

EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 27, 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* on January 19, 2026 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.

- Mr. Graham asked how many snow days are built into the 2026/2027 calendar? Mrs. Kane reported none, just like the 2025/2026 calendar.
- Mr. Graham asked multiple questions about the audit and our cash flow.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (25-26-63)

January 6, 2026 (Reorganization/Regular Session)

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	X				
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh							X
Jamie Smith			X				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails						

7. PRESENTATIONS:

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

Kindergarten – Clara Kelley

1st Grade – Scarlett Tharp

2nd Grade – Aiden Cagey

3rd Grade – Johnny McCann

4th Grade – Morgan McLaughlin

5th Grade – Liam O’Malley

6th Grade – Trayvon Bookert

7th Grade – Nevach Bozarth

8th Grade – Ernestine Hall

B. ACFR Presentation – Holmen Frenia Allison PC – Jerry Conety, CPA

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

A. Information Item(s):

1) 2026-2027 School Calendar (25-26-74)

2) Liaison Reports

- Council, the tree lighting (12/25)

-New township appointments

3) HIB Report dated January 21, 2026 (25-26-64)

4) Mid-Year District Goals Presentation

5) School Safety Data System Report Period 1 (September 1-December 31, 2025)

B. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the 2026-2027 school calendar as presented. **(25-26-74)**
- 2) Recommend the Board approve the Action Items on the HIB Report dated January 21, 2025 as presented on December 17, 2025. **(25-26-64)**
- 3) Recommend the Board to approve the School Safety Data System Report for Period 1 as presented.

o **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			X				
Stephanie McHugh							X
Jamie Smith			X				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails						

9. PERSONNEL: (Jamie Smith, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board to approve Ms. Aiyana Johnson, RN a student at Rowan University RN to BSN Program to obtain her clinical hours for her community health class under the guidance of Ms. Cathy Alderman, RN, BSN, CSN School Nurse for a minimum of 20 clinical hours.
- 2) Recommend the Board to accept with regret the formal resignation of James MacCarthy effective February 1, 2026.
- 3) Recommend the Board approve extended paid medical leave for Employee #4033 from January 21, 2026-April 14, 2026.
- 4) Recommend the Board approve the employment of Morgan Whitley as teacher BA Step 1 at an annual salary of \$60,874.00, prorated from the start date of February 2, 2026 to June 30, 2026.
- 5) Recommend the Board approve the employment of Kristen Large as recess aide at the hourly salary of \$15.98/hour with the tentative start date of February 2, 2026 pending completion of paperwork.
- 6) Recommend the Board approve Mackenzie Sapp to be a member of the Nurtured Heart Champion team for the remainder of the 2025-2026 School Year.

7) Recommend the Board approve the following Application for Tuition Reimbursement:

Jennifer Bergen - \$753.00 – Rowan College of Burlington County, Mt. Laurel, NJ
2/6/2026-5/3/2026 LIT 206 – Women’s Literature (3 Credits)

- 8) Recommend the Board approve the following student volunteers to assist in the library under the supervision of Ms. Denmler to receive service hours needed for National Honor Society:
- a) Mason Hill- student at RVHS
 - b) Hannah Benthanzos- student at RVHS
 - c) Katie Douglas- student RVHS
- 9) Recommend the Board approve the list of volunteers maintained on file in the Superintendent’s Office.
- 10) Recommend the Board approve an unpaid leave of absence for Employee #4759 from February 12, 2026 and February 13, 2026.

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Kerry Douglas, Board President			X		8 & 9		
Florencia Norton, Vice President							X
Edward Besko			X				
Edward Hill			X				
Walter Maluchnik		X	X				
Stephanie McHugh							X
Jamie Smith	X		X				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motion Fails						

10. FINANCE: (Edward Besko, Chairperson)

A. Information Item(s):

- 1) 2026 Disclosure Forms – Reminder: due February 6, 2026

B. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the following payrolls:
- a. December 15, 2025 - \$320,654.85
 - b. December 23, 2025- \$300,378.59
 - c. January 15, 2026 - \$317,389.21
- 2) Recommend the Board approve the following invoices for payment: **(25-26-68)**
- a. Regular Bills – December 2025: \$9,403.62
 - b. Regular Bills – January 2026: \$560,451.33

- 3) Recommend the Board approve Line Item Transfers dated January 15, 2026. **(25-26-69)**
- 4) Recommend the Board approve the attached Cafeteria expenses. **(25-26-70)**
- 5) Recommend the Board approve the attached Student Activity expense. **(25-26-71)**
- 6) Recommend the Board approve the submission of the application to reactivate the SAM.gov account for grant entitlements and reimbursements effective January 21, 2026 pending Federal Approval.
- 7) Recommend the Board approve Joseph A. Firetto and Karen Hozier as SAM.gov primary and secondary contacts respectively.
- 8) Recommend the Board approve the Resolution and Indemnity Trust Agreement to renew membership in the BCIP JIF for the three-year membership term commencing on July 1, 2026. **(25-26-65)**
- 9) Recommend the Board approve the Addendum to the ESS Support Services, LLC Agreement **(25-26-72)**
- 10) Recommend the Board confirm and approve the following 2025-2026 RSY Out-of-District placements:

Placement	Student (s)	Aide/Nurse	RSY Tuition
BCSSSD	DA		\$61,959 prorated from 9.2.2025 – 10.27.2025

- 11) Recommend the Board approve the attached request for professional development **(25-26-73)**
- 12) Recommend the Board accept the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and respective reports as presented by Holman Frenia Allison for the 2024-2025 school year.
- 13) Recommend the Board accept and approve the Corrective Action Plan for the 2024-2025 school year audit. **(25-26-67)**
- 14) Recommend the Board accept and approve the Certificate of Implementation for the 2024-2025 school year audit. **(25-26-66)**
- 15) Recommend the Board approve the renewal of the EdData Service Agreement From July 1 2026 – June 30, 2027.

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	X				
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh							X
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 TCNJ student teacher as indicated. There will be no cost to the district.

Cora Blackburn 1st Grade with Alexa Selnek 1/28/26 – 5/8/26

- 2) Recommend the Board approve the following field trip(s):

Date	Students	Destination	Time	Chaperones
3/27/2026	Grade 8	Rancocas Valley High School Mt. Holly, NJ	9:30am-12:45pm	4 Staff Members 4 Parents
4/29/2026	Grade K	The Please Touch Museum, Philadelphia, PA	8:45am-2:15pm	8 Staff Members
6/2/2026	Grade 2	The Franklin Institute Philadelphia, PA	8:45am-2:00pm	7 Staff Members 25 Parents

- 3) Recommend the Board approve the following curriculum

- K-2, 3-5, 6-8 Gifted and Talented
- 6-8 Battle of the Books
- 6-8 Media Makers
- 6-8 Modern Music Makers
- Grades 6-8 Sculpture and 3D Art
- Grades 6-8 Studio Art
- Grades K-5 Media Literacy and Technology
- Grades 4-8 Science
- K-2, 3-5, 6-8 World Language

- 4) Recommend the Board approve the Paraprofessional Staff Statement of Assurance for submission to the Burlington County Office of Education by 1/31/26.

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				
Stephanie McHugh							X
Jamie Smith	X		X				

Motion Carries

Motion Fails

12. Buildings and Grounds: (Edward Hill, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

1) Recommend the Board approve the following requests for use of facilities:

1	Sacred Heart CYO Baseball and Softball	Youth baseball and softball recreation program	March- 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 31 April-1 ,2 ,3 ,6 ,7 ,8 ,9 ,10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30 May-1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, June-1, 2, 3, 4, 5	6:00pm-8:00pm	ECS Baseball/ Softball Fields
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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		X				
Walter Maluchnik			X				
Stephanie McHugh							X
Jamie Smith		X	X				

Motion Carries

Motion Fails

13. 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.

- Mr. Graham questioned the Social Studies curriculum update

14. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION (7:55 pm):

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Walter Maluchnik	X	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion Carries		
<input type="checkbox"/>	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 8:15 pm 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.

15. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION (8:20 pm):

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

16. ADJOURNMENT (8:20 pm):

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed
Kerry Douglas	Walter Maluchnik	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