

# Rockaway Borough Board of Education

103 E. Main Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866

## **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**Monday, July 6, 2026, 5:00 PM**

Thomas Jefferson School Cafeteria, 95 E. Main Street, Rockaway, NJ 07866

Visit us on the Web: [rockboro.org](http://rockboro.org)

### **ROCKAWAY BOROUGH SCHOOLS' MISSION STATEMENT:**

*The mission of the Rockaway Borough School District, a caring and diverse community, is to propel the success of each student by creating an environment that fosters self-confidence and encourages creativity through quality instruction and educational opportunities aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.*

### **1. Call to Order: 5:00 PM**

*The public portion of this meeting will be called to order at approximately 5:00 p.m. by Mr. Graf, Board President, by reading the following announcement:*

*"In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, The Rockaway Borough Board of Education has provided adequate notice of this meeting to the public by having the time, date, and location advertised in The Citizen Newspaper, posted on our website and at town hall. Official action will be taken."*

### **2. Board Member Roll Call:**

***Mr. Michael Dougherty***

*Elected 2025 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2028)*

***Mrs. Faride Hernandez***

*Elected 2024 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2027)*

***Mrs. Vanessa Dorgilles***

*Elected 2024 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2027)*

***Ms. Jennifer Dahl, VP***

*Elected 2023 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2026)*

***Mr. Edward Graf, President***

*Elected 2023 to 1st term (3-year seat to Dec. 31, 2026)*

***Pledge of Allegiance***

**3. Reports & Updates:****A. SGO Student Reports- N/A****B. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Grieco  
-District Update****C. Board Reports:**

- Mr. Dougherty
- Ms. Dorgilles
- Ms. Dahl
- Ms. Hernandez
- Mr. Graf

**D. Board Secretary's/Business Office Report:**

1. **Board Correspondence:** *Received (R) or Sent (S) since our last meeting:*  
N/A

**E. Any Other Items/Comments for the Good of the Order****F. Board Review of Agenda Items****4. Public Hearing:**

**Agenda items only:** limited to 3 minutes each. Please state your name.

The President will open the floor for the Board to hear the public and then close the floor.

Please direct all dialogue to the President. Board replies are not required.

*During the board meeting, the Board offers members of the public an opportunity to comment on issues regarding the operation of our schools. If you wish to speak, please raise your hand and proceed to the podium. When called on by the President, state your first name, last name, and municipality of residence. The President may limit each statement made by a participant to three (3) minutes in duration. The President may also interrupt, warn, and/or terminate a participant's statement, question, or inquiry when it is too lengthy or the inquiry is abusive, obscene, or may be defamatory. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard.*

*Our goal is to maintain the formality, decorum, and efficiency of our meetings according to District Policies and state law. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board, and the President may direct a response after the public comment session.*

*Members of the public should be courteous and aware of others' rights when speaking. Families and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey and therefore be advised:*

- *The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public.*
- *Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected by or identified in their comments.*
- *Members of the public should be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.*

*The Board also encourages community members to follow the chain of command—beginning with the classroom teacher and progressing through the Administrative hierarchy. When the chain of command is used properly, it improves communication and permits the Board to act as the final arbiter on issues that have not been resolved at other steps in the chain.*

**5. Meeting Minutes:**

- A. Be it resolved to approve and accept the following meeting Minutes:
  - June 15, 2026, Board of Education Meeting- Regular and Executive Sessions

**6. Finance:**

A. Be it resolved to approve the manifest of Payrolls and Bills & Claims Lists, which are on file in the Business Office:

- Bills, Claims, and Payrolls List: June 16th through July 6th.  
**\$627,094.23**

B. Be it resolved to approve the shared services agreement with the Morris Hills Regional School District Board of Education to provide Child Study Team (CST) Services for the 2026-2027 school year for \$380,251.20 and an additional daily rate of \$525.00/day for any summer work needed to review new student referrals, as submitted.

**C. BERGEN COUNTY COOPERATIVE**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE (CONTRACTING UNIT) TO ENTER INTO the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative

Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the County of Bergen, hereinafter referred to as the “Lead Agency & quot; has offered

voluntary participation in the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance # CK04- a

Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services;

WHEREAS, on July, 6, 2026, the governing body of the Rockaway Borough Board of Education,

County of Morris, State of New Jersey duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing

System for the provision and performance of goods and services;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

This RESOLUTION shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the Rockaway Borough Board of Education Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A.

40A:11-11(5), the Business Administrator is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative

Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency.

The Lead Agency shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the Local Public

Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

**D. JOINT TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT WITH THE ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, the Rockaway Borough Board of Education has determined that participation in a Joint Transportation Agreement with the Rockaway Township Board of Education will provide transportation services for athletic and field trip activities during the 2026-2027 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Rockaway Township Board of Education shall serve as the Host District and the Rockaway Borough Board of Education shall serve as the Joiner District under the terms of the agreement; and

WHEREAS, the agreement shall be effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, and provides transportation services at a rate of \$88.00 per hour per bus, with a two-hour minimum charge, as outlined in the agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rockaway Borough Board of Education hereby approves the Joint Transportation Agreement with the Rockaway Township Board of Education for the 2026-2027 school year for transportation related to athletic and field trip activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to effectuate this agreement.

**E. BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Rockaway Borough Board of Education hereby approves the Fleet Maintenance Agreement with the Rockaway Township Board of Education for the 2026-2027 school year for the maintenance and repair of district vehicles under the following terms:

- Labor rate of \$95.00 per hour;
- Parts billed at 5% over Rockaway Township Board of Education cost;
- Shop supplies charged at a flat rate of \$8.00 per work order;
- Fluids and lubricants billed at actual cost;
- Required 90-day inspections and related maintenance services as outlined in the agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are authorized to execute the agreement and any related documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

**F. RESOLUTION FOR PARTICIPATION IN A COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the Garfield Board of Education hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency" has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System, known as the Champions Unified Purchasing Alliance ("CUPA"), for the purchase of goods and services; and

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2026, the governing body of the Rockaway Borough Board of Education, County of Morris, State of New Jersey duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

This Resolution shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperating Pricing Resolution of the Rockaway Borough Board of Education.

Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 401:11-11(5), the Superintendent is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency.

The Lead Agency shall be responsible for complying with all applicable laws, including the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.), the Public School Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.), and all other provisions of the applicable statutes and regulations of the State of New Jersey.

**G.** Be it resolved, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the Board and the Rockaway Borough Education Association for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2030, subject to ratification by the Association's membership.

**H. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR THE SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM (SVPP)**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Rockaway Borough in Morris County County, New Jersey, desires to apply for grant funding through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP); and

WHEREAS, the SVPP grant program provides funding to improve security at schools and on school grounds through evidence-based school safety programs and technology, including but not limited to access controls, metal detectors, panic alarms, and related technology; and

WHEREAS, the SVPP grant requires a minimum local match of twenty-five percent (25%) of the total project cost, which this Board agrees to appropriate from general funds if the grant is awarded; and

WHEREAS, the grant program requires a collaborative school safety plan involving local law enforcement and mental health professionals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the submission of the SVPP grant application by Anthony Grieco, Superintendent of Schools to the COPS Office on behalf of the School District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon award of the SVPP grant, the Board of Education authorizes Anthony Grieco, Superintendent of Schools to execute the grant agreement, accept the grant funding, and sign all necessary documents in connection therewith.

CERTIFICATION

I, Giovanni Cusmano, Board Secretary for the Rockaway Borough School District, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, correct, and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Board of Education at a meeting held on July 6, 2026

**8. Personnel:**

- A. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the attached list of Staff Member **Professional Development Workshops & Travel Expenditure Requests** that have been deemed related to and within the scope of the employee’s current job responsibilities and will enhance the efficient delivery of student instruction and/or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. Reimbursements listed are in accordance with guidelines established by the Dept. of Treasury, BOE Policy, and in accordance with NJAC 6A:23B-1.1., listed below.

**Professional Development/Travel Expenditure Requests:**

| <b>Staff Member</b> | <b>Workshop Title</b>                | <b>Workshop Location</b> | <b>Dates</b> | <b>Reg &amp; Fees</b>  | <b>Additonal Cost to District</b> | <b>Justification for the Trip</b>  |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Savercool           | 35th Annual School Health Conference | Somerset, NJ             | 10/21/26     | \$215 Mileage: \$36.56 | Sub nurse                         | Keeps the nurses updated on legal issues with students' health, and updated on emerging infectious diseases. |

- B. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the appointment of **Monica Fleming** as a 2026 Extended School Year (ESY) Teacher for the period of June 22, 2026, through July 17, 2026, for 4.5 hours per day, including a 30-minute prep period, at the current hourly rate of \$40.31.

- C. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve a horizontal salary guide movement request from **Heather DeGrose**, Science teacher at Thomas Jefferson School, for the successful completion of graduate credits from the 2025-2026 BA Guide (Step-8 \$63,640) to the 2025-2026 BA+30 (Step 8, \$64,545), effective September 1, 2026. (Final salary rate and guide placement will be determined once a new CBA is in effect).
- D. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve an employment contract for **Rachel Simon**, Physical Education/Health Teacher at Lincoln School, beginning on or about September 2, 2026 through June 30, 2027. Ms Simon will be paid based on Salary/Guide BA-3 at the current 25/26 rate of \$58,165, pending successful completion of Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c.116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5. (Final rate will be determined when a new CBA is in effect).
- E. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve an employment contract for **Danielle Luisi**, Lunch Aide at Lincoln School, beginning on or about September 2, 2026 through June 30, 2027. Mrs. Luisi will be paid at the current 25/26 hourly rate of \$16.23, pending successful completion of Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c.116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5. (Final rate will be determined when a new CBA is in effect).
- F. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve an employment contract for **Scott Schafran** to serve as a school bus/van driver for the 2026/2027 school year, at an hourly rate of \$32.20, for up to 4 hours per day, based on 185 school days. Mr. Schafran has successfully completed all required background checks. (Final rate will be determined when a new CBA is in effect).
- G. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve **Caroline Cawley**, as a leave of absence Speech & Language Therapist, beginning on or about September 2, 2026 through February 26, 2027. Ms. Cawley will be paid based on Salary/Guide MA-4 at the current 25/26 rate of \$62,965, pending successful completion of Criminal History background check required by P.L. 1986 c.116 and Sexual Misconduct/Child Abuse Disclosure required by P.L. 2018 c.5. (Final rate will be determined when a new CBA is in effect).
- H. Be it resolved, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the following as Seasonal Summer Help staff. They will be employed for no more than 20 hours per week for the summer of 2026 beginning on or about July 9, 2026 (\$18.00/hr).

|                      |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|
| Nicholas Effenberger |  |  |  |
|----------------------|--|--|--|

**9. Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment:**

- A. Be it resolved to approve the **Student Field Trip/District Events/Miscellaneous** requests as listed below.

**Student Field Trips - N/A**

**District Events List / Miscellaneous- N/A**

**10. Technology and Buildings & Grounds:**

A. N/A

**11. Policy and NJDOE**

A. N/A

**12. Consent Agenda:**

A. Move and Vote on all Agenda Resolutions & Recommendations in One Motion:

| <u>Roll Call Vote:</u> | <u>Moved &amp; Seconded By:</u> | <u>Aye</u> | <u>Nay</u> | <u>Abstain</u> | <u>Recuse</u> | <u>Not Present</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Dougherty          |                                 |            |            |                |               |                    |
| Mrs. Dorgilles         |                                 |            |            |                |               |                    |
| Mr. Graf, President    |                                 |            |            |                |               |                    |
| Ms. Dahl, VP           |                                 |            |            |                |               |                    |
| Mrs. Hernandez         |                                 |            |            |                |               |                    |

**13. New Business/Any Other Items/Board Comments for the Good of the Order:**

**14. Public Hearing:** Limited to 3 minutes each.

Please state your name.

The President will open the floor for the Board to hear the public and then close the floor. Please direct all dialogue to the President. Board replies are not required.

**15. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:**

A. **Tuesday, August 25, 2026**

The public portion of the Meeting will begin at 7:30 pm in the Cafeteria of Thomas Jefferson Middle School.

**16. Executive Session II (if necessary)**

Be it resolved, that the Board enter into Executive Session (Private) for the purpose of discussing \_\_\_\_\_, the nature of which will be made public only when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

***Moved by:***

***Seconded by:***

***Voice Vote:***

**THE BOARD ANTICIPATES BEING IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR APPROXIMATELY \_\_\_\_\_ MINUTES.**

**BOARD ACTION \_\_\_\_\_ BE TAKEN AFTER THIS SESSION CONCLUDES.**

**17. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting:**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting is hereby adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_ pm.

***Moved by:***

***Seconded by:***

***Voice Vote:***