RUMSON-FAIR HAVEN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION
RUMSON, NEW JERSEY 07760

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Regular Meeting
February 26, 2026
Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School Learning Commons
6:30 p.m.
AGENDA

"Our mission is to empower all of our students with the tools to find their passions and thrive as knowledgeable, confident, resilient, creative, and compassionate citizens of a global community."

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Salute the Flag**
3. **Statement of Compliance**

   Adequate notice of this meeting has been disseminated in accordance with NJSA 10:4-8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, specifying the date, time and place and filed with the Asbury Park Press, the Two River Times, the Borough Clerks, posted on the District website and in the Main Office.
4. **Roll Call**

Mr. Dougherty		Mr. Leddin		Ms. Romano	
Mr. Grant		Mrs. McGinty		Mrs. Thompson	
Mrs. Kiley		Mrs. Pagano		Mrs. Whitehouse	

5. **Welcome of Visitors**
6. **Communications**
7. **Special Recognition/Presentations**
   - ❖ January Dawg of the Month - Avery Kliewe, Melissa Edwards, Cole Spoonire, Catherine Caulfied, Valerie Kilar, Melissa Donofri
   - ❖ January Fan of the Month - Gus Lyle
   - ❖ NJSBA Training - Dr. Timothy Teehan - Board Member Roles & Responsibilities
   - ❖ District Goals Update - Lee McDonald
   - ❖ Budget Presentation #1 - Sean Cranston

8. **Board Reports**
   - ❖ Student Representative Report - Jayla McGinnis & Cooper Barrett
   - ❖ Athletics & Activities - Mrs. Whitehouse - February 11, 2026
   - ❖ Culture, Climate, Community Relations - Mr. Dougherty - February 3, 2026
   - ❖ Education - Mrs. Kiley - February 4, 2026
   - ❖ Finance & Facilities - Mr. Leddin - February 17, 2026
   - ❖ Personnel - Mrs. McGinty - February 18, 2026
   - ❖ Policy - Mrs. Pagano - February 5, 2026
   - ❖ Superintendent's Report

Drills

TYPE OF DRILL	DATE	TIME	DURATION
Fire Drill	January 7	1:45 p.m.	6 minutes
Lock Down	January 20	12:50 p.m.	10 minutes

Enrollment - 790 as of January 31, 2026

9. **Public Comment on Agenda Items**
10. **ACTION ITEMS**

MINUTES

The superintendent recommends Minutes item #1

Approve Board Meeting Minutes

1. Recommend Board approval of the following meeting minutes:
   a. January 27, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

PERSONNEL

The superintendent recommends personnel items #2 - 14

2. **Approval of the Appointment of Communications Manager for the 2025 - 2026 School Year**
   Recommend Board approval of the appointment of Eileen Connair as the Communications Manager for the 2025 - 2026 school year beginning March 2, 2026 or sooner through June 30, 2026 at an hourly rate of $30.00 per hour not to exceed 29.50 hours per week.

3. **Approval of Leave of Absence**

Recommend Board approval of leaves of absence for the 2025-2026 SY as listed:

No.	Employee #	Leave of Absence Dates
1.	5307	Unpaid Leave of Absence 2/25 - 2/27/2026 Return Date 3/2/2026

4. **Approval of a Change in Leave of Absence for the 2025 - 2026 School Year**

Recommend Board approval of a change in leave of absence for the 2025-2026 SY as listed:

No.	Employee #	From	To
1.	5502	Unpaid Leave of Absence 10/8/2025 - 12/10/2025 Return Date 12/11/2025	Unpaid Leave of Absence 10/8/2025 - 12/12/2025 Return Date 12/15/2025

5. **Approval of Athletic Trainer**

Recommend Board retroactively approve Alex Stein as a substitute athletic trainer for the Men's Mental Health Showcase on January 24, 2026 for 3 hours at a rate of $50.00 per hour.

6. **Approval of Athletic Trainer**

Recommend Board retroactively approve Alex Stein as a substitute athletic trainer for the Holiday Hockey Tournament on December 30 and December 31, 2025 for 4 hours at a rate of $50.00 per hour.

7. **Approval of Substitutes / Home Instructors for the 2025 - 2026 School Year**

Recommend Board approval of the following substitutes / home instructors for the 2025 - 2026 school year:

NAME	SUBSTITUTE/HOME INSTRUCTOR	SUBJECT
Donald Best	Substitute Teacher	N/A
Elizabeth Buchanan	Substitute Teacher	N/A
Alexandra Hanna	Substitute Teacher	N/A

Lincoln Pereira	Substitute Teacher	N/A
Victoria Takacs	Home Instructor	Spanish

8. Approval of Resignation

Recommend Board approval to accept the resignation of Craig Wilson, Assistant Wrestling Coach, effective January 20, 2026.

9. Approval to Amend Coaching Assignment

Recommend Board approval to amend the coaching assignment for Thomas Colella from Volunteer Assistant Wrestling Coach to Assistant Wrestling Coach, effective January 28 through March 14, 2026 at Step 5, $5,672.00, prorated.

10. Approval of Spring Coaches for the 2025 - 2026 School Year

Recommend approval of the following spring coaches for the 2025 - 2026 school year:

BASEBALL - GROUP III	**NAME**	**STEP**	**SALARY**
Head Coach	Owen Stewart	7	$7,929
Assistant Coach	Brandon Wall	7	$5,954
Assistant Coach	Jonathan Troise	6	$5,600
Assistant Coach	Kyle Marinelli	6	$5,600
Volunteer Coach	Joseph Stewart		
Volunteer Coach	Stephen Rosone		
Volunteer Coach	Thomas LaStella		
Volunteer Coach	Thomas Elgrim		
Volunteer Coach	Andrew Schmid		
SOFTBALL - GROUP III			
Head Coach	Daniel Cavalli	7	$7,929
Assistant Coach	Sarah Cavalli	4	$2,433 prorated .50 FTE
Assistant Coach	Marissa Warwick	4	$2,433 prorated .50 FTE

BOYS SPRING TRACK - GROUP III

Head Coach	Jeremy Schulte	7	$7,929
Assistant Coach	Christopher Juliano	4	$4,866
Assistant Coach	Jessica Mentzel	7	$5,954
Volunteer Coach	Ken Young		

GIRLS SPRING TRACK - GROUP III

Head Coach	Michael Haughwout	4	$6,222
Assistant Coach	Bob Keogh	7	$5,954
Volunteer Coach	Carissa Melillo	4	$4,866
Volunteer Coach	Ken Young		
Volunteer Coach	Timothy McLoone		

BOYS LACROSSE - GROUP III

Head Coach	Marc Moreau	7	$7,929
Assistant Coach	Anthony Bonjavanni	7	$5,954
Assistant Coach	George Massabni	6	$5,600
Assistant Coach	Paul Spernal	4	$4,866
Volunteer Coach	Steve Danyluk		
Volunteer Coach	Connor Brown		

GIRLS LACROSSE - GROUP III

Head Coach	Amy O'Keefe	7	$7,929
Assistant Coach	Alyssa Schulte	7	$5,954
Assistant Coach	Shannon Mangini	7	$5,954
Assistant Coach	Gabrielle Eglinton	2	$4,091

BOYS TENNIS - GROUP IV

Head Coach	Don Russell	7	$5,663 + $300 longevity
Assistant Coach	Krista Honnold	2	$3,204

BOYS GOLF - GROUP IV

Head Coach	Brad Margolis	7	$5,663
Assistant Coach	Christopher Quinn	6	$4,158

GIRLS GOLF - GROUP IV

Head Coach	Eric Zullo	6	$5,039
Assistant Coach	Jeffrey Herkimer	6	$4,158

GROUP II

Strength & Conditioning Coach - Spring	Rob Orrok	7	$8,608
Assistant Strength & Conditioning - Spring	Kevin Ninger	2	$4,496

11. Approval of Coaching Appointments Through a Shared Service Agreement

Recommend Board approval of the following coaching appointments through a shared service agreement paid for by the Borough of Rumson.

ROWING - GROUP III

Head Coach	Edward Reilly	7	$7,929
Assistant Coach	Christopher Seslar	7	$5,954
Assistant Coach	Jorge Borges Carvalho	2	$4,091
Assistant Coach	Amanda Davenport	2	$4,091
Assistant Coach	Jennifer Mullins	1	$3,906

12. Approval of Extracurricular Advisors for the 2025 - 2026 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the following extracurricular advisors for the 2025 - 2026 school year as paid for by private donations.

CLUB	GROUP/STIPEND	ADVISOR
Flag Football - Head Coach	Group I / $4,638	Randy Kalman
Flag Football - Assistant Coach	Group IV - $2,296	Kenneth Santos
Flag Football - Volunteer Coach	N/A	John Bellavance
Flag Football - Volunteer Coach	N/A	Glenn Grainger
Flag Football - Volunteer Coach	N/A	Alexandra Hanna
Flag Football - Volunteer Coach	N/A	Louis Rettino
Flag Football - Volunteer Coach	N/A	Kelly Ridolfi

13. Approval of Sidebar Agreement

Recommend Board approval of the Sidebar Agreement between the Rumson Fair Haven Board of Education and the School Employees Association that allows for school staff to begin the 2026 - 2027 school year on Monday, August 31, 2026.

14. Approval of Sidebar Agreement

Recommend Board approval of the Sidebar Agreement between the Rumson Fair Haven Board of Education and the School Employees Association that will compensate teachers $250.00 per pupil to prepare individual student graduation portfolios. Additionally, a minimum of blocks of teacher release time for collaboration with department supervisors will be provided. This sidebar agreement will be for the entire 2025 - 2028 negotiated agreement.

FINANCE

The superintendent recommends finance items #15-34

Board Secretary's Monthly Certification - December 2025

Pursuant to 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, I, Sean Cranston, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certifies that no line item has been over expended in violation of 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Board Secretary's Monthly Certification -January 2026

Pursuant to 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, I, Sean Cranston, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certifies that no line item has been over expended in violation of 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Sean S. Cranston

15. Approval of Bill List

Recommend Board approval of the following bill lists dated **February 24, 2026**:

General Fund	$ 362,088.80
Special Revenue Fund	$ 13,816.72
Capital Projects Fund	$ 0.00
Food Services Fund	$ 73,077.45
Total	**$ 448,982.97**
Payroll 01-30-26	$ 690,661.41
Payroll 02-13-26	$ 613,074.32
Total Expenditures	**$ 1,752,718.70**

16. Approve Board Secretary's Report – December 2025

Recommend Board approval of the Board Secretary's report for **December 31, 2025.**

17. Approve Panda LLC, Cash Reconciliation Report– December 2025

Recommend Board approval of the **Panda LLC Cash Reconciliation** report for **– December 31, 2025**.

18. Budget Transfers - December 2025

Recommend Board approval of the budget transfer report for **December 2025.**

19. Board of Education's Certification of Budgetary Major Account Fund Status

To approve that pursuant to 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, the Board of Education after review of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary's monthly financial reports as of **December 31, 2025**, and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, certifies to the best of their knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of 6A:23A-16.10(b)

and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

20. Approve Board Secretary's Report – January 2026

Recommend Board approval of the Board Secretary's report for **January 31, 2026.**

21. Approve Panda LLC, Cash Reconciliation Report– January 2026

Recommend Board approval of the **Panda LLC Cash Reconciliation** report for **– January 31, 2026**.

22. Budget Transfers - January 2026

Recommend Board approval of the budget transfer report for **January 2026.**

23. Board of Education's Certification of Budgetary Major Account Fund Status

To approve that pursuant to 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, the Board of Education after review of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary's monthly financial reports as of **January 31, 2026**, and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, certifies to the best of their knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of 6A:23A-16.10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

24. Retroactively Approve Use of Facilities - Non Chargeable

Recommend Board to retroactively approve the following applications For Use of School Facilities:

Date(s)	Time(s)	Organization	Event	Facility
2-14-26	Rumson Recreation	Recreation Basketball	Games 1:00-3:00 p.m.	Gymnasium

25. Approval of Attendance at Professional Conferences and or Workshops:

Recommend Board approval of the following staff to attend professional conferences and or workshops as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Date	Name	Conference/Workshop	Registration	Estimated Travel	Day	Location
4-16-26	Carrie Baker	Rutgers Productive Struggle in Algebra & Precalculus	$149	$0	Full	Online
3-9-26	Kerri Bress	School Health Today: Rising to the Challenge Together	$195	$0	Full	Monroe, NJ

2-27-26	Donna Clarke	Keyport Voc School Friends & Family	$0	$0	Half PM	Keyport, NJ
4-16-26	Kristen DeMeter	Productive Struggle in Algebra and Pre-Calculus	$149	$0	Full	Online
3-19-26	Lucrecia Esposito	Leading the Classroom: Strategies for Building Connection, Clarity and Consistency	$149	$0	Full	Tinton Falls, NJ
2-26-26	Kristen Ferrari	District Technology Coordinator Training	$0	$53	Full	Galloway, NJ
3-11-26	Tara Flynn	Meet the Big East Event	$0	$40	Full	New York, NY
4-17-26	Tara Flynn	UPItt Counselor Breakfast	$0	$42	Full	Short Hills, NJ
6-11-26 to 6-19-26	Valerie Kilar	AP Biology Reading	$0	$0	Full	Cincinnati, OH
3-10-26	Yannell Maglione	NJECC Annual Educational Technology Conference	$140	$65	Full	Montclair, NJ
6-27-26 to 7-1-26	Lee McDonald	ISTE/ASCD National Conference	$595	$2,261	Full	Orlando, FL
4-16-26 to 4-17-26	Lindsey McPherson	NJ Speech Language Hearing Association Annual Convention	$285	$0	Full	Iselin, NJ
3-27-26	Jonathan Pennetti	Using AI Tools to Increase Students' Science Learning	$295	$0	Full	Online
3-20-26	Megan Rizzitello	AP Statistics Round Table	$0	$0	Half AM	Rumson, NJ
5-12-26	Marie Tilton	NJASBO Administrative Assistants Training	$145	$45	Full	Mount Laurel, NJ
2-27-26	Erika Waltz	Keyport Voc School Friends & Family	$0	$0	Half PM	Keyport, NJ

26. Approve Proposal - Spiezle Architectural Group - Innovation Lab

Recommend Board approval for Spiezle Architectural Group to provide professional services for the Innovation Lab per proposal dated February 16, 2026 for a lump sum fee of $79,300, plus reimbursable costs for printing and postage.

27. Approval to Accept Donation from the Class of 1975

Recommend board approval to accept a donation of $1,200 from the Class of 1975 to be used to purchase a bench.

28. Approval to Accept Grant from RFH High School Foundation

Recommend board approval to accept a grant in the amount of $17,362.56, to be used to furnish the 400 wing courtyard.

29. Approval of Contract for Photographer

Recommend board approval of Thomas Pantaleo as the RFH School Year Photographer at a rate of $250 per event for up to 16 yearly events, prorated for the 25-26 SY.

30. Approval of Pit Orchestra Consultants for the 2026 Spring Musical

Recommend Board approval of the following pit orchestra consultants for the Spring Musical at a stipend of $599 per person to cover the 3 rehearsals and 5 performances..

No.	Name	Instrument
1	Wagner, Dane	Guitar
2	Cheyette, Mel	Bass
3	Allen, Aaron	Drums
4	Sammond, Robert	Piano

31. Approve Competitive contracting proposal solicitation

BE IT RESOLVED, to authorize the Business Administrator to advertise for Custodial Services using Competitive contracting proposal solicitation, for the 26-27 SY, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.5.

32. Approval of Re-Enrollment of Nonresident Students of Faculty and Staff Members at No Charge for the 2026-2027 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the re-enrollment of the following nonresident student of faculty and staff members at no charge per the Collective Bargaining Agreements for the 2026-2027 school year:

STUDENT #	GRADE	TOWN
28001395	11	Tinton Falls

33. Approval of Enrollment of Nonresident Students of Faculty and Staff Members at No Charge for the 2026-2027 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the enrollment of the following nonresident student of faculty and staff members at no charge per the Collective Bargaining Agreements for the 2026-2027 school year:

STUDENT #	GRADE	TOWN
New Student	9	Union Beach

34. Be it resolved the Board approves Christopher Carter as a 1:1 paraprofessional employed by the Fair Haven school district from February 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026 to support a tuition student at no cost.

EDUCATION

The superintendent recommends education items #35-36

35. Approval of Field Trip Request(s) for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed

Recommend Board approval of the following field trip request(s) for the 2025-2026 school year:

DATE	DESTINATION	CLUB/CLASS	ADVISOR/ CHAPERONES
February 24	Shore Chess League Tournament of Champions, Toms River Elks	Chess Club	Dylan Langford Justin Langlois
February 25	Forrestdale	Chinese	Huiwen Chen Seth Herman
February 28	Bridgewater Raritan High School	Speech & Debate	Aubrey Torta
March 3	Knollwood	Chinese Chinese Honor Society	Huiwen Chen Seth Herman
March 4	Henrickson Pl., Fair Haven	Habitat for Humanity	Kristen DeMeter
March 10	Forrestdale	Jazz Band Tower Singers	Zachary Lorelli

March 10	Metropolitan Museum of Art	Chinese 3 Honors Chinese 4, 4 Honors AP Chinese	Huiwen Chen Seth Herman 2 Chaperones TBD
March 14	Stockton University	Honors Biology	Valerie Kilar Michael Haughwout Jonathan Pennetti
March 24	Princeton University Art Museum	French 4 French 4 Honors	Maryellen DeLalla Martin Januario

36. Approval of Fundraising Request(s) for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed

Recommend board approve the following fundraising request(s) for the 2025-2026 school year:

DATE	CLUB/PROGRAM	ADVISOR(S)	ACTIVITY
February 25 through March	Habitat for Humanity	Kristen DeMeter	Welcome Basket Drive
March 24	SGA	Nicholas DelBuono Alyssa Schulte	Nicholas Creamery Ice Cream Wars

POLICY & PLANNING

The superintendent recommends Policy & Planning items #37-38

37. Approval to Abolish Policies and Regulations

Recommend board approval to abolish the following policies and regulations:

- Policy & Regulation 3362 Sexual Harassment of Teaching Staff Members Complaint
- Policy & Regulation 4352 Sexual Harassment of Support Staff Members Complaint

38. Approval of First Reading of Board Policies and Regulations

Recommend Board approval of the first reading of the following board policies and regulations:

- Policy 0142.1 Nepotism (M)
- Policy 1220 Employment of Chief School Administrator (M)
- Policy 1552 Sexual Harassment (M)
- Regulation 1552 Sexual Harassment (M)

11. Motion to Approve Recommendations
12. Approval Vote
13. Discussion Items
14. Public Comment - Any School Related Topic

15. Executive Session

- ❖ Student Matters
- ❖ Personnel
- ❖ Attorney/Client Privilege

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., (the "Act") provides that the Rumson-Fair Haven Board of Education may hold an "Executive Session" from which the public is excluded to discuss matters that are one of the nine (9) subject matters listed Section 12(b) of the Act; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended by the Business Administrator that the Rumson-Fair Haven Board of Education go into Executive Session on February 26, 2026 to discuss matters that are permissible for discussion in Executive Session; and

WHEREAS, the length of the Executive Session is estimated to be 45 minutes after which the public meeting of the Board may reconvene and proceed with business; and

WHEREAS, that the Board hereby declares that its discussion of the following subject(s) will be made public at a time when the public's interest in disclosure is greater than any privacy or governmental interest being protected from disclosure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rumson-Fair Haven Board of Education that the Board shall go into Executive Session to discuss the following items:

ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY RESULT IN BOARD ACTION WHEN THE BOARD RECONVENES TO PUBLIC SESSION.

16. Reconvene Public Session
17. Superintendent's Additional Action Items
18. Motion to Approve Recommendations
19. Other Business
20. Unfinished Business
21. Adjournment

Communicating With the Board of Education

The Rumson-Fair Haven Board of Education meets in public session twice each month, usually on the second and third Tuesdays, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the High School. The Board of Education welcomes comments and suggestions from the residents of Fair Haven and Rumson. To that end, provision is made for public discussion at each meeting.

There are two ways in which an individual or group may address the Board directly in person. The request should be made in advance to be recognized during the first Public Discussion session of the meeting. The request should be made to the office of the Superintendent of Schools by Noon on Friday preceding the meeting. The request should identify the name of the individual or group and the topic of the comments. The phone number of the Superintendent is 732-842-1597, extension 550.

The second way is to be recognized during one of the two Public Discussion sessions included on the agenda for the meeting. The first session occurs prior to Board votes on action items. Remarks during that session are restricted to topics included on the printed agenda, unless a request to be recognized was made as described above. The second session occurs near the end of the meeting, and any topic may be addressed.

Each session is limited to 30 minutes. Any one person may address the Board for a maximum of 5 minutes. Once a particular topic has been addressed by a member of the public, subsequent comments on that same topic by other people is limited to a maximum of 2 minutes. Citizens who have spoken once during the session will be recognized a second time only after all others have been heard a first time. Speakers are required to state their names and addresses.

These guidelines have been established in order to permit public input, while permitting the Board of Education to conduct its business in a reasonable amount of time. As always the Board welcomes public input in the form of letters addressed to the Superintendent of Schools, 74 Ridge Road, Rumson, NJ 07760.