**BUSINESS MEETING** May 14, 2026

The Business Meeting of the Stafford Township Board of Education was held on May 14, 2026 at 7:02pm at the Stafford Township Arts Center (STAC) and was live streamed over the web.

## 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

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|---|---|
| Brian Fenlon | Member (Remote) |
| Gregory Gioe | Member (Absent) |
| Keith Mollema | Member |
| Matthew Regulski | Member (Absent) |
| Christopher Smith | Member (Absent) |
| Bonnie Strouse | Member |
| Joseph Washco | Member |
| Kevin Cooney | Vice President (Absent) |
| 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

- Mrs. Roselli recognized the students and staff involved in two successful school-based cafe programs, highlighting the development of teamwork, communication, and real-world vocational skills: Students and staff in Mrs. Halloran's and Ms. Barry's classes were commended for their outstanding work in creating and operating the Iguana Cafe. Students gained valuable independent living skills by managing the entire process, including menu planning, shopping, and preparing and serving breakfast items. Students and staff in Mrs. Hahl's class were recognized for operating the Mustang Cafe/Cart for school staff. Students took on

key responsibilities such as organizing the cafe space, preparing coffee, assisting customers, and delivering orders. Mrs. Roselli expressed immense pride in the students' hard work, growing independence, and positive impact on the school community. She also extended her sincere appreciation to the dedicated staff members who go above and beyond daily to support these programs and ensure their success.

~McKinley Student and Staff Recognition

- Mrs. Eberle and Mrs. Aliseo recognized a student for his outstanding essay nominating his teacher, Mrs. Adanatzian, for Applebee's Above and "BEE"yond Educator Award. In his essay, Henry shared how Mrs. Adanatzian inspires her students to "never give up and keep trying." He described how she makes learning exciting and engaging through creative games and themed activities, especially during "Camp Day," when students played educational games while pretending to go camping. Henry also highlighted how caring, supportive, and motivating Mrs. Adanatzian is to all of her students. Thanks to Henry's thoughtful and well-written nomination, Mrs. Adanatzian was selected as the recipient of Applebee's Above and "BEE"yond Educator Award.

~Ocean Acres Student and Staff Recognition

- Mrs. D'Alessandro recognized STEAM Tank and explained how it is an opportunity for student teams to identify situations that require innovative solutions to reimagine and redesign New Jersey communities, so they are sustainable, healthy, equitable, and safe for everyone. From sustainability and technology to community care and social impact, these young innovators brought forward ideas that truly reflect the spirit of STEAM education. More than 430 K-12 STEAM teams from across New Jersey presented their innovative solutions to real-world problems, impressing judges with their creativity, critical thinking, and passion for making a difference. Congratulations to two students on advancing to the final round of the STEAM Tank Challenge 2026! They created Minknetics, the Mag Board. A magnetic device to help children learn to skateboard. Also, congratulations to Mrs. Watson, STEAM teacher, for assisting these students in achieving this milestone.

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

- Mrs. Ducker presented in accordance with the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights and NJSA 18A:17-46 all school districts are required to complete the annual HIB self-assessment for each school building, and submit these scores to the NJDOE in October. In April we received our official HIB grade report, school districts must post the official grade report to the school website and publicly

review the grades received by the NJDOE at a BOE meeting. The public review is an opportunity for the Board of Education and the public to learn about the district's implementation of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights and address any concerns. The following scores were received, Intermediate 77, McKinley 7, Ocean Acres 78, PLC 76, Oxycocus 76. The overall grade assigned to STSD is 77.

## 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

## D. COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

None

## E. CORRESPONDENCE TO AND FROM THE BOARD

None

## 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.

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mrs. Strouse to approve Board Business item(s) #1-6. Roll call vote: five (5) members present voted yes; motion passed.

## 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.

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mrs. Strouse to approve Finance/Insurance/Transportation item(s) #1-11. Roll call vote: five (5) members present voted yes; motion passed.

## 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.

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mrs. Strouse to approve Buildings/Grounds/Cafeteria item(s) #1-2. Roll call vote: five (5) members present voted yes; motion passed.

## 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.

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mrs. Strouse to approve Curriculum/Instruction/Technology item(s) #1-2. Roll call vote: five (5) members present voted yes; motion passed.

## 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.***

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mrs. Strouse to approve Personnel item(s) #1-31. Roll call vote: five (5) members present voted yes; motion passed.

## 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

## L. ADVANCED PLANNING

- June 11, 2026 – Committee of the Whole Meeting at 6:00pm at Oxycocus Elementary School
- June 11, 2026 – Business Meeting at 7:00pm at Oxycocus Elementary School

## M. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## N. BOARD INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

## O. CLOSED SESSION

None

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Washco and seconded by Mrs. Strouse to adjourn the meeting at 7:29pm. Voice vote: All members present voted yes (5-0); motion passed.

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Lourdes LaGuardia
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

LL/km/5-23-2026