	☐	☒	Aaron Pak	☒	☐	☐	☐
Ray Park	☐	☐	☐	☒					

Z. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn
Moved by: Aaron Pak
Seconded by: Jun Yim
All in favor – aye – 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Lee
Board Secretary