

**Magnolia School District
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
April 21, 2026
6:30 P.M.**

Mr. Nick D'Amico opened the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m., leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Roll Call	Mrs. Rebecca Ammen	Present
	Mr. Richard Cruz	Present
	Mr. Nick D'Amico	Present
	Mr. Mark Godfrey	Absent
	Mrs. Jennifer Jackson	Present
	Mr. Dale Martin	Present
	Mrs. Karen Sorbello	Present
Other Attendees	Mrs. Karen Macpherson, Superintendent Mrs. Emily Strawbridge, Solicitor	
Mission Statement	Mission Statement was read by Mr. Nick D'Amico	
Approval of Minutes	Minutes of the Regular Session and Executive Session Board of Education meeting held on March 17, 2026	

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Second by Dale Martin

Vote: To approve Minutes

Voice Vote. All in favor *Rebecca Ammen Abstained

Motion Approved

**Audience
Participation I** **Open Audience Participation I – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Seconded by Dale Martin

Vote: To approve opening of Audience Participation I

Voice Vote. All in favor

None

Close Audience Participation I

Motioned by Dale Martin, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve closing of Audience Participation I
Voice vote. All in favor

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

**Unfinished
Business**

Financial Disclosure deadline is April 30, 2026

New Business

None

State and Local

None

**Superintendent's
Report**

Superintendent's Report

Presentation

1. Magnolia School District and School 2024-2025 Grade Report for School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act. ([Attachment HIB25](#))

A. Informational Items

1. The 8th Grade Dinner Dance was held on Thursday, April 16, 2026.
2. We will be participating in Bring Your Child to Work Day on Thursday, April 23, 2026.
3. The Extended School Year program and the Preschool Summer Enrichment program will be held on Tuesday through Thursday, from July 14, 2026, through July 30, 2026, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.
4. We are currently awaiting an update from the State regarding the HIT (High Impact Tutoring) Grant.
5. NJSBA Workshop 2026, *Charting the Path, Empowering Journeys*, will be held from October 19-22, 2026.

B. Curriculum/Programs

1. We are currently reviewing our Math Envision program, as our three-year contract ends on June 30, 2026.
2. The K-2 Foundations Program, updated edition 3, is being reviewed.

C. Interdistrict

1. An Interdistrict principals meeting was held on April 21, 2026.

D. Public Relations/Liaison

1. A meeting of the Liaison Committee is set for Monday, April 27, 2026. The Superintendent will present the meeting information at the board meeting on May 6, 2026.

E. Student/Parental Issues and Concerns

(No items at this time)

F. Buildings and Grounds

1. A fire drill was held on March 9, 2026.
2. An ERT -Shelter in place security drill was held on March 31, 2026.

G. Negotiations/Contractual (Executive Session)

(No items at this time)

H. Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (HIB)

(No items at this time)

I. Miscellaneous

(No items at this time)

J. Principal's Report

1. Principal's Report - [March 2026](#)
2. Nursing Report - [March 2026](#)

Items for Board Approval

Motion to approve Personnel Items 1 through 14, Programs 1, and Trips 1

**Jose Laracuenta,
Resignation 4-27-26**

A. Personnel

1. Accept, with regret, the resignation of Jose Laracuenta, Teacher Aide, effective April 27, 2026. ([Attachment A1](#))

**Revise FMLA end date
Employee #615 to May
1, 2026**

2. Approval to revise the end date of a maternity/NJFLA leave of absence for employee #615, from May 25, 2026, to May 1, 2026, returning to work on May 4, 2026.

**FMLA/NJFLA for
employee #629
effective 9-14 though
1-29-27. Return to
work 2-1-2027**

3. Approval of a maternity/FMLA/NJFLA leave of absence for employee #629, effective September 14, 2026, through January 29, 2027, returning to work on February 1, 2027.

**Kelly Livingston Leader
Launchpad PD up to 15
hours at a rate of \$20
per hour**

4. Approval of Kelly Livingston, Supervisor of Early Childhood Education, for Leadership Launchpad professional development, up to 15 hours at a rate of \$20.00 per hour in the 2025-2026 school year, funded through the Preschool Expansion Grant (PEA 100-100).

