



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

March 25, 2026
PUBLIC ACTION MEETING
7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

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>). The webinar ID for this meeting is 895-4529-8434 and the required password is 205102.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. President's Announcement: Adequate notice of the agenda for this meeting has been provided to *The Ridgewood News and The Record* specifying that the Mahwah Board of Education will meet on March 25, 2026, in the Administrative Offices, 60 Ridge Rd., Mahwah, NJ. A copy was filed with the Township Clerk.
4. Salute to the Flag
5. Motion to Recess to Executive Session under Chapter 231, P.L. (Sunshine Law), which authorizes a public body to discuss personnel, negotiations and legal matters.

Personnel Matters
Confidential Student Matters
Legal Update

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

6. Motion to Reconvene to Public Action Meeting to take action on matters discussed in Executive Session

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

7. Agenda Questions

Please limit your questions, at this time, to resolutions under New Business on this agenda. 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. This section of public

participation will be limited to fifteen minutes. Please specify the resolution you are referring to in your question.

8. Motion to open meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

9. Motion to close meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

10. Mahwah Student Representative Report

11. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Michael DeTuro

12. Assistant Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Dennis M. Fare

13. Business Administrator/Board Secretary’s Report – Ms. Katherine A. Hiromoto

- Preliminary Budget Presentation

14. President’s Report

15. 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.)

16. Board Member Remarks/Additional Comments on Reports or Other Non-Agenda Items

17. New Business – Other

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 03/05/2026 to 03/25/2026.

General Current Expense	Fund 11	\$3,125,845.82
Capital Outlay	Fund 12	\$325.00
Capital Projects Funds	Fund 30	\$44,241.20
Region 1	Fund 52	\$16,784.08
Region I-Contracted Trans.	Fund 53	\$1,627,460.57
Cafeteria	Fund 60	\$95,962.42
Total of All Checks		\$4,910,619.09

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

b. Secretary’s Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Secretary’s Report for January 2026.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

c. Treasurer’s Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Treasurer’s Report for January 2026.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

d. Budget Transfers

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves budgetary transfers for January 2026, as per attached.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

e. Certification

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, as per New Jersey Administrative Code and New Jersey Statutes Annotated legislation and requirements, the following statement is approved:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of January 2026 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, and

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of January 2026 no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(a).

Katherine A. Hiromoto, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

f. 2026-2027 Tentative/Preliminary Budget

RESOLVED that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves submission of the tentative/preliminary 2026-2027 school district budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools, with a total budget of \$86,382,564, with \$75,879,585 to be raised by local tax levy for the General Fund as follows:

2026-2027	General Fund	Capital Outlay	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Total
Appropriations	\$85,728,059	\$0	\$654,505	\$0	\$86,382,564
Revenues	\$85,728,059	\$0	\$654,505	\$0	\$86,382,564
Local Tax Levy	\$75,879,585	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$75,879,585

BE FURTHER RESOLVED: that the following is also incorporated into the above:

10	Budgeted Fund Balance	\$ 2,506,002
40	Fund Balance	\$ 0

BE IT FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-11.3, the FY 2026-27 Budget includes a \$1,411,291 health waiver to cover the increased cost of health care. The increase in health costs is for medical and prescription drug insurance.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

g. Withdrawal from Maintenance Reserve

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

BE IT RESOLVED that, as per N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.2(d), the general fund appropriations for the 2026-2027 tentative/preliminary budget include a \$250,000 withdrawal from the Maintenance Reserve Account for use on required maintenance activities for a school facility as reported in the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan (CMP) pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.5.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

h. Travel Expenditures for 2026-2027

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, in each pre-budget year, the Mahwah Board of Education is required to establish a maximum travel expenditure amount for the budget year which may not be exceeded; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that the maximum travel expenditure amount includes all travel that is supported by State and local funds; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has not elected to exclude travel expenditures supported by federal funds from the maximum travel expenditure amount;

WHEREAS, the board of education allocated \$58,000 for the 2025-2026 school year travel expenditures, and to date, the actual travel expenditures are \$9,850.57;

RESOLVED, that the Mahwah Board of Education hereby establishes the maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2026-2027 school year as \$61,950.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

i. Grant Amendments

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves an amendment to the 25/26 ESEA allocations to represent carryover funds from the 24/25 allocation as follows:

Program	Amount
Title I	\$ 7,591.00
Title III	\$ 2,511.00
Title III Immigrant	\$ 992.00

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

j. Renewal of Food Services Contract for the 2026-2027 School Year

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the renewal of the Food Service Management contract with The Pomptonian, Inc. "FSMC" for the food service operation for 2026-2027. The FSMC shall receive, in addition to the costs of operation, an administrative/management fee of \$65,215.00 to compensate the FSMC for administrative and management costs. This fee shall be included as the cost of operation and billed in 10 monthly installments of \$6,521.50 per month. The SFA guarantees the payment of such costs and fee to the FSMC. There is no guaranteed financial performance. Total estimated expenses (cost) include food, labor, supplies, other expenses, and FSMC management fee. The Total Estimated Cost of Contract is \$1,320,042.45.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

k. Transportation Contract Renewals- Region 1- 2026-2027

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

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

1. Region 1- Special Education Transportation Routes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education awards the following special education transportation routes for the 2025-2026 school year as per quotes received:

Route	Contractor	Per diem	Inc/Dec	Aide
Q709	Joshua Tours	\$210.00	\$3.00	\$80.00
Q710	R&May	\$265.00	\$2.00	\$50.00
Q711	Kids Choice	\$227.00	\$2.00	\$55.00

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

m. 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.

First	Last	Conference/Workshop	Date	Amount
Natalia	Witkowski	DECA Finals	03/02-03/05/26	\$418
Sophia	Lange	Elementary Music Round Table	3/19/2026	N/A
Stephanie	Engstrom	FDU - Center for Dyslexia Studies 1. The Brain & Learning 2.	05/18/2026 06/18/2026	\$90.00
Benjamin	Wagman	Holocaust and Genocide Educator Workshop	5/18/2026	N/A
Nikki	Van Ess	TEEEM Middle School Professional Development	5/21/2026	N/A
Donna	Conrad	TEEEM Middle School Specific Professional Development Day	5/21/2026	N/A
Morgan	Ridgway	TEEEM Middle School Specific Professional Development Day	5/21/2026	N/A
Mary	Rosen	2026 AP Reading: Psychology	06/01- 06/04/2026	N/A
Lauren	Sullivan	Early Literacy Intervention and Orton Gillingham Levels 1 and 2 Review	06/01/2026 06/08/2026 06/15/2026 06/25/2026	\$245.00

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

n. Field Trips

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

	Group/Destination	Date(s)	School	# of Students
	AP Honors Art (11-12) to Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC, NY	4/6/26	MHS	29
	SGA to Ramapo Ridge Middle School, Mahwah, NJ	4/8/26	MHS	5
*	Grade 5 to Mahwah High School, Mahwah, NJ	4/15/26	RR	87
*	Grade 6-8 to Mahwah High School, Mahwah, NJ	4/16/26	JK	188
	GEMS Club (9-12) to Lenape Meadows School, Mahwah, NJ	4/17/26	MHS	10
	Grade (9-12) to Passaic County Technical Institute, Wayne, NJ	4/24/26	MHS	18

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

o. Establishment of Class/Program

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the establishment of an 18–21-year-old Life Skills and Transition program. This full-time program will be located at Mahwah High School, effective with the extended school year in June 2026 and continuing with the 2026-2027 school year.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

p. Vendor

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education appoints 1st Americare, Inc, Jersey City, NJ to provide nursing services. The cost for this service is \$75 per hour for RN and \$65 per hour for LPN.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

q. Vendor

RESOLVED; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves Clarity Learning Solutions, to provide direct student evaluations, from a certificated learning disabilities teacher-consultant; at a rate of \$400 per evaluation, as needed; effective March 26, 2026 – June 30, 2026.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

r. Independent Evaluations

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education hereby sets the following maximum allowable costs in relation to the reasonable and customary rate for an independent evaluation.

- Educational Evaluations - \$800
- Psychological Evaluations - \$900
- Speech and Language Evaluations - \$700
- Psychiatric Evaluation - \$950
- Neurodevelopmental Evaluation - \$800

- Neuropsychological - \$3,000

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

18. New Business – Personnel

a. Retirement

RESOLVE; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of John Pascale, principal, at Mahwah High 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 his 36 years of dedication and service to the Mahwah Public Schools.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

b. Retirement

RESOLVE; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Andrea Simini, teacher of special education, at Ramapo Ridge Middle 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 31 years and 2 months of dedication and service to the Mahwah Public Schools.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

c. Retirement

RESOLVE; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Thomas Pushie, teacher of special education, at Ramapo Ridge Middle 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 his 16 years of dedication and service to the Mahwah Public Schools.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

d. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Dr. Everett Schlam, as School physician, for the Mahwah Township Public Schools; effective June 30, 2026.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

e. Appointment – SAT Course Instructors

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following staff members, to teach English language arts

and mathematics courses for SAT exam preparation from April 6, 2026, to May 29, 2026, to run based on student enrollment, for 16 hours for each cycle at 1/5th the staff member’s salary, pro-rated as follows per cycle (1/5th salary ÷186 days x 16 days); to be paid via a submitted voucher.

First Name	Last Name	Subject	# of Cycles
Jennifer	Chung	Mathematics	1
Dianna	Burkel	Mathematics	1
Melissa	Amato	English Language Arts	2

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

f. Appointments – Self-Sustaining Summer Music Program Teacher

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following appointments for the self-sustaining Summer Music Program to be held June 29, 2026 - July 16, 2026; classes to be run Monday to Thursday; from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; at no cost to the district.

Name	Position
Gregory Baker	Teacher
Julianne Correa	Teacher
Sophia Lange	Teacher

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

g. Appointment – Summer Hours

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Estania Noel, to conduct preparation for Mahwah High School’s Academic and Career Internship program from August 10, 2026 – August 24, 2026, not to exceed 21 hours; salary to be her hourly rate, to be paid via a submitted voucher.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

h. 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 Matthew Apruzzese, as Mahwah High School track and field assistant coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$9,841.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

i. NJFLA Intermittent Leave of Absence - Update

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves an intermittent NJFLA leave of absence update for Employee #9408, effective retroactive and taking sick days concurrently during the following dates: October 21, 2025 – October 24, 2025; October 29, 2025 – October 30, 2025; November 3, 2025 – November 5, 2025; December 9, 2025 – December 10, 2025; December 16, 2025 – December 17, 2025; January 6, 2026; January

13, 2026; February 3, 2026; February 10, 2026; February 24, 2026; March 10, 2026; March 17, 2026; March 24, 2026; April 7, 2026; April 23, 2026; April 28, 2026.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

j. Revised – Mahwah High School Spring Track and Field Co-Assistant 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-assistant coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$4,920.50.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

k. Revised – Mahwah High School Spring Track and Field Co-Assistant Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Deirdre Wilson, as Mahwah High School Spring track and field co-assistant coach, for the 2025-2026 season; stipend to be \$4,920.50.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

l. Rescission – Assistant Track and Field Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education rescinds the appointment of Michael Stein, as assistant track and field coach, for the 2025 – 2026 school year.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

m. Reimbursement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education reimburses following individuals for professional music services rendered in the pit orchestra, rehearsals and performances, for the Spring 2026 musical Something Rotten; funds to be paid from the Mahwah High School drama club public school account:

Name	Position
Anna Maria Alcaro	District Staff
Jeffrey Bittner	District Staff
Louis D’Alto	Outside Musician
Timothy J, Wendt	Outside Musician
Peyton Johnson	Outside Musician
James Rivera	Outside Musician

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

n. Practicum Placement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following fieldwork/practicum placement for the 2026 spring semester, for the following student, attending the following colleges/universities:

Student Name	College/University	Supervising Staff Member
Rebecca Genardi	Bergen County Community College	Michael Henzel (Principal of Betsy Ross School) Stacey Shapiro (Teacher of Kindergarten)
Emilie Inzinna-Enriquez	Rutgers University	John Pascale (Principal of Mahwah High School) Mary Rosen (Teacher of Social Studies)
Jesse Presburger	Kean University	John Pascale (Principal of Mahwah High School) Nikki Van Ess (Supervisor of Business)
Mojda Wahidi	University of Phoenix	Paul Wyka (Principal of Lenape Meadows School) Mary DiRienzo (Teacher of Kindergarten)

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

o. Volunteer – Region I Concert Festival

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves Jared Gaslow, as a volunteer, to assist with the Region I concert festival, retroactive to March 19, 2026; at no cost to the district.

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

19. Public Questions 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.

20. Motion to open meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

21. Motion to close meeting to the public

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

22. Motion to Recess to Executive Session under Chapter 231, P.L. (Sunshine Law), which authorizes a public body to discuss personnel, negotiations and legal matters.

Personnel matters
Confidential Student Matters
Legal Update

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

23. Motion to Reconvene to Public Action Meeting to take action on matters discussed in Executive Session

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

24. Motion to Adjourn

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____ VOTE _____

Upcoming Events

3/30-3/31/26	Spring Recess – Schools Closed
4/1-4/2/26	Spring Recess – Schools Closed
4/3/26	Good Friday – Schools Closed
4/8/26	Mahwah Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
4/10/26	Betsy Ross HSO Meeting 9:00 a.m.
4/10/26	Joyce Kilmer HSO Meeting Virtual 12:00 p.m.
4/16/26	Mahwah High School HSA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
4/22/26	Lenape Meadows HSO Meeting 2:30 p.m.
4/23/26	Ramapo Ridge HSO Meeting Zoom 9:00 a.m.
4/29/26	Mahwah Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
5/1/26	Betsy Ross HSO Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
5/8/26	Joyce Kilmer HSO Meeting Virtual 12:00 p.m.
5/18/26	Mahwah High School HSA Meeting 7:00 p.m.
5/20/26	Mahwah Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
5/20/26	George Washington HSO Meeting – Hybrid – 6:00 p.m.
5/20/26	Lenape Meadows HSO Meeting 7:00 p.m.
5/25/26	Memorial Day – Schools Closed
6/10/26	Mahwah Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
6/11/26	Ramapo Ridge HSO Meeting Zoom 9:00 a.m.
6/12/26	Joyce Kilmer HSO Meeting Virtual 12:00 p.m.
6/16/26	Lenape Meadows HSO Meeting 2:30 p.m.
6/17/26	George Washington HSO Meeting – Hybrid – 6:00 p.m.
6/18/26	Betsy Ross HSO Meeting 9:00 a.m.
6/24/26	Single Session for Students, Grade 8 Promotion Exercises
6/25/26	Last Day of School – Single Session for Students, High School Graduation
6/26/26	Last Day for Staff

