



NEW PROVIDENCE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administrative Offices
356 Elkwood Avenue
New Providence, New Jersey 07974
www.npsd.k12.nj.us

AGENDA
March 26, 2026
High School/Middle School Media Center
7:00 p.m.

[New Providence Board of Education YouTube Link](#)

I Roll Call:

_____ Mrs. Castellano	_____ Mrs. Kale
_____ Dr. Empson Hayden	_____ Mrs. Lepre
_____ Ms. Gunderman	_____ Mrs. Marano
_____ Mrs. Zane	

II Flag Salute

III Opening Statement by the President:

- A.** This is a public meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with PL 1975, Chapter 231, in that a notice was made in conformance with Section 13 of the Act.

Whenever the business of the Board requires it to convene to Closed session, the session will begin no later than 9:30 p.m. At the conclusion of the need for Closed Session, the Board will reconvene to the public portion of the meeting. At that time, the Board will complete any other business that may be before it and the public will then be given an opportunity to be heard before the meeting is adjourned.

- B.** Other comments.

IV Report of the Superintendent of Schools

1. Student Report- Ariel Brenner
2. Enrollment
3. Fundraising for Lieder Field Scoreboard
4. General Information

V Recognition of District Unsung Hero- Mrs. Amanda Marano, Board President and Mr. Brian Henry, NPHS Principal

WHEREAS, the New Providence Board of Education hereby recognizes Rose Stivalo for receiving the Union County School Board Association's Unsung Hero Award that was presented to her on March 11, 2026; and,

WHEREAS, the Union County School Board Association, in collaboration with the New Jersey School Boards Association, recognizes Unsung Heroes from each high school in Union County; and,

WHEREAS, the Unsung Hero Award honors students who make outstanding contributions to their schools and communities that are not always recognized by traditional recognition programs. These students model good citizenship and a spirit of quiet strength that has inspired others; and,

WHEREAS, Rose Stivalo has served the school community and the community at large, and stands as a beacon to inspire others; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the New Providence Board of Education recognizes Rose Stivalo as an Unsung Hero of Union County and the New Providence School District; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution is presented to Rose Stivalo as a sincere token of the New Providence Board of Education's congratulations and best wishes for continued success.

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

VI Presentation of Teachers of the Year-

Daniel Barletta, New Providence High School
Brian Cooper, New Providence Middle School
Michele Picarelli, Allen W. Roberts Elementary School
Jennifer Minich, Salt Brook Elementary School

VII Board Goals Update-

Develop a Fiscally Responsible & Sustainable School Budget- Dr. Lauren Zirpoli, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. James Testa, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and, Mr. Brian Henry, High School Principal

Middle School- Academic and Behavioral Focus- Dr. Lauren Zirpoli, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Michael Criscitello, Middle School Principal; and, Ms. Lyndsay Wittenberg, AWR Assistant Principal

VIII Public Comments:

- A.** Opportunity for the Public to be heard (on specific agenda items)
- B.** Public portion of the meeting declared closed

IX Approval of Minutes as follows:

Business Meeting: February 26, 2026

Closed Meeting: February 26, 2026

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

X Action Items**A. Finance Actions – Ms. Gunderman**

Approve Items 1 through 12 as listed below:

1. After review, we hereby accept the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for February 2026. No major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
2. Approve the payment of bills for March 2026, in the amount of \$6,523,843.52.
3. Approve the following voided and re-issued checks:

Voided

<u>Check #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Reason</u>
367165	11/20/25	\$333.00	11-000-270-890-00	Lost
037451	03/13/25	\$ 76.44	11-120-100-130-05	Lost

Re-issued

<u>Check #</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Account</u>
037457	03/17/25	\$ 76.44	11-120-100-130-05

4. Ratify the action of the Superintendent in making the following transfers for the 2025/2026 school year.

February 2026

From:		
Account	Description	Amount
11-000-291-260	Insurance-Workers' Comp.	\$12,000.00
11-120-100-101	Salaries- Grades 1-5	4,861.23
		Total: \$16,861.23
To:		
Account	Description	Amount
11-000-291-299	Unused Sick Day Payments	\$16,861.23
		Total: \$16,861.23

5. Approve the generous donation from the NPMS Student Council, in the amount of \$99.98, for the purchase of two full-length bathroom mirrors for the Middle School bathrooms.

6. Approve the generous donation from the Prunesti family to the John R. O'Neil Memorial Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$100.00.
7. Approve the generous donation from the Drive for Autism Foundation to Allen W. Roberts School in the amount of \$1,400.00, for the purchase of supplies to support students with occupational therapy and speech therapy needs.
8. Approve state-certified costs per pupil for the 2025/2026 school year as follows:

Preschool/Kindergarten	\$15,768.00
Grades 1-5	\$17,824.00
Grades 6-8	\$16,897.00
Grades 9-12	\$18,828.00
Learning and/or Language Disabled	\$59,141.00
Preschool Disabled- Full Time	\$31,244.00
Preschool Disabled – Part Time	\$17,271.00
9. Approve the Joint Transportation Agreements between the Morris Union Jointure Commission and the New Providence School District for the 2025/2026 school year as stated below:

<u>Route</u>	<u>Per Annum</u>
925	\$15,262.95

10. Approve an addendum to the agreement between the New Providence School District and Atlantic Health to extend maternity leave coverage, in an amount not to exceed \$4,285.71.
11. Approve the generous donation from the New Providence High School PTSA (\$2,000.00), New Providence Middle School PTO (\$1,000.00), Allen W. Roberts PTA (\$1,000.00), Salt Brook PTA (\$1,000.00) to fund the 2026/2027 Project Reboot, in a total amount of \$5,000.00.
12. Approve the following bus company for athletics, extracurricular, and field trip transportation in the event the Morris-Union Jointure Commission is unable to provide transportation for the 2025/2026 school year:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>2025/2026 Rates</u>
Byram Bus, Inc.	Stanhope	Price to be determined based on trip

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

B. Facilities Actions – Ms. Gunderman

Approve Items 1 through 3 as listed below:

1. Approve the disposal of the items identified on Exhibit A, as they are outdated and no longer deemed necessary for school use. **(EXHIBIT A)**
2. Approve the disposal and donation of forty stereo microscopes to the Parsippany-Troy Hills Public School District, as these scopes are not being used due to the New Providence School District purchasing higher quality microscopes.
3. Approve the disposal of forty-five stereo microscopes as they are broken, missing parts and inoperable.

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

C. Education – Mrs. Castellano

Approve Items 1 through 3 as listed below:

1. Per the 2011 Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, approve the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools regarding the following 2025/2026 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying investigations:

<u>School</u>	<u>Incident Report Number(s)</u>
High School:	4 and 5
Middle School:	4
Salt Brook	3, 4, and 5

2. Approve the submission of amended Fiscal Year 2026 Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA-B) Consolidated Grant Application, in the amount of \$554,038.00 (Basic: \$533,483.00; Preschool: \$20,555.00), for the period 7/1/25 through 6/30/26.
3. Approve the Digital Wellness Contract that the District will enter into with Project Reboot for the 2026/2027 school year, copies in the hands of each Board member.

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

D. Personnel Action – Dr. Empson Hayden

Approve Items 1 through 6 as listed below:

1. Approve the appointment of the following people with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools subject to the requirements of Chapter 116 of P.L. 1986 for the 2025/2026 school year:
 - a. Sean Theis, gameworker
 - b. Jennifer McSweeney, intramurals- for students with special needs K-8 (fall/winter/spring), advisor, \$705.11 (base \$2,105.00), effective 3/19/26-6/30/26
 - c. Anthony Conzentino, HS fitness center monitor, \$22.00/hr.
 - d. Alyssa Kickenweitz, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary
 - e. Adeline Celler, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary.
2. Approve the appointment of the following people with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools subject to the requirements of Chapter 116 of P.L. 1986 for the 2026/2027 school year:
 - a. Anthony Conzentino, football (fall), head coach, \$12,099.00
 - b. Amanda Srey, executive secretary, personnel (confidential), \$65,000.00, effective 7/1/26
3. Approve the following revision for the 2025/2026 school year:
 - a. Erin Strathern, long term substitute counselor, \$31,989.00 (base \$68,794.00), effective 12/22/25 through 5/15/26
4. Approve the request for unpaid paternity leave for Matthew Manns, teacher, under the state Family Leave Act for a period of twelve weeks commencing 11/30/26 and ending 3/2/27, with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. (Based on 5/27/26 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)
5. Approve the request for unpaid maternity leave for Maria Ulate, executive secretary (confidential), under the state Family Leave Act for a period of twelve weeks commencing 8/13/26 and ending 11/4/26, with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. (Based on 7/16/26 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)
6. Approve the request for unpaid maternity leave for Tatiana Pereira, teacher, under the state Family Leave Act for a period of twelve weeks commencing 9/8/26 and ending 11/30/26, with continued health insurance benefits pursuant to law. (Based on 8/11/26 due date. Dates subject to adjustment by actual birth.)

Seconded by: _____
 Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

E. Board Policy – Mrs. Zane

Approve Item 1 as listed below:

1. Approve the following policies and regulations on second reading:

Bylaws and Policies:

Policy 1552 (Mandated)	Sexual Harassment- Staff	New
Policy 3362	Sexual Harassment	Abolish
Policy 4352	Sexual Harassment	Abolish

Administrative Regulations

Regulation 1552 (Mandated)	Sexual Harassment- Staff	New
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Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

XI Committee Reports

1. Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology
2. Finance, Facilities, and Safety/Security
3. Personnel, Management, and Communication

XII Old Business**XIII New Business****XIV Opportunity for the Public to be Heard****XV Motion to Recess to Closed Session, if necessary****XVI Adjournment**