



EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

April 20, 2026

Virtual Meeting - 8:30 A.M.

Committee Members: Paulo Lopes, Chair

Linda Rad, David Rizza, Justina Ryan

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent of Schools
Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary
Rebecca Burns, Director of Pupil Services
Dr. Stacey Brown, Humanities Supervisor
Katie DaQuisto, Early Childhood Supervisor
Sarah Pauch, Math, Science, Tech Supervisor
Dr. Anthony Tumolo, Special Projects Supervisor
Jim Belske, Technology Coordinator
Dr. Jonathan Moss, HBS Principal (item #1)

Dr. Moss provided a Summer Enrichment Update

- The program has enrollment that allows it to be self-sustaining, generating revenue. Classes have been developed for both junior and senior level (young and older students) as well as an early drop off option.

MTSS Mental Health Framework

- Three-tier approach for academics and mental health support
 - Tier 1: Universal SEL curriculum, positive school climate, anti-bullying lessons
 - Tier 2: Small group counseling, skill building (5-10% of student population, ~70-140 students district-wide)
 - Tier 3: Individual clinical counseling, intensive support
 - Current staff to provide tier 2 support at grades K-5
 - NJ4S partnership for grades 6-8 (funded by state grant) tier 2
 - Hazel Health telehealth services for clinical counseling tier 3 ages 4-18, this is a free service.
 - Virtual sessions at school, family counseling available
 - 40% bilingual clinicians, multilingual support available
- All services require parent consent, 6-8 week cycles for short-term interventions

UDL Implementation Update

- Leadership team attended 2-day overview March 10-11
- Implementation timeline
 - Spring: Choose 4-6 staff members per building as early adopters

- Summer: Two full-day workshops for implementation teams
- Fall 2026-27: Full rollout with CAST and Department of Ed guidance
- Focus on reducing barriers for multilingual learners, special education students
- Not a curriculum replacement but enhancement of existing programs

ELA Curriculum Consultant Proposal, grades 6-8

- Issue: NJSLA scores drop at 6th grade, climb in 7th-8th but not at expected trajectory
- Researched Clinton Township model (80-90% NJSLA proficiency vs. district's low-mid 60s/70s) and possible curricular programs (i.e. boxed programs).
- Recommendation: Hire Dr. Marianne Riley (former Newark assistant superintendent)
 - \$12,000 cost using Title 2 funds
 - Services include curriculum review, sample unit creation, teacher training
 - July start with September, October, March in-service sessions
- Alternative to \$50-100K boxed curriculum purchase

AI Guidelines and Framework

- Committee developed comprehensive handbook with protocols
- Traffic light system for classroom use
 - Red light: No AI use (default for most assignments)
 - Yellow light: Limited AI use with specific guidelines
 - Green light: AI encouraged for select assignments
- Professional development plan
 - Baseline training for all teachers on AI fundamentals
 - Tiered approach: beginner, intermediate, advanced levels
 - Teacher academies and differentiated PD sessions
- Student protocols emphasize citation, critical thinking, fact-checking
- Policy updates needed for academic integrity and acceptable use policies

Technology Infrastructure Updates

- Interactive whiteboard deployment
 - 30 Epson boards for Holland Brook (13 installed over spring break, 17 remaining)
 - 100 total boards district-wide through referendum funding
 - Summer installation for White House and Three Bridges
 - The referendum website will be updated on the progress of projects.
 - Wireless connectivity working well, teachers adopting quickly
- Network infrastructure upgrade scheduled for summer
 - Addressing intermittent reliability issues
 - Software platform update for new switches
- Chromebook prep for 6th grade, staff laptop deployment ongoing
- New cybersecurity membership with MS-ISAC for incident monitoring

Next Steps and Action Items

- May 18th next curriculum committee meeting
- Board agenda items for May meeting
 - ELA consultant approval (\$12,000 Title 2 funding)
 - Sustainable Jersey grant (\$10,000)
 - NJ Farm to School grant (\$2,000)
- Summer curriculum writing projects: Social studies (Hispanic/Latino history), ESL, school counseling updates
- Preschool parent orientations scheduled for May at all locations
- Gargi Adhikari is working on AI research project for ISTE conference, (student data collection approved)