



MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION

60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430

Richard DeSilva, Jr.
1st Vice President

Brett Coplin
Trista Daveniero
Michael Galow

Prema C. Moorthy, PhD
President

Benjamin A. Kezmarsky
2nd Vice President

Christopher L. Hughes
Steve Huston
Janine Ting Jansen

February 25, 2026
PUBLIC ACTION MEETING
7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

PLEASE NOTE

This meeting of the Mahwah Board of Education is open to members of the public to be physically present. Members of the public that attend will be asked to follow the same procedures as all other visitors to our schools. Those procedures can be found on the agenda page of our website. Additionally, the Board meeting will be live streamed for viewing purposes only. Anyone wishing to view the meeting, may do so via Zoom (<https://zoom.us>). The webinar ID for this meeting is 853-0524-1009 and the required password is 859135.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. President's Announcement: Adequate notice of the agenda for this meeting has been provided to *The Ridgewood News and The Record* specifying that the Mahwah Board of Education will meet on February, 25, 2026, at Betsy Ross School 20 Malcolm Rd., Mahwah, NJ. A copy was filed with the Township Clerk.
4. Salute to the Flag
5. Motion to Recess to Executive Session under Chapter 231, P.L. (Sunshine Law), which authorizes a public body to discuss personnel, negotiations and legal matters.

Personnel Matters
Confidential Student Matters
Legal Update

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

6. Motion to Reconvene to Public Action Meeting to take action on matters discussed in Executive Session

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

7. Agenda Questions

Please limit your questions, at this time, to resolutions under New Business on this agenda. As a matter of fairness, you are asked to limit your questions to no more than one, and your remarks to no longer than three minutes. If you are here representing a group, please identify yourself, the group and your position in the group. If you are here as an individual, please give us your name and address. This section of public

participation will be limited to fifteen minutes. Please specify the resolution you are referring to in your question.

8. Motion to open meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

9. Motion to close meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

10. Mahwah Student Representative Report

11. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Michael DeTuro

- Student Safety Data System (SSDS) Reporting Period 1 Presentation

12. Assistant Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Dennis M. Fare

13. Business Administrator/Board Secretary’s Report – Ms. Katherine A. Hiromoto

14. President’s Report

15. Board Committee Reports

- Instructional & Curriculum/Special Education – P. Moorthy (Chair), T. Daveniero, M. Galow, B. Coplin, J. Ting Jansen (Alt.)
- Finance & Facilities – M. Galow (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky, J. Ting Jansen, P. Moorthy (Alt.)
- Policy – J. Ting Jansen (Chair), C. Hughes, S. Huston, R. DeSilva
- Community Relations – B. Coplin (Chair), T. Daveniero, S. Huston, C. Hughes, M. Galow (Alt.)
- Executive/Planning Committee – P. Moorthy (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky
- Transportation Committee – B. Coplin (Chair) T. Daveniero, C. Hughes, M. Galow
- Negotiations – J. Ting Jansen (Chair), M. Galow, B. Kezmarsky, P. Moorthy
- Bergen County School Boards Liaison – M. Galow, P. Moorthy (Alt.)
- New Jersey School Boards Legislative Liaison – P. Moorthy
- Mahwah Schools Foundation Liaison – B. Kezmarsky, B. Coplin (Alt.)
- Mahwah Access for All Liaison – S. Huston, M. Galow (Alt.)
- Board of Education Liaison to Town Council - B. Kezmarsky, R. DeSilva, (Alt.)

16. Board Member Remarks/Additional Comments on Reports or Other Non-Agenda Items

17. New Business – Other

a. Financial Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of bills for the period of 02/12/2026 to 02/25/2026.

General Current Expense	Fund 11	\$840,099.71
Region 1	Fund 52	\$25.80
Cafeteria	Fund 60	\$195,619.09
Total of All Checks		\$1,035,744.60

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

b. Region 1-Transportation Routes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education awards the following transportation routes for 2025-2026 school year as per the bid of February 12, 2026:

Route	Contractor	Per diem	Inc/Dec	Aide
E1630	First Choice Tranz	\$329.00	\$1.95	\$59.00
E1639	Destiny 23 Transportation	\$198.00	\$1.90	\$50.00
E1643	Destiny 23 Transportation	\$249.00	\$1.90	\$50.00
E1644	D&R Transportation	\$125.00	\$3.00	\$40.00
E1645	R&May Transportation	\$220.00	\$2.00	\$40.00
E1646	R&May Transportation	\$190.00	\$2.00	\$25.00
E1647	Safeguard Transportation	\$193.00	\$3.50	\$38.00

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

c. Region 1- Special Education Transportation Routes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education awards the following special education transportation routes for 2025-2026 school year as per quotes received:

Route	Contractor	Per diem	Inc/Dec	Aide
Q702	First Choice Tranz	\$269.00	\$1.95	\$54.00
Q703	R&May	\$265.00	\$2.00	\$50.00
Q704	D&M Tours	\$218.26	\$3.00	\$80.00
Q705	Stellar School Transportation	\$164.00	\$1.00	\$40.00
Q706	J&W Financial LLC	\$160.00	\$3.00	\$35.00
Q707	Destiny 23	\$145.00	\$1.90	\$40.00
Q708	D&R Transportation	\$170.00	\$3.00	\$45.00

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

d. Conferences/Workshops

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves attendance at the following conferences/workshops that are deemed to be educationally appropriate and for the benefit of the school district including conference/workshop fees and necessary travel expenses. The conference/workshop amount shall align with the staff member's

annual contractual allowance.

First	Last	Conference/Workshop	Date	Amount
Faisal	Sheikh	NJGPA-Adaptive, NJSLA-Adaptive, and NJSLA-Science Training	2/24/2026	N/A
Faisal	Sheikh	Atlas Professional Development (Virtual)	2/27/2026	\$150.00
Christine	Hartigan Miller	DECA State competition	03/02 - 03/05/2026	\$418.00
Matthew	Miller	DECA State Competition	03/02 - 03/05/2026	\$598.00
Carolyn	Ferguson	DECA SCDC	03/02 - 03/05/2026	\$598.00
Heather	Tirino	Deca States Competition	03/02 - 03/05/2026	\$598.00
Kaitlyn	Dawson	Speech Retreat	3/7/2026	\$98.00
Shawn	Daly	Educators Who Work in Programs for 18–21-year-olds - Community of Practice	3/10/2026	N/A
Matthew	Surich	NJSIAA Boys and Girls State Wrestling Tournament	03/12 - 03/14/2026	\$2,208.58
Nikki	Van Ess	NJPSA G and T Arts 6 - 12 Articulation	3/23/2026	N/A
Courtney	Carrelha	Arts and G&T programs	3/23/2026	N/A
Gwenael	Calvez	ITEEA Conference	03/25 - 03/26/2026	\$1,892.81
Andrew	Coe	International Technology and Engineering Educations Association Annual Conference	03/25 - 03/26/2026	\$1,893.65
Lynn	Morneweck-Fuld	AP Music Theory Exam Reading	06/12, 06/15, 06/17/2026	N/A
Elissa	Cording	AP English Language and Composition Reading	06/12, 06/15, 06/16/2026	N/A
Allison	Krannich	2026 AP Literature and Composition Reading	06/15, 06/16, 06/17/2026	N/A

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

e. Field Trips

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following field trips:

Group/Destination	Date(s)	School	# of Students
Career Education (9-12) to Lenape Meadows & Ramapo Ridge Middle School, Mahwah, NJ	2/23/26 2/27/26 3/5/26 3/11/26 3/17/26 3/24/26 4/6/26 4/10/26 4/16/26 4/22/26	MHS	4
Boys Lacross (9-12) to Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ	3/22/26	MHS	20
Spirit Band (6-8) to West Essex High School, Caldwell, NJ	4/14/26	RR	55

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

f. First Reading of Policy

P2422 Statutory Curricular Requirements

g. Second Reading and Adoption of Policies and Regulations

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the second reading and adoption of the following:

- P0142.1 Nepotism
- P0143 Board Member Election and Appointment
- P0173 Duties of Public-School Accountant
- P0174 Legal Services
- P0177 Professional Services
- P1220 Employment of Chief School Administrator
- P&R1552 Sexual Harassment
- P&R1570 Internal Controls
- P1620 Administrative Employment Contracts
- P&R6111 Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program
- P&R6220 Budget Preparation
- P2422 Statutory Curricular Requirements
- P&R2535 Library Materials
- P5339.01 Student Sun Protection

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

h. Therapy Dog

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves The Bright and Beautiful Therapy Dogs Inc., to provide dog therapy services to students, at Lenape Meadows School, for the 2025 – 2026 school year; at no cost to the district.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

i. Out of District Placement – Transportation Agreement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a transportation agreement with the Winslow Township Board of Education for the transportation of a student with local identification number 38466, retroactive from January 21, 2026, through June 30, 2026, at a total cost of \$3,080.14.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

j. 2026-2027 SEMI CAP

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following resolution:

WHEREAS, per N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3(f), an action plan is required for those school districts that did not meet at least 90 percent parental consent response and/or 100 percent of budgeted revenue by the end of the fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, The Mahwah Board of Education, as required, will submit the NJSEMI Corrective Action Plan with the 2026-2027 budget submission;

NOW, THEREFORE, The Board of Education approves the NJ SEMI Corrective Action Plan for the (FY) 2027 SEMI program performance.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

18. New Business – Personnel

a. Retirement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Jennifer Ehrenberg, teacher of special education, at Betsy Ross School, for the purpose of retirement; with a final date of employment June 30, 2026.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mahwah Board of Education expresses its sincere appreciation for her 21 years of dedication and service to the Mahwah Public Schools.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

b. Retirement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Laura Landesman, teacher of special education, at Betsy Ross

School and Lenape Meadows School, for the purpose of retirement; with a final date of employment June 30, 2026.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mahwah Board of Education expresses its sincere appreciation for her 24 years of dedication and service to the Mahwah Public Schools.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

c. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Anne Rubin, as 12-month administrative assistant to the technology and buildings/grounds departments, at Central Office, from March 16, 2026 – June 30, 2026; salary to be Step 5, \$56,005, pro-rated; pending employment verification.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

d. Appointment – Leave Replacement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Zoe Saint, as leave replacement for Employee #4864, pursuant to New Jersey Statute 18A:16-1.1, from May 25, 2026 – June 12, 2026 and June 22, 2026 – June 26, 2026; salary to be Column A, Step 1, \$58,891, pro-rated; pending employment verification.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

e. Appointment – Ramapo Ridge Middle School Track and Field Head Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Cristen Shannon, as Ramapo Ridge Middle School track and field head coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$5,444.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

f. Appointment – Ramapo Ridge Middle School Track and Field Assistant Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Catherine Scudiere, as Ramapo Ridge Middle School track and field assistant coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$3,208.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

g. Appointment – Ramapo Ridge Middle School Track and Field Assistant Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Sarah Meakem, as Ramapo Ridge Middle School track and field assistant coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$3,208.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

h. NJFLA Intermittent Leave of Absence - Update

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves an intermittent NJFLA leave of absence update for Employee #9408, effective retroactive and taking sick days concurrently during the following dates: October 21, 2025 – October 24, 2025; October 29, 2025 – October 30, 2025; November 3, 2025 – November 5, 2025; December 9, 2025 – December 10, 2025; December 16, 2025 – December 17, 2025; January 6, 2026; January 13, 2026; February 3, 2026; February 10, 2026; February 24, 2026; March 10, 2026; March 17, 2026; March 24, 2026.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

i. NJFLA/Childcare/Maternity Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence for Employee #4864, using 40 sick days and taking FMLA concurrently, effective June 1, 2026 – September 25, 2026, and taking NJFLA from September 28, 2026 – December 18, 2026.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

j. NJFLA/Childcare/Maternity Leave of Absence - Update

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence update for Employee #4711, using 34 sick days and taking FMLA concurrently, effective March 9, 2026 – May 1, 2026, and taking NJFLA from May 4, 2026 – June 26, 2026, and September 1, 2026 – September 25, 2026.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

k. Revision - Extra Service Positions

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the extra service positions for the 2025-2026 school year at the negotiated stipend rate, as shown on Schedules H of the MEA contract.

Mahwah High School

Co-curricular Activity	Advisors	Dates
Senior Class Advisor	Taylor Kanderis	9/1/26 – 5/22/26
Senior Class Advisor	Samantha Fogarty	5/23/26 – 6/30/26

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

19. Public Questions or Comment

Public participation at Board meetings is in accordance with Bylaw 0167.

At this time, members of the public may ask questions or make a comment on educational issues or school matters of community interest. As a matter of fairness, you are asked to limit your questions to no more than one, and your remarks to no longer than three minutes. If you are here representing a group, please identify yourself, the group, and your position in the group. If you are here as an individual, please give us your name and address.

Note: This section of public participation will be limited to fifteen minutes.

20. Motion to open meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

21. Motion to close meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

22. Motion to Recess to Executive Session under Chapter 231, P.L. (Sunshine Law), which authorizes a public body to discuss personnel, negotiations and legal matters.

- Personnel matters
- Confidential Student Matters
- Legal Update

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

23. Motion to Reconvene to Public Action Meeting to take action on matters discussed in Executive Session

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

24. Motion to Adjourn

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

Upcoming Events

2/26/26	Lenape Meadows HSO Zoom Meeting 7:00 p.m.
2/26/26	Referendum Presentation George Washington Bingo Night, 6:00 p.m.
3/4/26	Mahwah Board of Education Meeting @ Mahwah High School, 7:00 p.m.
3/6/26	Betsy Ross HSO Meeting 9:00 a.m.
3/6/26	Joyce Kilmer HSO Meeting Virtual 12:00 p.m.
3/10/26	Referendum Vote
3/13/26	Single Session for Students – Staff Development
3/18/26	George Washington HSO Meeting – Hybrid – 6:00 p.m.
3/19/26	Ramapo Ridge HSO Meeting Zoom 9:00 a.m.
3/20/26	Eid al-Fitr- Schools Closed
3/24/26	Lenape Meadows HSO Meeting 2:30 p.m.
3/25/26	Mahwah Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
3/30-3/31/26	Spring Recess – Schools Closed
4/1-4/2/26	Spring Recess – Schools Closed

4/3/26	Good Friday – Schools Closed
4/8/26	Mahwah Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
4/10/26	Betsy Ross HSO Meeting 7:00 p.m.
4/10/26	Joyce Kilmer HSO Meeting Virtual 12:00 p.m.
4/16/26	Mahwah High School HSA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
4/22/26	Lenape Meadows HSO Meeting 2:30 p.m.
4/23/26	Ramapo Ridge HSO Meeting Zoom 9:00 a.m.
4/29/26	Mahwah Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
5/1/26	Betsy Ross HSO Meeting TBD
5/8/26	Joyce Kilmer HSO Meeting Virtual 12:00 p.m.
5/18/26	Mahwah High School HSA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
5/20/26	Mahwah Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
5/20/26	George Washington HSO Meeting – Hybrid – 6:00 p.m.
5/20/26	Lenape Meadows HSO Meeting 7:00 p.m.
5/25/26	Memorial Day – Schools Closed
6/10/26	Mahwah Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
6/11/26	Ramapo Ridge HSO Meeting Zoom 9:00 a.m.
6/12/26	Joyce Kilmer HSO Meeting Virtual 12:00 p.m.
6/16/26	Lenape Meadows HSO Meeting 2:30 p.m.
6/17/26	George Washington HSO Meeting – Hybrid – 6:00 p.m.
6/18/26	Betsy Ross HSO Meeting 9:00 a.m.
6/24/26	Single Session for Students Grade 8 Promotion Exercises
6/25/26	Last Day of School – Single Session for Students High School Graduation
6/26/26	Last Day for Staff