

STAFFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Manahawkin, NJ 08050

PUBLIC AGENDA

BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: Stafford Township Arts Center (STAC)

DATE: May 14, 2026

TIME: 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The Stafford Township Board of Education is called to order in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act Law - 1975 Chapter 231 (P.L. 1975-231C). This meeting was advertised on TAPinto. Notice has been posted in the office of the Stafford Township Clerk, all school buildings and on the district website. A mechanical device is being used to video record this meeting.

ROLL CALL

Brian Fenlon	Member
Gregory Gioe	Member
Keith Mollema	Member
Matthew Regulski	Member
Christopher Smith	Member
Bonnie Strouse	Member
Joseph Washco	Member
Kevin Cooney	Vice President
Tammy Wagner	President

ALSO PRESENT

George J. Chidiac	Superintendent
Lourdes LaGuardia	Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary
Martin J. Buckley, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney

FLAG SALUTE

A. RECOGNITION/PRESENTATIONS

~ Student Recognition – Districtwide

~McKinley Student and Staff Recognition

~Presentation – NJDOE HIB Report Card Grades for the 2024-2025 School Year – Kristin Ducker

B. SUPERINTENDENT’S EDUCATIONAL REPORT - Attachment**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

*NOTE: If a board member was absent (listed below), they are to abstain from the vote on that item/meeting.

NO ACTION ITEMS

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

D. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

School boards are required to set aside a portion of every meeting for public comments. School boards use the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to community concerns - not to debate issues or enter into a question-and-answer session. School boards are not required to respond to questions but may choose to respond to public comments by seeking additional information or delegating authority to the superintendent or a designee to investigate an issue brought forth during public comment.

While public education can be an emotional issue, the school board strives to maintain a certain level of decorum at its meeting. As such, all persons speaking during the public comment period should maintain a tone of respect and civility. Courteous behavior is extremely important by all members and attendees.

To allow all speakers to address their comments to the board, it may be necessary for the board and/or administration to hold any responses until after the conclusion of the public comment period; rather than respond to individual speakers. The board cannot recognize proxies, nor will the board tolerate persons that call out, shout down or disrupt others in attendance during public comment; any person who cannot abide by this will be asked to leave.

The Stafford Township Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest, especially when it is intended to assist the Board of Education.

Please feel free to speak to the Board during the public session. Pursuant to Board Policy 0167, comments and discussion will be limited to one three (3) minute period per individual unless requested by the chairperson to continue on a point of clarification.

Public comment at special meetings of the Board shall be related to the call of the meeting. In accordance with the Board of Education Policy, each participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address and group affiliation, if applicable.

Your anticipated courtesy to the members of the public and the Board is appreciated.

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E. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD

F. BOARD BUSINESS

1. There was one incident of harassment, intimidation, and bullying.
2. To approve BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Stafford Township Board of Education authorizes the School Business Administrator to issue a Bid for Gymnasium Flooring and Installation for Ocean Acres Elementary School for the 2026-2027 school year.
3. To approve the settlement agreement between the Stafford Township Board of Education and petitioners M.M. and L.M. o/b/o G.M., commencing May 4, 2026 or earlier and ending August 30, 2028.
4. To approve to adopt the attached 2026-2027 Stafford Township Board of Education Goals.
5. To approve to adopt the attached 2026-2027 Stafford Township Board of Education District Goals.
6. To approve "A Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials", between the Stafford Township School District and the Stafford Township Police Department dated May 7, 2026 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

NEW BUSINESS**G. FINANCE/INSURANCE/TRANSPORTATION**

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent, school business administrator/board secretary and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached bill list and are satisfied that curriculum related expenditures are directly related to the results of assessment data and that professional development expenditures are directly related to professional development plans.

Board Secretary's Certification:

I, Lourdes LaGuardia, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that no line item has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-A-16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Date

1. To approve for payment of May 2026 bills list totaling \$1,959,862.98 as attached. (G-1)

Fund 10 - \$1,036,713.44

Fund 20 - \$254,580.55

Fund 30 - \$660,813.33

Fund 40 - \$0

Fund 60 - \$0

Fund 61 - \$0

Fund 62 - \$7,755.66

*Note - \$783,737.48 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1a)

*To approve for payment of April 2026 additional bills list totaling \$1,318.14 as attached. (G-1b)

Fund 10 - \$475.39
Fund 20 - \$663.00
Fund 30 - \$0
Fund 40 - \$0
Fund 60 - \$0
Fund 61 - \$0
Fund 62 - \$179.75

*Note - \$663.00 of the amounts listed were made as EFT payments. (G-1c)

2. To approve for payment of payroll
 - a. dated April 15, 2026 totaling \$1,685,405.92
 - b. dated April 30, 2026 totaling \$1,615,144.91
3. To accept the Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2026.
4. To accept the Secretary's Report for the month of March 2026.
5. To approve the attached line item transfers for March 2026.
6. To authorize the Business Administrator to make payment of post-Board meeting bills for the month of May 2026 and to execute mid-cycle contracts such as utilities and out-of-district contracts. Specifics of these transactions, if any, will be provided for ratification at the next regular scheduled board meeting.
7. To approve the attached list of donations.
8. To acknowledge the attached Tax Levy Request Schedule for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$44,138,290.
9. To approve the acceptance of the Local Recreational Improvement Grant for the Ocean Acres Gym Floor in the amount of \$65,700 from June 1, 2026 to June 1, 2028.
10. To approve the attached Shared Service Agreement with Eagleswood Board of Education to provide Transportation Services to Eagleswood on an as needed basis for the 2026-2027 school year, commencing July 1, 2026. Stafford Township will provide student busing, when required, at the cost of \$27.30/hour (this is based on Step 6 of the Stafford Township Education Association Contract) up to 5.5 hours. Stafford Township shall provide transportation services for field trips at a rate of \$25/hour with a 2-hour daily minimum. Stafford Township will provide transportation, when possible, for out of district routes based on the cost of \$27.30/hour up to 5.5 hours. Stafford Township will provide transportation services for Extended School Year (ESY) at a rate of \$27.30/ hour with a 3-hour daily minimum, as needed. For out-of-district bus routes for which

Stafford Township does not have an in-house route, Eagleswood shall contract with Monmouth Ocean Education Services Commission or other districts for the best daily rate. Stafford Township will subject all transportation routes through the bidding process required by law. The SBA will facilitate this process.

11. To approve the attached School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Reports for the Intermediate, McKinley, Ocean Acres, Primary Learning Center and Oxycocus schools, as well as The Learning Experience, Happy Days I & II which took place on May 4, May 5 and May 6, 2026.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

H. BUILDINGS/GROUNDS/CAFETERIA

The Buildings/Grounds/Cafeteria Committee has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the school business administrator/board secretary and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals.

1. To approve the attached Management Shared Services Agreement for Cafeteria Administrative Services with Eagleswood School District for the 2026-2027 school year.
2. To approve the attached Management Shared Services Agreement for Cafeteria Administrative Services with Long Beach Island School District for the 2026-2027 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

I. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION/TECHNOLOGY

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals. In addition, we further certify that we have reviewed the attached professional development request list and are satisfied that each professional development event is directly related to the employee's duties, each event is fiscally prudent (consistent with N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12), that teaching staff requests are aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, and that administrator requests are aligned to the Professional Standards for School Leaders.

1. To approve the professional development requests shown on the attached listing.
2. To approve the attached five-year contract with IXL in the total amount of \$235,000 for a program/on-line tool that will help supplement reading, writing, math, social studies and science curriculum for grades 1-6, commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2031.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

J. PERSONNEL

The following Personnel items were discussed:

Chairperson of the Personnel Committee – Tammy Wagner

Report: The superintendent recommends the board approve/ratify the appointment of the following named individuals who constitute a careful selection and screening of applicants, in accordance with the board/district hiring policies/procedures, and are hereby recommended for an employment contract contingent upon the successful completion of their accredited degree program, New Jersey Department of Education certification requirements, Federal NCLB Highly qualified Teacher requirements, a criminal history clearance and the successful completion of a medical examination as required by the board of education. These initial assignments/appointments may be changed as district needs develop unless otherwise stipulated. The Personnel/Policy Committee has reviewed the following action items, has consulted with the superintendent and other appropriate district

officials, and hereby certifies that the actions being approved are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals.

1. To approve the attached list of substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year.
2. To approve the following retirements:
 - a. Frank Ruggiero, Teacher, effective July 1, 2026
 - b. Annette Bowers, Secretary, effective October 1, 2026
3. To approve the following resignations:
 - a. Lucinda Dunfee, CPA, effective July 1, 2026
 - b. John Quintana, PT Custodian, effective May 18, 2026
 - c. Debra Mancini, Teacher Aide, effective May 13, 2026
 - d. Hayley Oliver, Teacher, effective July 1, 2026
 - e. Jenna Trail, Teacher Aide, effective May 26, 2026
 - f. Employee ID #6991, Teacher, effective July 1, 2026
 - g. Tyler Osborne-Lomax, RBT, effective July 1, 2026
 - h. Sayma Rahman, Teacher Aide, effective June 1, 2026
 - i. Alison Allotta, Nurse, effective July 1, 2026
 - j. Cherie Keene, Teacher Aide, effective July 1, 2026
 - k. Amanda Mendes, Teacher, effective July 1, 2026
 - l. Catherine Longo, Teacher Aide, effective July 1, 2026
 - m. Jaime Tallman, CPA, effective July 1, 2026
4. To approve the following leaves:
 - a. Employee ID #7020, unpaid leave of absence, beginning May 6, 2026 and returning May 11, 2026
 - b. Employee ID #6294, unpaid leave of absence, beginning April 16, 2026 and returning April 17, 2026
 - c. Employee ID #7032, unpaid leave of absence, beginning March 26, 2026 and returning March 27, 2026 AND beginning April 27, 2026 and returning May 4, 2026
 - d. Employee ID #7049, unpaid leave of absence, beginning April 14, 2026 and returning April 15, 2026
 - e. Employee ID #6177, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning September 28, 2026 and returning January 4, 2027
 - f. Employee ID #6177, unpaid contractual child rearing leave, beginning January 4, 2027 and returning February 16, 2027
 - g. Employee ID #6462, unpaid family leave FMLA, beginning September 28, 2026 and returning January 4, 2027
 - h. Employee ID #5048, unpaid family leave FMLA, INTERMITTENT, beginning April 28, 2026 and returning July 1, 2026
 - i. Employee ID #7041, unpaid leave of absence, beginning April 24, 2026 and returning April 27, 2026
 - j. Employee ID #6873, unpaid leave of absence, beginning April 22, 2026 and returning April 23, 2026

- k. Employee ID #6916, unpaid leave of absence, beginning April 21, 2026 and returning April 22, 2026
 - l. Employee ID #6797, unpaid leave of absence, beginning April 21, 2026 and returning April 27, 2026
 - m. Employee ID #6916, unpaid leave of absence, beginning April 29, 2026 and returning April 30, 2026
 - n. Employee ID #6452, unpaid leave of absence, beginning April 30, 2026 and returning May 1, 2026
 - o. Employee ID #6665, unpaid leave of absence, beginning April 30, 2026 and returning May 1, 2026
- 5. To approve the rehire of the attached list of Tenured and Non-Tenured Certified employees for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - 6. To approve the rehire of the attached list of Cafeteria Playground Aides for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - 7. To approve the rehire of the attached list of Teacher Aides for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - 8. To approve the rehire of the attached list of Tenured and Non-Tenured Administrators for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - 9. To approve the rehire of the attached list of Building Mechanics, Maintenance Workers, Custodians and Mail Courier for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - 10. To approve the rehire if the attached list of Tenured and Non-Tenured Non-Affiliated employees for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - 11. To approve the rehire of the attached list of Tenured and Non-Tenured Affiliated Secretaries for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - 12. To approve the rehire of the attached list of Bus Drivers, Bus attendants, and Bus Mechanics for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - 13. To approve a salary increment withholding for the 2026/2027 school year for Employee #6074.
 - 14. To approve to rescind the resignation for Kathleen Rubino for the 2026-2027 school year.
 - 15. To approve the personnel listed below as substitutes for Extra-Curricular and Enrichment Programs for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - a. Lauren Larsen
 - b. Robyn Stivala

16. To approve Kevin DiEugenio as Interim Administrator for the 2026-2027 school year on an as needed basis.
17. To approve the teacher listed as Homebound Instruction teacher for the 2025-2026 school year:
 - a. Natalie Albis
18. To approve the transfers for the attached list of personnel for the 2026-2027 school year.
19. To approve the change of assignment for the attached list of personnel for the 2026-2027 school year.
20. To approve the attached salary increases for the STAA members, beginning July 1, 2026.
21. To approve Shane Devello as Building Mechanic, Intermediate School, beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, Step 6, +BM Stipend, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a non-tenure track leave replacement position.
22. To approve Anthony Marotta as Probationary Part Time Custodian, McKinley Avenue School, beginning July 1, 2026 and ending September 30, 2026, Step 2, pro-rated, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
23. To approve Toni Hem as Music Teacher, Intermediate School, beginning September 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, Step K, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
24. To approve Kaylee Smith as Preschool Teacher, Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center, beginning September 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, Step B, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
25. To approve Koryn Chanda as Elementary School Teacher, Grade 5, Intermediate School, beginning September 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, Step B, +MA, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
26. To approve Natalie Albis as Elementary School Teacher, Grade 5, Intermediate School, beginning September 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, Step B, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.

27. To approve Kristin Puzak as Preschool Teacher, PSD Class, Oxycocus Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, Step C, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
28. To approve Brittany Schork as Elementary School Teacher, Autistic Class, McKinley Avenue Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, Step M, +MA, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
29. To approve Erica Scheinberg as Speech Language Specialist, PENDING CERTIFICATION, Ronald L. Meinders Primary Learning Center/Oxycocus Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, Step B, +MA, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
30. To approve Jennifer McGovern as Elementary School Teacher, Grade 3, McKinley Avenue Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, Step H, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.
31. To approve Jamie Jarka as Elementary School Teacher, Art, Ocean Acres Elementary School, beginning September 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027, Step K, of the Stafford Township Board of Education/STEA Agreement. This is a replacement position.

Employee appointments are provisional pending satisfactory completion of the Criminal History Background Check, Pre-employment P.L. 2018,C.5 Disclosure and Physical Exam Requirements required by the State of New Jersey.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

K. POLICY/LEGISLATIVE

The Committee of the Whole has reviewed the following policies and regulations, has consulted with the board attorney and other appropriate district officials, and hereby certify, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1, that the attached policies and regulations are in compliance with all applicable statutes and administrative code provisions and are consistent with the 2025-2026 board/district goals.

NO ACTION ITEMS

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				

L. ADVANCED PLANNING**M. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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N. BOARD INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

O. CLOSED SESSION (IF NEEDED)

Whereas Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

Whereas, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Stafford Township Board of Education, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action of the hereinafter specified subject matters.

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated subject matters shall be made public at such time as the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exists.

ADJOURNMENT

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Keith Mollema	___	___	___	Kevin Cooney	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Christopher Smith	___	___	___				