

EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 24, 2026

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT (7:00 P.M.)

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT:

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law, adequate public notice of this meeting has been given by the Business Administrator in the following manner:

- A. Posted written notice on the official bulletin board at the Eastampton Community School on January 16, 2026.
- B. Mailed written notice to the *Burlington County Times* and *Courier Post* on January 20, 2026.
- C. Filed written notice with the Clerk of Eastampton Township on January 21, 2026.
- D. Posted official notice on the district's website.
- E. Mailed written notice to each person who has requested copies of the regular meeting schedule and who has prepaid any charges fixed for such service.

ROLL CALL:

Board Member	Present	Absent	Late Arrival Time
Kerry Douglas, Board President	X		
Florencia Norton, Vice President		X	
Edward Besko	X		
Edward Hill		X	
Walter Maluchnik	X		
Stephanie McHugh	X		
Jamie Smith	X		

Lianne M. Kane, Superintendent of Schools

Joseph A. Firetto, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

4. FIRE EXITS

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

The Board, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, is providing an opportunity for the Board to hear the public's concerns. The Board will not publicly discuss personnel matters and may choose not to respond to comments made by members of the public during this portion of the meeting. If appropriate, the Superintendent will respond to your questions and concerns at a future time. We take your concerns and questions very seriously and want to have sufficient time to allow our administration to process and research issues, if need be.

This meeting will now be open to the public; however, if your questions or comments pertain to litigation, students, personnel or negotiations, we ask that you see the Superintendent after the meeting since we do not discuss these items in public.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

January 27, 2026 (Regular & Executive Session) (25-26-75)

February 3, 2026 (Special Meeting) (25-26-76)

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President	X		X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President							X
Edward Besko		X	X				
Edward Hill							X
Walter Maluchnik			27 TH		3 RD		
Stephanie McHugh			3 RD		37 TH		
Jamie Smith			X				

Motion Carries

Motion Fails

7. PRESENTATIONS:

A. Student Recognitions – Mrs. Kane, Superintendent/Principal

Kindergarten – Finnian Berkey

1st Grade – Thomas Mahan

2nd Grade – Luca Danley

3rd Grade – Nichela Moticha

4th Grade – Mysoon Tahim

5th Grade – Quinnley Jecen

6th Grade – Amazing Agada

7th Grade – Jake DeGregory

8th Grade – Hopelynn Schwab

B. Governor’s Educator and Educational Services Professional of the Year Recognitions- Mrs. Kane, Superintendent/Principal

8. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT: (Lianne M. Kane, Superintendent/Principal)

A. Information Item(s):

1) HIB Report dated February 19, 2026 (25-26-77)

2) Department Reports

3) Liaison Reports

Snow removal – township will be notified about board concern for the clearing of the walkway paths to the school

B. Action Item(s):

1) Recommend the Board approve the action item(s) on the HIB Report dated February 19, 2026 as initially presented at the January 27, 2026 meeting. (25-26-77)

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President	X		X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President							X
Edward Besko			X				
Edward Hill							X
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh			X				
Jamie Smith		X	X				

Motion Carries
 Motion Fails

9. PERSONNEL: (Jamie Smith, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the employment of the following candidates as district substitute teachers effective February 25, 2026, pending completion of paperwork:

Janice Harris-Marshall
 Melissa Hires
 Evan Donahue

- 2) Recommend the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for employee #4451 for June 22, 2026.
- 3) Recommend the Board approve Erin D’Addona as a member of the school climate team for the remainder of the 2025-2026 School Year.

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President			X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President							X
Edward Besko			X				
Edward Hill							X
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh		X	X				
Jamie Smith	X		X				

Motion Carries
 Motion Fails

10. FINANCE: (Edward Besko, Chairperson)

A. Information Item(s):

- 1) Anticipated initial budget submittal deadline: March 27, 2026

B. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the following payrolls:
 - January 30, 2026 - \$301,345.07
 - February 13, 2026 - \$300,845.70
- 2) Recommend the Board approve the following invoices for payment: **(25-26-78)**
 - Regular Bills January 28 - February 24 2026: \$488,604.26
 - Utility Bills January 28, 2026: \$28,259.28
- 3) Recommend the Board approve the attached Cafeteria expenses. **(25-26-79)**
- 4) Recommend the Board approve the attached Student Activity expense. **(25-26-80)**
- 5) Recommend the Board approve Line Item Transfers dated January 31, 2026. **(25-26-81)**
- 6) Recommend the Board re-approve the Board Secretary's Report dated July 31, 2025. **(25-26-82)**
- 7) Recommend the Board re-approve the Board Secretary's Report dated August 31, 2025. **(25-26-83)**
- 8) Recommend the Board approve the Board Secretary's Report dated September 30, 2025. **(25-26-84)**
- 9) Recommend the Board re-approve the Treasurer's Report dated July 31, 2025. **(25-26-85)**
- 10) Recommend the Board re-approve the Treasurer's Report dated August 31, 2025. **(25-26-86)**
- 11) Recommend the Board approve the Treasurer's Report dated September 30, 2025. **(25-26-87)**
- 12) Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, we certify that as of July 31, August 31, and September 30, 2025 after review of the Secretary's monthly financial reports (appropriations section) and upon consultation with appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. It is also certified that the Board Secretary's report matches the Treasurer's Report. *Citations are subject to change due to periodic amendments, new rules, repeals. Figures subject to final audit.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4, I certify that as of July 31, August 31, and September 2025 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8-1. *Citations are subject to change due to periodic amendments, new rules, and repeals. Figures subject to final audit.

13) Recommend the Board approve the closing of the following account in Citizens bank. These expenditures will be paid via the Payroll Agency account beginning in February.

- Account 1000410780 – 403b
- Account 2369900105 – DCRP
- Account 2369900073 – Flex Spending

14) Recommend the Board approve the closing of the following account in Citizens bank and combined with the Custodial account.

- Account ending - 9215 - Investment

15) Recommend the Board approve the following 2025-2026 McKinney-Vento placements:

Placement	Student(s) ID #	Tuition per Student	1:1 Aide	1:1 Nurse (estimated)	OOC Fee	Fiscal Responsibility
Eastampton from Camden City	12354	\$10,992.45 - \$82.65 per diem (prorated for 11/17/25 to 6/18/26 – 133 days)				Camden
Eastampton from Camden City	12343	\$10,992.45 - \$82.65 per diem (prorated for 11/17/25 to 6/18/26 – 133 days)				Camden
Eastampton from Westampton	12354	\$7,730.54 - \$76.54 per diem (prorated for 1/17/25 to 6/19/25 – 101 days)				Westampton
Eastampton from Westampton	12343	\$7,124.54 - \$70.54 per diem (prorated for 1/17/25 to 6/19/25 – 101 days)				Westampton
Eastampton from Westampton	12354	\$3,967.20 - \$82.65 per diem (prorated for 9/1/25 to 11/14/25 – 48 days)				Westampton
Eastampton from Camden City	12343	\$3,967.20 - \$82.65 per diem (prorated for 9/1/25 to 11/14/25 – 48 days)				Camden

- 16) Recommend that the Board approve the following Special Education Out-of-District placements for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year. These will be new placements for each student:

Placement	Student(s) ID #	Tuition	1:1 Aide	1:1 Nurse (estimated)	OOB Fee
BCSSSD	NC	\$61,959.00 prorated	\$50,240 prorated		
Westampton	JD	\$19,166.67			

- 17) Recommend the Board Approve the procurement and maintenance service agreement with Educational Data Services, Inc. for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$2,190.00
- 18) Recommend the Board Approve the service agreement with Holman Frenia Allison CPAs for Audit and Advisory Services for the period ending June 30, 2026 in the amount not to exceed \$41,500.00.
- 19) Recommend the Board Approve the Shared Service Agreement for McKinney-Vento with Hamilton Township Board of Education for transportation services for the 2025-2026 school year.
- 20) Recommend the Board approve the Board Secretary’s Report dated October 31, 2025. **(25-26-88)**
- 21) Recommend the Board approve the Treasurer’s Report dated October 31, 2025. **(25-26-89)**
- 22) Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, we certify that as of October 31, 2025 after review of the Secretary's monthly financial reports (appropriations section) and upon consultation with appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. It is also certified that the Board Secretary’s report matches the Treasurer’s Report. *Citations are subject to change due to periodic amendments, new rules, repeals. Figures subject to final audit.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4, I certify that as of October 31, 2025 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8-1. *Citations are subject to change due to periodic amendments, new rules, and repeals. Figures subject to final audit.

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President			X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President							X
Edward Besko	X		X				
Edward Hill							X
Walter Maluchnik		X	X				
Stephanie McHugh							
Jamie Smith			X				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion Carries							
<input type="checkbox"/> Motion Fails							

11. CURRICULUM: (Walter Maluchnik, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the following field trips:

Date	Students	Destination	Time	Chaperones
5/21/26	1 st Grade	Elmwood Park Zoo	8:45am-2:00pm	8 staff/15 parents
6/10/26	4 th Grade	Liberty Science Center	9:00am-2:00pm	7 staff/13 parents

- 2) Recommend the Board approve the High Impact Tutoring Grant Application Submission for February 2026

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President			X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President							X
Edward Besko		X	X				
Edward Hill							X
Walter Maluchnik	X		X				
Stephanie McHugh			X				
Jamie Smith			X				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion Carries							
<input type="checkbox"/> Motion Fails							

12. POLICY: (Kerry Douglas, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

1) Recommend the first reading and adoption of the following policies from Alert 236 (sent via email):

A. N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – Fiscal Accountability, Efficiency, and Budgeting Procedures

- P 0142.1 Nepotism (M) (Revised)
- ~~P 0142.1C Nepotism Charter School (M) (Revised) Not Applicable to us~~
- ~~P 0174C Legal Services Charter School (M) (Revised) Not Applicable to us~~
- ~~P 0177C Professional Services Charter School (M) (Revised) Not Applicable to us~~
- P 1220 Employment of Chief School Administrator (M) (Revised)
- ~~P & R 1570C Internal Controls Charter School (M) (Revised) Not Applicable to us~~

B. General Policy and Regulation Guide Updates

- P & R 1552 Sexual Harassment – Staff (M) (New)
- P 3362 Sexual Harassment (M) (Abolished)
- R 3362 Sexual Harassment of Teaching Staff Members Complaint Procedure (Abolished)
- P 4352 Sexual Harassment (M) (Abolished)
- R 4352 Sexual Harassment of Support Staff Members Complaint Procedure (Abolished)
- P & R 2530 Resource Materials (Revised)
- P & R 2535 Library Material (M) (New)
- P & R 9130 Public Complaints (Revised)

Roll Call on Action Item B – P & R 2535 only

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President	X			X			
Florencia Norton, Vice President							X
Edward Besko			X				
Edward Hill							X
Walter Maluchnik				X			
Stephanie McHugh				X			
Jamie Smith		X		X			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails						

Roll Call on Action Item(s) excluding Item B- P & R 2535

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President	X		X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President							X
Edward Besko			X				
Edward Hill							X
Walter Maluchnik		X	X				
Stephanie McHugh			X				
Jamie Smith			X				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries with exception of Library material 4 to 1 no vote						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails						

13. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: (Edward Hill, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

1) Recommend the Board approve the following request(s) for use of facilities:

1	HousePaws Vets in Training	After School Program Spring 2026 (Duration: 6 Weeks)	Mondays: 5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 6/1, 6/8, 6/15 Wednesdays: 5/6, 5/13, 5/20, 5/27, 6/3, 6/10	3:00pm-4:00pm	ECS
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Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President	X		X				
Florencia Norton, Vice President							X
Edward Besko			X				
Edward Hill							X
Walter Maluchnik		X	X				
Stephanie McHugh			X				
Jamie Smith			X				

Motion Carries
 Motion Fails

14. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The Board, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, is providing an opportunity for the Board to hear the public’s concerns. The Board will not publicly discuss personnel matters and may choose not to respond to comments made by members of the public during this portion of the meeting. If appropriate, the Superintendent will respond to your questions and concerns at a future time. We take your concerns and questions very seriously and want to have sufficient time to allow our administration to process and research issues, if need be.

15. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:23 pm:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Edward Besko	X	

Motion Carries
 Motion Fails

**Eastampton Township Board of Education
 Resolution 2025-2026
 Authorizing Executive Session**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a public meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Eastampton Township School District has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of this Board of Education will reconvene at the conclusion of closed session, at approximately _____ this evening.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Eastampton Township School District will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

_____ Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public;

_____ Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

_____ Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

_____ Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body (Specify contract: _____);

_____ Any matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

_____ Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

_____ Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

X Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer. Under certain circumstances, if public disclosure of the matter would have a potentially negative impact on the Board's position in the litigation or negotiation, this information may be withheld until such time that the matter is concluded or the circumstances no longer present a potential impact);

X Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective employee or employee employed or appointed by the Board, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting;

_____ Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eastampton Township Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

16. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION at 8:52 pm:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Jamie Smith	X	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails		

17. ADJOURNMENT 8:53 pm:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Walter Maluchnik	Kerry Douglas	X	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails		

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph A. Firetto

Joseph A. Firetto
 School Business Administrator/Board Secretary