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The following items are contained in the February 11, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes:

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22. Adjournment

The Regular Meeting of the Margate City Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 P.M. on February 11, 2026 by Board President, Mr. Joseph Pepe, at the Eugene A. Tighe Media Center.

Certification of Notice:

Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary, announced that adequate notice of this meeting had been provided and read the following Certification Notice:

On May 17, 2025 a notice of this meeting was posted on the district website, the bulletin board in the Board of Education Administration Office, the Eugene A. Tighe School, the William H. Ross III School and emailed to the City Clerk and advertised in *The Press*.

<u>Roll Call</u> - Members Present:	Mr. Joseph Pepe; Mr. Jack Sorensen; Mrs. Shannon Wray-Norris; Mrs. Danielle Gomes-Chapman; Mr. Nicholas Palmisano; Mr. Steve Swift
Others Present:	Mr. Ryan Gaskill, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; Mrs. Samantha Dulude, Principal; Mrs. Bernadette Marino, Principal; Mr. Eric Goldstein, Solicitor

Public Comment:

No members of the community commented.

Fire Drill and Security Drill Report:

Mr. Gaskill distributed the Fire, Security, and Bus Evacuation Drill Reports for Eugene A. Tighe School & William H. Ross School for the month of January 2025 attached as Exhibit # 1, pages 30,976-30,977.

Superintendent’s Report & Principals’ Updates:

Mr. Ryan Gaskill commented on the water infiltration at the Tighe School. He thanked the staff, administration, facilities team, Margate City Police, and Margate City Fire Department for their collaborative efforts throughout this emergency situation. He commented on the 8th grade NAPE Assessment which contributes to the Nation’s Report Card. He congratulated the girls’ basketball team on their Championship win. He shared that on the agenda were approvals to solicit bids for the upcoming bond projects. He commented on the Senate Bill S4861 concerning county level school regionalization/consolidation.

Mrs. Marino shared information on current activities at Ross School.
Mrs. Dulude shared information on current activities at Tighe School.

Ms. Tori Masso shared the current fundraiser, which is the Louis Vuitton Bag Raffle. Tickets are on sale. The winner will be pulled on February 27, 2026. She also shared the tentative Spring Fling date will be May 1, 2026, at Maynard's.

Personnel Matters:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mrs. Wray-Norris, to approve the following Personnel matters:

1. Approve a medical leave for employee 10903607 beginning on March 23, 2026 with an anticipated return date in September 2026.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Instructional Support Activities:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mrs. Wray-Norris, to approve the following Instructional Support Activities requests:

1. Approve the Free to Be: Anti-bullying initiative to be held in the PAC in March.
2. Approve the Ross School Bake Sale to support the Arthur Rann Family School Association in February 2026.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Field Trips:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mrs. Wray-Norris, to approve the following Field Trip requests:

1. Approve the Kindergarten Field Trip to the Cape May Zoo in May. Staff: Christa Toner, Amy Hughes, Jaime Collins, Eileen Duffey and two additional staff members. Cost: \$250.00 Entrance Fee. Transportation: District Bus, Bus Permit \$80.00, Substitute Bus Driver at \$25.00/hr.
2. Approve the 3rd Grade Field Trip to The Nature Center of Cape May in May. Staff: Jessica Cuevas, Anita Grimley, Emily Cundiff and two additional staff members. Cost: \$810.00 Entrance Fee. Transportation: District Bus, Substitute Bus Driver at \$25.00/hr.
3. Approve the 5th Grade Field Trip to The Museum of the American Revolution and Independence Hall in April. Staff: Jen Carey, Amber Fitzgerald, Kristie Cafiero and Jamie Bean. Cost: \$494.00

Field Trips (Continued):

- Entrance Fee, one Substitute at \$125.00. Transportation: District Bus, Substitute Bus Driver at \$25.00/hr
4. Approve the 4th Grade Field Trip to The Franklin Institute in May. Staff: Erin McGuigan, Stephanie Curry and two additional staff. Cost: \$769.00 Entrance Fee. Transportation: District Bus, Substitute Bus Driver at \$25.00/hr.
 5. Approve instrumental students to attend The Bay Atlantic Symphony at Stockton in May. Staff: Debbie Roland. Transportation: District Bus.
 6. Approve the Tighe School Singers trip to Dorney Park in June. Staff: Debbie Roland, Chelsi Crompton and Pete Davis. Cost: Entrance Fee and Meal paid by students, three Substitutes at \$125.00 each=\$375.00. Transportation: Buses approved in September 2025.
 7. Approve the 6th Grade Field Trip to Edelman Fossil Park and Museum in June. Staff: Chelsi Crompton, Veronica Valencia, Todd Anderson and Danielle Ujcich. Cost: \$1,140.00 Entrance Fee. Transportation: District Bus, Substitute Bus Drive at \$25.00/hr.
 8. Approve the 8th Grade Field Trip to Stockton University Holocaust Resource Center and Campus Tour in April. Staff: Michael McMenamin, Sherry Scott, Michelle Cossaboon, Brian Pasternak and Chris Bruscato. Cost: Pizza Lunch. Transportation: District Bus.
 9. Approve the Little Mermaid Jr. cast Field Trip to see Holy Spirit High School's Production of Little Shop of Horrors in March. Staff: Debbie Roland, Chelsi Crompton and Jacque Jones. Cost: one Substitute at \$125.00. Transportation: District Bus.
 10. Approve the 7th Grade Field Trip to Beat the Bomb in Philadelphia in May. Staff: Jamie Bean, Kelly Crawford, Colleen Thomas, Christopher Bruscato, Pete Davis and Sherry Stolarski. Cost: \$1,835.40 Entrance Fee, two Substitutes at \$125.00 = \$250.00. Transportation: District Bus, Substitute Bus Driver at \$25.00/hr.
 11. Approve Anita Grimley and twenty students to visit the Funny Farm in March. Staff: Lora Blanco, Mark Winterbottom and additional staff if needed. Transportation: District Bus, Substitute Bus Driver at \$25.00/hr.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Workshops:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Workshop matters:

1. Approve the attendance of Lisa Carey and Jamie Bean at the AtlanticCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children workshop in March. Cost: \$40.00 registration fee + substitute at \$125.00. Total Cost: \$330.00.
2. Approve the attendance of Melina Skwarek at the NJASBO Financing Presentation workshop in February. Cost: \$145.00 registration fee and travel.
3. Approve the attendance of Melina Skwarek at the NJASBO Accounting Academy Presentation workshop in February. Cost: \$50.00 registration fee and travel.
4. Approve the attendance of Melina Skwarek at the NJASBO Purchasing Review Presentation workshop in March. Cost: \$145.00 registration fee and travel.

Workshops (Continued):

5. Approve the attendance of Melina Skwarek at the NJASBO Insurance Review Presentation workshop in April. Cost: \$50.00 registration fee and travel.
6. Approve the attendance of Ryan Gaskill at the NJSLA-Adaptative Training in February.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Students:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following student matter:

1. Approve and confirm the hardship busing application for district student 8040428977.
2. Approve to confirm and uphold the findings of HIB Investigation T01-202526.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mr. Swift, the board unanimously agreed to accept the January 14, 2026 Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Financial Reports:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mr. Swift, to accept the Secretary's Financial Reports for the month of December 2025 as attached to these minutes and certifying that no budgetary account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(a). See Exhibit # 2, pages 30,978 - 31,001. The Secretary's Reports agree with the Report of Receipts and Disbursements.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Board of Education Certification:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mr. Swift, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11, the Margate City Board of Education certifies that as of December 31, 2025 after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Reports (Revenue and Appropriation Sections) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge there have been no changes in anticipated revenue sources and/or amounts and no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)2-3 so that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Report of Receipts and Disbursements:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mr. Swift, to accept the Report of Receipts and Disbursements for the month of December 2025, attached as Exhibit # 3, pages 31,002 – 31,014.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Cash Report:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mr. Swift, to accept the Cash Report for the month of December 2025, attached as Exhibit # 4, page 31,015.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Bills and Payrolls:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mr. Swift, to approve the payment of bills and payrolls, as listed on Exhibit # 5, pages 31,016 - 31,040.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Transfer of Funds:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mr. Swift, to approve the following Transfer of Funds:

Transfer of Funds within the General Current Expense Account

Ratified Budget Transfers for 2025-2026

TO:	11-000-251-330-00-00	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$7,000.00
	11-000-230-100-00-00	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	\$15,000.00
	11-000-230-331-00-00	LEGAL SERVICES	\$5,000.00
	11-000-230-332-00-00	AUDIT SERVICES	\$10,000.00
	11-000-240-103-00-00-025	BUILDING SERVICES	\$10,000.00
	11-000-240-105-00-00-010	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	\$8,000.00
	11-000-251-100-00-00	BUSINESS OFFICE SERVICES	\$17,000.00
	11-213-100-101-00-00-010	RESOURCE SALARIES	\$2,000.00
	11-000-100-561-00-00	TUITION STUDENT	\$500.00
	20-250-200-320-00-00-025	IDEA SUPPORT SERVICES	\$9,000.00
		TOTAL	\$83,500.00
FROM:	11-000-100-566-00-00	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$7,000.00
	11-000-261-610-00-01	ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	\$15,000.00
	11-000-262-100-00-04	LEGAL SERVICES	\$5,000.00
	11-000-262-100-00-04	AUDIT SERVICES	\$10,000.00
	11-000-261-100-00-03	BUILDING SERVICES	\$10,000.00
	11-213-100-106-00-00-010	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT	\$8,000.00
	11-000-261-100-00-01	BUSINESS OFFICE SERVICES	\$17,000.00
	11-000-240-103-00-00-025	RESOURCE SALARIES	\$2,000.00
	11-000-100-562-00-00	TUITION STUDENT	\$500.00
	20-250-200-320-00-00-010	IDEA SUPPORT SERVICES	\$9,000.00
		TOTAL	\$83,500.00

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

New Business:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mrs. Wray-Norris, to approve the following New Business:

- A. WHEREAS, P.L. 2025, c.72 modernizes the requirements for the publication of legal notices by public entities, including boards of education, by authorizing publication on official Internet websites; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services issued Local Finance Notice 2026-01 providing guidance for implementation of these requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Margate City Board of Education desires to ensure full compliance with all applicable legal notice publication requirements beginning January 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the proposed website language, archival procedures, and bi-monthly legal notice advertisement to be used during calendar year 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Margate City Board of Education hereby approves the District's legal notice publication procedures, including:

1. The establishment and maintenance of a Current Legal Notices and Archived Legal Notices webpage on the District's official website; and
2. The publication of legal notices in accordance with statutory timeframes; and
3. The placement of bi-monthly legal notice advertisements during calendar year 2026 in an eligible online news publication directing the public to the District's legal notices webpage; and
4. Authorization for the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to take all administrative actions necessary to implement and document compliance with P.L. 2025, c.72 and Local Finance Notice 2026-01.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

- B. Approve the revised 2025-2026 Board Committees.
- C. Approve a resolution to waive participation in the Special Education Medicare Initiative (SEMI) program for the 2026-2027 school year.
- D. BE IT RESOLVED, by the Margate City Board of Education to authorize the School Business Administrator to solicit bids for the Eugene A. Tighe Performing Arts Center (PAC) Lighting Upgrades.
- E. BE IT RESOLVED, by the Margate City Board of Education to authorize the School Business Administrator to solicit bids for the Roofing Restoration and Photovoltaic System Replacement at William H. Ross III School.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Other Matters:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Other Matters:

- A. Approve the request of resignation for employee #60704046 effective February 11, 2026.
- B. WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Margate City School District is subject to the provisions of the New Jersey Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.; and WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7, a Board of Education may award a contract without public advertising for bids when an emergency affecting the health, safety, or welfare of students or staff requires the immediate delivery of articles or the performance of services; and WHEREAS, on February 9, 2026, an extended period of below freezing temperatures resulted in the failure of critical fire suppression systems at the District's Eugene A. Tighe School; and WHEREAS, the freezing temperatures caused the fire suppression system to burst leading to water damage to flooring beyond repair, resulting in the loss of instructional capability in occupied instructional spaces; and WHEREAS, the water damages created conditions that posed an immediate risk to the health, safety, and welfare of students and staff, and significantly disrupted the District's ability to maintain safe and appropriate learning environments; and WHEREAS, the nature of the emergency did not permit the delay associated with competitive procurement, including public advertising and bidding; and WHEREAS, the Superintendent and Qualified Purchasing Agent determined that the following vendor was able to immediately provide the required remediation and related services necessary to abate the emergency:

Vendor: All Risk, Inc - Property Damage Experts

Description: Emergency water remediation, including time and materials, for necessary flooring repairs

Amount Not to Exceed: \$ 350,000

and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Agent has documented in writing the nature of the emergency, the reason the situation could not have been anticipated, the rationale for vendor selection, and the reasonableness of the cost, and such documentation is on file and available for audit review; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education finds that this emergency procurement was limited in scope to what was necessary to address the immediate emergency condition;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Margate City School District hereby authorizes the emergency award of a contract to All Risk, Inc. in an

Other Matters (Continued):

amount not to exceed \$ 350,000, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7, for the emergency water remediation, including time and materials, for necessary flooring repairs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent and/or Qualified Purchasing Agent is authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate this emergency purchase in accordance with law.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Public Comment:

No members of the community commented.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 6:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melina Skwarek
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator