



NEW PROVIDENCE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administrative Offices
356 Elkwood Avenue
New Providence, New Jersey 07974
www.npsd.k12.nj.us

AGENDA
July 23, 2026
High School/Middle School Media Center
7:00 p.m.

[New Providence Board of Education YouTube Link](#)

I Roll Call:

_____ Mrs. Castellano	_____ Mrs. Kale
_____ Dr. Empson Hayden	_____ Mrs. Lepre
_____ Ms. Gunderman	_____ Mrs. Marano
_____ Mrs. Zane	

II Flag Salute

III Opening Statement by the President:

- A.** This is a public meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence. Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with PL 1975, Chapter 231, in that a notice was made in conformance with Section 13 of the Act.

Whenever the business of the Board requires it to convene to Closed session, the session will begin no later than 9:30 p.m. At the conclusion of the need for Closed Session, the Board will reconvene to the public portion of the meeting. At that time, the Board will complete any other business that may be before it and the public will then be given an opportunity to be heard before the meeting is adjourned.

- B.** Other Comments

IV Report of the Superintendent of Schools

1. General Information
2. Redistricting Plan
3. Administrative Retreat

V Public Comments:

- A.** Opportunity for the Public to be heard (on specific agenda items)
B. Public portion of the meeting declared closed

VI Approval of Minutes as follows:

Business Meeting:	June 25, 2026
Closed Session:	June 25, 2026

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

VII Action Items**A. Finance Actions – Ms. Gunderman**

Approve Items 1 through 9 as listed below:

1. After review, we hereby accept the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for June 2026. No major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
2. Approve the payment of bills for July 2026, in the amount of \$3,993,363.68.
3. Ratify the action of the Superintendent in making the following transfers for the 2025/2026 school year.

June 2026

From:		
Account	Description	Amount
11-000-219-320	Purchased Professional Services	\$ 10,000.00
11-000-221-110	Salaries- Other Instruction	22,101.00
11-000-223-320	Purchased Professional Services	5,000.00
11-000-230-100	Salaries- General Administration	5,400.00
11-000-261-890	Other Expenses	1,000.00
11-000-262-300	Purchased Professional Services	1,000.00
11-000-262-420	Repair & Maintenance	6,000.00
11-000-263-610	General Supplies	2,000.00
11-000-270-420	Repair & Maintenance	4,000.00
11-000-270-512	Contracted Services	33,000.00
11-000-270-615	General Supplies	5,000.00
11-000-291-270	Employee Benefits	279,284.00
11-000-291-280	Tuition Reimbursement	30,000.00
11-130-100-101	Salaries- Grades 6-8	263,127.00
11-140-100-101	Salaries- Grades 9-12	5,000.00
11-204-100-101	Salaries- LLD	5,724.00
11-213-100-101	Salaries- Resource Room	135,000.00
11-401-100-100	Salaries- Co-Curricular	20,000.00
11-402-100-100	Salaries-Athletics	40,000.00
		Total: \$872,636.00

To:		
Account	Description	Amount

11-000-100-562	Tuition- LEA in NJ	\$179,014.00
11-000-100-566	Tuition- Private Schools in NJ	74,556.00
11-000-216-320	Purchased Professional Services	28,000.00
11-000-221-199	Unused Vacation Day Payments	2,101.00
11-000-230-199	Unused Vacation Day Payments	5,400.00
11-000-261-610	General Supplies	7,000.00
11-000-262-100	Salaries- Custodians	53,884.00
11-000-262-199	Unused Vacation Day Payments	1,284.00
11-000-262-490	Utilities- Water	8,300.00
11-000-262-610	General Supplies	2,000.00
11-000-262-621	Utilities- Natural Gas	30,000.00
11-000-262-622	Utilities- Electric	30,000.00
11-000-270-161	Salaries- Special Ed Transportation	678.00
11-000-270-162	Salaries- Transportation	1,541.00
11-000-270-515	Contracted Services	334,000.00
11-000-291-220	Social Security/Medicare	27,125.00
11-000-291-299	Unused Sick Day Payments	70,753.00
11-150-100-320	Purchase Professional Services	17,000.00
		Total: \$872,636.00

4. Approve the following additional purchase in accordance with N.J. Statutes 18A:18A-5(a)(5) for the 2026/2027 school year:
 - iReady Math Classroom Workbooks and Supplemental Resources for Grades K-12 from Curriculum Associates, not to exceed \$75,496.40.
5. Approve the following Morris Union Jointure Commission trip rates for the 2026/2027 school year.

Service	Rate
Trip Rate 54 Passenger (Mon-Sat*)	\$102.44 per hour
Trip Rate 54 Passenger (Sun & Holidays)*	\$132.48 per hour
Trip Rate Small Bus (Mon-Sat)*	\$ 96.88 per hour
Trip Rate Small Bus (Sun & Holidays)	\$117.45 per hour
*Weekend/Holiday trips have four-hour minimum	

6. Approve the swimming pool rental agreement between the New Providence School District and Wood Aquatics, LLC for the 2026/2027 school year.
7. Approve the agreement between the New Providence School District and Atlantic Health to cover an athletic trainer on a as needed basis during the 2026/2027 school year @\$67.50/hour.
8. Approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Borough of New Providence in the County of Union, in the State of New Jersey as follows:

WHEREAS, the legal voters of New Providence approved a bond proposal at an election on November 8, 2022, and

WHEREAS, the bond proposal included the following statement: The Board is authorized to transfer funds among the projects approved at this election. By resolution, the Board may appropriate interest earnings, capital reserves, or general fund surplus if needed for the projects; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Education hereby approves the appropriation of bond interest earnings to the Project as approved by the legal voters of New Providence. In the event that the Project is funded fully, excess interest earnings will be handled as per State regulations; and

WHEREAS, the appropriation of bond interest earnings shall be in effect for the 2026/2027 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized to allocate bond interest earnings to the approved Project.

9. Approve the 2026/2027 Camden County Education Services Commission general services contract effective July 1, 2026.

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

B. Facilities Actions – Ms. Gunderman

Approve Item 1 as listed below:

1. Approve the use of the New Providence Middle School gymnasium as an off-site emergency evacuation location for the Primrose School of New Providence.

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

C. Education-Ms. Castellano

Approve Items 1 through 12 as listed below:

1. Per the 2011 Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, approve the recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools regarding the following 2026/2027 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying investigations:

<u>School</u>	<u>Incident Report Number(s)</u>
Middle School:	7 and 8
Allen W. Roberts:	13

2. Approve the 2026/2027 School Nursing Services Plans for the New Providence School District and approve submission of same to the Executive County Superintendent as mandated by N.J.A.C. 6A:15-2.1(b), copies in the hands of each Board member.
3. Approve the *NP's Pals with Paws!* therapy dog program for the 2026/2027 school year.
4. Approve the agreement between the New Providence School District and Creature Comfort Pet Therapy, to provide In-house services at AWR, Salt Brook and the middle school and to provide services at the high school to be paid on a fee per visit, for the 2026/2027 school year, in a total amount not to exceed \$2,410.00.
5. Approve LLAMAME, LLC to provide Sheltered English Instruction training, for the 2026/2027 school year, in an amount not to exceed \$9,000.00.
6. Approve the submission to the NJDOE of the New Providence School District's Comprehensive Equity Plan (CEP) Statement of Assurance, Year 2, for the 2026/2027 school year. This is an extension of the New Providence School District's 2025/2026 through 2027/2028 CEP.
7. Approve the Board of Education Goals for the 2026/2027 school year, copies in the hands of each Board member.
8. Approve the New Providence School District's annual Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Plan for the 2026/2027 School Year, as prepared in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32. Approve also the submission of this plan to the NJDOE.
9. Approve the enrollment of Student #11224 at MUJC- DLC Warren, for the 2026/2027 school year, at a tuition cost of \$140,498.90, effective 9/2/26.
10. Approve the enrollment of Student #11133 at Bankbridge High School, for the 2026 extended school year, at a tuition cost of \$4,780.00, effective 7/6/26.
11. Approve Metropolitan Speech & Language Center, for in person speech and language services, for the 2026/2027 school year, at a rate of \$142.00/hr. with a 2.5 hour minimum, effective 7/1/26.
12. Approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2025, the Board of Education approved an update to the District's Elementary Redistricting Plan, including a sibling exception provision for incoming kindergarten students residing in the redistricting zone who have an older sibling attending Allen W. Roberts School; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has reviewed two years of actual enrollment data, demographic trends, and projected enrollment to evaluate the continued implementation of the Elementary Redistricting Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that modifying the sibling exception provision is in the best interest of the District while continuing to support overall balanced enrollment between Allen W. Roberts School and Salt Brook School and adhering to Board Policy 2312 - Class Size;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following amendment to the Elementary Redistricting Plan, effective for students entering kindergarten in the **2026-2027 school year and thereafter**:

1. The sibling exception provision contained within the previously approved Elementary Redistricting Plan is eliminated.

2. Incoming kindergarten students who reside within the redistricting zone and have an older sibling attending Allen W. Roberts School shall be permitted to enroll at Allen W. Roberts School and remain there through sixth grade, subject to Board Policy 2312 - Class Size.
3. All other provisions of the Elementary Redistricting Plan shall remain in full force and effect.

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano

_____ Mrs. Kale

_____ Dr. Empson Hayden

_____ Mrs. Lepre

_____ Ms. Gunderman

_____ Mrs. Marano

_____ Mrs. Zane

D. Personnel Action – Dr. Empson Hayden

Approve Items 1 through 6 as listed below:

1. Approve the appointment of the following person with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools subject to the requirements of Chapter 116 of P.L. 1986 for the 2025/2026 school year:
 - a. Siddhant Rai, summer technology work, \$15.25/hr., effective 6/23/26
2. Approve the appointment of the following people with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools subject to the requirements of Chapter 116 of P.L. 1986 for the 2026/2027 school year:
 - a. Bonnie Platek, summer secretary and accounts payable, \$25.00/hr., effective 7/9/26
 - b. Siddhant Rai, summer technology work, \$15.25/hr., effective 7/1/26
 - c. Lily Collins, teacher, \$65,848.00, effective 9/1/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - d. Megan Laterra, teacher, \$60,154.00, effective 9/1/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - e. Jordan Neilson, substitute athletic trainer (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - f. Rayanne Elsherif, teacher, \$66,690.00, effective 9/1/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - g. John E. Cosgrove, HS marching band, remote color guard director, \$3,000.00
 - h. Roberta Feraro, playground/lunch assistant, 3.0 hrs./day, \$21.28/hr., based on 176 days, \$11,236.00, effective 9/1/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - i. Barrie Schwarz, teacher, \$81,995.00, effective 9/1/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - j. Jennifer Dowden, long-term substitute teacher, effective 8/31/26, to be paid on a per diem basis of \$300.77 (prorated Step 1, Column I, base of \$60,154.00)
 - k. Gia Liberato, substitute teacher, teacher aide, and secretary (subject to criminal history review procedures and issuance of certification)
 - l. Christian Rizzo, soccer (fall), girls, 2nd assistant, \$5443.00
 - m. P.J. Browne, soccer (fall), boys, volunteer (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - n. Julian Vierbuchen, volleyball (fall), girls, volunteer (subject to criminal history review procedures)

3. Accept the resignations of the following employees:
 - a. Barbara Mulligan, playground/lunch assistant, effective 6/29/26
 - b. Kathryn Mangel, district communication coordinator (p/t), effective 9/30/26
 - c. Tracy Sheeran, playground/lunch assistant, effective 7/1/26
 - d. Miranda Hood, teacher, effective 7/10/26
4. Rescind the following summer 2026 appointment:
 - a. Daniel Ruzicka, summer technology work, \$15.25/hr., effective 6/19/26 and 7/1/26
5. Rescind the following appointment for the 2026/2027 school year:
 - a. Rayanne Elsherif, long term substitute teacher, \$33,345.00 (base \$66,690.00), effective 9/1/26 through 1/31/27
6. Approve the following revised Job Description, a copy is in the hands of each Board member.

<u>Job No.</u>	<u>Job Title</u>	
226	District Communications Coordinator	Revised

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

_____ Mrs. Castellano	_____ Mrs. Kale
_____ Dr. Empson Hayden	_____ Mrs. Lepre
_____ Ms. Gunderman	_____ Mrs. Marano
_____ Mrs. Zane	

E. Board Policy – Mrs. Zane

1. Approve the following By Laws Policies and Regulations on first reading:

Bylaws and Policies:

Policy 5460 (Mandated)	High School Graduation	Revised
Policy 5461 (Mandated)	High School Diplomas	New
Policy 5516 (Mandated)	Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices	Revised
Policy 5561 (Mandated)	Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities	Revised

Regulations:

Regulation 5516 (Mandated)	Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices	Revised
-------------------------------	---	---------

2. Approve the following Policies and Regulations on second reading:

Bylaws and Policies:

Policy 0162.01 (Mandated)	Legal Notices	New
Policy 1643 (Mandated)	Family Leave	Revised
Policy 2200 (Mandated)	Curriculum	Revised
Policy 2260 (Mandated)	Equity in School and Classroom Practices	Revised
Policy 3418	Substitute Compensation	Revised

Regulations:

Regulation 2200 (Mandated)	Curriculum Content	Abolished
-------------------------------	--------------------	-----------

Seconded by: _____

Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call:

_____ Mrs. Castellano	_____ Mrs. Kale
_____ Dr. Empson Hayden	_____ Mrs. Lepre
_____ Ms. Gunderman	_____ Mrs. Marano
_____ Mrs. Zane	

VIII Committee Reports

1. Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology
2. Finance, Facilities, and Safety/Security
3. Personnel, Management, and Communication

IX Old Business**X New Business**

Superintendent of Schools' Goals- 2026/2027 School Year

XI Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

XII Motion to Recess to Closed Session, if necessary

XIII Adjournment