

**MINUTES
MOUNT ARLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 13, 2026**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

PRESENT: Rachel Byrne, President
Edwin Botero
Melissa Eckert
Erika Puskas
Sheila Studint, Vice-President
Karl Svenningsen

ABSENT: Chris D'Amico

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Pepper, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Robin C. Tedesco, Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
(telecom)
Barbara Caggiano, Administrative Assistant to BA/BS
Jennifer Ochoa, Supervisor of Special Services

ABSENT: Joseph Coladarci, Principal

Board of Education President, Rachel Byrne, called the in-person meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., declared a quorum present, and read the following notices:

The Mount Arlington Board of Education is meeting for action and discussion about business before the Board of Education today.

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the public's right to have advance notice of and to attend meetings of public bodies at which business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with this Act, the Board of Education has sent notice of today's meetings and copies of the agenda to the:

Roxbury Register
Daily Record
Star Ledger
Municipal Clerk
Board of Education Members

Notice of today's meeting and copies of the agenda have been posted on the Mount Arlington Public Schools Website: www.mtarlingtonk8.org

All Board of Education members present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was presented by Mrs. Eckert, and seconded by Mr. Svenningsen, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education move to Closed Session at 7:01 P.M., to address Personnel and Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying issues. Action will follow.

Voice Vote:

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1

Motion Passes

WHEREAS the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A.10:4-1 et seq.) expressly provide that a public body may move into Closed Session and exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the public body discusses any of the nine areas set forth in N.J.S.A.10:4-12b; and

WHEREAS, the Mount Arlington Board of Education has determined it necessary to move to Closed Session to discuss personnel matters and harassment intimidation & bullying issues, which are included in the aforesaid exceptions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mount Arlington Board of Education that it does hereby move into Closed Session pursuant to N.J.S.A.10:4-12b to discuss the aforesaid matters with a related action to follow, and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the aforesaid discussions shall be made public either at the Public Meeting following said Closed Session or at such time as any litigated personnel matters are concluded, or upon conclusion of any negotiations or discussions; or as otherwise specified; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect pursuant to law.

A motion was presented by Mr. Svenningsen, and seconded by Mrs. Eckert that the meeting return to Open Session at 7:14 P.M.

Voice Vote:

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1

Motion Passes

MINUTES:

A motion was presented by Mrs. Eckert and seconded by Mrs. Studint, to approve:

1. Regular Meeting & Executive – April 29, 2026

Voice Vote:

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1

Motion Passed

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

1. None

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. None

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mrs. Caggiano reviewed the motions before the Board of Education as shown on the agenda.

BUSINESS - ACTION ITEMS BY COMMITTEE:

FINANCE

A motion was presented by Mr. Botero, and seconded by Mr. Svenningsen, to approve Finance Agenda Items 051326-B-1 through 051326-B-59.

051326-B-1 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the General Account check register of payments dated April 30, 2026, through May 13, 2026, in the amount of \$1,219,674.65.

051326-B-2 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the Student Activities Account check register of payments dated April 30, 2026 through May 13, 2026, in the amount of \$6,829.35.

051326-B-3 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the Unemployment Account check register of payments dated April 30, 2026 through May 13, 2026, in the amount of \$4,375.00.

051326-B-4 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the list of line-item transfers for April 2026.

051326-B-5 RESOLVED that the report of the Secretary and the related statement of cash balances for the month of April 2026 be approved by the Mount Arlington Board of Education and ordered filed, and further that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approves the certification of the Board Secretary for the month of April 2026 that no line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures which, in total, exceed the line appropriation of the adopted 2025-2026 budget, as revised, in accordance with N.J.S. A. 18A:17-9 and further certifies that no major account or fund has been expended in violation of N.J.S.A. 18A:17-8 or N.J.S.A. 18A:19.

051326-B-6 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve an agreement with Duff & Phelps/Kroll for an updated fixed asset accounting ledger and financial reporting and updated proper insurance appraisal as of June 30, 2026, in the amount of \$3,800.00.

051326-B-7 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education recognizes the continuation of the Joint Transportation Agreement between Roxbury Board of Education and the Mount Arlington Board of Education for the period of July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2027.

051326-B-8 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education enter into an agreement for Joint Transportation Services with the Educational Services Commission of Morris County for 2026-2027 school year in accordance with the agreement on file in the office of the School Business Administrator.

051326-B-9 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education enter into an agreement for Joint Transportation Services with the Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative for Special Educations, Public/Non-Public, & Field/Athletic Trips for the 2026-2027 school year in accordance with the agreements on file in the office of the School Business Administrator.

051326-B-10 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve a Joint Transportation Agreement between Roxbury Board of Education and the Mount Arlington Board of Education for the 2026-2027 school year, in the amount of \$448,679.64 plus a 4% administrative fee, (12 public routes, RHS late route included)

Route	Route Number	Cost
Public	MTM01 through MTM05 MTD07 through MTD09 MTH12 through MTH15 (12 routes, RHS late bus included)	\$448,679.64 \$17,947.19 Admin fee

051326-B-11 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the Joint Transportation Agreement between Roxbury Board of Education and Mt. Arlington Board of Education for the 2026-2027 school year, the amount of \$77,570.22 plus a 4% administrative fee.

Route	Route Number	Cost
Pre-K	MPK01	\$77,570.22 \$3,102.81 Admin fee

051326-B-12 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the Joint Transportation Agreement between Roxbury Board of Education and Mount Arlington Board of Education for the 2026-2027 school year.

Route	Route Number	Cost
Field Trips/Athletics	MAFTATH	\$100.00 Per Hour

051326-B-13 RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve Joan Tracey as our accompanist for the following dates, at a rate of \$200.00 each for the 2025-2026 school year.

- May 8, 2026 May 22, 2026
- May 19, 2026 May 21, 2026

051326-B-14 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the renewal agreement with Delta Dental of New Jersey, Inc. to provide dental benefits coverage for eligible staff for the period July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028, at the following monthly rates, representing no increase of the prior year:

Single	\$ 66.38
Single +1	\$ 118.59
Single + 2 or more	\$ 188.79

051326-B-15 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education enter into a shared service agreement and addendum with Educational Services Commission of Morris County for the 2026-2027 school year for the following services, agreement on file in the office of the School Business Administrator.

Professional Support Services
OT Services
PT Services
Speech Services
Non-Public Nursing

Non-Public Textbook
Non-Public Technology
Non-Public Security Aid
Professional Support Services as per attached rate sheet

051326-B-16 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the Shared Service Agreement with Educational Services Commission of Morris County to provide Bidding/Purchasing services for the school supplies for the 2026-2027 school year through Educational Data Services in the amount of \$1,467.00.

051326-B-17 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve the Health and Environmental Safety Services Agreement for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$5,059.00.

051326-B-18 RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education approve a contract with Learn Well Education for home instruction services required for student ID# 11434 beginning April 27, 2026, through May 27, 2026, for 2 hours per day, at an hourly rate of \$61.70 plus an additional 33% for administrative and preparation time.

RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MOTIONS:

051326-B-19 Appoints Insurance Brokers of Record

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, designates the following as Insurance Agents for the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, commencing July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027:

Commercial Insurance	Burton Agency, Inc.
Workers' Compensation	Burton Agency, Inc.
Health Benefits	N/A
Dental Benefits	Brown & Brown Benefits Advisors

051326-B-20 Appoints School Physician

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey appoints Dr. Brian Brett of Long Valley, New Jersey as School Physician to provide school physician services in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-1, for the 2026-2027 school year at an annual cost not to exceed \$3,700.00.

051326-B-21 Appoints Representative to Roxbury Board of Education

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.1 et seq., the New Jersey Department of Education has verified the appropriate representation of sending district board of education on the receiving board of education as

one member, and

WHEREAS, the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey will appoint a representative to the receiving district board of education,

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education appoints Mr. Edwin Botero as its representative to the Roxbury School District Board of Education for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326B-22 Appoints Public Agency Compliance Officer

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C., the State of New Jersey Division of Contract Compliance and Equal Employment Opportunity requires that each public agency annually designate an officer or employee to serve as its public agency compliance officer, and

WHEREAS the public agency compliance officer is responsible for administering contracting procedures pertaining to equal employment opportunity regarding both the Public Agency and the service providers. The service providers shall include but shall not be limited to goods and services vendors, professional service vendors and construction contractors; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that the Board Secretary can effectively and appropriately perform the duties of the public agency compliance officer;

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey hereby designates the Board Secretary as the Public Agency Compliance Officer for the 2026-2027 school year in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.2.

05326-B-23 Designates Official for Investments and Wires

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey designates the Board Secretary as the person responsible for any and all Board of Education investments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary or Administrative Assistant to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary be authorized to make wire transfers amongst the board accounts as may be necessary for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-24 Appoints ADA Officer

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey appoints the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary as the Americans with Disabilities Act

(ADA) Officer for the 2026-2027 school year effective July 1, 2026.

051326-B-25 Appoints Section 504 Officer

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey in accordance with 34 CFR 104.7(a) and Policy 6171 appoints the Principal of Mount Arlington Public Schools as Section 504 Officer for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-26 Appoints Affirmative Action Officer

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.5 appoints the Principal of Mount Arlington Public Schools as Affirmative Action Officer for the 2026-2027 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board Secretary is directed to advertise the name, office address and telephone number of the Affirmative Action Officer's office; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent is directed to develop and distribute the grievance procedure as per 28 CFR 35.107(a).

051326-B-27 Appoints Issuing Officer for Working Papers

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey appoints the Principal of Mount Arlington Public Schools or his designee as the district's Issuing Officer for Working Papers for the 2026-2027 school year effective July 1, 2026.

051326-B-28 Appoints Safety and Health Designee and Approves Safety & Security Plan

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey appoints the Educational Services Commission of Morris County as the Safety and Health Designee for the 2026-2027 school year effective July 1, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to approve the Safety & Security Plan on file in the office of the Superintendent of Schools.

051326-B-29 Appoints Attendance Officer

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, appoints the School Nurses as the attendance Officers for their respective schools for the 2026-2027 school year (N.J.S.A. 18A: 38-32).

051326-B-30 Appoints Designee to NJ Department of Children and Family Services

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, appoints the School Social Worker

as the liaison to the, New Jersey Department of Child Protection & Permanency (DCPP) for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-31 Appoints Homeless Liaison

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey

WHEREAS, pursuant to IASA, Section 323 of P.L. 103-382, each district needs to appoint a homeless liaison to serve the families of homeless children in the district,

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves the Supervisor of Special Services as the Homeless Liaison for the district for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-32 Approves Curriculum

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey adopts all existing curriculum guides and all existing programs for the Mount Arlington Public Schools for the 2026-2027 school year as maintained on file in the office of the Superintendent of Schools, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:33-1.

051326-B-33 Approves Textbooks

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey adopts the textbooks as noted on the official textbook listing for the Mount Arlington Public Schools as maintained in the office of the Superintendent of Schools, for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-34 Approves Nursing Services Plan

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey adopts Nursing Services Plan as required in NJAC 6A:16-2.1(b) for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-35 Approves Emergency and Crisis Management Plan

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey adopts the Emergency and Crisis Management Plan on file in the office of the Superintendent of Schools for for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-36 Approves Collection and Maintenance of Pupil Records

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey authorizes certified school personnel to collect and maintain the following mandated pupil records as per N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.3 and Policy 5125 for the 2026-2027 school year:

- a. The student's name, address, telephone number, date of birth, name of parent(s), gender, citizenship, standardized assessment and test answer sheets (protocol), grades, attendance, classes attended, grade level completed, discipline records and year completed.
- b. Record of daily attendance;
- c. Descriptions of student progress according to the system of student evaluation used in the school district;
- d. History and status of physical health compiled in accordance with State regulations, including results of any physical examinations given by qualified school district employees;
- e. Records pursuant to rules and regulations regarding education of students with disabilities; and
- f. All other records required by the State of New Jersey Department of Education

051326-B-37 Approves Chart of Accounts

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey designates the NJDOE Chart of Accounts as the minimum Chart of Accounts for use in the district for the 2026-2027 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the business office is authorized to add additional sub account designations (both within the existing sub accounts as well as additional sub positions), as the School Business Administrator may deem necessary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Superintendent is authorized to make any necessary transfers below the level of the NJDOE Chart of Accounts.

051326-B-38 Approves School Depositories and Signatures

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves that all checks, drafts or other orders for payment or withdrawal of money from said account be signed by the person holding the appropriate title as listed below (N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1) for the 2026-2027 school year:

ACCOUNT	SIGNATURE	BANK	Account #
General Operating Account	1 of President or Vice-President 1 of Board Secretary 1 of Superintendent	Fulton Bank	#####2192
Cafeteria Account	1 of Board Secretary or Superintendent	Fulton Bank	#####5872

Unemployment Trust Account	1 of Board Secretary or Superintendent	Fulton Bank	#####226 5
Payroll Agency Account	1 of Board Secretary or Superintendent	Fulton Bank	#####586 3
Payroll Account	1 of Board Secretary or 1 of Board President	Fulton Bank	#####077 3
Student Activities Account	1 of Board Secretary 1 of Superintendent	Fulton Bank	#####588 1
Flex Spending Account	1 of Board Secretary or Superintendent	Fulton Bank	#####572 3

051326-B-39 Approves the Investment of Funds

RESOLVED, that the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary be authorized to invest funds not immediately needed in any authorized bank in the State of New Jersey in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:20-37, and report investments to the Board and also designate the state of New Jersey Cash Management Fund as a legal depository for the investment of funds for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-40 Facsimile Signatures

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves the use of facsimile signatures for the Board President, Board Secretary, and Superintendent of Schools for the ensuing term of the board on warrants, paychecks, and contracts for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-41 Approves Petty Cash Organization Accounts

WHEREAS there has been a need to establish a petty cash fund for the purpose of making immediate payments of comparatively small amounts as per board policy;

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education has amended N.J.S.A.18A:4-15 and 18A:19-13, and Title 6 of the N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.10 to establish requirements which strengthen the fiscal controls and accountability for petty cash funds;

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey authorizes the establishment of the following petty cash funds in the amounts indicated below for the 2026-2027 school year:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Account Amount</u>	<u>Single Expenditure</u>
Board Office	\$300	\$150

Each primary signatory shall ensure that:

- a. Petty cash funds are spent for budgeted items only.
- b. Funds are not used to subvert the regular purchasing procedures.
- c. The checking accounts are to be reconciled on a monthly basis and reported to the board.
- d. Petty cash is distributed in check form on the two signatures indicated above.
- e. All disbursements for petty cash shall be reported at the next regular meeting of the Board as it is reimbursed.
- f. All petty cash funds shall be established by board approved voucher and all unused cash is to be returned to the depository at the close of each fiscal year.

051326-B-42 Approves District Travel Expenditures

WHEREAS the Mount Arlington Board of Education is required pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:11-12 to adopt policy and approve travel expenditures by district employees to ensure that travel is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent; and

WHEREAS employees shall be reimbursed for business related travel at the rate per mile permitted by the State of New Jersey, Office of Management and Budget Guidelines, or if the employee has an unexpired negotiated agreement, permitted by the Internal Revenue Service, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education authorizes travel for regular business at an amount not to exceed \$1,500 per employee for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-43 Designates Tax Sheltered Annuity Companies

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey designates the current Tax Sheltered Annuity Companies, open for enrollment to any district employee for Section 403(b) and Section 403(b) Roth programs for the 2026-2027 school year as per N.J.S.A. 18A:66-127:

AXA Equitable
Lincoln Financial Group
Security Benefit Life Insurance Company

051326-B-44 Authorizes the Use of State Contracts

WHEREAS Title 18A:18A-10 provides that, "A board of education, without advertising for bids, or after having rejected all bids obtained pursuant to advertising therefore, by resolution may purchase any goods or services pursuant to a contract or contracts for such goods or services entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property"; and

WHEREAS the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education has the need on a timely basis, to procure goods and services utilizing state contracts; and

WHEREAS the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education desires to authorize its purchasing agent for the 2026-2027 school year to make any and all purchases necessary to meet the needs of the school district throughout the school year; and therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education in the County of Morris, New Jersey does hereby authorize the district Purchasing Agent to make purchases of goods and services pursuant to a contract or contracts for such goods or services entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property.

051326-B-45 Authorizes the Use of Joint Purchasing Agreements

WHEREAS N.J.S.A 18A:18A-11 provides that, "The Board of Education of two or more districts may provide jointly by agreement for the provision and performance of goods and services for their respective districts, or one or more boards of education may provide for such provision or performance of goods or services by joint agreement with the governing body of any municipality or county", and

WHEREAS, the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education has the need, on a timely basis, to procure goods and services utilizing joint purchasing agreements; and

WHEREAS the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education desires to authorize its purchasing agent for the 2026-2027 school year to make any and all purchases necessary to meet the needs of the school district throughout the school year; and therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey does hereby authorize the district purchasing agent to make purchases of goods and services utilizing joint purchasing agreements.

051326-B-46 Approves Payment of Bills Between Meetings

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey appoints the Business Administrator as Claims Auditor to verify and pay bills as needed to protect the interests of the board between meetings in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-4.1 for 2026-2027 school year. Such bills will be listed as paid at the next regular board meeting.

051326-B-47 Approves Transfers of Budgeted Funds Between Meetings

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education,

in the County of Morris, New Jersey appoints the Business Administrator to make budget transfers as needed to maintain account balances between meetings for the 2026-2027 school year. Such transfers will be submitted to the board at the next regular board meeting.

051326-B-48 Approves Tax Payment Schedule

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves the schedule of tax payments from the municipality for the 2026-2027 school year as follows in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:13-23:

	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Total
July 15, 2026	\$1,190,970.67	\$116,200.00	\$1,307,170.67
August 15, 2026	\$1,190,970.67	-	\$1,190,970.67
September 15, 2026	\$1,190,970.67	-	\$1,190,970.67
October 15, 2026	\$1,190,970.67	-	\$1,190,970.67
November 15, 2026	\$1,190,970.66	-	\$1,190,970.66
December 15, 2026	\$1,190,970.66	-	\$1,190,970.66
Subtotal	\$7,145,824.00	\$116,200.00	\$7,262,024.00
January 15, 2027	\$1,190,970.67	\$116,200.00	\$1,307,170.67
February 15, 2027	\$1,190,970.67	-	\$1,190,970.67
March 15, 2027	\$1,190,970.67	-	\$1,190,970.67
April 15, 2027	\$1,190,970.67	-	\$1,190,970.67
May 13, 2027	\$1,190,970.66	-	\$1,190,970.66
June 15, 2027	\$1,190,970.66	-	\$1,190,970.66
Subtotal	\$7,145,824.00	\$116,200.00	\$7,262,024.00
Total	\$14,291,648.00	\$232,400.00	\$14,524,048.00

The above amounts are correct and agree to "Certificate and Report of School Taxes" Form A4F.

051326-B-49 Approves Annual Tuition Rate for 2026-2027

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves the following annual tuition rate for non-resident pupils for the 2026-2027 school year:

a. Preschool/Kindergarten	\$18,849
b. Grades 1-5	\$21,246
c. Grades 6-8	\$23,865
d. Auditory	\$ 0
e. Autism	\$63,196
f. Preschool Disabilities, full time	\$29,915

051326-B-50 Approves Joint Transportation Agreements

WHEREAS: In accordance with the N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education may jointly, by agreement, provide for goods and services with other boards of education including transportation services; and

WHEREAS: the Educational Services Commission of Morris County is able to provide transportation services to children who are residents of the district.

RESOLVED: Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves a jointure agreement for the 2026-2027 school year with the Educational Services Commission of Morris County to provide transportation services as the lead agency where the cost of transportation services will be prorated based on the contractual requirements and actual costs in accordance with the rules, regulations, and policies established by State law, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education authorizes the Educational Services Commission of Morris County to receive bids, if necessary, on behalf of the board for these transportation services.

051326-B-51 Approves Participation in ACT

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approve the district's participation in the Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications (ACT) program for the 2026-2027 school year, effective July 1, 2026.

051326-B-52 Approves Participation in ACES

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approve the district's participation in the Alliance for Competitive Energy Services (ACES) program for the 2026-2027 school year, effective July 1, 2026.

051326-B-53 Approves Participation in the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approve the district's participation in the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council, for the 2026-2027 school year, effective July 1, 2026.

051326-B-54 Approves Participation in the Middlesex Regional Educational Services

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

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

WHEREAS the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency " has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services;

WHEREAS 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;

WHEREAS the governing body of the Mount Arlington 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 that the Mount Arlington Board of Education, County of Morris, State of New Jersey approves the district's participation in the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Cooperative Pricing System and authorize the Board Secretary to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-55 Approves Shared Service Agreement with ESCMC

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey approves the Shared Service Agreement with the Educational Services Commission of Morris County for the purchase of school supplies and materials through Educational Data Services, Inc. for the 2026-2027 school year, effective July 1, 2026.

051326-B-56 Adoption of Policy Manual

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education's current written policies, by-laws and rules/regulations in the official Policy Manual of the Mount Arlington School District be adopted for the 2026-2027 school year unless modified by the Board of Education in accordance with those applicable policies, by-laws and/or rules/regulations.

051326-B-57 Appoint Policy Service Provider

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education appoint Strauss Esmay Associates, LLP to provide Board of Education policy update service for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-58 Appoint Financial Advisor

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education

appoint Phoenix Advisors, LLC as the District's Continuing Disclosure Agent and Financial Advisor and to enter into an agreement for such services for the 2026-2027 school year.

051326-B-59 Appoint MEIG Representative

RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey appoints the Business Administrator as the district's representative to the Morris Essex Insurance Fund (MEIG) for the 2026-2027 school year.

Roll Call:

<i>Mr. Botero</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Byrne</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. D'Amico</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Mrs. Eckert</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Puskas</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Studint</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Svenningsen</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion Passes

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Pepper reviewed the motions before the Board of Education as shown on the agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - ACTION ITEMS BY COMMITTEE

PERSONNEL:

A motion was presented by Mrs. Studint, and seconded by Mr. Botero, to approve Personnel Agenda Items 051326-S-1 through 051326-S-10 and 051326-S-15.

051326-S-1 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, resolved to reappoint all tenured and non-tenured faculty for the 2026-2027 school year with level, steps and salaries (A-3 (2026-2027, C-1 (2026-2027)) as per attachment A.

051326-S-2 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to accept the resignation of Joseph S. Coladarci, III, principal effective July 1, 2026.

051326-S-3 RESOLVED to approve the appointment of Dr. Jessica Neu as Superintendent of Schools effective July 1, 2026-June 30, 2029, Salary/Terms and Conditions of Contract as approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools.

051326-S-4 RESOLVED to approve the appointment of Robin Tedesco as Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary effective July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027. Salary/Terms and Conditions of Contract as approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools.

051326-S-5 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to appoint Monica J. Dattoli as a maternity leave replacement teacher (non-tenured position) effective September 1, 2026-November 1, 2026, at MA Step 1 annual salary of \$66,770 prorated (rate according to A-3 for 2026-2027).

051326-S-6 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, Brianna Hutkowski and Samantha Trilling to our list of substitute teachers for the 2025-2026 school year. (Note: Approval is based upon receipt of State approved background check and certification as required by law).

051326-S-7 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools resolved to approve Jennifer Fitzgibbons to provide home instruction for a special education student from May 19, 2026, through June 25, 2026, for up to 2 hours per day at a rate of \$44.04 per hour.

051326-S-8 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to approve the following teachers as chaperones for the 8th grade dance held at the Jefferson House on Thursday, June 11, 2026, at a rate of \$100.00 per event:

Lisa Huber	Kara Kelly
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051326-S-9 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to approve the following teachers as chaperones for the 8th grade graduation on Wednesday June 24, 2026, at a rate of \$100.00 per event:

Lisa Huber	Michael Aberback
TBD	Diane Van Dongen

051326-S-10 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools resolved to approve Laurie Dachowski as a chaperone specifically to provide support for a student requiring special education services up to 1.5 hours at her current hourly rate of \$26.27 at the Beginner Band/Choir Concert at MAPS on 5/19/26.

ADDENDUM

051326-S-15 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools resolved to approve the appointment of Carly Corrente, Elementary Teacher for the 2026-2027 school year effective September 1, 2026-June 30, 2027, at an annual salary according to Schedule A-3 (2026-2027 guide) at BA Step 1-2 Level \$61,220. (Note: State approved background check is already on file.)

Roll Call:

<i>Mr. Botero</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Byrne</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. D'Amico</i>	<i>Absent</i>
<i>Mrs. Eckert</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Puskas</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Studint</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Svenningsen</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion Passes

CURRICULUM/POLICY:

A motion was presented by Mrs. Eckert, and seconded by Mrs. Studint, to approve Curriculum/Policy Agenda Item 051326-S-11 through 051326-S-14 and 051326-S-16.

051326-S-11 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, resolved to approve 2026-2027 Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction program Plan and submission to county office with the accompanying checklist.

051326-S-12 RESOLVED, relative to Disciplinary Matter 2025-26-M-4, the Mount Arlington Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools to be a confirmed case of HIB.

051326-S-13 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent, resolved to approve the following fundraisers:

Class of 2027 Hershey/Gettysburg Fundraisers

Dine to Donate (at various establishments such as: Polos, Fuddruckers,

Jersey Mikes and Mr. Crabby's)

Car Wash

5K run/walk

Discount Cards to local businesses

Carnival

Volleyball game

051326-S-14 Upon the recommendation of the Interim Superintendent resolved to approve the following Resolution Urging Relief from Rising Public School Employee Health-Care Costs:

WHEREAS, at a time of continued fiscal uncertainty and mounting challenges, local boards of education from across the state of New Jersey continue to suffer under the growing crisis posed by the rising cost of health benefits and are desperate for relief; and

WHEREAS, despite record levels of state investments in public education, these school districts are facing fiscal pressures similar to those confronting the state budget, including the unsustainable growth in health-care premiums and the mounting insolvency of the state's public employee's health benefits programs; and

WHEREAS, both within the School Employees' Health Benefits Program (SEHBP) and the private market, year-over-year double-digit increases are placing tremendous strain on district budgets and local taxpayers alike; and

WHEREAS Governor Sherrill and legislative leadership have publicly acknowledged the urgent need to address rising health-care costs and the challenges facing the state's health benefits plans, including both the state and local portions of the State Health Benefits Program and the SEHBP; and

WHEREAS, the seriousness of this issue is underscored by the mid-year SEHBP analysis released by the Treasury Department in March 2026, which concluded that "based on these projected losses and building in future trends, active premium rate increases for 2027 are likely to be in the double digits;" and

WHEREAS these projected increases would follow the 31.9 percent premium increase that took effect in January 2026, further exacerbating an overall premium increase of nearly 74 percent in the preceding five years; and

WHEREAS this growth in health-care costs far exceeds inflation, state aid increases and the fiscal capacity of local communities; and

WHEREAS, Rising health-care premiums are consuming an ever-larger portion of already constrained school district budgets, forcing difficult decisions that directly affect students, staff and educational quality; and

WHEREAS, these cost pressures also have significant consequences for taxpayers, as districts are often compelled to utilize the full extent of their available tax levy, even after which many districts remain unable to fully offset these increases due to the constraints of the property tax levy cap, despite the limited health-care exception; and

WHEREAS, For the families and students these districts serve, the downstream consequences — including district deficits, program cuts and school closures — mean the loss of community stability, continuity of services, and in many cases, access to the specialized supports that our most vulnerable students depend on; and

WHEREAS these are also precisely the conditions that erode student achievement and weaken the family engagement that is central to strengthening New Jersey's public schools; and

WHEREAS, implementing real, sustainable solutions to the rising cost of health benefits and reforming how benefits are delivered through the SEHBP would demonstrate the Governor's and Legislature's leadership and continued commitment to New Jersey's students, educators and families, which directly advances our shared goal of affordability and effective, efficient government for all New Jerseyans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mount Arlington Board of Education in the county of Morris calls upon the Governor and State Legislature to provide immediate, short-term relief from the unsustainable increased health-care costs experienced by school districts in recent years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mount Arlington Board of Education in the county of Morris urges the Governor to engage in meaningful engagement with all affected stakeholders to develop and implement practical long-term reforms to the state's system of delivering health care to its public employees in order to generate meaningful, long-term savings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Mikie Sherrill, State Treasurer Aaron Binder, Senate President Nicholas Scutari, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Senator Anthony M. Bucco, General Assembly Representatives Aura K. Dunn and Marisa Sweeney and the New Jersey School Boards Association.

- Fire/Emergency Drills were conducted with the Mount Arlington Police Department for the Month of April 2026
- Staff attendance for April 2026 was 95.8%
Student attendance for April 2026

MAPS-94.7% Decker-95.6%

ADDENDUM

051326-S-16 WHEREAS, based upon information regarding the residency status of the parent of student #11702, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1* and *N.J.A.C. 6A:22-4.3*, the Board considered all of the evidence presented during the April 29, 2026 hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Board's Policy 5111, Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students, does not provide for remaining enrolled in the Mt. Arlington Public Schools after a move into another school district; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mt. Arlington Board of Education, by recorded roll call vote of the majority, has determined that student #11702 shall be removed from the Mt. Arlington Public School District 21 days following the date of the Notice of Final Ineligibility, unless the parent timely appeals this decision to the Commissioner of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that student #11702 will be entitled to remain enrolled within the district during the pendency of any appeal filed by his parent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board Secretary is authorized to prepare, with the assistance of the Board Attorneys, the necessary Notice of Final Ineligibility to inform the parent of the Board's decision to remove student #11702 from enrollment in the Mt. Arlington Public Schools.

Roll Call:

<i>Mr. Botero</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Byrne</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. D'Amico</i>	<i>Absent</i>

<i>Mrs. Eckert</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Puskas</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Studint</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Svenningsen</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion Passes

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Finance:

- No Report

B. Personnel:

- Mrs. Studint congratulated Dr. Neu on her appointment as Superintendent of Schools.

C. Building and Grounds:

- No Report

D. Curriculum and Policy:

- No Report

E. Negotiations:

- No Report

F. Town Council:

Mrs. Eckert gave the following report:

- Mt. Arlington is celebrating the nation's 250th anniversary with a town-wide historical walk and beach concert on **Saturday, July 11, 2026**. The event will feature a stroll through time at Memorial Park, historical games, live music, and Bertrand Island Amusement Park photo opportunities.

Key Event Details:

Date: Saturday, July 11, 2026

Locations & Times:

- **Memorial Park:** 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM (Historical walk-through)
- **Municipal Beach:** 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM (Live music and ice cream)
- **A little bit of trivia about Mount Arlington-**
- succeeded from Roxbury in 1890

- Our first mayor was Howard P. Frothingham; his last name was too long so they used his first name, and back then street signs were charged by the letter!

- **Recreation:**

- Lake Hopatcong Foundation Block Party- 5/16 from 10-4 at the Hopatcong State Park

- Memorial Day Parade- 5/23- begins at 10:00 near Borough Hall and ends at Memorial Park; 1st summer concert begins at 3

- Community garden has several plots still available; contact Ashley at the Borough if you are interested.

- The Mount Arlington Police Department offers an **Autism Awareness Identification Card** program for local residents to promote safer, more informed interactions between officers and individuals with autism. These cards alert officers of the individual's condition and provide vital contact information during traffic stops or emergencies. **Det. Braun** started this initiative. His contact information is as follows:

Email: jbrown@mtarlingtonpd.com

Phone: 973-398-2100

- Chief Marcano shared that Mathew Marcano passed the National EMT certification; Matthew is a former graduate of MAPS. This is a difficult exam, and he is now looking to begin a career with a Fire Department.

G. Parent Teachers Organization:

Ms. Puskas gave the following report:

- Teacher appreciation was a hit with all staff- thank you for all you do!
- The Assembly for grades K-5 (Sheriff Dept K9) on May 12, 2026, went well.
- The community softball game on May 12, 2026, was a success - great community outreach for all.
- Everyone is invited to march in the Memorial Day parade on May 23, 2026, with the PTO.
- Thank you to Maria P. for running the TREPS program- the kids loved it and there was a great turnout!

OTHER REPORTS:

Roxbury BOE

- Mr. Botero reported that Roxbury Athletic Director, Stu Mason, won AD of the Year. He went on to report that there will be a new bell schedule in the district for the 2026-27 school year.

Delegate to NJ School Board Association:

- No Report

Delegate to Morris County School Board Association:

- No Report

Delegate to Educational Service Commission of Morris County:

- No Report

OLD BUSINESS:

- Mrs. Byrne reported that the community softball game was a success.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

PUBLIC COMMENT ON OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

1. None

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was presented by Mrs. Studint, and seconded by Mr. Botero, that the Regular meeting be adjourned. The motion was unanimously carried at 7:40 P.M.

Voice Vote:

Yes: 6

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1

Motion Passed

Respectfully Submitted,



Mrs. Robin C. Tedesco

Interim School Business Administrator/Board of Education Secretary

Approved: