

EASTAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Budget Public Hearing
Wednesday, April 29, 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 April 2, 2026.
- B. Mailed written notice to the *Burlington County Times* and *Courier Post* on April 2, 2026.
- C. Filed written notice with the Clerk of Eastampton Township on April 2, 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.

4. ROLL CALL:

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

- Lianne M. Kane, Superintendent of Schools
- Joseph A. Firetto, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

5. FIRE EXITS

6. 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.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: (25-26-101)

March 25, 2026 (Tentative Budget Meeting)

Roll Call

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

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

8. PRESENTATIONS:

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

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

A. Information Item(s):

- 1) HIB Report dated April 24, 2026 (25-26-102)
- 2) Department Reports
- 3) Liaison Reports
- 4) Bus Drills for Bus #EM1, EM2, EM3, EM4, EM-Preschool, MD-1/CST, MD-1/CSTPK, First Student Inc. Run #6073, T. Parthenos Run #QHEC2 were held on March 31, 2026 from 8:14 am – 9:05 am. Mr. Leibowitz was present while the bus drivers conducted the drills.

B. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the action items on the HIB Report dated April 24, 2026 as initially presented at the March 25, 2026 meeting. (25-26-102)

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

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

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

10. BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING:

A. Information Item:

- 1) Budget Hearing Presentation – Joseph A. Firetto

B. Action Items: (Stephanie McHugh, Chairperson)

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the following 2026-2027 budget with revised general fund expenditures, ~~withdrawal from maintenance reserves, and withdrawal from capital reserves~~ figures:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education developed a school budget for the 2026-2027 School Year according to the guidelines as set forth by the New Jersey Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, The Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Burlington has reviewed and approved the budget documents on April 16, 2026; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board certify the approved **tentative** 2026-2027 Budget.

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	TOTAL
2026-2027 Total Expenditures	11,980,521	2,101,172	754,499	14,836,192
Less Anticipated Revenues	5,200,298	2,101,172	-	7,301,470
Taxes to be Raised	6,515,223	-	754,499	7,269,722
Pilot Payments	150,000	-	-	150,000
Withdraw From Tuition Reserves	115,000	-	-	115,000

- 2) Recommend the Board approve the following 2026-2027 resolution for a Tuition Reserve Withdrawal:

Be it resolved that the general fund appropriations include a \$115,000 withdrawal from the Tuition Reserve Account which was deposited into the account in the 2023-2024 school year and will be withdrawn to pay tuition obligations in the 2026-2027 school year, per NJDOE guidelines.

- 3) The Tax Payment schedule and request the same from Eastampton Township for the 2026-2027 school year:

Aug 2026	\$ 754,499.00
Sept	\$ 651,523.00
Oct	\$ 651,523.00
Nov	\$ 651,523.00
Dec	\$ 651,523.00
Jan 2027	\$ 651,523.00
Feb	\$ 651,523.00
Mar	\$ 651,523.00
Apr	\$ 651,523.00
May	\$ 651,523.00
June	\$ 651,516.00
Total	\$7,269,722.00

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

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

- o Motion Carries
- o Motion Fails

11. PERSONNEL: (Jamie Smith, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board retroactively approve FMLA leave of absence with a start date of April 15, 2026- June 30, 2026 for staff member #4033 using remaining sick days.
- 2) Recommend the Board approve with best wishes the retirement of Ms. Janice Sullivan effective June 30, 2026.
- 3) Motion to approve an unpaid leave of absence for employee #4451 for June 23, 2026.
- 4) Recommend the Board retroactively approve the employment for Mr. Evan Donahue as a long-term substitute Social Studies Teacher from April 13, 2026- June 30, 2026 at the rate of \$150.00 per day.
- 5) Recommend the Board approve the resignation of Ms. Jillian Cooke effective June 30, 2026.

- 6) Recommend the Board approve Ms. Emily Valentino as a part-time Band/Music Teacher (2 Days per week) for the 2026-2027 School Year with the salary of \$24,350.00.
- 7) Recommend the Board approve Ms. Sarah Willits as a full-time elementary school teacher for the 2026-2027 School Year with the salary of \$60,874.00 BA/Step 1 pending certifications.
- 8) Recommend the Board approve Ms. Jordan Pintinalli as a member for the SCIP & School Culture committee.
- 9) Recommend the Board approve the following staff to serve on the School Climate Leadership Team for the remainder of the 2026-2027 School Year:
 - Mrs. Lianne Kane
 - Mr. Brian Leibowitz
 - Mrs. Jenna Carrell
 - Mrs. Dawn Dillaplane
 - Mrs. Nicole McGann
 - Mrs. Erin D’Addona
 - Mrs. Corrine Katrina
- 10) Recommend the Board approve the following Application for Tuition Reimbursement:
 - Jennifer Bergen- \$753.00- Rowan College of Burlington County, Mt. Laurel, NJ 7/6/2026-8/26/2026 (Masterpieces of World Literature (Lit 203) (3 Credits)

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

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

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

12. FINANCE: (Edward Besko, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve the following payrolls:
 - a. March 30, 2026: \$297,149.01
 - b. April 15, 2026: \$291,840.41
- 2) Recommend the Board approve the following invoices for payment: **(25-26-103)**
 - a. Regular Bills: \$631,827.92

- 3) Recommend the Board approve Line Item Transfers dated March 31, 2026. **(25-26-104)**
- 4) Recommend the Board approve the Treasurer’s Report dated February 28, 2026. **(25-26-105)**
- 5) Recommend the Board approve the Board Secretary’s Report dated February 28, 2026. **(25-26-106)**
- 6) Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)4*, we certify that as of February 28, 2026 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:23-2.12(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:23-2.12(c)8*, I certify that as of February 28, 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. *Citations are subject to change due to periodic amendments, new rules, and repeals. Figures subject to final audit.

- 7) Recommend the Board approve the following Cafeteria expenses. **(25-26-107)**
- 8) Recommend the Board approve the attached Student Activity expenses. **(25-26-108)**
- 9) Recommend the Board approve the following 2025-2026 Tuition contract
Sending:

Placement	Student(s)	Tuition per Student	1:1 Aide	District of Responsibility
Westampton Board of Education	ID # 17220763	\$9,333.52 (56 days at \$166.67 per day)	-	Eastampton – March 25, 2026 to June 30, 2026

- 10) Recommend the Board approve the Agreement with WMY Transportation for the delivery of food for our cafeteria for the 2026/2027 school year. **(25-26-109)**
- 11) Recommend the Board approve the agreement with Brookfield Schools Homebound Division for homebound instruction for student ID # 17097828 starting April 20, 2026 at the hourly rate of \$34.07.
- 12) Recommend the Board approve the Master Contract with Phoenix Advisors for Municipal Advisor and Continuing Disclosure Services for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, on file in the Business Office.
- 13) Recommend the Board approve the Guidelines and Attestation for Participation in the New Jersey Farm 2 School Procurement Initiative for school year 2025-2026, on file in the business office.
- 14) Recommend the Board approve the Board Secretary’s Report dated March 31, 2026. **(25-26-111)**
- 15) Recommend the Board approve the Treasurer’s Report dated March 31, 2026. **(25-26-112)**

16) Recommend the Board approve the Semi Corrective Action Plan for FY 24-25. (25-26-113)

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

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

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

13. CURRICULUM: (Walter Maluchnik, Chairperson)

A. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve Ms. Mallory McArthur, a student at TCNJ to perform her student teaching requirement from October 19, 2026-December 4, 2026 under the mentorship of Ms. Alexa Selnek.
- 2) Recommend the Board approve Ms. Tori Rapko, a student at Rowan University to perform her Clinical Practice I Placement Session from September 1, 2026-December 9, 2026 (Tuesdays & Thursdays) and her Clinical Practice II placement from January 19, 2027-May 7, 2027 5 days a week under the mentorship of Mrs. Kelly Greene and Mrs. Florence Smith.
- 3) Motion to approve the 8th grade Field Trip to Liberty Lakes in Bordentown, NJ for May 20, 2026. This will be for a total of 44 students, 2 staff members, and 8 Parent Chaperones.

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

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

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

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

A. Action Item(s):

- 1) Recommend the Board approve Long Range Facility Plan (25-26-110)

Roll Call on Action Item(s)

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

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

15. 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.

16. ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed

- 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: July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026);

_____ 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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eastampton Township Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

17. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

18. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed

- Motion Carries
- Motion Fails

19. DATES TO REMEMBER:

- May 1 - PTA Ladies Night Out
- May 6 – Art show 6:30pm
- May 6 – Concert- Chorus Grades 2-3 (5:30pm)
- May 6 – Concert- Chorus & Band Grades 4-5 (6:30pm)
- May 7 – Art show 6:30pm
- May 7- Concert- Middle School Band (6:30pm)
- May 7- Concert- Middle School Chorus (7:30pm)
- May 14 – Progress Reports online
- May 20- Field Trip- Grade 8- Liberty Lakes Day Camp
- May 20- PTA Meeting 7:00PM
- May 21- 1st Grade Field Trip- Elmwood Park Zoo
- May 22- Early Dismissal
- May 25- School Closed (Memorial Day)
- May 26-29- Summer Reading BOGO Fair
- May 28- 3rd Grade Field Trip to the Camden Adventure Aquarium
- May 29- Field Day for Grades 6-8