

**HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641  
Minutes  
February 11, 2026**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:31 p.m.**

**II. FLAG SALUTE**

**III. SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT**

All requirements of the Open Public Business Meetings Law have been met for this meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of Haworth. On October 8, 2025 advance written notice was emailed to **The Record and The Herald News**, filed with the Borough Clerk, posted on the school website and forwarded to the Presidents of the Home and School Association and Teachers Association, and all persons requesting such notice.

**IV. MISSION STATEMENT**

The Haworth Public School District, a safe and nurturing small school environment, in partnership with our community, is dedicated to providing every student with educational excellence through a comprehensive, innovative and rigorous curriculum that fosters productive and responsible life-long learners in a global society. Adopted—May 28, 2013.

**V. ROLL CALL:**

Dr. Nicole Brennan  
Mr. Charles Crowley  
Dr. Danielle Insalaco-Egan  
Mr. Drew Krasny - ABSENT  
Mrs. Courtney Russell  
Mrs. Jennifer Samples - LATE 7:32 p.m.  
Mrs. Jessica Spiegel  
Mr. Paul Wolford, Superintendent  
Mr. Kevin Lane, Business Administrator/MS Principal  
Mrs. Kristi Giambona, Board Secretary

**VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - 7:32 p.m.**

*The Board is interested in hearing your comments. In order to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak, we are asking that you speak once and limit your comments to three minutes. We further ask that all comments be directed to the Board. We recognize that everyone has the freedom to speak but advise you that anything said in public may have legal ramifications. There is no protection regarding statements made by the public. Please state your name, address and group affiliation (if any) before you begin.*

**VII. CLOSE THE PUBLIC PORTION - 7:33 p.m. NO PUBLIC COMMENT**

**VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S/BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORTS**

a. **December/January Student Shout Outs:**

**Kindergarten:** Skye Edwards, Max Finkelstein, Elyse Gelfand, Oliver Guzman, Daniel Koshy, Averie Lee, Anna Shim

**Grade 1:** Mila Grinman, Brooks Kottke, Christopher Subota

**Grade 2:** Emily Francisco, Cameron Green, Rosie Jeong, Jackson Laroche, Natalia Miltiadou, Tobi Okunseinde, Gia Orlando, Tyler Papadam, Jordan Traina, Dimitris Vattes, Henry Walters, Albert Wang

**Grade 3:** Sofia Alex, Henry Baer, Oliver Handman, Noa Kadec, Ashley Ko, Charlie Lamberta, Natalie Mui, Lucas Napoli, Zachary Ng, Coby Placona, Emaan Qaiser

**Grade 4:** 4 DG whole class, Saesha Karnati, Marianthy Rivera, Jacob Setless, Mila Zaretsky

**Grade 5:** 5 HR whole class, Ayaan Dhodgne, Kensleigh Erfurt, William Eshgh, Henry Fox, Hendrix Hereghty, Shayne Hereghty, Carlo Karalain, Anna Kim, Catherine Knaggs, Ellie Lebel, Jayden Lee, Sandrine Ng, Andy Ngai, Omer Rosenberg, Brandon Thatcher

**December/January Staff Shout Outs:** Sara Berndt, Kerry-Ann Blauvelt, Maria DiCarlantonio, Paul Doran, Anne Marie Dunn, Jennifer Eisberg, Erin Ehlers, Kelsey Estevez, Lisa Ferrara, Meghan Ferraro, Ali Gjana, Brian Gormley, Jeannie Gregg, Melissa Rinaldi, John Romano, Michele Robson, Michael Rucereto, Maddie Smith, Angelica Talamo, Cyndi Talty & Derick Talty

b. **2025-26 National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony** - Mr. Kevin Lane

**Grade 8:** Aiden Lee, Victoria Martin, Roally Vijay, Ayden Yung

c. **Student Safety Data System** presentation (9/1/25-12/31/25) - Dr. Kylie Porcelli

*Mr. Wolford mentioned that the district is in budget season and he noted how much the district has grown. He noted working with the high school on shared services deals, which helps the budget since we do not have to hire our own people.*

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

The following resolutions are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be voted on by one vote. Any Board of Education member wishing to remove any items from the consent agenda and request an individual vote may do so.

a. **Enrollment Report to Date - 529**

b. **Emergency & Crisis Situations Drill Record: January**

Fire Drill: January 28, 2026

Security Drill: January 8, 2026

Administrator in charge: Mr. Paul Wolford

**MINUTES:**

- c. Approval of meeting minutes from the January 6, 2026 Reorganization Business meeting.
- d. Approval of meeting minutes from the January 6, 2026 Regular Business meeting.

**SUBMISSIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS:**

- e. Visual and Performing Arts Survey
- f. SEMI Waiver

**g. HIB Report for January, 2026:**

Reported Cases: 0

Number of Cases Open: 0

Number of Cases Closed: 0

D. Egan Moved, N. Brennan Seconded

Roll Call: 6/0

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items IX. a. through g.**

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Dr. Brennan	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny				✓
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			
Mrs. Spiegel	✓			

**X. CURRICULUM**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2026-2027 District Calendar.
- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Nature Marc Science Program assemblies for grades Pre-K - 5, at a total cost of \$2,625.00.

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following field trips. Transportation costs will apply where applicable.

#	DATE	GRADE/ CLUB	LOCATION	COST PER STUDENT	STAFF IN CHARGE
1.	May 7, 2026	Gr. 2	Paramus, NJ	TBD	M. Ferraro
2.	February 9 & 10, 2026	Gr. 7 & 8 G&T	Demarest, NJ	\$0	A. Kosakowski

N. Brennan Moved, D. Egan Seconded  
Roll Call: 6/0

*J. Samples - had a question about the 2026-27 district calendar. She asked how the dates for Spring Break were chosen?*

*P. Wolford - explained that it is the week the High School chose due to their AP testing and a few other reasons. Mr. Wolford suggested having it during the Passover week but the idea was overruled by all of the other Northern Valley districts. Mr. Wolford shared that we kept our calendar for the most part in sync with the High School, but that there are a few differences.*

*D. Egan - recommended that the district send out a very clear communication to the community on the reasoning behind the calendar choices.*

*C. Russell - asked if there is a reason why the calendar is done at this time?*

*P. Wolford - explained that the 7 districts get together every January to start working on the calendars. All of the districts strive to release their calendars in February.*

*J. Samples - noted that parents are patiently waiting for this calendar to come out for their planning purposes.*

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items X. a. through c.**

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Dr. Brennan	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny				✓
Mrs. Russell	✓			

Mrs. Samples	✓			
Mrs. Spiegel	✓			

**XI. PERSONNEL**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education retroactively approves the attendance and registration costs, if applicable, for the below indicated professional development and/or training workshops or conferences for the following employees. Travel & accommodation expenditures reimbursed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.

#	NAME	DATE(S)	CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP	LOCATION	REGISTRATION COST
1.	Dina Mattessich	January 30, 2026	Mastering School District Payroll	Tinton Falls, NJ	\$199.00
2.	Bianca Archetto	February 7, 2026	NJIDA - Refresher for Orton Gillingham Reading Practices	virtual	\$105.00
3.	Angelica Talamo	February 7, 2026	NJIDA - Annual Online Conference (various workshops)	virtual	\$105.00
4.	Alison Homan	March 3 - 10, 2026	NJSHA/NJIDA Annual Conference (various workshops)	virtual	\$145.00

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2025 graduate level courses for the following staff members; reimbursement to be paid at the 2025-26 state college or university graduate level course rate, pursuant to Article VII of the Haworth Teachers Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.

#	NAME	COURSE	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
1.	Jessica Henthorn	5260 Literacy in the Content Areas I 5508 Building Literacy and Social Emotional Learning through Read Alouds 5579 Cultivating Student-Centered Classrooms	American College of Education

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education retroactively approves William LoFaro as a volunteer participant in the January 19, 2026 HPS Professional Development day.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following stipends for the 2025-2026 school year:

Charles Connell (Closter)	Girl's Softball Coach	\$2,255.00
Lori DiVite (retiree)	Track Coach	\$1,899.00

- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education accepts, with regret, the resignation of Donald Turner, Supervisor of Building & Grounds, for the purpose of retirement effective February 27, 2026.
- f. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Brian Gormley as Head of Building & Grounds for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year. Mr. Gormley will receive a stipend of \$1,000 per month from December, 2025 through June, 2026.
- g. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Christine Laspalluto, student from St. Thomas Aquinas College to obtain 30 hours of fieldwork observation with Mrs. Hall in grade 5 and Mrs. Choi in grade 3, at no cost to the district.
- h. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Maeve Natale, student from Northern Valley Demarest High School to volunteer a few hours per week with Mrs. Jackson, at no cost to the district.
- i. **BE IT RESOLVED** that Employee #84437482 (hereinafter referred to as the "Employee") be granted a leave of absence utilizing sick days from April 21, 2026 through May 15, 2026 utilizing 19 sick days; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Employee be granted a leave of absence under the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") from April 21, 2026 through September 11, 2026, which shall be without pay beginning on May 16, 2026, but with medical benefits, subject to the Employee's payment of their contribution for same; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Employee be granted a leave of absence under the New Jersey Family Leave Act ("NJFLA") from June 9, 2026 through October 30, 2026, which shall be without pay, but with medical benefits, subject to the Employee's payment of their contribution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Employee shall return to work on November 2, 2026, or on an earlier return date, subject to advance notice to the Haworth School District Administration (hereinafter referred to as the "District"), whereupon the above leave dates may be administratively adjusted as appropriate; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any requests to extend or change the terms of the Employee's leave of absence shall be made to the Board, which request shall be subject to Board approval, the availability

of sick days, Federal and State statutes and regulations, and the Collective Negotiations Agreement between the Board and the Haworth Teachers’ Association; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the dates of said leave may be adjusted based on certification from the physician or changes to the District’s calendar.

- j. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves William LoFaro as a Teacher for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year at a prorated annual salary of \$60,669.00 (MA, Step 1), benefit eligible.

C. Russell Moved, J. Samples Seconded  
Roll Call: 6/0

*P. Wolford - recognized Mr. Turner for his many years of dedication and service to the district and exclaimed that he will be missed. The staff and Board of Education wish Mr. Turner all of the best in his retirement.*

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XI. a. through j.**

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Dr. Brennan	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny				✓
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			
Mrs. Spiegel	✓			

**XII. FINANCE & FACILITIES**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the bills for the period of January 1, 2026 to January 30, 2026 which has previously been approved by the various committees and payment made through the Valley National Bank from funds in the appropriate accounts as follows:

<u><i>Bills Description</i></u>	<u><i>Dated</i></u>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
Payroll - Operating	1/15/2026	\$364,739.49
Board Share - FICA	1/15/2026	\$6,547.42
State Share - FICA	1/15/2026	\$19,966.72
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$391,253.63</b>

<u><i>Bills Description</i></u>	<u><i>Dated</i></u>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
Payroll - Operating	1/30/2026	\$336,497.25
Board Share - FICA	1/30/2026	\$4,389.89
State Share - FICA	1/30/2026	\$19,970.52
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$360,854.66</b>

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bills and Claims for the month of February, 2026.
- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Report of the Board Secretary, Report of the Treasurer, and the Report of Monthly Transfers for the month of December, 2025.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Educational Data Services, Inc. supply procurement system license and maintenance for the 2026-27 school year at a total cost of \$3,290.00

- e. Be it resolved that the Board, upon recommendation of the School Business Administrator approves the following resolution:

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 2026-27 school year, and

Whereas, the Haworth Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that participation in SEMI would not provide a cost benefit to the district based on the projection of the district’s available SEMI reimbursement for the 2026-27 budget year.

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Haworth Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2025-26 school year.

- f. It is hereby moved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Haworth Board of Education approves the reimbursement rate for auto travel at \$0.725 per mile for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year and the 2026-2027 school year, to conform with the per mile rate established by the OMB Circular for the calendar year 2026.

D. Egan Moved, N. Brennan Seconded

Roll Call: 6/0

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XII. a. through f.**

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Dr. Brennan	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny				✓
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			
Mrs. Spiegel	✓			

**XIII. NEGOTIATIONS**

NO RESOLUTIONS

**XIV. POLICY**

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the first reading of the following new/revised district policies and regulations:

<b>Policy or Regulation</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>New/Revised /Abolished</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>1st Reading</b>	<b>2nd Reading</b>
P 0142.1	Nepotism	Revised	Mandated	February 11, 2026	
R 1220	Employment of Chief School Administrator	Revised	Mandated	February 11, 2026	
P 1552	Sexual Harassment - Staff	New	Mandated	February 11, 2026	
R 1552	Sexual Harassment - Staff	New	Mandated	February 11, 2026	

N. Brennan Moved, D. Egan Seconded

Roll Call: 6/0

**BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XIV. a.**

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Dr. Brennan	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny				✓
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			
Mrs. Spiegel	✓			

**XV. EDUCATION**

NO RESOLUTIONS

**XVI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance & Facilities  
Curriculum & Instruction  
Negotiations  
Public Relations  
BCSBA/NJSBA  
Haworth Home & School Association  
Northern Valley Regional High School & NV Educational Foundation  
Legislative Chairperson  
Senior Citizens Liaison  
Town Council Liaison  
Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

**XVII. OLD BUSINESS**

**XVIII. NEW BUSINESS**

*J. Samples - shared that she attended the Internet Safety presentation in Old Tappan and said that it was an excellent event. She asked if it is a possibility to have the same speaker do an assembly for the middle school students.*

*K. Lane - said that the district had the presentation exclusively for 7th grade this year. It is provided for the 7th grade as to not have repetitive assemblies each year as the students move up in grades.*

**XIX. Open to the Public on any item – 7:58 p.m. NO PUBLIC COMMENT**

*The Board is interested in hearing your comments. In order to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak, we are asking that you speak once and limit your comments to three minutes. We further ask that all comments be directed to the Board. We recognize that everyone has the freedom to speak but advise you that anything said in public may have legal ramifications. There is no protection regarding statements made by the public. Please state your name, address and group affiliation (if any) before you begin.*

**Close the Public portion: 7:59 p.m.**

*Jane Cabourg - 162 Haworth Drive, introduced herself as a new member of the Town Council and as the new HPS Liaison. Both Mrs. Cabourg and the Board of Education look forward to working together.*

**XX. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

D. Egan Moved, J. Samples Seconded  
All in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT: 8:00 p.m.**

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Charles Crowley, President  
Haworth Board of Education

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Kristi Giambona  
Board Secretary