

HAWORTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
HAWORTH, NEW JERSEY 07641
Minutes
April 29, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:32 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT

All requirements of the Open Public Business Meetings Law have been met for this meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of Haworth. On October 8, 2025 advance written notice was emailed to **The Record and The Herald News**, filed with the Borough Clerk, posted on the school website and forwarded to the Presidents of the Home and School Association and Teachers Association, and all persons requesting such notice.

IV. MISSION STATEMENT

The Haworth Public School District, a safe and nurturing small school environment, in partnership with our community, is dedicated to providing every student with educational excellence through a comprehensive, innovative and rigorous curriculum that fosters productive and responsible life-long learners in a global society. Adopted—May 28, 2013.

V. ROLL CALL:

Dr. Nicole Brennan
Mr. Charles Crowley
Dr. Danielle Insalaco-Egan
Mr. Drew Krasny
Mrs. Courtney Russell
Mrs. Jennifer Samples
Mrs. Jessica Spiegel
Mr. Paul Wolford, Superintendent
Mr. Kevin Lane, Business Administrator/MS Principal
Mrs. Kristi Giambona, Board Secretary

VI. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - 7:32 p.m.

The Board is interested in hearing your comments. In order to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak, we are asking that you speak once and limit your comments to three minutes. We further ask that all comments be directed to the Board. We recognize that everyone has the freedom to speak but advise you that anything said in public may have legal ramifications. There is no protection regarding statements made by the public. Please state your name, address and group affiliation (if any) before you begin.

VII. CLOSE THE PUBLIC PORTION - 7:33 p.m. NO PUBLIC COMMENT

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S/BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORTS

a. **March Student Shout Outs:**

Kindergarten: Kathryn Drobenko, Amelia Ghazzawi, Mila Hakobyan, Jake Handman, Clare Kealy, Abby Kim, Makenna Ku, Ori Rozen, Mason Shuldman, Autumn Steiner

Grade 1: Olivia Alex, Daphne Castellano, Koki Ebihara, Emma Eng, Amelia Fu, Jasper Harris, Max Hirschhorn, Shio Kim, Ella Ngai, Christopher Subota, Shu Tong Wu, Tom Yoskovitz, Raia Zheleznyal

Grade 2: Claire Bacci, Tyler Green

Grade 3: Henry Baer, Carter Barbot, Eitan Ben-Zaken, Amalia Chasin, Connor Dean, Cooper Dean, Gabe Dy, Raoul Fernando, Stella Feygin, Emilia Gelfand, Oliver Handman, Harley Harris, Opie Hernandez, Yuzu Hirota, Maddie Hirschhorn, Franklin Hull, Assaf Jabal, Adar Jabal, Sahana Kancherla, Ryan Kim, Suno Kim, Daniel Lamberta, Matthias Lee, Gianna Mateo, Brody Mill, Coby Placona, Emaan Qaiser, Gabby Rieger, Sarah Shim, Ozzie Tabacchi

Grade 4: Levi Alley, Lizzie Baldino, Leela Berkelbach, Eleni Bush, Zachary Cohen, Marceline Domagas, Claire Esposito, Alicia Garcia, Emilia Hakobyan, Irene Hone, Evan Lee, Logan Leyvi, Evin Metjahic, Nick Rosario, DOrothy Sippo-Shih, Nico Urrego, Andrew Whelan

Grade 5: All of Ms. Beites class, Entire Math Class - Blue Section, James Beardsley, Yohan Choi, Arin Chung, Nolan Dean, Angelina Doris, Yuma Ebihara, Alexandra Fermano, Marcus Finetto, Harleigh Green, Charlotte Griffin, Marcus Grinman, Max Handman, SHayne Heregety, Lucy Jeong, Carlo Karalian, Ellie Lebel, Olivia Long, Skyler Molluzzo, RJ Mulder, Abigail Samples, Evan Son, Isaac Song, Fletcher Volpi, Reeve Yoon, Alyssa Yung

March Staff Shout Outs: Maria DiCarlantonio, Melissa Jackson, Angelica Talamo

b. Revision of the 2025-2026 district calendar - Mr. Paul Wolford

The district used two of the three built in snow days, therefore the last day of school will be moved to June 25, 2026. The last three days of school will be one session days.

c. **2026-2027 Budget Presentation** - Mr. Kevin Lane & Mr. Paul Wolford

PowerPoint presentation on file for review, upon request, in the district Business Office. It is also posted on the district website.

N. Brennan Moved, D. Egan Seconded

Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Item VIII. c.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Dr. Brennan	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			

Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny	✓			
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			
Mrs. Spiegel	✓			

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

The following resolutions are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be voted on by one vote. Any Board of Education member wishing to remove any items from the consent agenda and request an individual vote may do so.

- a. **Enrollment Report to Date - 530**
- b. **Emergency & Crisis Situations Drill Record: March**
 - Fire Drill: March 17, 2026
 - Security Drill: March 4, 2026
 - Administrator in charge: Mr. Paul Wolford

MINUTES:

- c. Approval of meeting minutes from the March 18, 2026 Regular Business meeting.
- d. Approval of meeting minutes from the March 18, 2026 Closed Executive Session.

SUBMISSIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS:

- e. School Ethics Commission

f. HIB Report for March, 2026:

Reported Cases: 1

Number of Cases Open: 1

Number of Cases Closed: 0

D. Egan Moved, D. Krasny Seconded

Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items IX. a. through f.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Dr. Brennan	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny	✓			
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			
Mrs. Spiegel	✓			

X. CURRICULUM

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following field trips. Transportation costs will apply where applicable.

#	DATE	GRADE/ CLUB	LOCATION	COST PER STUDENT	STAFF IN CHARGE
1.	May 27, 2026	Gr. 8	Pomona, NY	\$25.00	A. Kosakowski
2.	June 11, 2026	Gr. 8 G&T	Ramsey, NJ	\$0	A. Kosakowski
3.	May 27 - May 29, 2026	Gr. 7	Frost Valley, NY	\$445.00	M. Rucereto
4.	June 17, 2026 <i>Alt. date: 6/18/26</i>	Gr. 5	Jersey City, NJ	TBD	S. Gentles

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2025 Jump Start Program dates of August 17 - August 27, 2026 (Monday - Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) One week for ELA (8/24-8/27) and one week for Math (8/17-8/20).
- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2026 Summer Academic Enrichment dates of August 10 through August 27, 2026 (Monday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2026 Summer Elective Enrichment dates of August 10 through August 27, 2026 (Monday - Thursday, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.)

J. Samples Moved, D. Egan Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

C. Crowley - shared that he appreciates that the Jump Start program will be starting right before the start of the school year.

C. Russell - asked what the Jump Start is?

P. Wolford - explained that the program is designed to give students a “jump start” into the math and ELA curriculum before the start of the school year. The goal is to give the students refresher work from the previous school year and get them focused and back into the school routine before the year begins.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items X. a. through d.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Dr. Brennan	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny	✓			
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			
Mrs. Spiegel	✓			

XI. PERSONNEL

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education retroactively approves the attendance and registration costs, if applicable, for the below indicated professional development and/or training workshops or conferences for the following employees. Travel & accommodation expenditures reimbursed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12.

#	NAME	DATE(S)	CONFERENCE/ WORKSHOP	LOCATION	REGISTRATION COST
1.	Nancy Polifroni	April 13, 2026 May 11, 2026	Pump Technology & Social Support	virtual	\$30.00
2.	Kevin Lane	June 30, 2026	STRONGE Evaluation System Refresher Course	virtual	\$275.00
3.	Kylie Porcelli	July 22, 2026	STRONGE Evaluation System Refresher Course	virtual	\$275.00
4.	Kevin Lane	June 23, 2026	Legal One: HIB Law Update	virtual	\$0

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the 2025 graduate level courses for the following staff members; reimbursement to be paid at the 2025-26 state college or university graduate level course rate, pursuant to Article VII of the Haworth Teachers Association Collective Bargaining Agreement.

#	NAME	COURSE	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
1.	Angelica Talamo	LEAD 5373 Mentoring Teachers LEAD 5393 Teacher Leadership	American College of Education

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following staff members to chaperone the Grade 7 field trip to Frost Valley, NY on May 27 - 29, 2026, at a rate of \$119.00 per overnight, per chaperone (2 nights each):

- Michael Rucereto - Trip Coordinator
- Rebekah Chung
- Abigail Ronberg
- Camille Taveras
- Kevin Lane - Administrator

- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following parent chaperones for the Grade 7 field trip to Frost Valley, NY on May 27 - 29, 2026.

- Larissa Albert
- Craig Bacci
- Yaron Ben Zaken
- Susan Biasi
- Suzanne Bush
- Robert Erfurt
- Mimi Garcia

- Sead Metjahic

e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Senior Service/Work-Based Learning dates of May 18 through June 18, 2026 with the following students from Northern Valley Demarest High School:

- Casey Ashkenase - Mrs. Kosakowski
- Lily Cammalleri - Mr. Talty
- Harrison Davis - Mr. Rucereto
- Sam DeCosta - Mr. Ribeiro
- Derrick Fortgang - Mrs. Talty
- Erika Garano - Mrs. Eisberg
- Sahaj Jani - Mrs. Carboneri
- Andrea Jimenez - Mrs. Martell
- Terrence Kim - Mr. Romano
- Logan Laub - Mr. DeFelice
- Avery Monaco - Mrs. Henthorn
- Madalyn Plump - Mrs. Ferrara
- Anthony Sabbagh - Mr. Nasta

f. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the new job description for Maintenance Specialist/School Transportation Operator.

g. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the revised job description for Administrative Assistant to the Child Study Team.

h. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Michelle Wochinger, current HPS Pre-K Paraprofessional and student from William Paterson University to obtain her student teaching preparatory hours with Ms. Santostefano in Pre-K, at no cost to the district.

i. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following Leave Replacement Teachers:

#	NAME	POSITION	DATES	GUIDE	SALARY
1.	Layne Ver Haeghe	Kindergarten	4/6/26 - 6/30/26 <i>Benefit eligible after 60 days</i>	BA, Step 1	\$56,415.00 prorated
2.	Kayla Olsen	Grade 4	5/6/26 - 6/30/36 <i>Benefit eligible after 60 days</i>	BA, Step 2	\$56,415.00 prorated

j. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following Staff members:

#	NAME	TITLE	START DATE	GUIDE	SALARY
1.	Marc Scher	Maintenance Specialist/School Vehicle Operator	TBD - upon criminal history clearance	12 month staff	\$58,000.00 <i>Benefit eligible after 60 days</i>
2.	Brianne Murray	Special Education Teacher - 11 months	September 1, 2026	MA+15, Step 10	\$84,388.00 <i>Benefit eligible</i>
3.	Jenna Farfalla	Teacher (STEM/G&T)	September 1, 2026	BA, Step 3	\$57,786.00 <i>Benefit eligible</i>

k. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following substitute teachers and/or paraprofessionals for the remainder of the 2025-26 school year and the 2026-27 school year, not benefit eligible.

- Rowan Hall
- Christina Lospalluto

N. Brennan Moved, C. Russell Seconded
Roll Call: 7/0

C. Crowley - inquired what exactly the Senior Service program is about?

P. Wolford - shared that it is meant to be for senior students looking to have a career in education. It turns out to be more than that and many times it is HPS alumni coming back. We keep them busy and they are very helpful with the many end of the year projects that we have.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XI. a. through k.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Dr. Brennan	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny	✓			
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			
Mrs. Spiegel	✓			

XII. FINANCE & FACILITIES

- a. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the bills for the period of March 1, 2026 to March 31, 2026 which has previously been approved by the various committees and payment made through the Valley National Bank from funds in the appropriate accounts as follows:

<u><i>Bills Description</i></u>	<u><i>Dated</i></u>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
Payroll - Operating	3/13/2026	\$364,331.67
Board Share - FICA	3/13/2026	\$6,561.72
State Share - FICA	3/13/2026	\$20,005.45
	TOTAL:	\$390,898.84

<u><i>Bills Description</i></u>	<u><i>Dated</i></u>	<u><i>Amount</i></u>
Payroll - Operating	3/30/2026	\$335,292.60
Board Share - FICA	3/30/2026	\$4,340.23
State Share - FICA	3/30/2026	\$19,996.64
	TOTAL:	\$359,629.47

- b. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Bills and Claims for the month of April, 2026.

- c. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Report of the Board Secretary, Report of the Treasurer, and the Report of Monthly Transfers for the month of February, 2026.
- d. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Frontline Education for staff attendance and daily substitute management, staff evaluation and applicant tracking with recruiting systems for the 2026-27 school year at a total cost of \$14,017.15
- e. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the license renewal with Learning Ally for educational technology to support students with reading deficits for the 2026-27 school year at a total cost of \$2,728.95.
- f. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the license renewal with Researchchild - Research Institute for Learning and Development for the SMARTS Executive Function Curriculum for middle school students for the 2026-27 school year at a total cost of \$2,323.00.
- g. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the Title IIA, III, III-Immigrant, and IV-Part A Consortium Memorandum of Agreement between the Northern Valley Regional High School Board of Education, as Lead Applicant, and the Northvale Public School for the 2026-2027 school year.
- h. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves Aspen Heating & Air Conditioning Corp. to replace the air conditioning compressors in the gym at a total cost of \$28,519.00.
- i. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following revised 2026-27 budget resolution:

	BUDGET	TOTAL TAX LEVY
General Fund (Fund 10)	\$14,175,275	\$12,113,924
Special Revenue Fund (Fund 20)	\$105,200	n/a
Service Fund (Fund 40)	\$486,850	\$462,771
Total Budget	\$14,767,325	\$12,576,695

j. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following Individual Education Evaluation maximum annual costs per evaluation:

- Speech & Language Evaluations: \$500
- Neurodevelopmental Evaluations: \$900
- Psychiatric Evaluations: \$800

k. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves the following extended school year student transportation parental contracts at a cost of \$1,000.00 per month for the following out of district students:

#	STUDENT ID#	DATES
1.	6446349802	June 29, 2026 - August 5, 2026
2.	9288066229	July 6, 2026 - July 31, 2026
3.	9503167708	July 1, 2026 - July 31, 2026
4.	4476411521	July 1, 2026 - July 31, 2026

l. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Haworth Board of Education approves a 1:1 Aide from 4/29/26 - 6/24/26 for student ID# 4476411521 at a total cost of \$9,656.00.

D. Krasny Moved, D. Egan Seconded

Roll Call: 7/0

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Haworth Board of Education approves Items XII. a. through l.

ROLL CALL VOTE	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Dr. Brennan	✓			
Mr. Crowley	✓			
Dr. Egan	✓			
Mr. Krasny	✓			
Mrs. Russell	✓			
Mrs. Samples	✓			
Mrs. Spiegel	✓			

XIII. NEGOTIATIONS

NO RESOLUTIONS

XIV. POLICY

NO RESOLUTIONS

XV. EDUCATION

NO RESOLUTIONS

XVI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Facilities
Curriculum & Instruction
Negotiations
Public Relations
BCSBA/NJSBA
Haworth Home & School Association
Northern Valley Regional High School & NV Educational Foundation
Legislative Chairperson
Senior Citizens Liaison
Town Council Liaison
Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS

XIX. Open to the Public on any item – 8:19 p.m.

The Board is interested in hearing your comments. In order to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to speak, we are asking that you speak once and limit your comments to three minutes. We further ask that all comments be directed to the Board. We recognize that everyone has the freedom to speak but advise you that anything said in public may have legal ramifications. There is no protection regarding statements made by the public. Please state your name, address and group affiliation (if any) before you begin.

Close the Public portion: 8:20 p.m. NO PUBLIC COMMENT

XX. CLOSED SESSION

C. Russell Moved, D. Egan Seconded
All in favor

WHEREAS the following subject is not appropriate to be discussed in a public meeting and is within the exemptions which may be discussed and acted upon and,

WHEREAS only the following subject shall be discussed in private recess by the Board and the minutes made available to the public as soon as the reason for exemption no longer exists, it is therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED at the Public Meeting of the Borough of Haworth Board of Education on this day Wednesday, April 29, 2026 pursuant to Sections 7 & 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, the following subject shall be discussed in a session of the Board closed to the public:

Please be advised that the Board will be going into executive session for approximately 45 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel, HIB and confidential student matters. Action will not be taken in public after the executive session.

Motion to reconvene into public session: 9:08 p.m.

C. Russell Moved, D. Egan Seconded
All in favor

XXI. MOTION TO ADJOURN

C. Russell Moved, D. Egan Seconded
All in favor

ADJOURNMENT: 9:10 p.m.

Charles Crowley, President
Haworth Board of Education

Kristi Giambona
Board Secretary