

THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 25, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

N.J. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act the Woodland Park Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on the door of the Woodland Park Board of Education Administration Building and was provided to the North Jersey Record & Herald News

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

Present: Kim Galbraith, David Amanullah, Jamie Zummo, Mark Salemi, Glen Grimes

Not Present: Shannon Marren, Andrew Mingione, Gina McQuin, Julissa Rodriguez

Also Present: Michele Pillari, Aleksandar Kondovski, Aron Mandel

PRESENTATION: Dedication & Naming of Memorial Gym

Several community members spoke about Lou Taylor and the numerous contributions he made to the town. They all think renaming Memorial's gym is a fitting tribute to honor Mr. Taylor.

226-258 - APPROVAL OF MEMORIAL GYM DEDICATION & NAMING

Motion by: SALEMI, Seconded by: AMANULLAH

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the dedication and naming of Memorial School Gym, in honor of Lou Taylor.

Roll Call: 5 YES

PUBLIC HEARING-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Please remember that this is a public meeting. Anything you say will be public record. As a result, pursuant to law, the Board Members cannot respond to you publicly concerning certain matters, such as those regarding an individual student. If there is a matter that you wish to remain private concerning personnel or students, please contact the Superintendent's office. In accordance with Bylaw 0167, statements will be limited to 3 minutes in duration.

No one wished to be heard.

226-259 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by: SALEMI, Seconded by: AMANULLAH

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2026 regular meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the Executive Session minutes of the February 9, 2026 regular meetings.

Roll Call: 5 YES

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Memorial

Random Acts of Kindness Week (Feb. 9–13): Students and staff participated in activities promoting empathy, positivity, and a supportive school culture.

House Event – Kindness & Caring (Feb. 13): Students engaged in house-based activities centered on kindness, compassion, and community building.

In-House Honor Roll Ceremony (Feb. 17): We recognized and celebrated students for their academic achievements and dedication to excellence.

Memorial Data Team Meeting (Feb. 19): Staff collaborated to analyze student performance data and refine instructional strategies to support achievement.

Faculty Learning Time – HIB Refresher (Feb. 26): Staff participated in professional development reinforcing HIB protocols and best practices for student support.

Matilda the Musical Performances (Feb. 26–28): Our students delivered outstanding performances, showcasing their talent, creativity, and hard work.

Pi Day House Event (Mar. 13): Students celebrated Pi Day through engaging, math-focused house activities that made learning fun and interactive.

Superstitions Dance (Mar. 13): Hosted by the HSA, this well-attended event provided students with a fun and engaging social experience.

STRIVE Event – Geography Bee (Mar. 17): Students proudly represented Memorial at North Haledon, demonstrating strong knowledge and academic competitiveness.

Coming Up for AIR Parent Presentation (Mar. 18): Families received important information and resources focused on adolescent mental health and suicide prevention.

Coming Up for AIR Student Assembly (Mar. 23): 7th and 8th grade students participated in an impactful presentation on mental health and suicide awareness, featuring a therapy dog.

STRIVE Event – AI Super Heroes (Mar. 23): Students explored innovative applications of artificial intelligence through a collaborative and engaging learning experience.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Mr. Kondovski thanked everyone for their help in putting the Budget together.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The following items have been deemed to be non-controversial in a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion. Motion by: GALBRAITH Seconded by AMANULLAH to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following consent agenda numbers 226-260 through 226-264.

Roll Call: 5 YES

226-260 - SECRETARY/TREASURER/TRANSFER REPORTS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, receives and accepts the attached reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the month of February 2026 “Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6: 20-2.12©, we certify that as of February 28, 2026 the Board Secretary’s monthly financial reports (appropriations section) did not reflect any over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, and based on the appropriation balances reflected on this report and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year”

226-261 - APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the attached list of bills in the amount of \$932,820.73, approved by finance committee chairperson.

<u>Bill List No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
#75	\$802,073.51
#76	\$ 9,488.44
L76	\$121,258.78

226-262-HIB DECISION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, hereby affirms the Superintendent’s decision in HIB Investigation #2026-21, 2026-22, & 2026-23, for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent’s decision to the student’s parents.

226-263-APPROVAL OF NEW SUBSTITUTE LIST

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the new substitute list for March of the 2025-2026 school year, as per the Northern Regional Educational Services Commission (NRESC).

226-264-ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to accept a donation of 44 books, in honor of Read Across America Week, from Woodland Park Board of Ed member, Shannon Marren.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

PERSONNEL:

The following personnel items have been deemed to be non-controversial in a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion. Any item deemed controversial can be removed and voted on as a separate agenda item.

Motion by ZUMMO Seconded by AMANULLAH to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following personnel agenda numbers 226-265 through 226-271.

Roll Call: 5 YES

226-265 - APPROVAL OF MEDICAL LEAVE – V. GALLO

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve medical leave, under the Federal Family Leave Act, for Vincenza Gallo, from 4/13/26-6/8/26, using accumulated sick days. Expected return to work, 6/9/26.

226-266 - APPROVAL OF LEAVE EXTENSION – M. PIEDRA

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve leave of absence extension for Monica Piedra, for the 2026-2027 school year, with no pay or benefits. Expected return to work, September 2027.

226-267 – RATIFY APPROVAL OF MEDICAL LEAVE EXTENSION – E. WILSON

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to ratify approval of medical leave of absence extension for Erin Wilson, effective 1/5/26-6/30/26, with no pay or benefits. Expected return to work, September 2026.

226-268 - ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION – Y. MOHAMED

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to accept the resignation of Yomna Mohamed, elementary teacher, effective June 30, 2026.

226-269 - RATIFY APPROVAL OF PAID ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to ratify approval of paid administrative leave for employee ID #4480, effective 3/12/26 – until further notice.

226-270-APPROVAL OF STAFF STIPENDS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve stipend payments for the 2025-2026 school year, retroactive to 9/5/25. in accordance with current WPEA contract, as listed:

Title	School	Name	Amount
Bus Supervisor	CO	Crismari Rosario	\$1,750

226-271-WORKSHOP/TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT APPROVAL

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve/ratify approval the attendance of and costs of attendance including registration fees and statutorily authorized travel expenditures for the following listed district employees for the 2025-2026 school year.

Name	Activity	Date	Fee	Travel/Hotel	Total
Aleksandar Kondovski	NJASBO Annual Conference	6/2-6/5 2026	\$500	Approx \$624	\$1,124
Jamie Casasnovas Mireya Gutierrez Giovanna Irizarry	NJPIEP Preschool Inclusive Leadership	4/23/26	\$45	NA	\$135
Eleftheria Hondros Krystina Reilly Venous Gunasekera Michele Brunini	Implementing Math Strategies K-8	3/26/26	\$150/ea	\$15/ea	\$660
Cheryl Eustic	AI for SpEd Team & Demystifying Assessments	2/27/26	NA	\$8.94	\$8.94
Janel DeLuca	Culturally Responsive Practice	2/3/26	NA	NA	NA
Sabrina Qanaah	One Team, Many Strengths	3/27/26	NA	\$12.22	\$12.22

Nora DiBona	Empower Engage Elevate	3/16/26	\$175	\$23.57	\$198.57
Elis Francisco	2026 NJ Pyramid Model Conference	3/6/26	NA	NA	NA
Thomas Bolen	NJBGA Conference 2026	3/23-3/25 2026	\$350	Approx \$350	\$700
Jessica Mastropaolo	NJASA/NJSBA Women's Leadership	4/22/26	\$75	\$53.60	\$128.60
Sabrina Qanaah Courtney Ramirez	2026 NJSHA Annual Convention	4/16/26	\$320/ea	\$25.38/ea	\$690.76
Gabrielle Lambert	Using Positive Guidance for Inclusive Collaborative Classroom	3/3/26	NA	NA	NA
Elis Francisco	NJASA/NJSBA Women's Leadership	4/22/26	\$75	NA	\$75

EDUCATION:

226-272-APPROVAL OF 2026 EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAM

Motion by: GALBRAITH, Seconded by: AMANULLAH

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the Extended School Year Program(ESY) (autistic preschool, child with disabilities and LLD) in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.3 (C). Preschool disabilities & LLD- July 6, 2026- July 30, 2026, Autism – July 6, 2026-August 13, 2026. Programs are Monday-Thursday 9:00am-12:00pm, to be held in Charles Olbon School. (Personnel and costs to be voted on at a later date)

Roll Call: 5 YES

FINANCE:

The following finance items have been deemed to be non-controversial in a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion. Any item deemed controversial can be removed and voted on as a separate agenda item.

Motion by SALEMI Seconded by AMANULLAH to accept the recommendation of the Business Administrator to approve the following finance agenda numbers 226-273 through 226-281.

Roll Call: 5 YES

226-273-ADOPTION OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2026-2027 School Year using the 2026-2027 state aid figures and the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Debt Service	TOTAL
2026-2027 Total Expenditures	\$24,519,756	\$4,111,329	\$ 503,750	\$29,134,835
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$ 4,400,234	\$4,111,329	\$ 0.00	\$ 8,511,563
Taxes to be Raised	\$20,119,522	- 0 -	\$ 503,750	\$20,623,272

And to post said tentative budget on the district's website and to advertise said tentative budget in the Herald/Record News in accordance with the form required by the State Department of Education and according to law and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held at the Woodland Park Municipal Building located at 5 Brophy Lane on April 29th at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2026-2027 School Year.

226-274-ADJUSTMENT FOR HEALTH CARE COSTS 2026-2027

BE IT RESOLVED that the Woodland Park Board of Education includes in the final 2026-2027 budget, the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$339,366. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums.

226-275 - CAPITAL RESERVE WITHDRAWAL-OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodland Park Board of Education includes in the tentative 2026-2027 budget a withdrawal from Capital Reserve in the amount of \$500,000 for the purpose of partial roof replacement at the Charles Olbon School, which represents expenditures for a school facilities project consistent with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.1; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the district will seek approval of the withdrawal as part of the 2026-2027 budget submission to the New Jersey Department of Education.

226-276-TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT 2026-2027

WHEREAS, the Woodland Park Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the Woodland Park Board of Education established \$60,000 as the maximum travel amount for the current school year and has expended \$550 as of this date; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, to a maximum expenditure of \$60,000 for the 2026-2027 school year.

226-277 - APPROVAL OF THE 2026-2027 PRESCHOOL EXPANSION AID BUDGET

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has designated the district to receive Preschool Education Aid (PEA) for the 2026-2027 school year;

WHEREAS, the district has developed a 2026-2027 District Budget Planning Workbook and Operational Plan in accordance with the 2026-2027 NJDOE Preschool Expansion Notice of Funding Opportunity;

WHEREAS, the total projected PEA budget for the 2026-2027 school year is \$3,194,150;

WHEREAS, this budget supports the implementation of high-quality preschool elements, including contracted providers, specialized staff, and required instructional materials;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodland Park Board of Education approves the submission of the 2026-2027 Preschool Education Aid budget to the NJDOE for approval.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the School Business Administrator and the Chief School Administrator to submit the final approved budget and any necessary revisions to the Executive County Superintendent on behalf of the district.

226-278-APPROVAL OF 2024-2025 SEMI CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

BE IT RESOLVED by the Woodland Park Board of Education to approve the submission and acceptance of the Special Education Medicaid Incentive (SEMI) program Corrective Action Plan for 2024-2025 school year to the NJDOE, to document steps to be taken to improve compliance and parent participation in the program.

226-279-RATIFY APPROVAL OF CONTRACT – SILVERGATE PREP

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to ratify approval of contract with Silvergate Prep, to provide homebound instruction for student ID #35165, 10 hrs. per week, at \$40/hr., effective 3/11/2026-approximately 5/8/2026.

226-280-RATIFY APPROVAL OF CONTRACT – CCBH INC.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to ratify approval of contract with CCBH, Inc., to provide home instruction to student ID#33411, at \$99/hr., up to 10 hours per week, retroactive to March 12, 2026 –June 30, 2026.

226-281-RATIFY APPROVAL OF CONTRACT – LEARN WELL

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to ratify approval of contract with LearnWell, to provide educational instruction for student ID #34867, 5 hrs. per week, at \$63/hr., plus 1 hour prep for every 3 hours of instruction time, at \$63/hr., effective 3/16/2026-approx. 5/8/2026.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:

226-282- DISPOSAL OF DAMAGED, UNUSABLE/UNSAFE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT

Motion by ZUMMO Seconded by AMANULLAH

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve disposal of assorted damaged, unusable/unsafe furniture & equipment, as per attached list.

Roll Call: 5 YES

PUBLIC HEARING

Please remember that this is a public meeting. Anything you say will be public record. As a result, pursuant to law, the Board Members cannot respond to you publicly concerning certain matters, such as those regarding an individual student. If there is a matter that you wish to remain private concerning personnel or students, please contact the Superintendent's office. In accordance with Bylaw 0167, statements will be limited to 3 minutes in duration.

No one wished to be heard.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

The Open Public Meeting Act, authorizes a public body to meet in Executive or Private Session under limited circumstances and WHEREAS said law requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting before it can meet in such Executive or Private Session. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF WOODLAND PARK THAT:

- 1) It does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in Executive Session to discuss a personnel and/or litigation matter or contract matter.
- 2) The matter(s) discussed will be made public when confidentiality is no longer required.
- 3) Meeting will be resumed at conclusion of Executive Session.
- 4) The board does/does not expect to take action after Executive Session.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 7:41 p.m. by SALEMI, seconded by AMANULLAH
Voice Vote: 5 YES

Motion to return to Regular Session at 8:22 p.m. by SALEMI, seconded by GALBRAITH
Voice Vote: 5 YES

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. by SALEMI, Seconded by GALBRAITH
Voice Vote: 5 YES

WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION **EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- Superintendent discussed HIB case #'s 2026-24, 2026-25, 2026-26
- Board discussed personnel matters

Respectfully Submitted,

Aleksandar Kondovski
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary