

**Mansfield Township Board of Education**



**Thursday, February 19, 2026**

7:00 p.m.

**Call to Order** - Alison Lorentson, President

**Roll Call** - Gail Libby, Acting Board Secretary

**Mansfield Township Board of Education**

|                               |               |                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Alison Lorentson, President   | Judy Irwin    | Richard Stewart |
| Linda Watters, Vice President | Jonathan Lemp | James J. Winand |
| Sean Breheny                  | Jonathan Rood | Vincent Weiss   |

**Pledge of Allegiance** - Alison Lorentson

**Executive Session** -

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-11, permits the board of education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the Mansfield Township Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss:

- Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule*
- Pending Litigation*
- Personnel Matters*
- Matters of Attorney/Client Privilege*
- Confidential Student Matters*

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mansfield Township Board of Education reserves the right to discuss such other matters rendered confidential by law should the need arise;

and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

**Approval to go into Executive Session,**

Motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to move to Closed Session at \_\_\_\_\_ (time) for approximately \_\_\_\_\_ minutes. Action will / will not be taken upon return to open session. Voice Vote.

### **Reconvene to Open Session**

Motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to return to Open Session at \_\_\_\_\_ (time). Voice Vote.

### **President's Announcement**

#### **Statement of Advance Notice**

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice 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 the Act, The Mansfield Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on the District website and in the Mansfield Township Municipal Building, and sent to the following newspapers: *The Express Times and Star Ledger*

#### **Oath of Office**

##### **Three (3) Three-Year Terms:**

Jonathan Rood

#### **President's Report** - Alison Lorentson

- *Board member appointments for 2026:*

**Education/Policy:** Linda Watters (Chair), James Winand, Vincent Weiss

**Finance:** Sean Breheney (Chair), Rich Stewart, Judy Irwin

**Negotiations:** Jonathan Rood (Chair), James Winand, Alison Lorentson

**Personnel:** James Winand (Chair), Linda Watters, Alison Lorentson, Jonathan Rood

**Township:** Jonathan Lemp (Chair), Vincent Weiss

**Delegate to NJ School Boards Association-** Linda Watters

**Policy Chairperson-** Linda Watters

**Representative to the County School Board Association-** Alison Lorentson

**CSA Evaluation Alternate Lead (If President Unavailable)-** Linda Watters

#### **Superintendent's Report** - Diana Mai

- SSDS Bi-Annual Report
- Report: Muscenetcong Watershed Presentation

#### **Administrators' Reports**

- Acting Business Administrator/Board Secretary - Gail Libby
- Principal - Noreen Matias

**Communications and Petitions (If required)** – The Superintendent and members of the Board may acknowledge any communications and/or petitions received.

**Public Comment - Agenda Items Only**

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only, in accordance with Board Policy 6130 which is available for review on our website, will be heard at this time. Each speaker must state their name, address, and group affiliation, if applicable. Comments are limited to 3 minutes per person.

The Board bears no responsibility for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

**Consent Agenda - Recommended Action(s)**

**Board Member: Linda Watters**

**Approval of Minutes and Reports**

1. Motion to approve the open and closed session **minutes** of the January 29, 2026 Regular meeting.
2. Motion to receive/approve the **HIB Report Cases**, as presented, as recommended by the Superintendent.

| Month/Year | HIB # | Founded (Y/N) | Remediation (Y/N) | Discipline (Y/N) | Counseling (Y/N) |
|------------|-------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| July 2025  | none  |               |                   |                  |                  |
| Aug. 2025  | none  |               |                   |                  |                  |
| Sept. 2025 | none  |               |                   |                  |                  |
| Oct. 2025  | none  |               |                   |                  |                  |
| Nov. 2025  | none  |               |                   |                  |                  |
| Dec. 2025  | none  |               |                   |                  |                  |
| Jan. 2026  | 1     | Y             | Y                 | Y                | Y                |
| Feb. 2026  |       |               |                   |                  |                  |
| Mar. 2026  |       |               |                   |                  |                  |
| Apr. 2026  |       |               |                   |                  |                  |
| May 2026   |       |               |                   |                  |                  |
| June 2026  |       |               |                   |                  |                  |

| MOTION:       |      |      |         |        | SECOND:         |      |      |         |        |
|---------------|------|------|---------|--------|-----------------|------|------|---------|--------|
| Name          | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent | Name            | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent |
| Sean Breheney |      |      |         |        | Richard Stewart |      |      |         |        |
| Judy Irwin    |      |      |         |        | Linda Watters   |      |      |         |        |

|               |  |  |  |  |                  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|--|--|------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Jonathan Lemp |  |  |  |  | James J. Winand  |  |  |  |  |
| Jonathan Rood |  |  |  |  | Alison Lorentson |  |  |  |  |
|               |  |  |  |  |                  |  |  |  |  |

### Approval Agenda

**Chair: Linda Watters**

#### Education/Policy Committee - Recommended Action(s):

1. Motion to **Approve the Submission of the SSDS Bi-Annual Report** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

| MOTION:       |      |      |         |        | SECOND:          |      |      |         |        |
|---------------|------|------|---------|--------|------------------|------|------|---------|--------|
| Name          | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent | Name             | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent |
| Sean Breheney |      |      |         |        | Richard Stewart  |      |      |         |        |
| Judy Irwin    |      |      |         |        | Linda Watters    |      |      |         |        |
| Jonathan Lemp |      |      |         |        | James J. Winand  |      |      |         |        |
| Jonathan Rood |      |      |         |        | Alison Lorentson |      |      |         |        |
| Vincent Weiss |      |      |         |        |                  |      |      |         |        |

### Approval Agenda

**Chair: James Winand**

#### Personnel Committee - Recommended Action(s)

1. Motion to approve the following staff for **payment under the LIFT Grant**, at the MEA contract rate(s), as recommended by the Superintendent.

| Employee         | LIFT Grant Activities   | Hours                          |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Selena Donaldson | Coordinator of on-site and off-site events for literacy grant initiative; coordinator of LIFT Grant program | Not to exceed forty (40) hours |
| Kathy Jacoby     | March 18th Reading Adventure Lift Grant Event   | Not to exceed two (2) hours    |
| Beth Scheiner    | March 18th Reading Adventure Lift Grant Event   | Not to exceed two (2) hours    |
| Ruth Byrne       | March 18th Reading Adventure Lift Grant Event   | Not to exceed two (2) hours    |

2. Motion to approve the **appointments and transfers** of the below staff members, as presented, as recommended by the Superintendent.

| Employee         | Position                   | Salary/Guide Step | Effective Date                  |
|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Jonathan Carlile | Leave Replacement (.7 FTE) | BA Step 1         | On or about May 1, 2026         |
| Dwight Jones     | Substitute Custodian       | \$17.00/hour      | Pending Completion of Paperwork |
| Jonathan Carlile | Substitute Teacher         | \$125.00 p.d.     | March 1, 2026                   |

3. Motion to approve the below staff requests for **Professional Development**, as recommended by the Superintendent.

| Employee      | Event/Provider                        | Date(s) | District Cost                     |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Noreen Matias | LinkIt! User Groups, Secaucus, NJ     | 3/12/26 | \$0.00 Reg Fee<br>\$53.86 Mileage |
| Hannah Foster | Handwriting Assessment (K-5) -Virtual | 3/20/26 | \$239.00 Reg Fee                  |

| MOTION:       |      |      |         |        | SECOND:          |      |      |         |        |
|---------------|------|------|---------|--------|------------------|------|------|---------|--------|
| Name          | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent | Name             | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent |
| Sean Breheney |      |      |         |        | Richard Stewart  |      |      |         |        |
| Judy Irwin    |      |      |         |        | Linda Watters    |      |      |         |        |
| Jonathan Lemp |      |      |         |        | James J. Winand  |      |      |         |        |
| Jonathan Rood |      |      |         |        | Alison Lorentson |      |      |         |        |
| Vincent Weiss |      |      |         |        |                  |      |      |         |        |

### Township Liaison Agenda

#### Township Chair:

#### Township Committee - Recommended Action(s):

1. No requested action/update as needed.

### Approval Agenda

#### Chair: Judy Irwin

#### Facilities/Finance Committee - Recommended Action(s)

1. Motion to approve the **payment of bills** for the period of January 30, 2026 through February 19, 2026, as presented, in the amount of \$1,305,424.02, as recommended by the Superintendent.

2. Motion to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Board Secretary for January 31, 2026, and after review of the **Board Secretary’s and January 31, 2026 Treasurer’s Reports**, certify that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3 and 4, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year, and that no budgetary line-item account has been exceeded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1, and that no line-item account has encumbrances and expenditure, which in total exceed the line-item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A23-2.11(a).
3. Motion to acknowledge receipt of the monthly certification of the Board Secretary for November 31, 2025, and after review of the **Board Secretary’s and November 30, 2025 Treasurer’s Reports**, certify that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3 and 4, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year, and that no budgetary line-item account has been exceeded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1, and that no line-item account has encumbrances and expenditure, which in total exceed the line-item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A23-2.11(a).
4. Motion to approve the below requests for Facilities **Usage** as presented, as recommended by the Superintendent.

| Requesting Party                                | Event/Location Requested                       | Dates             | Cost to Use |
|---|--|-------------------|-------------|
| Kaylee Birmingham                               | Wellness and Science Fair - APR and GYM        | 3/5/26            | 0           |
| Kaylee Birmingham                               | March Madness - GYM                            | 3/12/26           | 0           |
| Mike Santoiemma - Mansfield Recreation-Softball | Softball Practices - GYM                       | 3/16/26-4/16-26   | 0           |
| Ruth Byrne                                      | Family Art Night - APR                         | 2/24/26 & 2/25/26 | 0           |
| Ruth Byrne                                      | Art Show - APR and Hallways                    | 4/22/26           | 0           |
| Selena Donaldson                                | LIFT Grant Event - APR/Library/Art-ESL Hallway | 3/18/26           | 0           |
| Laura Baggerly                                  | PTA Thank You Breakfast - APR                  | 3/25/25           | 0           |
| Alexis DeLeon                                   | PTA- Tricky Tray APR and hallways              | 3/20/26-3/21/26   | 0           |

5. Motion to approve the **Submission of a Waiver from Participation In the Special Education Medicaid-Initiative (SEMI)** for the 2026-2027 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.
6. Motion to approve the submission of the **New Jersey Learning Acceleration Program - High Impact Tutoring Competitive Grant** application in the amount of **\$40,000** to provide high dosage, intensive tutoring for students in grades 3 and 4.

7. Motion to approve the below **RESOLUTION**:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby **Authorizes the Extension and Expansion of the Engagement of Octillo Legal & Tech of New York**, to conduct continued data security investigation, including any new or supplemental matters that may arise, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the proposal dated January 12, 2026; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby **Approves Additional Funds** or these services in an amount **not to exceed \$15,000**.

8. Motion to approve the below **RESOLUTION**:

**WHEREAS**, the Mansfield Township Board of Education desires to provide student transportation services to specific destinations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hopatcong Board of Education, operating as the Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative, is willing to coordinate such transportation services;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mansfield Township Board of Education hereby **Approves Participation in the Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative for the 2026–2027 School Year**; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the President and Secretary of the Board are authorized to execute an agreement with the Hopatcong Board of Education, operating as the Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative, and any related documents necessary to implement said services, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth therein.

9. Motion to approve the below **RESOLUTION**:

**WHEREAS**, the Mansfield Township Board of Education seeks to **Acquire Technology Equipment and Requires Financing** to support this acquisition; and

**WHEREAS**, the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCESC) Lease Purchase Bidding Advisory Service provides professional services to assist school districts in developing lease purchase specifications and managing the bidding and closing process;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mansfield Township Board of Education hereby **Retains the HCESC Lease Purchase Bidding Advisory Service to Provide Advisory Services** in connection with the development of lease purchase specifications, evaluation of proposals, and assistance with closing documentation; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District agrees to compensate HCESC at its Board-approved rate of one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the total financing amount, with a **minimum fee of \$1,250** and a **maximum fee of \$9,500**; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate this resolution, upon recommendation by HCESC and review by Board counsel.

10. Motion to **Approve the Musconetcong Watershed Association’s Proposal** to implement the Green Carbon Forest Restoration Project (a native tree and shrub planting project on school property). This project aligns with the district’s commitment to environmental education, outdoor learning, and stewardship of local natural resources.
11. Motion to approve the following **2025/2026 Coordinated Transportation Agreement**, as recommended by the Superintendent:

**WHEREAS**, the Mansfield Township School District Board of Education desires to transport special education and their own public school students to specific destinations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Warren County Special Services School District, hereinafter referred to as WCSSSD, offers coordinated transportation services; and

**WHEREAS**, the WCSSSD will organize and schedule routes to achieve the maximum cost effectiveness, so

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, this coordinated agreement is approved in consideration of prorated contract costs, plus a 5.0% administration fee as presented.

| MOTION:       |      |      |         |        | SECOND:          |      |      |         |        |
|---------------|------|------|---------|--------|------------------|------|------|---------|--------|
| Name          | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent | Name             | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent |
| Sean Breheney |      |      |         |        | Richard Stewart  |      |      |         |        |
| Judy Irwin    |      |      |         |        | Linda Watters    |      |      |         |        |
| Jonathan Lemp |      |      |         |        | James J. Winand  |      |      |         |        |
| Jonathan Rood |      |      |         |        | Alison Lorentson |      |      |         |        |
| Vincent Weiss |      |      |         |        |                  |      |      |         |        |

**Public Comment**

Public Comment, in accordance with Board Policy 6130 which is available for review on our website, will be heard at this time. Each speaker must state their name, address, and group affiliation, if applicable. Comments are limited to 3 minutes per person.

The Board bears no responsibility for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

**New Business** - Members of the Board may introduce any new item or topic of discussion for the Board to consider.

**Old Business** - Members of the Board may comment on any item or topic that was previously discussed by the Board.

**Future Board Meeting Dates:**

|                                     |                               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Thursday, March 12, 2026            | Regular Business Meeting      |
| Thursday, April 16, 2026            | Regular Business Meeting      |
| Wednesday, May 6, 2026              | Budget Hearing Meeting        |
| Thursday, June 11, 2026             | Regular Business Meeting      |
| Thursday, July 16, 2026 (if needed) | Regular Business Meeting      |
| Thursday, August 20, 2026           | Regular Business Meeting      |
| Thursday, September 17, 2026        | Regular Business Meeting      |
| Thursday, October 15, 2026          | Regular Business Meeting      |
| Thursday, November 19, 2026         | Regular Business Meeting      |
| Thursday, December 10, 2026         | Regular Business Meeting      |
| Wednesday, January 5, 2027          | Annual Reorganization Meeting |

**Executive Session** (if needed)

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the Mansfield Township Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss:

- Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule*
- Pending Litigation*
- Personnel Matters*
- Matters of Attorney/Client Privilege*
- Confidential Student Matters*
- Potential Board of Education Member*

**Approval to go into Executive Session**

Motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to move to Closed Session at \_\_\_\_\_ (time) for approximately \_\_\_\_\_ minutes. Action will / will not be taken upon return to open session. Voice Vote.

**Reconvene to Open Session**

Motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to return to Open Session at \_\_\_\_\_ (time). Voice Vote.

**Adjournment**

**Recommended Action** - Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to Adjourn the meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ (time). Voice Vote.