North Caldwell Public Schools
North Caldwell, NJ

Board of Education

Public Meeting

February 4, 2026



David Ved
Sapna Malige
Eric Finkelstein
Michael DiGirolomo
Matthew Whitford
Michael Halik
Chris Checchetto

NORTH CALDWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SESSION
GRANDVIEW SCHOOL CAFETERIA
VIA ZOOM MEETING
https://ncboe.zoom.us/j/94307720414?pwd=rdoHqOlWpuBY4mJ7LeqQfUFlHZJrjm.1
GRANDVIEW SCHOOL CAFETERIA
February 4, 2026
7:30 P.M.
AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**
   In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting has been properly advertised in the designated newspaper and the agenda has been posted at the appropriate locations.
4. **ROLL CALL**
5. **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
6. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
   - **Audit Presentation – Elizabeth A. Schick: Lerch, Vinci & Bliss, LLP to present June 30, 2025, audit**
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT (Pursuant to Board Policy 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings) During this opportunity to comment, district residents and staff are invited to discuss any area of public concern that may be in respect to the operation of the schools. Board Policy 0167 requires that individuals state their name and address of residence and asks that all remarks be directed to the Board as a whole and not to individuals. (All Zoom guests are required to turn their camera on if participating in public comment) The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Although the Board may not respond to items raised during the public forum, all public comments will be considered and may be discussed tonight under "new business" at this meeting, or at subsequent meetings under "old business," or during a Board committee meeting, if appropriate. Each speaker's statement will be limited to three (3) minutes in duration.

   - **General Resolutions**

   G1. Approve MEIG Joint Insurance Pool
   G2. Approve 2026-2027 SEMI waiver
   G3. Approve listed Policies and Regulations at first reading
   G4. Approve the abolishment of listed Policies and Regulations

   Business Resolutions

   B1. Approve Public and Confidential Minutes of January 6, 2026
   B2. Approve Payrolls
   B3. Approve Electronic Check Register
   B4. Approve Bills and Claims
   B5. Approve Transfers

B6. Approve Board Secretary Certification for the month of December 2025
B7. Approve Board Secretary and Treasurer's Financial reports for December 2025
B8. Approve the 2025 fiscal year Audit and Management Report
B9. Approve proposal for referendum services.
B10. Approve Pal-Pro change order proposal GC-#06
B11. Approve Pal-Pro change order proposal GC-#07
B12. Approve Pal-Pro change order proposal GC-#08
B13. Approve Pal-Pro change order proposal GC-#09
B14. Approve purchase of Pickup Truck

Personnel Resolutions

P1. Approve Professional Development for listed staff
P2. Approve winter concert chaperones
P3. Approve retirement of listed staff member
P4. Approve retirement of listed staff member
P5. Approve Instructional Assistant
P6. Approve home instruction
P7. Approve resignation of listed staff member
P8. Approve Summer 2025 tuition reimbursement for listed staff members
P9. Approve Fall 2025 tuition reimbursement for listed staff members

OLD BUSINESS

8. **NEW BUSINESS**
9. **ADJOURN TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION (IF NECESSARY)**

☒ Legal ☐ Attorney-Client Privilege ☐ Personnel
☐ Negotiations ☒ School Security/Public Safety ☐ Student Matter

The next scheduled public meetings of the Board will be held on:
March 18, 2026, at 7:30PM
Grandview School Cafeteria

Posting: Board Members, Principals, NCPE Co-Presidents, NCEA Co-Presidents, Caldwell Progress Press Member, Board Office, Schools, and Town Hall.



Resolutions
February 4, 2026

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

G1. **WHEREAS,** a number of Boards of Education in Essex County have joined together to form a Joint Insurance Pool as permitted by N.J. Title 18A-.18B and;

WHEREAS, said Pool was approved effective February 10, 1984, by the New Jersey Commissioner of Insurance and has been in operation since that date and;

WHEREAS, the Pool contain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a Pool, and;

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of NORTH CALDWELL has determined that membership in the **MORRIS ESSEX INSURANCE GROUP** is in the best interest of the District;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Education of NORTH CALDWELL does hereby agree to renew membership in the **MORRIS ESSEX INSURANCE GROUP** and hereby accept the Bylaws as approved and adopted. The renewal term is from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2029.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized to execute the application for membership and the accompanying certification on behalf of the District and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the Pool as are required by the Pool's Bylaws and to deliver the same to the Executive Director.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

G2. **WHEREAS,** NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2026-2027 school year, and

WHEREAS, the North Caldwell Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that we project having fewer than forty (40) Medicaid eligible classified students;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Caldwell Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Essex an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2026-2027 school year.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

G3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following Policies and Regulations, at first reading:

Bylaws	**0142.1**	**Nepotism**
Policy	**1220**	**Employment of Chief School Administrator**
Policy	**1552**	**Sexual Harassment**
Regulation	**1552**	**Sexual Harassment**

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

G4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the abolishment of the following Policies and Regulations:

Policy	**3362**	**Sexual Harassment**
Regulation	**3362**	**Sexual Harassment of Teaching and Staff Members Complaint Procedure**
Policy	**4352**	**Sexual Harassment – Support Staff Members**
Regulation	**4352**	**Sexual Harassment of Support Staff Members Complaint Procedure**

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

B1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **Public and Confidential Minutes of January 6, 2026.**

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Payrolls:**

Payroll Date:	Payroll #	Amount:
January 15, 2026	71	$457,455.20
January 30, 2026	72	$426,121.61

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Electronic Check Register(s):**

Date	Starting check #	Ending Check #	Total Amount
December 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025	E03054	E03060	$61,749.86

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Bills and Claims:**

Date	Starting check #	Ending Check #	Total Amount
January 6, 2026	003679	003680	Void
January 15, 2026	003681	003693	$549,185.96
February 4, 2026	003694	003783	$595,468.34
February 2, 2026	003784	003795	$90,136.93

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve attached **Transfers for December 2025**:

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B6. **WHEREAS** pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that as of **December 2025**, no budgetary line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 4, the Board of Education does certify that as of **December 2025**, the revised Board Secretary Monthly Financial Report, did not reflect an over expenditure in any Major Account or Fund, and based on the Appropriation Balances reflected on this report and on the advice of District Officials, that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached revised Board Secretary's and Treasurer's **Monthly Financial Reports** for **December 2025**.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B8. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Auditor's Synopsis of Audit and Management Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B9. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the DiCara/Rubino proposal to for Referendum Services for DiCara Rubino Project Number #4549 in the amount of $40,000.00

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B10. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following change order:

WHEREAS, Pal-Pro Builders, LLC. was awarded the bid for the Classroom Addition at Grandview School; and

WHEREAS, Pal-Pro Builders, LLC. has submitted the following change order proposal which has been approved by the architect:

Change Order Proposal – **GC #06**
Third party testing conducted by Atlas Technical Consultants LLC per invoices dated 12/15/25 in the amount of $8,350.00, 1/16/26 in the amount of $2,940.00 and 1/23/26 in the amount of $3,316.00, for a total of $14,606.00 to be deducted from the Allowance #9.

The Total Contract value will not change; Total Contract sum $5,310,000.00

AND WHEREAS, DiCara Rubino Architects has verified that these changes are necessary based upon the need to rectify unforeseen conditions uncovered during construction pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-4.9;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves this change order and the contract amount is revised to reflect this change.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B11. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following change order:

WHEREAS, Pal-Pro Builders, LLC. was awarded the bid for the Classroom Addition at Grandview School; and

WHEREAS, Pal-Pro Builders, LLC. has submitted the following change order proposal which has been approved by the architect:

Change Order Proposal – **GC #07**
The removal of additional existing devices and electrical terminations of the same (GC PCO-9) in the amount of $1,462.21 to be deducted from the Allowance #1.

The Total Contract value will not change; Total Contract sum $5,310,000.00

AND WHEREAS, DiCara Rubino Architects has verified that these changes are necessary based upon the need to rectify unforeseen conditions uncovered during construction pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-4.9;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves this change order and the contract amount is revised to reflect this change.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B12. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following change order:

WHEREAS, Pal-Pro Builders, LLC. was awarded the bid for the Classroom Addition at Grandview School; and

WHEREAS, Pal-Pro Builders, LLC. has submitted the following change order proposal which has been approved by the architect:

Change Order Proposal – **GC #08**
Material cost increase for owner requested finish changes per Bulletin #3 (GC PCO-13) in the amount of $1,760.00 to be deducted from the Allowance #1

The Total Contract value will not change; Total Contract sum $5,310,000.00

AND WHEREAS, DiCara Rubino Architects has verified that these changes are necessary based upon the need to rectify unforeseen conditions uncovered during construction pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-4.9;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves this change order and the contract amount is revised to reflect this change.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B13. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following change order:

WHEREAS, Pal-Pro Builders, LLC. was awarded the bid for the Classroom Addition at Grandview School; and

WHEREAS, Pal-Pro Builders, LLC. has submitted the following change order proposal which has been approved by the architect:

Change Order Proposal – **GC #09**
Labor and materials to supply and install owner approved playgrounds (GC PCO-17) in the amount of $330,333.11. to be deducted from the Allowance #3 in the amount of $325,000.00 and allowance #1 in the amount of $5,333.11.

The Total Contract value will not change; Total Contract sum $5,310,000.00

AND WHEREAS, DiCara Rubino Architects has verified that these changes are necessary based upon the need to rectify unforeseen conditions uncovered during construction pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-4.9;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves this change order and the contract amount is revised to reflect this change.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

B14. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the purchase of a 2026 Ford F250 pickup truck utilizing New Jersey State Contract #24-Fleet-103120 per attached quote.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

P1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Professional Development Workshops/Conferences costs for the following staff:

Name	Date	Workshop	Cost Not to Exceed
Castiglia, A.	2/7/2026	NJIDA Winter Institute	$35.00
Chappell, R.	3/22-3/25	NJSBGA Conference	$1,070.00

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

P2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following staff as Winter Concert Chaperones at a rate of $35.oo per hour not to exceed 4 hours:

Approvato, Nicole
Girardi, Maria
Graziano, Guisseppina
Schaffert, Gabrielle

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

P3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, regretfully accept the retirement of **Dawn Laurenzano** effective July 1, 2026.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

P4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, regretfully accept the retirement of **Laura Decker** effective July 1, 2026.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

P5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve **Jennifer O'Neill** as an Instructional Assistant at a prorated salary of $33,780 (Instructional Assistant Step 2) effective February 23, 2026, to June 30, 2026.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

P6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve **Julia Cali** for up to two (2) hours of home instruction at a rate of $75.00 per hour effective for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year for **student #8006405.**

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

P7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, regretfully accept the resignation of **David Blackowski** effective March 23, 2026.

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

P8. **WHEREAS** the below listed staff members have applied for tuition reimbursement in accordance with Article 6, Section C of the negotiated agreement, and have completed requirements in accordance with the same.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the reimbursement of tuition in the amounts listed for the courses attended during the **Summer of 2025:**

Name	Course	University	Credits	Eligible Reimbursement
Brady, J.	Curriculum Leadership	Caldwell	3	$ 1567.50
Boag, M.	Styles of Teaching	TCNJ	3	$ 1567.50
Calabrese, S.	Styles of Teaching	TCNJ	3	$ 1567.50
DeMartino, A.	Styles of Teaching	TCNJ	3	$ 1567.50
DeVita, J.	Styles of Teaching	TCNJ	3	$ 1567.50
Doolen, J.	Styles of Teaching	TCNJ	3	$ 1567.50
Rooney, D.	Healthcare Delivery & Policy	NJCU	3	$ 1567.50
Schechter, C.	Enhancing Comprehension	Augustana	3	$ 341.00
Schneider, K.	Styles of Teaching	TCNJ	3	$ 1567.50
Stevenson, C.	Styles of Teaching	TCNJ	3	$ 1567.50
Sullo, J.	Coll w/ Fam, Students & Prof in Community	Monmouth	3	$ 1567.50
Worrall, S.	Ed Law	WPU	3	$ 1567.50

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No:

P9. **WHEREAS,** the below listed staff members have applied for tuition reimbursement in accordance with Article 6, Section C of the negotiated agreement, and have completed requirements in accordance with the same.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED That the Board upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the reimbursement of tuition in the amounts listed for the courses attended during the **Fall of 2025:**

Name	Course	University	Credits	Eligible Reimbursement
Brady, J.	General Principles of Staff Supervision	Caldwell Univ	3	$ 1,567.50
Geraci, A.	Ed Research I	Caldwell Univ	3	$ 1,567.50
Romero, I.	Curriculum Inst Assess	MSU	3	$ 1,567.50
Romero, I	Effective Leadership	MSU	3	$ 1,567.50
Rooney, D.	Capstone	NJCU	3	$ 1,567.50
Sullo, J.	Adv Inst Methods in SPED	Monmouth Univ	3	$ 1,567.50
Worrall, S.	Assess Learning Dis	Caldwell Univ	3	$ 1,567.50

Moved: Seconded:

Yes: No: