

THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 16, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

N.J. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act the Woodland Park Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on the door of the Woodland Park Board of Education Administration Building and was provided to the North Jersey Record & Herald News

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

Present: Kim Galbraith, David Amanullah, Gina McQuin, Mark Salemi, Glen Grimes

Absent: Andrew Mingione, Shannon Marren, Julissa Rodriguez

Also Present: Michele Pillari, Aleksandar Konsovski,

Mr. Grimes asked for a moment of silence for Alexander Billson, Memorial 8th grade student, who recently passed away.

PRESENTATION: Mrs. Tomback presented the 2024-2025 NJSLA results

PUBLIC HEARING-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Please remember that this is a public meeting. Anything you say will be public record. As a result, pursuant to law, the Board Members cannot respond to you publicly concerning certain matters, such as those regarding an individual student. If there is a matter that you wish to remain private concerning personnel or students, please contact the Superintendent's office. In accordance with Bylaw 0167, statements will be limited to 3 minutes in duration.

Michael Sica – 2 Pebble Dr.

Mr. Sica spoke about resolution 226-150 on tonight's agenda. As President of Four Seasons Homeowners Association, he is very happy that the committee was able to join forces with the BOE and fund this program and hopes it's an enriching experience for the children.

226-124 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by SALEMI Seconded by GALBRAITH

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2025 regular meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the Executive Session minutes of the September 22, 2025 regular meeting.

Roll Call: 5 YES

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Preschool:

Pumpkin Patch - A big thank you to the Preschool HSA for organizing the Pumpkin Picking event at all three locations! This is always such an exciting time for our students as they experience the joys of the fall season and all that comes with it.

Curriculum Highlight/ The Ball Study - Our preschool students are beginning the Creative Curriculum's "Balls Study," a project-based investigation that builds on children's natural interest in balls. This hands-on, inquiry-driven approach encourages students to ask questions, solve problems, and share their discoveries. Children explore a variety of concepts through sensory experiences. For example, testing which balls bounce the highest or how they move on different surfaces such as grass, concrete, and sand. Families are encouraged to join in the fun at home by playing ball games, talking about how balls are made, and spotting ball-shaped objects in the neighborhood.

Fall Craft Volunteers- We extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents who will volunteer their time to help with the Preschool HSA Fall Craft! Your involvement and creativity make these experiences so special for our students. We look forward to more wonderful partnerships throughout the school year!

Puppies of the Month - Congratulations to our Puppies of the Month! These students are being recognized for showing our classroom values; playing safely, acting kindly, working together, being responsible, showing independence, and keeping a SMILE every day!

Memorial Middle

Data Team Meeting (10/8): The Data Team met to review student performance trends and identify targeted instructional strategies to support continued academic growth.

Week of Respect (10/6–10/10): The school celebrated with activities promoting kindness, inclusion, and a positive school culture.

BG

PBIS has been implemented in all areas of the school building. Students are earning Buddy Bucks that are redeemed at the school store during lunch periods. Prizes range from fun school supplies to lunch with a staff member of their choosing to Principal for the day!

Students and staff participated in The Week of Respect 10-6 - 10/10

The Data Team met on 10/7 to collaboratively analyze data, reflect on student progress and create action plans to support student growth.

10/20 - 10/24 - School Violence Awareness Week - WPPD will be holding an assembly

10/22 Unity Day - Wear orange

10/24 - Picture Day and HSA Halloween Party

10/27 - 10/31 - Red Ribbon Week

10/31 - Halloween Parade at 2pm

CO

PBIS is in full implementation and students are loving earning Chip change - students bank their chip change and have a chance to be chosen to spin the wheel at lunch time on Fridays. The wheel has rewards that range from eating lunch with the principal to picking a fantastic fidget.

Student and staff participated in The Week of Respect 10/6-10/10

10/17 - HSA pumpkin patch during the day and HSA Dance at 7pm

10/20-10/24 - School Violence Awareness Week - Unity day 10/27 Wear orange

10/27-10/31 - Red Ribbon Week - themed dress code for students and staff

10/31 - Halloween parade at 10:30am

Curriculum Department:

On October 13th all teachers participated in differentiated professional development, including state mandated HIB and suicide awareness and prevention.

ELA Committee met and updated assessments and curriculum.

K-8 Data teams met to analyze data and create tier one grade level plans. These plans address learning gaps from grade to grade and address any trends noticed to guide future instruction.

We welcome back Mrs. Reilly! Students have completed their iReady diagnostic and are currently working on passing two lessons a week. ICR teachers received Do the Math Training.

6-8 science teachers received follow up SAVVAS science training.

The Curriculum Office is going to turn into the testing office as we prepare to train, roll out, and administer the NJSLA-A Fall Field Test to our 4-8 grade students.

The Curriculum office hosted the Passaic County Curriculum Consortium (PC3) members for

The Curriculum office hosted the first New Teacher Series “Treats and Training”. Teachers were provided support with SGOs.

Office of Special Services

CST members continue to participate in monthly NJ DOE training to enhance our special education programs and LRE (least restrictive environment).

All Growing Minds classrooms received new ipads for student programming and communication.

CST members and Special Education teachers continue to revisit student’s IEP goals, now that all baseline data has been collected.

CBI training provided by Rutgers and the NJDOE will continue at Memorial School. Our second session will take place at the end of the month.

The LLD teachers in the district will receive Orton Gillingham training at the end of the month. This will ensure that all of our students in the LLD classrooms are receiving multi-sensory reading on a daily basis.

The crisis team did an amazing job developing a plan and connecting to outside resources such as NJ4S to provide counseling support to our students and staff members.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Kondovski stated that we will be receiving our claims report for health insurance tomorrow and that will determine if we are eligible for private health insurance, which will hopefully reduce our health insurance costs.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The following items have been deemed to be non-controversial in a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion. Motion by MCQUIN Seconded by SALEMI to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following consent agenda numbers 226-125 through 226-130.

Roll Call: 5 YES

226-125 - SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORTS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, receives and accepts the attached reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the months of August 2025 & September 2025 “Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6: 20-2.12©, we certify that as of August 31, 2025 & September 30, 2025, the Board Secretary’s monthly financial reports (appropriations section) did not reflect any over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, and based on the appropriation balances reflected on this report and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year”

226-126 - TRANSFERS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the attached list of transfers for the months of August 2025 & September 2025.

226-127 - APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the attached list of bills in the amount of \$490,680.67, approved by finance committee chairperson.

<u>Bill List No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
#65	\$417,176.96
#66	\$ 684.26
#L65	\$ 72,819.45

226-128 -APPROVAL OF NEW SUBSTITUTE LIST

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the active and new substitute list for September of the 2025-2026 school year, as per the Northern Regional Educational Services.

226-129 - APPROVAL OF 2024-2025 HIB SELF ASSESSMENT

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the submission of the school self-assessment for determining HIB grades for each school for the 2024-2025 school year.

226-130 -APPROVAL OF 2025-2026 DISTRICT NURSING PLAN

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the District Nursing Services Plan for the 2025-2026 school year, as attached.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

The following items will be voted on by separate motion for each item.

PERSONNEL:

The following personnel items have been deemed to be non-controversial in a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion. Any item deemed controversial can be removed and voted on as a separate agenda item.

Motion by AMANULLAH Seconded by GALBRAITH to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following personnel agenda numbers 226-131 through 226-147.

Roll Call: 5 YES

226-131 -APPROVE TO REVISE RESOLUTION 226-74-APPOINTMENT OF HIRE – SUBSTITUTE – C. WALSH

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve revision of resolution 226-74, to reflect a start date of September 2, 2025.

226-132-APPROVE TO REVISE RESOLUTION 226-11A-APPOINTMENT OF HIRE – J. RAMOS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve revision of resolution 226-11A, to reflect a start date of September 2, 2025.

226-133-APPROVE TO REVISE RESOLUTION 226-12A-APPOINTMENT OF HIRE – A. MONTAS-PAULINO

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve revision of resolution 226-12A, to reflect a start date of September 2, 2025.

226-134-APPROVE TO REVISE RESOLUTION 226-78- ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION – D. FELIZ

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve revision of resolution 226-78, to reflect a resignation date of September 4, 2025.

226-135-APPROVE TO REVISE RESOLUTION 225-363 – APPROVAL OF SUMMER CUSTODIANS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve revision of resolution 225-363, to reflect work hours for summer custodians as not to exceed 5.5 hours per day. (Originally approved at 5 hours per day)

226-136-APPROVE TO REVISE RESOLUTION 226-65-APPROVAL MATERNITY/FAMILY LEAVE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to revise resolution 226-65 to reflect the following dates; Federal Family Leave 10/20/25-1/21/26, NJ Family Leave 1/22/26-4/24/26. Expected return to work, 4/27/26.

226-137-APPROVAL OF PART TIME CUSTODIAN WORK HOURS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve part time custodians work hours as follows: 5.5 hours per day, not to exceed 29.5 hours per week, retroactive to September 1, 2025.

226-138-RATIFY APPROVAL OF STIPEND POSITION-NURSE SUPERVISION ON BUS SY25-26

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to ratify approval of stipend position for one of the following nurses to accompany student ID#33289 on the bus to and from school, at a rate of \$48/hr., not to exceed 1 hour per day, retroactive to 9/4/25-6/23/26.

Teresa Carbonelli, Lynn Roehrich, Megan Cassanelli, Alexandra Paulino, Jeness Ramos, Barbra Wells

226-139-TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT – ABANDONMENT OF POSITION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to terminate employee ID #4865, due to abandonment of position, effective 9/29/25.

226-140 - RATIFY APPOINTMENT OF HIRE – L. BROWN

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to ratify approval of the appointment of Laura Brown, as an ELA teacher, (currently leave replacement), MA, Step 1, \$69,255, pro-rated, in accordance with current WPEA contract. Retroactive to October 7, 2025.

226-141-APPOINTMENT OF HIRE – LEAVE REPLACEMENT – D. GRASSO

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the appointment of Diane Grasso, as a maternity leave replacement, at \$175 per diem, no benefits, effective October 20, 2025-April 24, 2026.

226-142-ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT – N. CARAVELLI

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the retirement of Nancy Caravelli, lunch aide of 16 years, effective September 30, 2025.

226-143-ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION – W. HUATAY

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Walter Huatay, part time custodian, effective 10/3/2025.

226-144-APPROVAL OF MEDICAL LEAVE – E. WILSON

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve medical leave under the Federal Family Leave Act, for Erin Wilson, effective 10/3/25 – 12/26/25, using accumulated days. Expected return to work 1/5/26.

226-145-APPROVAL OF MEDICAL LEAVE – W. KRAKOWER

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve medical leave under the Federal Family Leave Act, for William Krakower, effective 10/29/25 – 12/10/25, or sooner depending on doctor’s recommendation, using accumulated days. Expected return to work 12/11/25.

226-146-APPROVAL OF STAFF CLASS CHANGE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following staff class changes, retroactive to September 1, 2025:
Stephanie Pezzuti – from BA, Step 5, \$64,805 to BA+30, Step 5, \$71,255.

226-147 - WORKSHOP/TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT APPROVAL

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve/ratify approval the attendance of and costs of attendance including registration fees and statutorily authorized travel expenditures for the following listed district employees for the 2025-2026 school year.

Name	Activity	Date	Fee	Travel/Hotel	Total
Beth DeMarco	Hot Issues in Special Education Law	11/10/25	\$195	\$25.86	\$220.86
Beth DeMarco	Woodcock Johnson V Training	10/23/25	\$400	\$3.66	\$403.66
Sherry Toole	AENJ Conference 2025	10/27-10/28 2025	\$315	\$49.82	\$364.82
Sabrina Qannah	AT/AAC Expo	11/14/25	NA	\$15.91	\$15.91
Mariola Lopata	Fall Conference for Case Managers	10/14/25	NA	NA	NA
Aimee Soto	Strategies to Empower Case Managers	10/14/25	NA	\$20.35	\$20.35
Danielle Frondi	AT/AAC Expo	11/14/25	NA	\$13.16	\$13.16
Taylor Andresen	WPU Arts Educator Retreat	10/27/25	NA	NA	NA
Megan Cassanelli	New School Nurse Orientation	Self Paced	\$179	NA	\$179
Katie Gorman	Creative Curriculum Intro	10/6-10/7 2025	NA	NA	NA
Donna Farraye Aimee Soto Kathryn Williams	Annual Suicide Prevention Conference	12/4/2025	\$99/ea	\$44.18/ea	\$143.18/ea

FINANCE:

The following finance items have been deemed to be non-controversial in a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion. Any item deemed controversial can be removed and voted on as a separate agenda item.

Motion by MCQUIN Seconded by SALEMI to accept the recommendation of the Business Administrator to approve the following finance agenda numbers 226-148 through 226-150.

Roll Call: 5 YES

226-148 - ACCEPTANCE OF INCENTIVE BONUS FOR PRE-K

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to accept an incentive bonus of \$1,000 each at School #1, ECC and Charles Olbon, total up to \$3,000. The \$1,000 incentive bonus is provided to schools upon successful rating of 3, 4 or 5-star and is intended to be used by the rated school to support the early childhood program, staff, children, and/or classrooms. The funds may be used at the schools/district's discretion. To date, we have received \$2,000.

226-149 - APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 BUDGET CALENDAR

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the 2026-2027 Budget Calendar as follows:

November 4, 2025	Preliminary Discussions with the Superintendent
Week of November 10, 2025	Initial Budget Kick-off Meeting w Administrators & Supervisors
December 8, 2025	Budget Due to Business Office from Administrators & Supervisors
January 6, 2026	Deadline of Budget Submission by Administrators & Supervisors
January 23-27, 2026	Budget Discussions with Administrators & Supervisors (as needed)
December 10, 2025 January 26, 2025	Budget Discussion with Finance/Operations Committee
March 9, 2026	Board Approval of Preliminary Budget
March 23, 2026	Deadline of Submission of Preliminary Budget to County Office
April 20, 2026	Deadline of Approval from County Superintendent
April 28, 2026	Deadline of Notice/Advertise for Public Hearing
May 4, 2026 (Tentitive)	Public Hearing for SY 26-27 Budget
May 12, 2026	Deadline for a Public Hearing

226-150-RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION FROM SENIORS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY AT FOUR SEASONS GREAT NOTCH FOR STUDENT EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION BY THE LIBERTY HALL MUSEUM OF KEAN UNIVERSITY

WHEREAS, the Borough of Woodland Park (“Borough”) is steeped in Revolutionary War history, including its service as the location for an encampment for Continental Army soldiers, in what is now known as Rifle Camp Park; and WHEREAS, the Woodland Park Board of Education (“Board”) has a keen interest in highlighting the important role that the Borough and its surrounding areas served in the Revolutionary War, which ultimately resulted in the Country’s independence from Britain; and

WHEREAS, the Board values feedback and input from the local community, concerning educational programming and other matters of importance, which result in the development of well-rounded students, who are familiar with the unique role that the Borough has played in the birth of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Seniors for a Democratic Society (“SDS”) at Four Seasons Great Notch share the Board’s goal of the development of well-rounded students, who have an appreciation for the unique role that New Jersey and the local area played during the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, the members of SDS have undertaken a fundraising campaign, with the goal of funding students’ participation in an interactive program about the Revolutionary War, which will allow students to explore topics such as daily life in colonial America and the choices individuals faced during the time period; and

WHEREAS, the members of the SDS have raised one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), to be donated to the Board, for the purpose of funding a presentation by the Liberty Hall Museum at Kean University to one grade level within the Woodland Park Public Schools, to be determined by the Superintendent;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodland Park Board of Education hereby incorporates the foregoing paragraphs as if set forth herein at length; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Woodland Park Board of Education authorizes and takes the following action:

1. The Board hereby gratefully accepts the donation in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) from the Seniors for a Democratic Society at Four Seasons Great Notch.
2. The Board directs the Board Secretary to issue a letter to the Seniors for a Democratic Society at Four Seasons Great Notch, to express the Board’s gratitude and appreciation for the above-referenced donation.
3. The Board authorizes the Superintendent, Business Administrator/Board Secretary and Board Attorney to take any and all actions are necessary in order to effectuate the foregoing action of the Board.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Motion by: MCQUIN, Seconded by: GALBRAITH

Roll Call: 5 YES

226-151-APPROVAL OF COMPREHENSIVE MAINTENANCE PLAN 2024-2027 & M-1

WHEREAS, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting "required" maintenance activities for each of its public-school facilities; and

WHEREAS, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of Woodland Park School District are consistent with these requirements; and

WHEREAS, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodland Park Board of Education at the recommendation of the superintendent hereby authorize the school business administrator to submit the 2024-2027 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for Woodland Park School District in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

PUBLIC HEARING

Please remember that this is a public meeting. Anything you say will be public record. As a result, pursuant to law, the Board Members cannot respond to you publicly concerning certain matters, such as those regarding an individual student. If there is a matter that you wish to remain private concerning personnel or students, please contact the Superintendent’s office. In accordance with Bylaw 0167, statements will be limited to 3 minutes in duration.

No one wished to be heard.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

The Open Public Meeting Act, authorizes a public body to meet in Executive or Private Session under limited circumstances and WHEREAS said law requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting before it can meet in such Executive or Private Session. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODLAND PARK THAT:**

- 1) It does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in Executive Session to discuss a personnel and/or litigation matter or contract matter.
- 2) The matter(s) discussed will be made public when confidentiality is no longer required.
- 3) Meeting will be resumed at conclusion of Executive Session.
- 4) The board does/does not expect to take action after Executive Session.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 7:39 p.m. by SALEMI, seconded by MCQUIN
Voice Vote: 5 YES

Motion to return to Regular Session at 8:20 p.m. by SALEMI, seconded by GALBRAITH
Voice Vote: 5 YES

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. by SALEMI, Seconded by GALBRAITH
Voice Vote: 5 YES

WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- The Superintendent discussed HIB case #2026-01
- The Board discussed the RFP’s for an architect
- The Board discussed the Treasurer of School Money
- The Board discussed a Buildings & Grounds issue

Respectfully Submitted,



Aleksandar Kondovski
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary