



# EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 8, 2026  
Virtual Meeting - 8:30 A.M.

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Committee Members: Paulo Lopes, Chair  
Linda Rad, David Rizza, Justina Ryan

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent of Schools  
Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary  
Dr. Rebecca Burns, Director of Pupil Services  
Dr. Stacey Brown, Humanities Supervisor (abs.)  
Katie DaQuisto, Early Childhood Supervisor  
Sarah Pauch, Math, Science, Tech Supervisor  
Dr. Anthony Tumolo, Special Projects Supervisor  
Jim Belske, Technology Coordinator

## Agenda

### **1. Special Education Determination Report FFY 2024**

District meets overall requirements with 22/30 points possible

- Disproportionate representation: 8/8 points (meeting racial equity standards)
- Child find compliance: 6/6 points (meeting evaluation timelines)
- DLM participation rate: 2/4 points (over 1% threshold despite meeting state criteria)
- Least restrictive environment (LRE): 1/4 points (students spending <80% time with gen ed peers)
- Non-compliance correction: 1/4 points (didn't address previous year's LRE/DLM issues)

District percentile rank: 39.9% (typical across state - no districts scoring above 50th percentile)

- Plan to improve LRE through inclusion opportunities and co-teaching models
- Schedules will create more inclusion opportunities at the elementary level

### **2. Reading Portfolio Program Evaluation**

Dr Hart reviewed the slide with the committee.

Board member had concerns regarding parent access.

A staff member with children in the district mentioned that communication was less with the middle school teachers. A Board member discussed the following issues:

- Parent access issues: requires Clever login vs. familiar Genesis portal
- Inconsistent teacher communication about the program
- Students able to opt parents out without parent knowledge

#### **Action Item**

- Add yes/no question to Genesis first-day forms asking if parents want reading log access
- Results available for October ed tech meeting review

### **3. New Teacher Orientation Schedule**

Four-day program August 17-20:

- Day 1: Welcome, district mission, technology training, evaluation system, benefits
- Day 2: Curriculum overviews, special education processes, student support systems
- Day 3: Instructional practice demos, SEL/policy training (preschool completes here)
- Day 4: Lesson planning, classroom management, individual principal meetings

Enhanced features based on feedback:

- Individual building principal meetings added per new hire requests
- Curriculum demonstration lessons by coaches
- Separate specialist/non-teaching staff sessions

### **4. NJSLA Complete**

- Three Bridges participation rate: 94% (4 opt-outs from 61 third graders)
- Middle school participation rate: 93-94% last year, at 95% this year
- Higher opt-out rates during makeup testing periods
- No state follow-up or consequences for 1-2% variance
- The goal is to have 95% or more participation

Related to NJSLA the School Performance Report was also reviewed:

- ELA growth: +3 points, Math growth: +12 points from prior year
- Chronic absenteeism decreased (positive trend)
- English proficiency progress: +10% for multilingual learners
- Some subgroups exceed standards, others not yet meet targets the NJ School Performance reports are updated on [NJ.Gov/education](https://NJ.Gov/education)

### **5. SEL Assessment Implementation**

First-year baseline established across K-3 (grades 4-5 data pending):

- Fall universal screening, spring reassessment for identified students
- 71-100% of reassessed students showed growth to cultivation/independence stages

- Participation rates varied (implementation may be adjusted for year 2)
- Successfully identified students needing tier 2/3 behavioral supports.

A board member asked about the five competencies. The competencies are self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, responsible decision-making, and relationship skills.

## **6. Quarterly Technology Report**

- Whiteboard upgrades so far: 37 installed, 100 by August
- Meraki switches to increase bandwidth and resolve performance issues and outages.
- POTS Lines decommissioning: these are older phone lines, which will reduce costs.
- Summer network upgrade increases bandwidth at Whitehouse and Three Bridges.
- Chromebook refresh: all Chromebooks in grades 6 and 7 will be refreshed for the next school year.
- Current planning for Intercom/paging system upgrade for next summer.
- District has an MS-ISAC Partnership, a cybersecurity membership at no cost, purchased by NJCCIC and is available to public sector agencies.

## **Committee:**

- Next meeting: Thursday, August 6th (moved from August 17th due to board meeting conflict)
- Review Genesis reading log survey results in October.