**Colleen Roehr -Art
Show Stipend-\$1,340**

5. Approval of the following extracurricular appointment for the 2025-2026 school year:

Last Nam	First Nam	Activity	Tier	Stipend
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Roehr	Colleen	Art Show	Tier I	\$1340.00
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Kendal Norman to attend Coaching That Counts 5-21-26. Cost \$167

6. Approval of Kendal Norman, Kindergarten teacher, to attend Coaching That Counts Content Workshops on May 21, 2026, at a cost of \$167.00 to be paid through Title II funds (200-500).

Kelly Livingston to attend National Research Conference on Early Childhood on June 22, 2026

7. Approval of Kelly Livingston, Supervisor of Early Childhood Education, to attend the National Research Conference on Early Childhood (NRCEC) on June 22, 2026, through June 24, 2026. Registration, hotel (\$945.99), mileage, and miscellaneous expenses will be funded through the Preschool Expansion Grant (PEA 200-580).

Sandy Marlys to work during July & August

8. Approval for Sandy Marlys to work during July and August 2026 to complete and update health records, parent correspondence, nursing reports, and to participate in school safety meetings. Compensation will be at her hourly rate of \$56.76 for up to 20 hours.

Staff Members to work up to 30 hours for PD during 26-27 to be paid from Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA 100-100 teachers and 100-106 Assistant/Aides)

9. Approval of the following staff members for up to 30 hours for professional development during the 2026-2027 school year at the rates listed below. Funds to be paid from the New Jersey Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA 100-100 teachers and 100-106 assistants/aides):

Last Name	First Name	Rate
DiBlasio	Elena	\$20.00/hour
Dobleman	Stacey	\$20.00/hour
Healy	Patrick	\$20.00/hour
Hobbs	Erin	\$20.00/hour
Buonpastore	Christina	\$17.63/hour
Lombard	Wendy	\$25.60/hour
Neckonchuk	Kelly	\$19.64/hour
Orlando	Michele	\$17.63/hour
Scott	Vickie	\$17.63/hour

Staff Members approved for summer 2026 professional development

10. Approval of the following staff members to participate in summer 2026 professional development, preschool orientation, and preparation, not to exceed 10 hours per staff member. Funds to be paid from the New Jersey Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA 100-100 teachers and 100-106 assistants/aides):

Last Name	First Name	Rate
DiBlasio	Elena	\$20.00/hour

Dobleman	Stacey	\$20.00/hour
Healy	Patrick	\$20.00/hour
Hobbs	Erin	\$20.00/hour
Buonpastore	Christina	\$17.63/hour
Lombard	Wendy	\$25.60/hour
Neckonchuk	Kelly	\$19.64/hour
Orlando	Michele	\$17.63/hour
Scott	Vickie	\$17.63/hour

Approval of summer work

11. Approval for all teaching staff and teaching assistants/aides to participate in up to ten hours of summer 2026 professional development aligned with the District’s Social Emotional Learning (SEL), Math, and Language Arts initiatives. Teachers will be compensated at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, while teaching assistants/aides will receive their regular hourly rate. Funding for this professional development will be provided through Title II funds.

Approval of summer professional development

12. Approval for all new hires and any teachers making a grade or subject change in the 2026-2027 school year to participate in up to twenty hours of summer professional development aligned with the District’s Social Emotional Learning (SEL), Math, and Language Arts initiatives. Compensation will be at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, with funding provided through Title II funds.

Approval of Turnbull and Devecchis for summer hours

13. Approval for Lezley Turnbull and Jamie Devecchis to work during July and August on HIB (Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying) and SEL planning for the upcoming 2026–2027 school year. Compensation will be at a rate of \$20.00 per hour, not to exceed 20 hours per individual, with funding provided through Title II funds.

Approval of McIlvaine for summer hours

14. Approval for Kelly McIlvaine to conduct kindergarten screenings during the summer of 2026. Compensation will be at a rate of \$40.00 per hour, not to exceed six hours.

B. Students

(No items at this time)

Approval of ESY Program

C. Programs

1. Approval of the Extended School Year program and the Preschool Summer Enrichment program on Tuesday through Thursday, from July 14, 2026, through July 30, 2026, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Approval of trip to Six Flags

D. Trips

1. Approval of the Performing Arts trip to Six Flags Great Adventure on June 2, 2026, from 9:30 am to approximately 7:30 pm, with transportation costs covered by the Board of Education for \$600.00.

E. Plans

(No items at this time)

F. Job Descriptions

(No items at this time)

G. Facilities

(No items at this time)

H. Policies

(No items at this time)

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Second by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve Personnel Items 1 through 14, Programs 1, and Trips 1

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Cruz, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Sorbello and Mr. D'Amico (6-0-0)

**Board Secretary
Report**

Motion Approved

BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Informational Items:

-None

Board Actions

Board Actions:

Monthly Reports

Motion to approve Items A through D

A. Monthly Reports

The Budget Summary and Revenue Summary for the month of February 2026. **(Attachment A1 & A2)**

Transfers

B. Transfer of Funds

The attached transfer list, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, for the month of February 2026. **(Attachment B1)**

Financial Reports

C. Financial Reports

- 1.** Board Secretary's Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for The month of February 2026. The Board Secretary certifies that no line item Account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A – 16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. **(Attachment C1)**
- 2.** Treasurer's Report in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A:17-9 for the month of February 2026. The Treasurer's Report and Board Secretary's report are in agreement for the month of February 2026. **(Attachment C2)**

3. Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources.
4. Board of Education Certification – pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 4 We certify that after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Bill List

D. Warrants

The attached bill lists:

- Warrants (**Attachment D1**)
- Payroll (**Attachment D2**)

Motioned by Karen Sorbello, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve Items A through D

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Cruz, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Sorbello and **Mr. D’Amico (5-0-1) ** Nick D’Amico – Abstained from payments to ESS

Motion Approved

Motion to approve Items E through J

**Shared Service –
Woodlynne BOE –
Business Office**

E. Shared Service – Woodlynne BOE – Business Office

To approve shared service agreement with Woodlynne Board of Education for Business Office Services in the amount of \$162,000.00 per the attached contract for the 2026-2027 school year (**Attachment E1**).

**Interlocal Agreement –
Woodlynne BOE –
Kitchen Rental**

F. Interlocal Agreement – Woodlynne BOE – Kitchen Rental

To approve the Interlocal Service Agreement with Woodlynne Board of Education for kitchen facility usage for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$15,000.00 (**Attachment F1**).

**Sodexo Renewal for
2026-2027**

G. Sodexo - Renewal

Be it resolved that the Magnolia Board of Education approves the renewal contract to Sodexo Management, Inc. as the Food Service Management Company for the 2026-2027 school year. The management fee will be a flat fee of \$31,566.66. Sodexo Management, Inc. guarantees a return of \$9,000.00. The total cost of the contract for all expenses is estimated to be \$183,087.41.

**Professional Service
Agreement – GCSSSD
– 2026-2027**

H. Professional Service Contract - GCSSSD

To approve the attached Agreement for Professional Services with Gloucester County Special Services School District for the 2026-2027 School Year (**Attachment H1**).

**WJ Gross – Asphalt
Repair**

**WJ Gross – Gutter
Repair**

I. CCESC – WJ Gross – Asphalt Repair

To approve the purchase through CCESC Contract #66CCEPS with WJ Gross, Inc. for asphalt repaving of the back driveway / play area and courtyard in the amount of \$49,560.00.

J. CCESC – WJ Gross – Gutter Repair

To approve the purchase through CCESC Contract #66CCEPS with WJ Gross, Inc. for gutter repair / cleaning in the amount of \$27,315.00.

Motioned by Karen Sorbello Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve Items E through J

Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Cruz, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Martin, Mrs. Sorbello and Mr. D’Amico (6-0-0).

**Open Audience
Participation II**

Motion Approved

Open Audience Participation II - Public Comment

Motioned by Dale Martin, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve opening of Audience Participation II

Voice Vote. All in favor

**Close Audience
Participation II**

None

Close Audience Participation II

Motioned by Dale Martin, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve closing of Audience Participation II

Voice vote. All in favor

Executive Session

Adjournment

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:48 pm by Karen Sorbello, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To Adjourn meeting

Voice Vote. All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

**Greg Gontowski
Board Secretary**