

Clinton-Glen Gardner Board of Education

May 19, 2026

Media Center 7:00pm

WORK AND BUSINESS SESSION MINUTES

The Clinton-Glen Gardner School District is a community who values traditions. Our MISSION is to nurture and cultivate each child to be a compassionate, curious, and creative thinker, entrusted and empowered to build and lead the future.

Adopted 3/2016

1. Call to Order

2. Opening Statement:

This meeting is held in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law. The Clinton-Glen Gardner Board of Education has given the public adequate notice by having the date, time, and place of the meeting published in the Gannett Legal Publication and Clinton Public School website, and by having duly posted the same information in the Board Office, the school bulletin board, the faculty room and the Town Hall.

3. Roll Call

Voting Members	Role (Term)	Present	Absent	*LA/ED
Ashley Dunker	BOE Member (Term expires 12/2027)	X		
Laura Burr	BOE Member (Term expires 12/2028)		X	
Meghan Moore	BOE Member (Term expires 12/2026)		X	
Dan Brkich	BOE Member (Term expires 12/2026)	X		
Theresa Tsakalakos	BOE Member (Term expires 12/2027)	X		
Danielle Nugent(Lebanon Rep)	BOE Member (Term expires 12/2029)	X		
Officials	Title	Present	Absent	*LA/ED
Seth Cohen	Superintendent/Principal	X		
Bernadette Wang	SBA/Board Secretary	X		

*LA/ED= Late arrival and/or early dismissal time

Motion to discuss items 4A-D followed by vote after discussion RESOLUTION #: 90					
Board Member	Motion (1&2)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ashley Dunker		X			
Laura Burr					X
Meghan Moore					X
Dan Brkich		X			
Theresa Tsakalakos	1	X			
Danielle Nugent	2	X			

4. Monthly School Data:

A. Enrollment Data Report (Attachment #1)

B. Student Suspensions:

1. In-School Suspensions:
2. Out-of-School Suspensions:

C. School Nurse's Report (Attachment #2)

D. Fire Drill and Bus Evacuation Drill Report (Attachment #3)

5. Superintendent/Principal's Report

Dr Cohen presented re upcoming camping and the fun filled Unified Field Day. Covered current testing make ups, no major issues with testing. Upcoming: Graduation, 3rd grade musical, 1st grade finale, retirement dinner
Also thanked for efforts towards the successful Kindergarten Parents night and Raising grade 5 night and upcoming Lebanon parent meeting for 6 and 7 graders.

A. Student Representative Report

B. Clinton Education Association Report

School happenings presented by Mrs. Malmros, Mrs. Peterson and Mrs. Metelitsa

C. Assistant Principal- Curriculum Coordinator Report

D. Special Services Report

6. Public Comment - None

Motion to discuss items 7A-9 followed by vote after discussion RESOLUTION #: 91					
Board Member	Motion (1&2)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ashley Dunker		X			
Laura Burr					X
Meghan Moore					X
Dan Brkich	2	X			
Theresa Tsakalakos	1	X			
Danielle Nugent		X			

7. Personnel

A. Staff Approval

Motion: To approve/adjust the following staff members for the listed positions for the 2026-2027 school year:

Position	Name	Rate/Salary	Effective	Attachment #
Elementary Teacher K-6	Emily Weed	Step 1 BA	8/31/26	4

B. Summer Office & Clerical

Motion: To approve the following staff member(s) to serve as office and clerical support during the summer of 2026 NTE 60 hours total for split between staff listed below.

Name	Hours	Rate
Jenn Rispoli, Laurel Kelly	NTE 60 hours total for split between staff listed	\$16.00

C. Co-Curricular 2026-2027

Motion: To approve the following staff member(s) for the following co-curricular appointments for 2026-2027

Activity	Staff Member	Rate
Soccer - Girls	Amy Brenner	\$2741
Soccer - Boys	Tim Bidwell	\$2741
Cross Country	Joe Harris	\$2741
Cross Country	Lindsey Zengel	\$2492
Volleyball	Evelyn Ferro	\$2741
Basketball - Boys	Tim Bidwell	\$4988
Cheerleading (split stipend)	Cynthia Malmros	\$2494
Cheerleading (split stipend)	Evelyn Ferro	\$2494
Basketball - Girls	Michelle Gallagher	\$4988
Baseball	Tim Bidwell	\$2741
Softball	Lindsey Zengel	\$2741
Golf		
Golf		
Athletic Director	Tim Bidwell	\$3283
Peer to Peer Leader #1		\$1658
Peer to Peer Leader #2		\$1658
Team Leader Specials	Tim Bidwell	\$1265
Team Leader K-2	Elizabeth Hedden	\$1265
Team Leader 3-4	Kate Metelitsa	\$1265
Team Leader 5-8	Jamie Friedel	\$1265

Team Leader 5-8	Jennifer Merrigan	\$1265
Team Leader Special Ed	Lisa Rizzi	\$1265
RTI Elementary	Lauren Peachey	\$1265
RTI Elementary	Carolyn Schorr	\$1265
RTI Elementary	Coreen Decker	\$1265
RTI Elementary	Jessica Latanzio-Crespo	\$1265
RTI Elementary		\$1265
RTI Middle School		\$1265
RTI Middle School		\$1265
RTI Middle School		\$1265
RTI Middle School		\$1265
RTI Middle School		\$1265
I&RS Nurse		\$1265
Model UN	Ceara Cleaves	\$1265
Middle School Coordinator	Jessica Latanzio Crespo	\$7478.65
Character Ed Coord. #1	Amy Brenner	\$1658
Character Ed Coord. #2	Cassie Rudd	\$1658
Team Create #1		
Team Create #2		
Future Cities #1		
Future Cities #2		
Aim High Session 1	Amy D'Esposito	\$1265
Aim High Session 1	Joe Harris	\$1265
Aim High Session 1	Jamie Friedel	\$1265
Aim High Session 1	Nicole Gosselin	\$1265
Aim High Session 1	Jessica Latanzio-Crespo	\$1265
Aim High Session 1	Jen Merrigan	\$1265
Aim High Session 1	Deb Nolan	\$1265
Spring Musical Director	Laurie Ruch	\$4988
Spring Musical Asst Dir #1	Stephanie Evans	\$1652
Spring Musical Asst Dir #2	Tonya Lunger	\$1652
Spring Musical Asst Dir #3a(split stipend)	Suzanne Lauricella	\$826
Spring Musical Asst Dir #3b(split stipend)	Lisa Rizzi	\$826
3rd Grade Musical Director	Laurie Ruch	\$1265
3rd Grade Musical Asst Dir #1a (split stipend)	Lisa Rizzi	\$632.50
3rd Grade Musical Asst Dir #1b (split stipend)	Morgan Kneller	\$632.50
3rd Grade Musical Asst Dir #1c (split stipend)	Julia Cline	\$632.50
4th Grade Musical Director	Laurie Ruch	\$1265
4th Grade Musical Asst Dir #1a (split stipend)	Lisa Rizzi	\$632.50
4th Grade Musical Asst Dir #1b (split stipend)	Stephanie Evans	\$632.50

Student Council 5&6 Grade	Jamie Friedel	\$1658
Student Council 7&8 Grade	Jessica Latanzio Crespo	\$1658
Yearbook (1 of 2)	Amy D'Esposito	\$2343
Yearbook (2 of 2)	Coreen Decker	\$2343
Archery Club	Tim Bidwell	\$1265
Archery Club	Michelle Gallagher	\$1265
Chess Club	Tom Larkin	\$1265
Art Club	Robert Adase	\$1265
Technology Student Assoc.	Evelyn Ferro	\$1265
Chill Zone/Game Board Club	Madison Viotto/	\$1265
Science Club (split stipend)	Ceara Cleaves	\$632.50
Science Club (split stipend)	Cindy Malmros	\$632.50
Robotics & Engineering Club	Evelyn Ferro	\$1265
Home Basketball & Volleyball Supervision	Joe Harris, Deb Nolan, Robert Adase, Tim Bidwell, Tonya Lunger, Jen Merrigan, Morgan Kneller, Cindy Malmros	\$89 per event
Color Guard Club	Stephanie Evans	\$1265

D. Curriculum/Committee Staffing

Motion: To approve the following staff members for the following 2026-2027 Curriculum/Committee/ESY Positions:		
Position	Name	Rate/Salary
Crisis Management Committee/ Safety Team Leaders	Michelle Gallagher, Courtney Duryea, Tim Bidwell, Lauren Peachey, Toni Cespedes,	NA
Crisis Management Committee/Safety Team Members Summer	Tim Bidwell	NTE 8 Hours each per negotiated agreement
HIB Coordinator	Dr. Jenine Kastner	NA
HIB Specialist	Angela McVerry	NTE 10 Hours per negotiated agreement
Character Education Program	Cassie Rudd & Amy Brenner	NTE 8 Hours each per negotiated agreement
Real Time Summer Schedule	Tim Bidwell, Joe Harris	NTE 45 Hours each per negotiated agreement
Real Time Summer Schedule	Michelle Gallagher	NTE 10 Hours each per negotiated agreement
Health Office Records	Jessica Storey	NTE 20 Hours each per negotiated agreement

E. Substitute Teachers 2025-2026

Motion: To approve the following staff member and rates for the listed position for the **2025-2026** school year

Position	Name	Rate	Effective Date
Substitute Teacher	Miranda Abarca	\$125.00 per diem	05/19/26 pending completion of paperwork

F. Retirement

Motion: To approve with best wishes and gratitude the retirement of Veronica Upwood effective June 17, 2026. (**Attachment #5**)

G. Salary Increase

Motion: To advance the following teacher on the salary guide in accordance with CEA negotiated agreement:

Position	Name	<u>25/26 Current Step and Salary</u>	<u>25/26 New Step and Salary</u>	Effective	Attachment #
Teacher	Sarah Molle	BA Step 9 \$71,790	BA+15 Step 9 \$72,690	6/1/2026	6

H. Before and Aftercare Staff 2025-26

Motion: To approve the staff and hourly wages for before and after care 25-26 school year

Name	Position	Rate/Salary	Effective
Alli Kripetz	Sr Before/Aftercare Staff	\$20.50 per hour	5/12/26 (junior assistant prior to this date)
Miranda Abarca	Sr Before/Aftercare Staff	\$20.50 per hour	upon receipt of substitute certification (junior assistant rate prior to the receipt)

I. Co-Curricular 2025-2026

Motion: To approve the following staff member(s) for the following co-curricular appointments for 2025-2026

Activity	Staff Member	Rate
Track club (2 session/32 hours)	Samantha Polenz	\$2242.00

8. Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, & Technology

A. Professional Development

Motion: To approve the following requests for professional development and travel related mileage in accordance with NJAC 18A: 11-12:

Program Name	Date	# Employees	Event Cost	Substitute Pay	Total Cost
NONE					

B. Field Trips

Motion: To approve the following requests for field trips as listed:

Date	Grade	Destination	Cost per student
May 2026	Unified	Califon Park	N/A

9. Policy and Regulations

Motion: To approve the listed First and/or Second Readings and Adopt or Repeal the Policies and Bylaws with Second Readings (summaries attached):

Policy #	Title	Action	Att. #
P 0162	Notice of Board Meetings	1st Rdg	7A
P 0162.01	Legal Notices (M)	1st Rdg	7B
P 1230	Superintendent's Duties (M)	1st Rdg	7C
P 2200	Curriculum (M)	1st Rdg	7D
P 2260	Equity in School and Classroom Practices (M)	1st Rdg	7E
P 2411	Career Education and Academic Counseling (M)	1st Rdg	7F
P&R 5111.13	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students - Choice School District (M)	1st Rdg	7G
P 5561	Use of Physical Restraints and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities (M)	1st Rdg	7H
P 6112	Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures (M)	1st Rdg	7I
P 6115.02	Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls - Mandatory Disclosures (M)	1st Rdg	7J
P 6311	Contract for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M)	1st Rdg	7K

R 2200	Curriculum Content - ABOLISHED	1st Rdg	7L
R 2411	Guidance Counseling - ABOLISHED	1st Rdg	7M
R 2460.30	Additional/Compensatory Special Education and Related Services - ABOLISHED	1st Rdg	7N
R 6115.01	Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls - Allowability of Costs (M)	1st Rdg	7O

10. General Information: Business Administrator's Report

Motion to discuss items 10A-C followed by vote after discussion RESOLUTION #: 92					
Board Member	Motion (1&2)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ashley Dunker		X			
Laura Burr					X
Meghan Moore					X
Dan Brkich	2	X			
Theresa Tsakalacos	1	X			
Danielle Nugent		X		X(from 10 A)	

A. SFA to School agreement with Lebanon Borough School District.

Motion: To approve SFA agreement with Lebanon Borough School District
This agreement will allow a SFA (School Food Authority, Clinton Public School) and a school (Lebanon Borough School), in which SFA agrees to operate the school meal programs for the school not under its jurisdiction. This is to assist Lebanon Borough School to provide Free and Reduced meals to its students.

B. Toilet Room Facilities for Pre-K Classroom

Motion: To utilize alternate method of compliance in accordance with N.J.A.C 6A:26-6.3 (h) 4ii by providing toilet rooms adjacent to or outside the classroom in lieu of individual toilet rooms in each classroom. **(Attachment #8)**

C. Monthly Minute Approval

Motion: To approve the Minutes and monthly financial transactions and reports items 1-5:

1. Approval of Board of Education Work/Business and Executive Session Minutes from the April 16,2026 meeting and Executive Session, and

the April 29, 2026 Work and Business Session Budget Hearing and Executive Session. **(Attachment #9)**

2. Certification of the Board of Secretary's and cash reconciler's report that the cash receipts, cash expenditures, and cash balances in the specified amounts, are in agreement and further approve that in compliance with NJAC 6:23A-16/10(c) 3 and 4, there are sufficient funds available to meet financial obligations for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year. That no major account or fund has been over-expended pursuant to NJSA 18A:22-8.1, and that no line-item account has encumbrances and expenditure, which is totally exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A 23-2.22(a) that as of the date of their report. **(Attachment #10)**

March 2026

\$2,829,803.84

3. Approval of the Bill Lists in the specified amounts:
 - a. General Account: \$ 880,576.83 (4/23/26-5/15/26)
 - b. Cafeteria Account: \$26,501.15 (checks written in April)**(Attachment #11)**

4. Checking Account Balances – March, 2026
 - a. Student Activities \$ 92,454.79
 - b. Cafeteria: \$214,868.18
 - c. Unemployment: \$129,194.13
 - d. Payroll Agency: \$ 200,674.74

5. Transfers in the amount of \$139,943.62 for April 2026 **(Attachment #12)**

11. Correspondence

12. New Business

13. Old Business

A. Board Liaison Reports

B. Bulldog Bulletin

2025-2026 Goals

- Teachers will focus on building a positive school culture by modeling and teaching respect, acceptance, and character at the elementary level, and promoting the ABCs of Middle School – Accountability, Belonging, and Character – in grades 5–8.
- Strengthen literacy instruction to align with NJ literacy law requirements. Incorporate evidence-based literacy strategies in daily instruction.

- Implement the district's new Math in Focus program with fidelity in daily instruction. Leverage program resources, including manipulatives and other supports, to maximize learning opportunities and meet the needs of diverse learners.

14. Public Comment NONE

15. Executive Session

Call for Motion at 7:26 to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 231, P.L.1975, to discuss matters listed below. 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.

RESOLUTION #: 93

Board Member	Motion (1 & 2)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ashley Dunker		X			
Laura Burr					X
Meghan Moore					X
Dan Brkich		X			
Theresa Tsakalakos	2	X			
Danielle Nugent	1	X			

Superintendent Annual Review, Personnel

B. Motion to exit executive session at 8:25

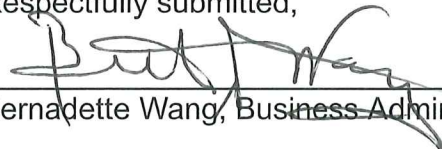
Re-enter regular session: RESOLUTION #: 94

Board Member	Motion (1 & 2)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ashley Dunker		X			
Laura Burr					X
Meghan Moore					X
Dan Brkich	2	X			
Theresa Tsakalakos	1	X			
Danielle Nugent		X			

16. Adjournment

Adjourn at 8:26 : RESOLUTION #: 95					
Board Member	Motion (1 & 2)	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ashley Dunker		X			
Laura Burr					X
Meghan Moore					X
Dan Brkich	2	X			
Theresa Tsakalakos	1	X			
Danielle Nugent		X			

Respectfully submitted,


Bernadette Wang, Business Administrator


Ashley Dunker, President