

**MAYWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
February 18, 2026**

The Regular Meeting of the Maywood Board of Education was held on February 18, 2026. President Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ms. Benson-Kraft, Ms. Kiely, Mr. O’Neill, Mr. Ramirez, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Velez

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ms. Soriano

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Michael Jordan, Superintendent and Ms. Jennifer Pfohl, Business Administrator

**FLAG SALUTE**

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided on January 7, 2026 in accordance with the New Jersey Statutes 10:4-8 as follows: Posted by the Board Secretary in the Board of Education Office, 452 Maywood Avenue, e-mailed to Our Town and the Record newspapers, e-mailed to Municipal Building for posting on the Municipal Bulletin Board in the Borough Clerk’s Office, 15 Park Avenue.

All staff motions have been recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, subject to approval by the New Jersey Department of Education, Chapter 116, PL 1986, Provisional Employment, pending criminal history background check.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

**Mr. Jordan reported on the following:**

- We will honor the MAS February Students of the Month
- With regret, we approve the intent to retire of Mrs. Theresa Montesano, Mrs. Isabel Fox, Mrs. Christine Mannarano, and Mrs. Diane Sanzari. These individuals leave us in June following many years of stellar service. They will be sorely missed and we wish them nothing but the best as they enter this exciting time in her lives.
- All non-tenured and tenured second/third round observations have been completed.
- Kindergarten registration for the 2026–2027 school year is now open.
- Congratulations to the 2nd marking period academic distinction student honorees.
- Read Across America is right around the corner and we have a full slate of readers attending including the FDU Men’s Basketball team, Becton National Honor Society students, MAS 4th graders and community guests.
- Congratulations to the Hawks and LadyHawks on their BYBL championship and the LadyHawks on their third place finish. As a reminder, the 45th annual Maywood Tournament takes place next week in the MAS large gym.
- Many thanks to the PTOs of both buildings for their work during a very busy week. Without them, our District PTO meeting, Grade 3 Valentine Celebration, Grade 5 Valentine Breakfast, and Grade 6 Pancake Breakfast could not have been possible.
- The pancake breakfast was a complete success & we applaud all of the student and parent volunteers who took part in this annual event, along with the community members who came for the early morning treat.
- Many thanks to the MAS and Memorial custodians and maintenance crews for their hard work during our recent snow/ice events. We appreciate them & the Maywood DPW for their hard work in keeping us safe.

## BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

### Ms. Pfohl reported on the following:

- Working on Budget. State Aid not being released until March 12<sup>th</sup>. Budget is due March 19<sup>th</sup>. Last year aid was released on 2/27.
- Should have a meeting with the budget committee in the next two weeks.
- We are working on the transition to NJ Solutions Health insurance. All is going well.
- Awarding the contract for the CoGen installation. This is completely covered by insurance.

## COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

**Buildings & Grounds** – No report

**Finance** – No report

**Curriculum** – No report

**Policy** – No report

**Personnel** – No report

**Safety/OEM** – No report

**Technology** – No report

**Community Relations** – No report

**Negotiations** – No report

**Legislation** – No report

**Mayor and Council** – No report

**MAS PTO** – No report

**MEM PTO** – No report

**Seniors** – No report

**Library** – No meeting until 8/20

**Office of Emergency Management** – No report

**Becton BOE** – No report

## PRESENTATIONS and RECOGNITIONS;

- n/a

## BREAK

- n/a

## MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- n/a

## BOARD COMMENTS

- n/a

**OLD BUSINESS**

- n/a

**NEW BUSINESS**

**BL.10 Meeting Block Motion/Approval to Vote on Monthly Motions as a Group**

Any board member who takes exception to any of the following listed actions may so indicate now and a separate motion for each of the excepted motions will be entertained:

**RECOMMENDED ACTION** - "move that the following actions of the Maywood Board of Education numbered: A.138 A.139, A.140, A.141, A.142, A143, A.144, A.145, A.146, A147, A.148, A.149, P.111, P.112, P.113, P.114, P.115, P.116, P.117, P.118, P.119, P.120, P.121, P.122, F.91, F.92, F.93, F.94, F.95, F.96, F.97, F.98, F.99, F.100, F.101, F.102 and R.21, excepting motion A.150 to be approved as shown on the agenda dated, 2/18/2026."

Moved by: Mr. Taylor  
Seconded by: Ms. Kiely  
Vote: 6/0  
Abstentions: 0

**A.138 Approval of Resolution** – “that the Board approve resolution to become a member of the *Joint Insurance Fund*, as attached and on file in the Superintendent’s office.”

**A.139 Acceptance of Minutes** – “that the Board accept the following minutes of the Board of Education meetings.”

1/21/26 Work Session, Regular Meeting, Closed

**A.140 Acceptance of Recorded Fire/Security Drills** - "that the Board accept the following recorded Fire/Security Drills for January 2026:

<b><u>MEM:</u></b>	<b><u>MAS:</u></b>
1/12/26 Lockdown	1/08/26 Fire Drill
1/13/26 Fire Drill	1/13/26 Lockdown

**A.141 Approval of Special Services** – “that the Board approve the following special services for student **LJ (3/OOD)** for the 2025-2026 school year;

<b>Provider:</b>	Dr. Michael Lienhard, Englewood, NJ
<b>Evaluations:</b>	Psychiatric Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	To be completed by 1/30/26
<b>Rate per Evaluation:</b>	\$850

**A.142 Approval of Special Services** – “that the Board approve the following special services for student **BD (MEM)** for the 2025-2026 school year;

<b>Provider:</b>	Dr. Batul Ladak
<b>Evaluations:</b>	Developmental Evaluation
<b>Date:</b>	To be completed by 2/27/26
<b>Rate per Evaluation:</b>	\$850

**A.143 Approval of Special Services** – “that the Board approve the following special services for student MD (7/MAS) for the 2025-2026 school year;

**Provider:** Dr. Cheryl Fields, Institute of Child Neurology and Neurodevelopment, Englewood Cliffs  
**Evaluations:** Neurological Evaluation  
**Date:** To be completed by 2/20/26  
**Rate per Evaluation:** \$600

**A.144 Approval of Parent Training** – “that the Board approve parent training for student CL (PreK/MAP) for 2 sessions @ \$75 per session provided by Region V for a total of \$150. To be completed by April 30, 2026.”

**A.145 Approval of New Placements of OOD Students** – “that the Board approve the following placements for the 2025-26 school year;

<i>Students</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Tuition</i>	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Dates</i>
PA (10/OOD)	South Bergen Jointure, Lodi	\$39,144 (prorated amount)	Region V	1/5/26 – 6/23/26
TE (3/OOD)	South Bergen Jointure, Maywood	\$78,770 (to be prorated)	Parent (2/9-2/12) MBOE (2/18-6/23)	2/9/26 – 6/23/26

**A.146 Approval of a 1:1 Paraprofessional** – “that the Board approve a 1:1 paraprofessional for an OOD student for the 2025-26 school year, as follows;

<i>Students</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>1:1</i>	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Dates</i>
MY (PreK/OOD)	South Bergen Jointure Felician Annex, Lodi	\$41,040 (prorated amount)	Region V	11/3/25 – 6/23/26

**A.147 Approval of Conference Attendance** – “that the Board approve the John Montany attend the 2026 NJSBGA Expo & Conference, March 22-25, 2026, in Atlantic City, NJ. The *estimated cost* is as follows:

<b>Convention Registration</b>	\$ 350.00
<b>Mileage, Tolls, &amp; Parking</b> (approx. 266 miles roundtrip and \$5.00 parking fee)	\$ 130.02
<b>Hotel Accommodations for 3 Nights (tax not incl.)</b> (GSA allowable per diem rate is \$110.00 per night excluding tax)	\$ 330.00
<b>Meals &amp; Incidentals</b> (Calculated as 2 days @ \$68.00 and 2 travel days @ \$51.00 each)	\$ 238.00

<b>Total (estimated cost):</b>	<b>\$ 1,048.02</b>
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**A.148 Approval of Conference/Workshop Attendance** – “that the Board approve the following individual’s attendance at the specified conferences/workshops:

	<i>Conference</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Approx. Cost</i>
E. Davis	2026 NJ Pupil Transportation Conference	3/25/26 - 3/27/26	\$500+mileage

- A.149 Approval of Continued Membership** – “that the Board approve to continue its membership in the Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education for the 2026-2027 school year, does hereby accept, adopt and agree to comply with the Region V by-laws; designates the District Superintendent as its representative to Region V; and empowers him/her to cast all votes and take all other actions necessary to represent its interest in Region V; until the next organization meeting and;
- FURTHER**, that they approve the Joint Transportation Agreement for all Maywood students who are transported through Region V.”
- P.111 Approval of Retirement** - “that the Board approve the retirement, with regret, of Christine Mannarano, a paraprofessional at MAS, effective June 30, 2026.”
- P.112 Approval of Retirement** - “that the Board approve the retirement, with regret, of Dian Sanzari, a paraprofessional at MAS, effective June 30, 2026.”
- P.113 Approval of Retirement** - “that the Board approve the retirement, with regret, of Isabel Fox, a teacher at MAS, effective June 30, 2026.”
- P.114 Approval of Retirement** - “that the Board approve the retirement, with regret, of Theresa Montesano, a teacher at MEM, effective June 30, 2026.”
- P.115 Approval of Resignation** - “that the Board approve the resignation, with regret, of Samantha Magill, a paraprofessional at Memorial, effective February 13, 2026.”
- P.116 Approval of a Rate Change** – “that the Board approve a rate change for Zamira Santana, a paraprofessional at Memorial, to ABA, step A, with an annual salary of \$26,995.18, to be prorated for the 2025-2026 school year. Effective 2/18/26.”
- P.117 Appointment of Paraprofessional** – “that the Board appoint Danielle Cironi, as a paraprofessional for 2025-2026, Certified, step 3, with an annual salary of \$22,684.77, to be prorated. Start date will be 2/18/26.”
- P.118 Appointment of a Teacher** – “that the Board appoint Olivia Kubler, as a leave replacement teacher, from February 18<sup>th</sup> through June 30, 2026. She will be placed on BA, Step 1-2 and receive an annual salary of \$55,534.00 (to be prorated).”
- P.119 Amendment to Appointment** – “that the Board approve an amendment to the last day for Isabella Apgar, a leave replacement teacher at MEM. This appointment will now continue through June 30, 2026.”
- P.120 Appointment of Lunchroom Aide** – “that the Board approve the employment of the following Lunch Aide(s) for the 2025-2026 school year (*pending clearance*).”

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Hours per day</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Estania Diaz	Memorial	2hrs/15min	\$20.16

**P.121 Amendment to Leave of Absence** - “that the Board approve an amendment to the dates of the paternity leave of absence for Jake Lindenau, a teacher at MAS:

<b>DATES:</b>	<b>REASON:</b>
2/2/26 – 2/27/26*	FMLA – unpaid leave with health benefits
March 2, 2026	Date of return (remains the same)

\*Start date moved up two days

**P.122 Approval of Additional Payment** – "that the Board approve Kim Michalski for tutoring students *DM and AM (MAS)* for 2 hours per week, at a rate of \$50 per hour, from 2/10/26 through 3/27/26.”

**F.91 Approval of Additional Check Run** - “that the Board approve an additional check run in *January* in the amount of \$ 25,385.66 .”

**F.92 Approval of Check Run** - “that the Board approve a check run in *February* in the amount of \$ 2,405,576.44 .”

**F.93 Approval of Check Run for Cafeteria Bills** - “that the Board approve a check run for Cafeteria bills in *February* in the amount of \$ 24,139.20 .”

**F.94 Approval of Disposal of Equipment** - "that the Board approve of the disposal of computer equipment as submitted. These assets have no fair book market value.”

**F.95 Approval of Payroll** - “that the Board approve the payroll for *January* as follows:

<b>Fund</b>	
10	1,198,686.70
20	4,699.52
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 1,203,386.22</b>
Board Share FICA/Medicare	28,239.71
State Share FICA Medicare	57,583.13
Board DCRP	3,725.10
<b>Total Payroll Expense:</b>	<b>1,292,934.16</b>

**F.96 Approval of Board Secretary’s Report** – “that the Board approve the Board Secretary Report, as submitted, for January 31, 2026.”

**F.97 Approval of Treasurer’s Report** – “that the Board approve the Treasurer of School Monies Report, for January 31, 2026.”

**F.98 Approval of Transfer of Funds** - "that the Board approve the report of transfer of funds for January 31, 2026.”

- F.99 Approval of Board Secretary's Monthly Certification** - "that the Board accept the Board Secretary's monthly certification on budget line status as follows: Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6:20-2.13(d), I certify that as of **January 31, 2026**, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A.18A:22-8.1."
- F.100 Approval of Board's Monthly Certification** - "that the Board approve the Board's monthly certification Budgetary Major Account/Fund Status as follows: Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11, we certify that as of **January 31, 2026**, after review of the secretary's monthly report (statement of expenditures) and upon consultation with violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year."
- F.101 Award of CoGen Installation Contract** - "that the Board approve the following resolution awarding the installation of the Cogeneration unit which was damaged in the flood of April 2025:  
**WHEREAS**, the Maywood Board of Education advertised for bids for the Cogeneration installation at Maywood Avenue School Project (the "Project"); and  
**WHEREAS**, on February 3, 2026, the Board received one (1) bids for the Project, and  
**WHEREAS**, OHA Power, submitted the sole bid for the Project, with a base bid in the amount of \$210,000, and  
**WHEREAS**, it is the Board's desire to award the contract for the Project to OHA Power;  
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board award the contract for the Project to OHA for a total contract sum of \$210,000.  
The Board will be reimbursed for all costs associated with this project by the district's insurance policy.
- F.102 Approval of Sale of Busses** - "that the Board approve the sale of two 54 passenger buses. The buses will be sold to the highest bidder at the HESC Auction in March. Agreement in attachments."

- R.21 Approval of Payment from Referendum Account** - "that the Board approve the following resolution:  
**WHEREAS**, H&S Construction and Mechanical was awarded the contract for the HVAC Upgrade at Memorial School; and  
**WHEREAS**, H&S Construction and Mechanical has submitted Payment Application #10 in the amount of \$56,007.00 and  
**WHEREAS**, LAN Associates has verified a review of the application and finds it in conformance with the level of work completed to date.  
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board approve this payment application in the amount of \$56,007.00.

**EXCEPTED MOTIONS VOTED ON SERPARATELY**

**A.150 Maywood Avenue School Students of the Month** – “that the Board approve the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, Sian Barrios, Logan Chacon, Milani Coronado, Lyla Glynn, Isabel Hernandez, Elodie Sadowski and Elanur Turkmenoglu have been awarded the Maywood Avenue School JANUARY Students of the Month in recognition of their humanitarian deeds and fine human kindness;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Maywood Board of Education recognizes this most worthwhile achievement by honoring them with a formal resolution unanimously approved at the public meeting of February 18, 2026.”

Moved by: Mr. Taylor  
Seconded by: Mr. Velez  
Vote: 5/0  
Abstentions: 1

**TABLED MOTIONS**

- *n/a*

**BOARD COMMENTS**

- *n/a*

**CLOSED SESSION**

- *n/a*

**MEETING ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 8:09PM**

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Pfohl, Board Secretary