



## **LIVINGSTON BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTING MEETING AGENDA**

March 24, 2026

Executive Session - Administration Building - 7:00 p.m.

Public Session - Administration Building - 7:15 p.m.

### **I. OPEN SESSION**

#### **A. Call to Order – Parul Khemka, President**

#### **B. Reading of Meeting Notice**

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by amendment to notice approved at the Board's reorganization meeting on January 6, 2026 and posted at the Board of Education office, on the district's website and communicated to the Livingston Township Clerk.

#### **C. 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; now, therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss:

- personnel and student matters

Action may be taken upon return to the public session. The full length of the meeting is anticipated to be approximately 15 minutes; and be it

**Further Resolved**, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

#### **D. Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call**

#### **E. Superintendent's Report**

1. Budget Presentation

#### **F. Board Reports**

#### **G. Student Representative's Report**

## **H. Approval of Minutes**

The Superintendent recommends the following:

1. Executive Session Minutes of December 9, 2025; January 6, 2026; January 20, 2026; January 22, 2026; February 3, 2026; February 10, 2026; March 3, 2026 and March 17, 2026

## **ROLL CALL VOTE**

### **I. Public Comment**

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest. To protect the privacy of all students and staff, concerns regarding individual students and staff members should generally be addressed by first meeting with the appropriate administrative staff.

In order to permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall provide a period for public comment at every meeting of the Board.

Public participation shall be permitted only as indicated in accordance with Board Bylaw No. 0167.

Public participation shall be extended to residents of this district, persons having a legitimate interest in the actions of this Board, persons representing groups in the community or school district, representatives of firms eligible to bid on materials or services solicited by the Board, and employees and pupils of this district, except when the issue addressed by the participant is subject to remediation by an alternate method provided for in policies or contracts of the Board.

Public participation is not an opportunity to engage in a dialogue with the Board and shall be governed by the following rules:

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, municipality of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate;
2. A participant is limited to three (3) minutes' duration; elapsed time will be determined through the use of a timing device operated by the Board Secretary;
3. No participant may speak more than once and there shall be no yielding of time among speakers;
4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually;
5. There shall be no cross dialogue between the participant and the Board and/or Administration;
6. Upon conclusion of a participant's remarks, the presiding officer will acknowledge the individual's remarks and may respond and/or direct a member of the Administration to respond to an inquiry following the participant's remarks or at the conclusion of the public participation session.

The presiding officer may:

- a. Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
- b. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
- c. Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
- d. Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and
- e. Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.

N.J.S.A. 2C:33-8

N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

**II. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL**

**3. BUSINESS**

The Superintendent recommends the following:

**3.1 Adoption of the Tentative Budget for School Year 2026-2027**

**Resolved**, that tentative budget be approved for the 2026-2027 school year using the 2026-2027 State Aid figures and the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent for approval in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:7F-5 and 18A:7F-6:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenues</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
2026-2027 Total Appropriations	\$152,545,310	\$2,289,709	\$5,970,850	\$160,805,869
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$15,907,232	\$2,289,709	\$1,486,950	\$19,683,891
Taxes to be Raised	\$136,638,078	\$0	\$4,483,900	\$141,121,978

And, to advertise said budget in the West Essex Tribune in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

**Be It Further Resolved**, that a public hearing will be held at the Administration Building, 11 Foxcroft Drive, Livingston, New Jersey, on April 28, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in a hybrid format for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2026-2027 school year.

**3.2 Adjustment for Health Care Costs**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education includes in the tentative budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$5,611,079. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums.

**3.3 Capital Reserve Withdrawal**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education includes in the tentative 2026-2027 budget a capital reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$1,537,673 for:

LHS Vape Detectors	\$ 54,235
LHS Repair Pavers @ maint entrance	\$ 20,000
LHS Fire Alarm Panel replacement	\$ 71,571
LHS New Window Curtains in Auditorium	\$ 50,000
LHS New Window shades	\$ 30,000
LHS New Walk-in (2nd freezer)	\$ 20,000

LHS Ticket Booth Replacement	\$ 12,000
LHS Press Box Update	\$ 40,000
LHS Commercial 8' fan in the Weight Room	\$ 18,000
LHS New LED lights in gym (48)	\$ 10,000
LHS New Burglar Panel PE Building	\$ 14,000
MC Renovations	\$ 40,000
HMS Fire Alarm Panel replacement	\$ 35,710
HMS New walk-in box	\$ 20,000
HMS New Boilers (2)	\$ 150,000
MPM Fire Alarm Panel replacement	\$ 68,244
MPM Bollards (Main entrance)	\$ 50,000
MPM Curtains for the Stage (2 back)	\$ 16,000
MPM Locker Replacement /Repair/Paint	\$ 64,960
MPM Paint hallways and door trim	\$ 20,000
MPM New Toilet Partitions	\$ 25,000
MPE replace basketball hoop in the gym	\$ 15,000
MPE Fire Alarm Panel replacement	\$ 51,956
MPE Locker Painting	\$ 10,330
MPE Remove Skylights	\$ 18,000
MPE Replace Carpet in Music Room	\$ 15,000
MPE Sidewalk repair	\$ 10,000
BHE Fire Alarm Panel replacement	\$ 19,200
BHE Card swipe pre-k	\$ 8,000
BHE Reno Nurse room	\$ 50,000
BHE Sink in "breakout room" Pre K	\$ 10,000
BHE New Boilers (2)	\$ 100,000
Collins New Driveway Gate	\$ 20,000
Collins Fire Alarm Panel replacement	\$ 47,172

