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The following items are contained in the May 13, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes:

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6. Superintendent's Report & Principals' Updates
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15. Board Secretary's Financial Reports for March 2026
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17. Report of Receipts and Disbursements for March 2026
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19. Bills and Payroll
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23. Public Comment

24. Executive Session

25. Adjournment

The Regular Meeting of the Margate City Board of Education was called to order at 6:11 P.M. on May 13, 2026 by Board President, Mr. Joseph Pepe, at the Eugene A. Tighe Media Center.

Certification of Notice:

Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary, announced that adequate notice of this meeting had been provided and read the following Certification Notice:

On May 17, 2025, a notice of this meeting was posted on the district website, the bulletin board in the Board of Education Administration Office, the Eugene A. Tighe School, the William H. Ross III School and emailed to the City Clerk and "*The Press*."

<u>Roll Call</u> - Members Present:	Mr. Joseph Pepe; Mr. Jack Sorensen; Mrs. Amy Brog; Mrs. Shannon Wray-Norris; Mrs. Danielle Gomes-Chapman; Mr. Nicholas Palmisano
Members Absent:	Mr. Steve Swift
Others Present:	Mr. Ryan Gaskill, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; Mrs. Samantha Dulude, Principal; Mrs. Bernadette Marino, Principal; Mr. Daniel Brown, Solicitor

Special Recognition - Honor Retiree Sherry Scott:

Mr. Gaskill & Mrs. Dulude recognized Mrs. Sherry Scott on her upcoming retirement. They thanked her for her time in the Margate Schools and the countless number of students she had the pleasure of teaching during her tenure. She is recognized for going above and beyond for her students in not only getting to know them, but by ensuring they were well prepared through her mathematics instruction to make the transition out of the Margate Schools and into High School. She will certainly be missed and it will be incredibly difficult to fill her shoes. The members of the Board also shared success stories from experiences their own children had through Mrs. Scott's math classes. Congratulations on your retirement.

Public Comment:

No members of the community commented.

Fire Drill and Security Drill Report:

Mr. Gaskill distributed the Fire, Security and bus drill reports for Eugene A. Tighe School & William H. Ross School for the month of March 2026 attached as Exhibit # 1, pages 31,215-31,217.

Superintendent's Report & Principals' Updates:

Mr. Ryan Gaskill shared that both schools were in the midst of state testing. He shared that the HIB Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act have been certified for 2024-2025, and they are available on the school's website. He shared some updates regarding facilities projects, including the Ross School roof resurfacing and the beginning of an in-house effort to replace lighting fixtures with LED fixtures. He shared that the district has partnered with the Margate Library and their staff to assist with maintenance and organization within the Ross and Tighe libraries. Lastly, he shared that the prior week was teacher appreciation week and he thanked all the Margate Teachers for the wonderful job they continue to do for our students.

Mrs. Marino shared information on current activities at Ross School.

Mrs. Dulude shared information on current activities at Tighe School.

MEA Update:

Ms. Kelly Crawford congratulated Mrs. Scott on her upcoming retirement.

Personnel Matters:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Personnel matters:

1. Request to approve the 2026 English Language Learners (ELL) Summer School program. The program will run for 16 days (Monday through Thursday) from July 6, 2026 - July 30, 2026. Staff: Tracy Magel. Cost: Not to exceed 48 hours at the MEA contractual rate = \$2,688.00.
2. Approve a medical leave for employee #25100843 beginning on June 22, 2026, with an anticipated return date of July 13, 2026.
3. Approve a medical leave for employee #99524902 effective April 13, 2026, with a revised return date of May 4, 2026.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mrs. Wray-Norris, to table the following matter until after discussion in Executive Session:

4. Approve granting five additional sick days to employee #99524902 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, to approve the following Personnel matters:

5. Approve Nicholas Dunn as a substitute custodian at the per diem work rate of \$18.00 per hour, pending completion of paperwork.
6. Approve Popi Kounis to be the substitute secretary for the Tighe School Main Office effective 7/1/2026-6/30/2027, as needed.
7. Approve the hiring of Randy Lynn Gotlieb and Kathleen Stroyek-Gurman as Substitute Teachers, pending completion of paperwork.
8. Approve the hiring of Savannah Costa as a Substitute Nurse for the Margate City School District, pending completion of paperwork.
9. Approve the list of rehires and staff salaries of 10-month and 12-month staff for the 2026-2027 school year, attached as Exhibit # 2, pages 31,218-31,220.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Instructional Support/Activities:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Instructional requests:

1. Approve Ryan Gaskill and Samantha Dulude to attend the Atlantic County Academic Luncheon with two Tighe School Students in May. The District will also be transporting select Ventnor School District Staff and Students to this event. Cost: 4 attendees @ \$29.00 each= \$116.00. Transportation: District School Bus.
2. Approve the NJHS to host Our Children Making Change Opening Ceremony in June. Staff: Natasa Coughlin and Jamie Bean.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Field Trips:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Field Trip requests:

Field Trips (Continued):

1. Approve Rizzo's Reptile's Wildlife Program to visit 1st Grade in May. Staff: Theresa Brennan and Nicole Schwegman. Cost: Wildlife Program = \$875.00. Pizza and snacks = \$128.00. Total Cost: \$1,003.00.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Workshops:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Workshop matters:

1. Approve the attendance of Melina Skwarek and Colleen Culmone at the 2026 Consultative Transportation Meeting for Atlantic County Public, Charter, and Nonpublic Schools, on May 28, 2026. Cost: N/A.
2. Approve the attendance of Melina Skwarek and Colleen Culmone at the Strauss Esmay Educational Policy & School Law Seminar, on May 29, 2026. Cost: N/A.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Students:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes Chapman, to approve the following Student requests:

1. Approve to confirm and uphold the findings of HIB Investigation R02-202526.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Contracts:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Contract requests:

1. Approve a professional services contract with Therascend Services to provide Special Education Related Services for the Margate City School District from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Contracts (Continued):

2. Approve a professional services contract with Educational Consultants of NJ, LLC to provide Special Education Related Services including independent bilingual and monolingual evaluations as needed for the Margate City School District from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
3. Approve a professional services contract with Bayada Home Health Care, Inc, to provide Student Nursing Services for the Margate City School District from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
4. Approve a professional services contract with Kimberly A. Vona, to provide Special Education Related Services for the Margate City School District from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
5. Approve a professional services contract with IPTA - Practically Perfect Physical Therapy Consulting, LLC, to provide Special Education Related Services for the Margate City School District from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
6. Approve the proposal for non-certified staffing services through Delta-T Group, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, as needed, (Educational Services Commission of New Jersey - ESCNJ #20/21-30) at the following rates:

Custodian	\$30.00/hour
Black Seal Custodian	\$35.00/hour
Educational Assistant	\$30.00/hour
7. Approve a professional services contract with The Stepping Stones Group, to provide Special Education Related Services for the Margate City School District from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
8. Approve a contract without competitive bidding as a Professional Services Contract pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.3 (c) (11) and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a)1, with Coskey Electronic Systems, for lighting design and engineering services associated with the Tighe School Performing Arts Center (PAC) lighting system project, at a cost of \$18,600.00.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, the board unanimously agreed to accept the April 15, 2026, Regular Session Minutes.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Financial Reports:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to accept the Secretary's Financial Reports for the month of March 2026 as attached to these minutes and certifying that no budgetary account has

Financial Reports Continued):

been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(a). See Exhibit # 3, pages 31,221 - 31,244. The Secretary's Reports agree with the Report of Receipts and Disbursements.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Board of Education Certification:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11, the Margate City Board of Education certifies that as of March 31, 2026 after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Reports (Revenue and Appropriation Sections) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge there have been no changes in anticipated revenue sources and/or amounts and no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)2-3 so that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Report of Receipts and Disbursements:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to accept the Report of Receipts and Disbursements for the month of March 2026, attached as Exhibit # 4, pages 31,245 – 31,257.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Cash Report:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to accept the Cash Report for the month of March 2026, attached as Exhibit # 5, page 31,258.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the payment of bills and payrolls, as listed on Exhibit # 6, pages 31,259 - 31,290.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Transfer of Funds:

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Transfer of Funds:

Transfer of Funds within the General Current Expense Account

Ratified Budget Transfers for 2025-2026

TO:	20-280-100-600-00-00-010	TITLE IV SUPPLIES	\$3.68
	11-000-223-500-00-00	ROSS POSTER PRINTER	\$150.00
	11-000-240-600-00-01-010	SCHOOL ADMIN SUPPLIES	\$2,000.00
	12-120-100-730-00-00	NETWORK HARDWARE	\$4,800.00
	12-130-100-730-00-00	NETWORK HARDWARE	\$2,600.00
	30-000-400-450-54-01	EAT BOND - FLOORING	\$6,061.76
		TOTAL	\$15,615.44
FROM:	20-280-100-600-00-00-025	TITLE IV SUPPLIES	\$3.68
	11-000-223-320-00-00-010	ROSS POSTER PRINTER	\$150.00
	11-000-240-105-00-00-010	SCHOOL ADMIN SUPPLIES	\$2,000.00
	12-000-400-450-00-00-025	NETWORK HARDWARE	\$4,800.00

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following New Business:

- A. Approve the designation of an off-site emergency parent-student reunification location in coordination with Atlantic County and an authorized host facility. The specific location and related operational details shall be maintained as confidential and excluded from public disclosure pursuant to the security exemptions under the Open Public Records Act (OPRA), N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1.
- B. WHEREAS, NJAC 6A:23A-14.3 and 6A:23A-14.4 permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and
WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to transfer unanticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts and
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Margate City Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district to establish a Tuition Reserve Account consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.
- C. Approve the use of the Margate School District 54-passenger vehicle by the Margate Recreation Department during the Summer 2026 for the activities listed below. The vehicle will be operated by Margate Recreation CDL certified employees John Zaccardi, Donald Mattessich and Joe Cacia.
 - a. Thursday, July 9, 2026 Tilton Square Theater
 - b. Friday, July 10, 2026 Granville Ave. Beach
 - c. Tuesday, July 14, 2026 Kingpin Bowling
 - d. Friday, July 17, 2026 Granville Ave. Beach
 - e. Thursday, July 23, 2026 CMC Zoo
 - f. Friday, July 24, 2026 Granville Ave. Beach
 - g. Monday, July 27, 2026 OC Waterpark
 - h. Tuesday, July 28, 2026 OC Music Pier
 - i. Friday, July 31, 2026 Granville Ave. Beach
- D. Approve the partnership and donation of time and material from the Margate City Public Library, who will provide assistance and materials for the libraries in the Margate School District.
- E. Approve the first reading of the following policy revision:
 - a. Policy 8605 - Aid in Lieu of Transportation

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Other Matters:

- A. Approve the application submissions to Atlantic City Electric for the ACE Energy Efficiency Commercial & Industrial Program, in coordination with Bright Idea LED, for Prescriptive Lighting Rebates on LED lighting fixtures for Tighe School.
- B. Approve and confirm the attendance of Matt Burton and Melina Skwarek at the annual NJSBGA Conference. Cost: \$700.00 registration fee
- C. Approve the attendance of Melina Skwarek and Colleen Culmone at the Spell JIF Annual Safety 360 Seminar in July. Cost: Fees sponsored by the JIF
- D. Approve the following staff members to work during the Title I Basic Skills Summer School program during the Summer of 2026 at the contracted hourly rate per the MEA contract from July 6, 2026, through July 30, 2026 (16 days). *The positions are based on student needs and participation and are subject to change.* Rates subject to change based on MEA Contract. Staff hours will not exceed 4.5 hours per day based on student participation.

Total Anticipated Cost: \$15,232.00

Teaching Staff: Anita Grimley, Natasa Coughlin, Veronica Valencia, Louis Sanchez, Lora Blanco, Kristie Cafiero, Amber Fitzgerald

Substitute Teaching BSI: Chelsi Crompton

- E. Approve the following staff members to work during the Extended School Year program during the Summer of 2026 at the contracted hourly rate per the MEA contract from July 6, 2026, through July 30, 2026 (16 days). *The positions are based on student IEP needs and are subject to change. Positions are based on student participation and are subject to change.* Rates subject to change based on MEA Contract. Staff hours will not exceed 4.5 hours per day based on student participation.

Total Anticipated Cost: \$21,142.64

Teaching Staff: Anita Grimley, Danielle Ujcich, Louis Sanchez, Lora Blanco, Kristie Cafiero

Preschool Teaching: Chrissy Campbell

1:1 Teaching: Sherry Stolarski

Substitute Teaching ESY: Chelsi Crompton

Education Assistant: Edith Hoerner

Speech Therapist: Stephanie Moran

OT/PT: continue yearly contracted services as needed with district approved providers

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Public Comment:

No members of the community commented.

Upon motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, the board unanimously approved the following resolution at 6:37 P.M.:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 requires adoption of a resolution of the Board to go into Executive Session;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, New Jersey Title 18A and the Margate City Board of Education Bylaw No. 9322 hereby enters Executive Session to discuss the following matters:

- Personnel & Superintendent Evaluation
- Contract Negotiations

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of this Executive Session shall be made public following formal action by the Board and/or at the conclusion of any investigation(s), due process proceeding, or litigation, so long as not prohibited by law and so long as the need for maintaining confidentiality no longer exists. No formal action shall be taken.

Upon motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mrs. Brog, the board unanimously agreed to reconvene the regular meeting at 7:33 P.M.

Personnel (Continued):

Motion by Mrs. Brog seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the following Personnel Matter:

4. Approve granting five additional sick days to employee #99524902 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion did not pass by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mr. Pepe

Nays: Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mrs. Brog, Mr. Sorensen

Abstentions: N/A

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Mrs. Brog, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melina Skwarek
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator