



## MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION

60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430

**Richard DeSilva, Jr.**  
1st Vice President

**Brett Coplin**  
**Trista Daveniero**  
**Michael Galow**

**Prema C. Moorthy, PhD**  
President

**Benjamin A. Kezmarsky**  
2nd Vice President

**Christopher L. Hughes**  
**Steve Huston**  
**Janine Ting Jansen**

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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORK SESSION/ACTION MEETING OF THE MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION held on Wednesday, March 04, 2026, at Mahwah High School, 50 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ.

*PLEASE NOTE: This meeting of the Mahwah Board of Education is open to members of the public to be physically present. Members of the public that attend will be asked to follow the same procedures as all other visitors to our schools. Those procedures can be found on the agenda page of our website. Additionally, the Board meeting will be live streamed for viewing purposes only. Anyone wishing to view the meeting, may do so via Zoom (<https://zoom.us>).*

### CALL TO ORDER

President Dr. Moorthy called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

### ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mesdames Dr. Moorthy, and Ting Jansen  
Messrs. Coplin, Galow, Kezmarsky, Huston, Hughes and DeSilva

ABSENT: Mesdames Daveniero

ALSO PRESENT: Michael DeTuro, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Dennis M. Fare, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent  
Katherine A. Hiromoto, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary  
Lisa Rizzo, Director of Special Services  
Jodi Craft, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

### PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of agenda of this meeting has been provided to *The Ridgewood News and The Record* specifying that the Mahwah Board of Education will meet on March 04, 2026, at Mahwah High School, 50 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ. A copy was filed with the Township Clerk.

### SALUTE TO THE FLAG

### MOTION TO RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. DeSilva and seconded by Mr. Coplin to recess to Executive Session under Chapter 231, P.L. (Sunshine Law), which authorizes a public body to discuss personnel, negotiations, student, and legal matters.

**Motion carried at 7:02 p.m.**

### MOTION TO RECONVENE TO PUBLIC ACTION MEETING

Motion by Mr. Hughes and seconded by Mr. Galow to reconvene the public session.

**Motion carried at 7:08 p.m.**

MOTION TO OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS

Motion by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mrs. Ting Jansen to open the meeting to the public for comments.

**Motion carried at 7:09 p.m.**

AGENDA QUESTIONS

*There were no questions about the agenda.*

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS

Motion by Mr. Coplin and seconded by Mr. Hughes to close the meeting to the public for comments.

**Motion carried at 7:09 p.m.**

MAHWAH STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

*The Student Representative provided an update on recent and upcoming student activities. Highlights included the opening weekend of the school musical, recognition of Social Emotional Learning Month initiatives, and continued participation in winter athletics and extracurricular programs.*

*Updates were also shared on student achievements, including the Winter Guard and percussion teams placing in recent competitions. Additional updates included ongoing winter sports activities, upcoming robotics competitions, and DECA students competing at the state level.*

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – DR. MICHAEL DETURO

*Dr. DeTuro provided an update regarding the district's recent referendum outreach efforts, expressing appreciation to the community for attending informational meetings and engaging in discussions.*

*He clarified that the recent property reassessments are separate from the referendum and do not impact the tax obligation associated with the referendum, which is based on a property's assessed value at the time the financial projections were developed.*

*Dr. DeTuro also provided an update on the anticipated project timeline. He noted that, if approved, the district would move forward immediately with final planning, with construction expected to begin in spring 2027. He explained that the overall duration of the projects is estimated to be approximately four to five years, with multiple projects occurring concurrently.*

*Additionally, Dr. DeTuro addressed potential impacts on instruction, stating that the majority of projects can be completed while school is in session with minimal disruption. He noted that the auditorium renovation may require additional planning to limit its impact on instructional and performance activities.*

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – DR. DENNIS M. FARE

*Dr. Fare provided an update regarding upcoming referendum communications, noting that building*

principals will be sending information to their respective school communities. He shared that the district will offer a virtual question-and-answer session on March 9 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., providing community members with an opportunity to seek clarification and ensure they are fully informed prior to the vote.

Dr. Fare also announced the retirement of Mrs. Kathy Dolan, recognizing her 29 years of dedicated service at Joyce Kilmer School. He highlighted her significant contributions to the district, noting her role in supporting student growth and fostering a positive and engaging learning environment. Dr. Fare acknowledged her impact on generations of students and colleagues and extended best wishes to Mrs. Dolan as she begins her retirement.

#### BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT – MS. KATHERINE A. HIROMOTO

Ms. Hiromoto reported that the Finance & Facilities Committee met to review the revised preliminary 2026–2027 budget. She noted that the Business Office and administration are making strong progress and that the budget is nearing completion.

Ms. Hiromoto also outlined the upcoming budget presentation schedule to the Board, with presentations scheduled for March 25, April 8, and April 29, 2026, culminating in the public hearing and Board adoption of the final budget.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Moorthy, Board President, emphasized the Board's role not only as district leaders but also as members of the community, noting their shared understanding of the importance and impact of the proposed referendum. She expressed appreciation to community members for taking the time to become informed and engaged throughout the process.

Dr. Moorthy reiterated the importance of participating in the March 10 special election and reminded residents of available voting options, including vote-by-mail. She noted that the referendum includes projects intended to support students, district programs, and broader community resources.

She encouraged community members to continue utilizing available resources, including the district website, email communication, and the upcoming virtual question-and-answer session, to seek clarification and additional information. Dr. Moorthy also expressed appreciation to the administration and Board members for their time and efforts in conducting outreach, participating in presentations, and engaging with the community. She concluded by encouraging continued dialogue and participation in the upcoming vote.

#### BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Instructional & Curriculum/Special Education – P. Moorthy (Chair), T. Daveniero, M. Galow, B. Coplin, J. Ting Jansen (Alt.)

Finance & Facilities – M. Galow (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky, J. Ting Jansen, P. Moorthy (Alt.)

Policy – J. Ting Jansen (Chair), C. Hughes, S. Huston, R. DeSilva

Community Relations – B. Coplin (Chair), T. Daveniero, S. Huston, C. Hughes, M. Galow (Alt.)

Executive/Planning Committee – P. Moorthy (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky

Transportation Committee – B. Coplin (Chair) T. Daveniero, C. Hughes, M. Galow

Negotiations – J. Ting Jansen (Chair), M. Galow, B. Kezmarsky, P. Moorthy

Bergen County School Boards Liaison – M. Galow, P. Moorthy (Alt.)

New Jersey School Boards Legislative Liaison – P. Moorthy

Mahwah Schools Foundation Liaison – B. Kezmarsky, B. Coplin (Alt.)

Mahwah Access for All Liaison – S. Huston, M. Galow (Alt.)

Board of Education Liaison to Town Council - B. Kezmarsky, R. DeSilva, (Alt.)

*On behalf of the Finance and Facilities Committee, Mr. Galow provided an update on the district's budget and financial position. He noted that, despite financial challenges faced by other districts, Mahwah continues to maintain a strong financial position, with the preliminary budget developed within the tax levy cap. Mr. Galow highlighted the district's consistent history of responsible financial management and long-term planning, crediting the Business Office and administration for their thoughtful and disciplined approach.*

*He also noted that the district is awaiting final state aid figures, which will further inform the budget. Mr. Galow expressed confidence in the district's financial stewardship and emphasized that the community can be assured that resources are being managed efficiently and effectively. He concluded by thanking all those involved in the budget development process for their continued efforts.*

#### BOARD MEMBER REMARKS/ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON REPORTS OR OTHER NON-AGENDA ITEMS

*Mr. Coplin congratulated a Mahwah High School graduate on a recent athletic achievement, noting his success in collegiate wrestling and advancement to a national-level competition. He recognized this as a significant accomplishment and extended congratulations to the student and his family.*

*Mr. DeSilva addressed community questions and misconceptions regarding property reassessments, noting confusion between assessed value and market value. He clarified that the financial impact of the referendum is based on assessed value, not market value, and emphasized the importance of understanding that distinction.*

*Mr. DeSilva further explained that a reassessment does not automatically result in increased taxes. He noted that while assessed property values may increase over time, tax impacts are determined by relative changes across properties rather than a uniform increase. He explained that some properties may experience higher or lower changes in tax burden depending on individual circumstances, and that an increase in assessed value alone does not necessarily mean an increase in taxes.*

*Mr. DeSilva acknowledged that the reassessment process can be complex and unfamiliar, particularly given the time since the district's last reassessment, and encouraged community members to seek clarification and utilize available resources to better understand how reassessments and potential tax impacts are determined.*

*Dr. Moorthy encouraged community members to utilize the resources available on the district website to better understand information related to assessed property values and the referendum. She noted that the website provides tools for residents to review their individual assessed values and emphasized the importance of seeking accurate information. Dr. Moorthy encouraged residents to ask questions and obtain clarification prior to the upcoming vote to ensure they are fully informed.*

*Mrs. Ting Jansen provided additional comments regarding property reassessments, sharing a personal example to illustrate that changes in assessed value may vary and are often reflective of individual property updates. She reiterated that reassessments do not necessarily result in increased taxes, as tax impacts are distributed based on overall property values. Mrs. Jansen also emphasized that the projected tax impact of the referendum remains fixed based on current assessed values.*

*Additionally, Mrs. Jansen expressed appreciation for Mrs. Dolan's years of service to the district, noting her positive impact on students and the school community.*

17. OLD BUSINESS

**Resolutions 17a-17c were moved by Mr. Galow and seconded by Mr. Coplin.**

a. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the February 11, 2026, Public Work Session/Action Meeting Virtual Referendum Town Hall/Special Board Meeting.

b. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the February 11, 2026, Public Work Session/Action Meeting.

c. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the February 11, 2026, Executive Session.

**ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 17a-17c.**

**Motion 17a-17c carried 6 ayes, 0 nays, with Mr. Huston and Mr. Hughes abstaining from 17a-17c.**

18. NEW BUSINESS-OTHER

**Resolutions 18a-18i and addendum #1 were moved by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mrs. Ting Jansen.**

a. Financial Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of bills for the period of 02/26/2026 to 03/04/2026.

General Current Expense	Fund 11	\$583,247.77
Capital Outlay	Fund 12	\$550.00
Region 1	Fund 52	\$217.46
Region I-Contracted Trans.	Fund 53	\$178,682.65
Cafeteria	Fund 60	\$4,983.65
Total of All Checks		\$767,681.53

b. Transportation Contacts - Region 1 - River Edge School District-Region V Council for Special Education

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the River Edge School District-Region V Council for Special Education (hereinafter referred to as Region V), an approved Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, for the purposes of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period 2026/2027 school year. The services to be provided include, but are

not limited to, the coordinated transportation of nonpublic, out of district special education, vocational and summer programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education agrees to abide by the Joint Purchasing Agreement-Transportation as published by Region V and attached to this resolution.

c. Transportation Contract-Mahwah- D&M Tours, Inc.

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the renewal prices for transportation contracts with D&M Tours, Inc. for the 2026-2027 school year at the current CPI (3.58%) as follows:

Contract	Route #	Route	Per Hour (4 hr. Min)	Each ½ hour additional
9072	Various	Field/Athletic Trips outside normal school hours Yellow School Bus 54-passenger	\$106.02	\$109.68

d. Transportation Contract-Mahwah- Lenoir's Charter Service

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the renewal prices for transportation contracts with Lenoir's Charter Service for the 2026-2027 school year at the current CPI (3.58%) as follows:

Contract	Route #	Route	Per Diem
Mahwah Ath 2	Various	Field/Athletic Trips outside normal school hours	
		Yellow School Bus 16-Passenger	\$132.36
		Yellow School Bus 17-25 Passenger	\$158.60

e. Transportation Contract-Mahwah- Scholastic Bus Company

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the renewal prices for transportation contracts with Scholastic Bus Company for the 2026-2027 school year at the current CPI (3.58%) as follows:

Contract	Route #	Route	Per Annum	Per Diem
1	H1A	Mahwah High School	\$22,940.69	
1	H2A	Mahwah High School	\$22,940.69	
1	H3A	Mahwah High School	\$22,940.69	
1	H6A	Mahwah High School	\$22,940.69	
1	H1P	Mahwah High School	\$24,646.77	
1	H2P	Mahwah High School	\$24,646.77	
1	H3P	Mahwah High School	\$24,646.77	
1	H6P	Mahwah High School	\$24,646.77	
1	JK1A	Joyce Kilmer	\$20,813.83	
1	JK4A	Joyce Kilmer	\$20,813.83	

<b>Contract</b>	<b>Route #</b>	<b>Route</b>	<b>Per Annum</b>	<b>Per Diem</b>
1	JK1P	Joyce Kilmer	\$20,813.83	
1	JK4P	Joyce Kilmer	\$20,813.83	
1	R1A	Ramapo Ridge	\$27,751.78	
1	R2A	Ramapo Ridge	\$27,751.78	
1	R3A	Ramapo Ridge	\$27,751.78	
1	R4A	Ramapo Ridge	\$27,751.78	
1	R5A	Ramapo Ridge	\$27,751.78	
1	R6A	Ramapo Ridge	\$27,751.78	
1	R7A	Ramapo Ridge	\$27,751.78	
19	L8	Lenape Meadows	\$58,989.13	
107	R1P	Ramapo Ridge		\$185.52
107	R2P	Ramapo Ridge		\$185.52
107	R3P	Ramapo Ridge		\$185.52
107	R4P	Ramapo Ridge		\$185.52
107	R5P	Ramapo Ridge		\$185.52
107	R6P	Ramapo Ridge		\$185.52
107	R7P	Ramapo Ridge		\$185.52
R12	R12	Ramapo Ridge	\$64,487.02	
R13	R13	Ramapo Ridge		\$312.21
S809	BR16	Betsy Ross		\$347.01
S809	G2	George Washington		\$261.56
S809	JK7	Joyce Kilmer		\$261.56
S809	L4	Lenape Meadows		\$261.56
Scholastic 2023	G1	George Washington	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	G3	George Washington	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	G5	George Washington	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	BR5	Betsy Ross	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	BR6	Betsy Ross	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	BR14	Betsy Ross	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	L1	Lenape Meadows	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	L2	Lenape Meadows	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	L3	Lenape Meadows	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	L5	Lenape Meadows	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	JK2	Joyce Kilmer	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	JK3	Joyce Kilmer	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	JK8	Joyce Kilmer	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	JK9	Joyce Kilmer	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	JK10	Joyce Kilmer	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	JK15	Joyce Kilmer	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	R9	Ramapo Ridge	\$55,617.39	
Scholastic 2023	MUSIC #1	Mahwah High School	\$18,229.12	

<b>Contract</b>	<b>Route #</b>	<b>Route</b>	<b>Per Annum</b>	<b>Per Diem</b>
Scholastic 2023	MUSIC #2	Mahwah High School	\$18,229.12	

f. Transportation Contracts-Region 1- South Bergen Jointure Commission

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the South Bergen Jointure Commission, an approved Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, for the purposes of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period 2026-2027 school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the coordinated transportation of nonpublic, out of district special education, vocational and summer programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Region 1/Mahwah Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the South Bergen Jointure Commission and attached to this resolution.

g. Conferences/Workshops

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves attendance at the following conferences/workshops that are deemed to be educationally appropriate and for the benefit of the school district including conference/workshop fees and necessary travel expenses. The conference/workshop amount shall align with the staff member's annual contractual allowance.

<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>Conference/Workshop</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Gregory	Romero	Rutgers School Of Public Health - NJ Lead Inspector/Risk Assessor Refresher	3/5/2026	\$195.00
Gregory	Romero	Special Ops: AC Troubleshooting and Tactical Skills	03/17-03/19/2026	\$399.00
Talya	Cole	Annual Literacy Conference 2026- The Art and Science of Teaching Reading	3/27/2026	\$145.00
Jodie	Craft	Centenary University Literacy Conference 2026	3/27/2026	\$ 99.00
Ofeer	Kearns	The Art and Science of Teaching Reading	3/27/2026	\$ 99.00

h. Field Trips

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following field trips:

<b>Group/Destination</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>School</b>	<b># of Students</b>
Honors Chinese 6-8 hosting Chinese Culture Workshop at Ramapo Ridge, Mahah, NJ	3/12/26	RR	9
Social Studies (11-12) to Ramapo College, Mahwah, NJ	3/24/26	MHS	7
Spanish Honor Society (6-12) to Felician University, Lodi, NJ	3/24/26	RR/MHS	38

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<b>Group/Destination</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>School</b>	<b># of Students</b>
Gifted & Talented Grade 4 to NJ Law Center, New Brunswick, NJ	5/13/26	JK	7
AP Government & Politics (9-12) to Mahwah Polling Locations, Mahwah, NJ	6/2/26	MHS	20
Gifted & Talented (6-12) to Indiana University, Bloomington, IN	6/10-6/14/26	MHS	30

## i. Vendor

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education appoints Speech and Hearing Associates to provide evaluations as needed.

- Central Auditory Processing at a rate of \$700 per evaluation.
- Speech and language evaluations at a rate of \$650
- Bilingual evaluations at a rate of \$850
- Language Processing Evaluation with report \$950.
- In-school consultation (2-hour minimum) at a rate of 175 per hour.

**ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 18a-18i and Addendum #1.**

**Motion 18a-18i and Addendum #1 carried 8 ayes, 0 nays.**

19. NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

**Resolutions 19a were moved by Mr. Hughes and seconded by Mr. Coplin.**

**Resolutions 19b-19o were moved by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mrs. Ting Jansen.**

## a. Retirement

RESOLVE; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Kathleen Dolan, teacher of grade five, at Joyce Kilmer School, for the purpose of retirement; with a final date of employment June 30, 2026.

FURTHER RESOLVED; that the Mahwah Board of Education expresses its sincere appreciation for her 29 years of dedication and service to the Mahwah Public Schools.

## b. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Keri Parrella, non-certificated school nurse, for Mahwah Township Public Schools; effective March 25, 2026.

## c. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Suzan Farag, instructional paraprofessional, at Betsy Ross School; effective June 30, 2026.

## d. Appointment – Mahwah High School Spring Track and Field Co-Head Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Robert Pasek, as Mahwah High School spring track and field co-head coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$6,852.50.

e. Appointment – Mahwah High School Spring Track and Field Co-Head Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Deidre Wilson, as Mahwah High School spring track and field co-head coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$6,852.50.

f. Appointment – Mahwah High School Track and Field Assistant Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Christopher Moye, as Mahwah High School track and field assistant coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$9,841, pending fingerprinting, certification and employment verification.

g. Appointment – Mahwah High School Track and Field Assistant Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Michael Stein, as Mahwah High School track and field assistant coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$9,841.

h. Appointment – Mahwah High School Boys Soccer Assistant Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Alejandro SanMartin, as Mahwah High School boys soccer assistant coach, for the 2026-2027 season; stipend to be \$8,861, pending employment verification.

i. Appointment – Ramapo Ridge Middle School Spring Track and Field Assistant Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Christopher Gioni, as Ramapo Ridge Middle School spring track and field assistant coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$3,208, pending employment verification.

j. Appointment – Thunderbird Academic and Career Internship Program Coordinator

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Estania Noel, as coordinator, of the Thunderbird Academic and Career Internship Program, to be held July 6, 2026 – August 7, 2026, at the stipend rate of \$6,078.

k. Appointment – Thunderbird Externship Career Pathway Exploration Program and Job Shadowing Coordinator

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Brian Gregson, as coordinator, of the Thunderbird Externship Career Pathway Exploration Program & Job Shadowing, to be held July 6, 2026 – August 7, 2026, at the stipend rate of \$5,166.

l. FMLA Leave of Absence - Update

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence update for Employee #9878, effective April 8, 2026 – May 11, 2026, using 24 sick days and FMLA concurrently, from April 8, 2026 – May 11, 2026.

m. NJFLA/Childcare/Maternity Leave of Absence – Extension

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence extension for Employee #5520, using 7 sick days and taking FMLA concurrently, effective September 2, 2025 – September 10, 2025, taking FMLA from September 11, 2025 – November 26, 2025, and taking an unpaid leave of absence from December 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027.

n. FMLA/NJFLA/Childcare/Maternity Leave of Absence - Extension

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence extension for Employee #2038, using 17 sick days, from May 12, 2025 – June 6, 2025, taking FMLA, effective June 9, 2025 – October 3, 2025, taking NJFLA from October 6, 2025 – December 23, 2025, and taking an unpaid leave of absence from December 24, 2025 - June 30, 2027.

o. FMLA Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence for Employee #2175, effective March 11, 2026 – March 19, 2026, using 7 sick days and FMLA concurrently, from March 11, 2026 – March 19, 2026.

**ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 19a.**

**Motion 19a carried 8 ayes, 0 nays.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 19b-19o.**

**Motion 19b-19o carried 8 ayes, 0 nays.**

PUBLIC QUESTION OR COMMENT

Public participation at Board meetings is in accordance with Bylaw 0167.

At this time, members of the public may ask questions or make a comment on educational issues or school matters of community interest. As a matter of fairness, you are asked to limit your questions to no more than one, and your remarks to no longer than three minutes. If you are here representing a group, please identify yourself, the group, and your position in the group. If you are here as an individual, please give us your name and address.

Note: This section of public participation will be limited to fifteen minutes.

MOTION TO OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Motion by Mr. DeSilva and seconded by Mrs. Ting Jansen, to open the meeting to the public.

*There were no public questions or comments.*

*Dr. DeTuro provided a follow-up regarding a concern raised by a community member at a prior meeting related to the use of the i-Ready program at the middle school. He reported that the district conducted a review of usage data and found that the program is being implemented in accordance with established guidelines, with students averaging approximately 30–35 minutes per week.*

*Dr. DeTuro noted that the district takes such concerns seriously and will continue to monitor program usage to ensure it is implemented appropriately and with fidelity, and that it does not replace instructional time.*

*Mr. Galow sought clarification regarding the weekly usage of the i-Ready program. Dr. DeTuro confirmed that students typically engage with the program for approximately 30–35 minutes per week. He explained that implementation may vary by classroom, with teachers incorporating the program in different ways throughout the week based on instructional needs.*

**Motion carried at 7:32 p.m.**

**MOTION TO CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

Motion by Mr. Galow and seconded by Mr. Coplin to close the meeting to the public.

**Motion carried at 7:32 p.m.**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mrs. Ting Jansen to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion carried at 7:35 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,



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Katherine A. Hiromoto  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary