READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Holland Brook School
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
March 10, 2026

MINUTES

Mission Statement: We empower members of our community to lead purposeful lives with integrity, to cultivate a spirit of discovery, and to embrace connections in our diverse, global society.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT – OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mr. Rizza called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6-21) and was open to the media and public. Notices were duly posted, and the meeting was advertised in the Courier News and TAPinto.
Effective March 1, 2026, all legal notices and board meeting dates shall only be posted on the district website in conformity with state code. Formal action was taken.

Present: Mrs. Cassidy, Mrs. DePinto, Mrs. Fiore, Mr. Lopes, Mr. Pieros, Mrs. Rad, Mrs. Ryan, Mr. Rizza

Also Present: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent, Mr. Jason M. Bohm, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Absent: Mrs. Mencer

Mrs. Mencer arrived at 7:17 p.m.

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD

- Three Readington Middle School students provided a district update on winter sports. They also reported the marking period 4 updates on math, science, ELA and civics.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Hart recognized students from Readington Middle School for the AMTNJ Competition where they came in 3rd overall in the State of New Jersey, with several students receiving high praise. Mrs. Goodfellow, RMS School Counselor, presented the students and thanked RMS teachers for their hard work with the students to achieve the results.
- Dr. Hart and Mr. Bohm presented on the 2026-2027 budget including timelines and pressures from health cap and other aspects.

V. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (LIMITED TO ACTION ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)

- A resident expressed her concerns about our transportation budget with diesel and gas prices going up. She recommended electric buses should be incorporated into our fleet.
- A resident had questions regarding student enrollment projections with the increasing developments being built in our district.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

- Many Emails Received - Align Policy 2535 with New Jersey Freedom to Read Law
- Email C. H. - A Call for Collaboration and Respect
- Email T. C. - Disruptive Attendee
- Email C. F. - Policy & Regulation 2535
- Email K. D. - Public Comment
- Email C. B. - Freedom to Read
- Email E. G. - Policy 2535
- Email J. M. - Regulation 2535
- Email M. M. - Regulation 2535
- Email R. Q. - Freedom to Read
- Email T. C. - Thanks to BOE
- Email T. C. - Policy 2535

- Email L. B. - Please Align Policy 2535
- Email M. W. - Friday's Play

VII. BOARD ACTION

A. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Motion to adopt 1.01 - 1.02
Motion: Mrs. Mencer **2nd: Mr. Lopes** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

1.01 Motion to approve Enrollment and Drill Reports February 2026.
(Attachment 1.01)

1.02 Motion to accept the HIB reports and affirm the Superintendent's decision:

CASE NUMBER	SCHOOL	DATE	FINDING OF HARASSMENT INTIMIDATION OR BULLYING
2	RMS	01/12/2026	No
3	HBS	01/13/2026	No

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Motion to adopt 2.01 - 2.02
Motion: Mrs. Rad **2nd: Mrs. DePinto** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

2.01 Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes February 10, 2026.

2.02 Motion to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes February 10, 2026.

C. FINANCE/FACILITIES

Committee Report: Mrs. Mencer provided minutes of the meeting held on March 5, 2026.

3. Motion to adopt 3.01 - 3.13
Motion: Mrs. Mencer **2nd: Mrs. DePinto** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**
(Mrs. Rad abstained from 3.08 only)

3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **February 12, 2026, through March 11, 2026** for a total amount of **$4,048,603.12.**
(Attachment 3.01)

3.02 Motion to approve the **Travel Expenditures March 10, 2026** in the amount of **$295.00**.
(Attachment 3.02)

3.03 Motion to ratify and approve **Payroll and Agency** for the month of **January 2026** for a total amount of **$2,492,495.48.**
(Attachment 3.03)

3.04 Motion to ratify and approve the following **Account Transfers for January 1, 2026 through January 31, 2026.**
(Attachment 3.04-3.04a)

3.05 Motion to ratify and approve the **Student Activities Account for January 1, 2026 through January 31, 2026**
(Attachment 3.05-3.05a)

3.06 Motion to accept the FINANCIAL REPORT CERTIFICATION OF BOARD SECRETARY'S MONTHLY CERTIFICATION BUDGETARY LINE ITEM STATUS January 31, 2026 pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that as of January 31, 2026 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9 and 18A:22-8.1.

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Jason M. Bohm, Board Secretary

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 and 4, we certify that as of January 31, 2026 after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A23A-16.10(a)1 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, and further, that we approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports subject to audit for the period ending January 31, 2026.
(Attachment 3.06-3.06a)

3.07 **WHEREAS,** the voters of Readington passed the Referendum on November 4, 2025 in the amount of $38,047,117.00; and

WHEREAS, the district included preschool playground replacements and upgrades in the list of qualifying projects in the Referendum; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Readington Township Board of Education approves River Valley Landscapes to furnish rubberized surface and remove several pieces for existing preschool playground at
Whitehouse School in the amount of $99,200.00 through state contract #T0103/16-FLEET-00133/24-FOOD-118207 and OMNIA National Coop Contract #R220203/R#22-02; and

FURTHER, the Readington Township Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator to submit any qualifying costs to the State of New Jersey for 40% reimbursement by the State of New Jersey.
(Attachment 3.07)

3.08 **WHEREAS,** the voters of Readington passed the Referendum on November 4, 2025 in the amount of $38,047,117.00; and

WHEREAS, the district included track replacements and upgrades in the list of qualifying projects in the Referendum; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Readington Township Board of Education approves American Athletic to replace and update the track at Holland Brook School in the amount of $1,374,831.00 through state contract #ESCNJ24/25-40; and

FURTHER, the Readington Township Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator to submit any qualifying costs to the State of New Jersey for 40% reimbursement by the State of New Jersey.
(Attachment 3.08)

3.09 **WHEREAS,** the voters of Readington passed the Referendum on November 4, 2025 in the amount of $38,047,117.00; and

WHEREAS, the district requires bond counsel and financial advisors to sell debt relating to the referendum and previously board approved professional services relationships with Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. and Phoenix Advisors for the 2025-2026 school year; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Readington Township Board of Education approves the agreements with Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. to issue bonds and Phoenix Advisors for financing, per attached,

FURTHER, the Readington Township Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator to submit any qualifying costs to the State of New Jersey for 40% reimbursement by the State of New Jersey.
(Attachment 3.09)

3.10 Motion to authorize the sale and issuance of the bonds for the Referendum passed by the public on November 4, 2025 in the amount of $38,047,117.00 per the attachment.
(Attachment 3.10)

3.11 Motion to approve the following resolution: Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is the owner of certain surplus property which is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Board is desirous of selling said surplus property in an "as-is" condition without express or implied Warranties;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Readington Township Board of Education as follows:(1) The sale of the surplus property shall be conducted through GovDeals pursuant to State Contract A-70967/T2481 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the State Contract. The terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with GovDeals is available online at govdeals.com and also available from the Board of Education. (2) The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is govdeals.com. (3) 3 The sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-9. (4) A listing of the surplus property to be sold is attached.
(attachment 3.11)

3.12 **WHEREAS**, on October 15, 2024 the Readington Township Board of Education awarded a solar agreement with EZNergy, a 15-year power purchase agreement ("PPA") with no impact to the tax levy but allowing for large infrastructure upgrades at all 4 school buildings and to lower utility bills for the next 25 years based on warranty periods; and

WHEREAS, EZNergy desires to assign the existing PPA contract to Solect Energy with modifications; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVEDED, the Readington Township Board of Education approves the assignment of PPA contract to Solect Energy with modifications of terms and conditions per the attachment and authorizing the Business Administrator to effectuate such.
(Attachment 3.12)

3.13 Motion to accept the SEMI alternate reimbursement revenue for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of $9,294.83 in accordance with the N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5(c)2.
(Attachment 3.13)

D. EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY

Committee Report: None

4. Motion to adopt 4.01 - 4.10
Motion: Mr. Lopes **2nd: Mrs. DePinto** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

4.01 Motion to approve the attached updated field trip lists for Whitehouse School, Three Bridges School, and Readington Middle School for the 2025-2026 school year.
(Attachment 4.01)

4.02 Motion to approve the attached updated HSA fundraisers for the 2025-2026 school year.
(Attachment 4.02)

4.03 Motion to approve the following fundraiser for the 2025-2026 school year:

SCHOOL	FUNDRAISER	RECIPIENT
Whitehouse School	Team Au-some T-Shirts	ARC of Hunterdon

4.04 Motion to amend motion 4.02 from the December 9, 2025 agenda for the following student placement in the Readington Township School District as follows:

STUDENT NAME	UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE PLACEMENT REQUEST	SCHOOL/COOPERATING TEACHER	EFFECTIVE DATES
Jennifer Monteiro	Centenary University/ Student Teacher	Readington Middle School/ From: Shaina Mirsky & Victoria Fulmer To: Shaina Mirsky &	01/20/2026 - 05/11/2026

		Paul Yunos	

4.05 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following student placements in the Readington Township School District as follows:

STUDENT NAME	UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE PLACEMENT REQUEST	SCHOOL/COOPERATING TEACHER	EFFECTIVE DATES
Gina Nelessen	Grand Canyon University/ Observation	Three Bridges School/ Jaime Kindervatter	03/11/2026 - 04/30/2026
Gina Nelessen	Grand Canyon University/ Observation	Three Bridges School/ Caroline Robb	04/01/2026 - 06/12/2026
Gina Nelessen	Grand Canyon University/ Observation	Three Bridges School/ Tiffany Barca	04/23/2026 - 06/12/2026
Kat Abreu	Hunterdon County Polytech/Internship	Readington Middle School/ Caroline Ratanski & Olivia Young	03/11/2026 - 06/05/2026
Emily Olszyk	Hunterdon County Polytech/Internship	Readington Middle School/ Caroline Ratanski & Olivia Young	03/11/2026 - 06/05/2026
Maggie Jarowicz	Hunterdon County Polytech/Internship	Readington Middle School/ Caroline Ratanski & Olivia Young	03/11/2026 - 06/05/2026

4.06 Motion to apply for and accept a grant for free training and to participate in the inaugural cohort of the New Jersey Universal Design for Learning Innovation Network, a partnership between the NJ Department of Education and CAST, the originators of Universal Design for Learning.

4.07 Motion to approve all intra-district field trips between buildings and private providers as approved by the Superintendent for the 2025-2026 school year.

4.08 Motion to approve staff non-resident student tuition rate of $4,500.00/yr for preschool - grade 8 for the 2026-2027 school year.

4.09 Motion to approve the following mentor for the 2025-2026 school year:

STAFF MEMBER	SCHOOL	POSITION	MENTOR
Preston Clawson	RMS	LTS-Math Teacher	Evan Gulino

4.10 Motion to approve ePlus Technology Inc. in the amount of $120,448.57 for Network infrastructure 5-year subscription for licensing, technical support warranty coverage as the winning bidder for E-Rate per Request for Proposals results. Motion to apply for and accept E-Rate Category 2 funding for this project, approximately 40% from the federal government.

E. PERSONNEL

Committee Report: Mrs. Ryan provided minutes of the meeting held on February 20, 2026.

5. Motion to adopt 5.01 - 5.06
Motion: Mrs. DePinto **2nd: Mrs. Cassidy** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

Motion to adopt 5.07
Motion: Mr. Rizza **2nd: Mr. Pieros** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

5.01 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and ratify the following Substitute Teachers/Aides/Nurses/Bus Drivers for the 2025-2026 school year, paid at the applicable substitute rates, in the Readington Township District, pending satisfactory completion of employment requirements:

NAME	POSITION
Madeline Turvey	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Chanelle Harrison	Substitute Aide
Bria Whatley	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Veronica Cannon-Mendoza	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Katherine Spuckes	Substitute Teacher/Aide
Melanie Belanger	Substitute Teacher/Aide

5.02 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointments:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Ava Vanglahn	LTS Teacher/PE/Health (RMS) 20-01-D2/agj	Sub rate for the first 20 days, $60,430.00 BA Step 1-2 (1) per diem rate thereafter, (prorated)	04/20/2026 - 06/19/2026
Bria Whatley	LTS Teacher/Autism (WHS) 20-04-D2/baw	Sub rate for the first 20 days, $60,430.00 BA Step 1-2 (1) per diem rate thereafter, (prorated)	03/11/2026 - 06/19/2026
Preston Clawson	Teacher/Math (RMS) 20-01-D2/adw	Sub rate for the first 20 days, $60,430.00 BA Step 1-2 (1) per diem rate thereafter, (prorated)	03/13/2026 - 06/19/2026

5.03 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following position control changes and designated transfers for the 2025-2026 school year, effective March 16, 2026:

NAME	CHANGE	POSITION	LOCATION	SALARY
Kathryn O'Connor	From:	20-03-D2/aft	(TBS) .5 Teacher/Intervention	
	To:	20-03-D2/aft 30-03-D3/bee	(TBS) .5 Teacher/Intervention (TBS) .5 Aide/Special Education	No Change $26.95/hr. Aide C Step 19
Holly Swan	From: To:	20-03-D3/bee 30-03-D3/awk	(TBS) .5 Aide/Special Education (TBS) FT Aide/Special Education	No Change

5.04 Motion to approve the following coaching assignment:

NAME	SEASON	STIPEND POSITION
Stacey Skene	Spring	Assistant Track and Field Coach

5.05 Motion to approve the attached updated list of Three Bridges School club advisors for the 2025-2026 school year at their contractual rate.
(Attachment 5.05)

5.06 Motion to approve Heather Canha to ride the a.m. bus with student, S-034, for the 2025-2026 school year, not to exceed 6 hours per week at the contractual rate.

5.07 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve three (3) attached sidebar agreements. (attachment 5.07)

F. COMMUNICATION

Committee Report: Mrs. DePinto provided minutes of the meeting held on February 9, 2026.

6. Motion to adopt 6.01 - 6.02
Motion: Mrs. DePinto **2nd: Mrs. Cassidy** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

6.01 Motion to approve the revised 2025-2026 district calendar.
(Attachment 6.01)

6.02 Motion to approve the following policy and regulation for first reading:
(Attachment 6.02)

- Policy 1552 - Sexual Harassment – Staff
- Regulation 1552 - Sexual Harassment – Staff

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Mrs. Cassidy and Mrs. DePinto provided an update as part of Board Goals 2025-2026 periodic review:
  - Goal Academic Achievement: PSAT data of former 8th grade students, Universal Design for Learning (UDL), student representatives present at board meetings.
  - Goal Safety and Security: Plans for fire alarm updates and locksets and lighting, IT department cyber security, SEL data and supports and provided to parents during parent teacher conferences and others.
  - Goal Governance Protocols: Share committee meeting agenda and attachments in advance, Policy committee reviewing all policies and regulations, reorganization code of ethics and training, legal notices per law.
  - Goal Referendum and Strategic Planning: Referendum passed and projects are moving forward, new strategic planning process launched with Judith Wilson and action teams, Quicklinks has list of projects and communication for Referendum
- Mrs. Cassidy provided minutes of the Green Committee Meeting held on March 3, 2026.
- Mr. Rizza provided minutes from the Strategic Planning Board Committee Meeting held on February 19, 2026.

IX. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

- Mrs. Cassidy provided minutes of the Garden State Coalition of Schools meeting held on February 18, 2026.

X. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- Many teachers and community members expressed their thoughts and concerns regarding Policy 2535 and Regulation 2535, primarily appealing to the Board to rethink the recently passed motion and support the teaching staff with professional judgement.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 8:47pm

Motion: Mr. Rizza **2nd: Mrs. DePinto** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

Motion to adopt the following resolution: Resolved to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975, to discuss a legal matter and 2 HIBs for approximately 30 minutes at which time the Board expects to return to Public Session where action shall be taken. The matters discussed will be made public if and when the circumstances requiring confidentiality no longer exist; however, it is not presently known when such circumstances will exist.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION - 9:15 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Rizza **2nd: Mrs. Cassidy** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

XII. ADJOURNMENT - 9:20 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Rizza **2nd: Mrs. Cassidy** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 9 Yes**

Mr. Jason M. Bohm
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mr. David Rizza
President, Board of Education