Collins Soffit Painting	\$ 30,000
Harrison Rock Wall	\$ 27,006
Harrison Sign	\$ 8,000
Harrison Fascia Painting	\$ 15,000
Hillside New Stage curtain	\$ 6,000
Hillside Another Speed Bump	\$ 3,000
Hillside Pave by bank shot	\$ 55,600
RHE Fire Alarm Panel replacement	\$ 64,692
RHE Ramp & Step repair	\$ 25,000
RHE Replace classroom sink and countertops	\$ 10,000
RHE Install upper cabinets in classroom	\$ 2,000
RHE Locks on vestibule doors	\$ 6,000
RHE Aux gym basket ball hoop	\$ 10,000
CO Fire Alarm Panel Replacement	\$ 12,147
District Kilns	\$ 20,000
Waterbug All wet locations	\$ 38,850
Total	\$ 1,573,673

### **3.4 Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement**

The Livingston Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district;

**And**, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board;

**And**, a board of education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30);

**And**, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 but deemed by the board of education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms;

**Be it Resolved**, the Livingston Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

**Be it Further Resolved**, the Livingston Board of Education includes in the tentative budget travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, to a maximum expenditure of \$176,369 for all staff and board members for the 2026-2027 school year. The maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2025-2026 school year is \$169,016.24, of which, \$62,319.71 has been spent and \$43,053.47 is encumbered to date.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

**4. PERSONNEL**

The Superintendent recommends the following:

**4.1 Resignations & Retirements**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education accepts the resignations of:

Name	Position	Reason	Location	Last Day of Employment
<i>Catherine Bitar</i>	TOSD	Resignation	Hillside	June 30, 2026
<i>Caroline Godino*</i>	TOSD	Resignation	BHE	April 17, 2026
<i>Jalyza Dragunov</i>	Teacher of Art	Resignation	LHS	May 18, 2026

*\*as amended from a previous agenda*

**4.2 Appointments**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education approves the applications indicated below (\*) for emergent hiring for the following appointments under the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:16-1 et. seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39.17 et. seq.; N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et. seq. All appointments are contingent upon reference checks in accordance with P.L. 2018, c.5.

Name	Location	Title	Tenure Track/LOA or LT Replacement	Replacing	Guide	Step	Salary	Effective Date
<i>Foster Wisusik</i>	LHS	Teacher of Physics	First Year Tenure Track	A. Fonarev	MA	6	\$71,401	8/26/2026
<i>Vivian Brock</i>	Harrison	Teacher of Music	First Year Tenure Track	M. Matten	BA	9	\$69,225	8/26/2026

*\*as amended from a previous agenda*

*\*\*step will remain the same for the 2026-27 SY*

## **ROLL CALL VOTE**

### **5. MISCELLANEOUS**

The Superintendent recommends the following:

#### **5.1 HIB Report**

**Resolved**, that the Livingston Board of Education accepts the findings of HIB cases.

## **ROLL CALL VOTE**

### **J. Old Business**

### **K. New Business**

## **III. ADJOURNMENT**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Whereas**, N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq., also known as the "Sunshine Law," authorizes a public body to meet in executive or private session under certain limited circumstances, and

**Whereas**, said law requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public hearing before it can meet in such an executive or private session, now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, by the Livingston Board of Education that:

- (A) It does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in executive session on March 24, 2026 to discuss the matters stipulated, in conformance with the subsections of said act which are indicated.
1. Matter rendered confidential by federal law, state statute or rule of court.
  2. Matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive federal funds.
  3. Matter, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy unless the individual concerned shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publicly.
  4. Collective bargaining matters.
  5. Matter involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates, etc. where it would adversely affect the public interest if discussion were disclosed.
  6. Tactics and techniques utilized in protecting public property where disclosure could impair protection.
  7. Investigation of violations or possible violations of law.
  8. Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation other than collective bargaining agreement.
  9. Personnel matters unless the individual employees or appointees affected requested that such matter be discussed at a public meeting.
  10. Deliberations occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty.
- (B) The matters discussed will be made public when confidentiality is no longer required and formal action pursuant to said discussion shall take place only at a meeting to which the public has been invited.
- (C) No action will be taken.