

Board of Education

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING

Date and Time

Tuesday, January 27, 2026
at 9:30 A.M

Location

The SBJC Ed Center
696 Route 46 West, Teterboro, NJ

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NJ OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Business Administrator-Secretary has caused notice of this meeting to be sent to the following, announcing time and place thereof, agenda, etc.:

North Jersey Media Group

Notice of this meeting has been posted in the lobby of the Board of Education Office and at the South Bergen Jointure Commission Public Schools. This is an official meeting of the Board of Education/South Bergen Jointure Commission.

Meeting opened at 9:32 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. F. D'Amico, Dr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. M. Poidomani, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti.

Members Absent: Mr. J. DeCorso, Ms. A. Evans, Mr. Giancaspro, Dr. P. Pantoliano, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. S. Yurchak

Also Present: Dr. M. Kuchar, Ms. S. Cucciniello

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Mr. J. DeCorso arrived at 9:37 a.m.
- Mr. F. Scarafile arrived at 9:38 a.m.
- Mr. G. Giancaspro arrived at 9:40 a.m.

The 2024-2025 Audit Report was presented by Mr. Dieter Lerch. Dr. Kuchar updated the board on the current district status and the budget process that is being followed with the finance committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Mr. John Hurley

Seconded: Mr. Joseph DeCorso

1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the minutes of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting of December 18, 2025 be approved.

Action taken:

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Ms. T. Violetti

Abstain: Mr. G. Giancaspro, Dr. J. Torrento,

Nays: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Ms. Liz Forte spoke to the board and congratulated the new principal at Lodi, Mr. Joe Marszalek, and she went over current events, upcoming plans, and told of the spiritwear fundraiser. She also mentioned information on a sleepaway camp in case anyone is interested.

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS

2. FINANCE REPORT

Motion: Dr. Jillian Torrento

Seconded: Mr. Joseph DeCorso

2a. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that the FINANCE resolutions as per the attached report are approved (*Attachments 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e*).

2b. The Board accepts the Board Secretary's Report as of November 30th, 2025 and approves "Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(E), certify that as of November 30th, 2024 the Board Secretary's monthly financial report (Appropriations sections), did not reflect an over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, and based on the appropriations balances reflected on the report and the advice of districts officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year" (*Attachment 2b*).

2c. The Board accepts the financial report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of November 2025 (*Attachment 2c*).

2d. The Board approves the following resolution: "Pursuant to NJAC 6:20-2A.10(d), we certify that as of November 30th, 2025, no budgetary line item has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6:20-2A.10(a)."

2e. The December and January bills list below are approved (*Attachment 2e*):

Bills Payable	\$4,452,805.59
Payroll Transfers	\$2,205,276.00
Cafeteria Checks	\$ 27,563.47
Total	\$6,685,645.06

2f. Motion to approve the transfers for the month of November 2025. (Attachment 2f)

2g. Motion to approve the following professional workshops and the reimbursement costs of the workshops.

Name	Workshop	Workshop Provider	Date(s)	Cost
Chilelli-Boru, Deborah	AOTA Conference 2026	American Occupational Therapy Assoc.	4/23-4/26/26	\$450.00
Flores, Edwin	TECHSPO '26	NJASA	1/28/26 - 1/30/26	\$610.00 + Meals + Travel + Hotel

2h. Motion to approve the following list of field trips.

Field Trip Date	Destination	Teacher(s)	Cost of Trip	Est. Cost of Trans.	Total Cost of Trip for SBJC
1/29/26	Garden State Plaza	Barton / Briigliadoro	\$546.00	\$310.00	\$856.00

2i. Motion for South Bergen Jointure Commission to pay \$2,800.00 for Joseph Marszalek's, Principal, Leaders2Leaders Mentoring.

2j. Motion to accept the 2024-2025 Audit Report after report presentation by Mr. Dieter Lerch.

WHEREAS, the 2024-2025 annual district audit as prepared by the firm of Lerch, Vinci and Bliss, LLP, Certified Public Accountants, had been submitted to the Board of Education in accordance with New Jersey Statute and Administrative Code and

WHEREAS a synopsis of the audit has been made available for public distribution a copy of which should be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby accept the 2024-2025 Annual Audit Report and corrective action plan (*Attachment 2j*).

ACTION TAKEN FOR 2. FINANCE

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

3. PERSONNEL

Motion: Mr. Frank D'Amico

Seconded: Mr. Frank Scarafile

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION, that in compliance with Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 and in accordance with the State of New Jersey Department of Education memorandum dated October 29, 1986 that all new personnel shall be considered to be provisionally hired: and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby directed to comply with State Department directives concerning the State and Federal criminal history background checks of these employees and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said new personnel shall be considered provisionally hired until such time as the Department of Education has indicated that they have completed the criminal history background checks of prospective employees and that said employees have satisfied the requirements of Chapter 116, P.L. 1986 at which time said employees shall no longer be provisional; the Business Administrator shall be hereby directed to employ personnel and to take such other personnel actions as indicated.

All appointments upon recommendation of the Superintendent are on an emergent basis, pending completion of a criminal history background check. In addition, all appointments are contingent upon the employee signing a contract in accordance with law and the receipt of favorable reference responses. All aide appointments are contingent upon the employee being available for employment for the month of July 1, 2025 through July 31, 2026. All employees are approved to be paid additional compensation for the Clubs and Activities Program, Home Programming and Parent Training Home Program, office support and Home Instruction on an as-needed basis.

3a. Motion to approve the attached additional pay for services rendered as indicated (*Attachment 3a*).

3b. Motion to approve the contract with each of the Boards of Education for the SBJC to provide 1:1 aide services for the 2024-2025 school year. Full amount of the annual prorated fee shall be charged to each of the Boards of Education.

District	Student ID
New Milford	48451674

3c. Motion to accept the resignation of the following personnel:

Name	Position	Effective Date	Purpose
Szymkowski, Katarzyna	Paraprofessional	2/3/26	resignation
Ymeraj, Blerta	Paraprofessional	1/19/26	resignation

3d. Motion to approve the leave of absence for the following, using days in accordance with the individual agreement with the Board and utilizing the FMLA and/or NJFLA leave entitlement.

Employee ID#	Position	Effective Dates
0827	Paraprofessional	1/5/26 - 3/29/26 (adjusted)

3e. Motion to approve the following staff to be added to the substitute list for the 2025- 2026 School Year.

Joseph Aratingi

3f. Motion to approve the appointment of the following personnel to clubs and activities. The stipend below will be prorated for the period worked.

Name	Position	Club /Sport / Season	Stipend	Effective Dates
Michelle Noriega	Teacher	Head Bowling Coach - Winter	\$4,500.00	1/13/26 - 6/30/26
Randi Schmidt	Teacher	Head Teacher	\$2,500.00	1/5/26 - 6/30/26

3g. Motion to approve the following students to complete clinical/student teaching/classroom observation hours at the South Bergen Jointure Commission as a requirement of their college.

Name	College
Evelyn Salas	Felician University
Hoai Hoang	Felician University
Stephanie Formby	Felician University
Thi Tinh Tran	Felician University
Tien Tran	Felician University
Kara Nazario	Felician University
Ivy Loja Jarama	Felician University

3h. Motion to approve the following employees to receive the retirement benefit for accumulated sick leave, per contract.

<u>Name</u>	<u># of Remaining Sick Days</u>	<u>Payout Amount</u>
Cheryl Kavanagh	36.5	\$2,555.00

3i. Motion to approve the change in position of Julyanna Deauna, Paraprofessional to Teacher effective February 1, 2026 - June 30, 2026, at annual salary of the teacher's guide BA step 2 \$59,370. Salary will be prorated for the period worked.

ACTION TAKEN FOR 3. PERSONNEL

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti

Abstain: Mr. P. Galasso (3b only)

Nayes: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

4. POLICY

Motion: Mr. Frank D'Amico

Seconded: Mr. Matthew Perrapato

4a. BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Bergen Jointure Commission Board of Education affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB investigations for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's decision to the students' parents, and directs the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to transmit a copy of the Board's decision to the affected students' parents.

25-26-01-Maywood-48451657
 25-26-01-Maywood-48450898
 25-26-02-Lodi-48451554
 25-26-02-Lodi-48450594

ACTION TAKEN FOR 4. POLICY

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

5. TRANSPORTATION

Motion: Mr. Frank Scarafile

Seconded: Dr. Jillian Torrento

5a. Motion to approve the attached 2025-2026 RSY Quotes Set 5 (Attachment 5a).

5b. Motion to approve the bid results from January 21, 2026, Special Education/Regular Student Transportation Services, Bid #012126 (Attachment 5b).

5c. Motion to approve the withholding of payment on route DT251 for Kris Transport for excessive tardiness upon pickup and drop off. Total penalty is \$799.02 to be deducted from December billing.

5d. Motion to approve the withholding of payment on route Q158 for Joshua Tours for missed pickup of a student. Total penalty is \$538.00 to be deducted from December billing.

5e. Motion to approve an agreement with High Point Regional High School District for the purposes of student transportation in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period 2025-2026 school year in which SBJC is the host district, as needed. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the Coordinated Transportation of out of district, special education, and summer programs.

ACTION TAKEN FOR 5. TRANSPORTATION

Ayes: Mr. A. Albro, Mr. J. DeCorso, Mr. F. D'Amico, Mr. P. Galasso, Mr. G. Giancaspro, Mr. J. Hurley, Mr. D. Kennedy, Mr. J. Knipper, Dr. Y. Lozanski, Mr. M. Perrapato, Dr. M. Poidomani, Mr. F. Scarafile, Dr. J. Torrento, Ms. T. Violetti

Abstain: None

Nayes: None

Absent: Ms. A. Evans, Dr. L. Pantoliano, Dr. P. Semendinger, Dr. D. Sforza, Dr. R. Tomko, Dr. S. Yurchak

6. FACILITIES AND PLANNING**7. FOOD SERVICE****8. CURRICULUM****9. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

10. OLD BUSINESS**11. NEW BUSINESS****12. INFORMATION ITEMS****ADJOURNMENT****ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Mr. John Hurley
Seconded: Mr. Frank Scarafile

BE IT RESOLVED, that this meeting is adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

ACTION TAKEN FOR ADJOURNMENT Unanimous approval by voice vote.

Ms. Susan Cucciniello
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary



**SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
CLOSED MEETING TO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

JANUARY 27, 2026

Motion:

Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION will hold a closed meeting on January 28th, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. to review personnel matters and other confidential concerns as listed on the Closed Agenda dated January 27, 2026. The items discussed will be made public at the conclusion of the executive session or at a date not determined at this time.

Action taken:

**SOUTH BERGEN JOINTURE COMMISSION
CLOSED - MONTHLY MEETING
January 27, 2026**

Meeting Opened at _____.

Members Present:

Members Absent:

Also Present:

Special Order of Business

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion:

Seconded:

BE IT RESOLVED, that this closed session is adjourned at _____.

Action taken: