

READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

Holland Brook School
Regular Meeting 5:00 p.m.
July 16, 2026

MINUTES

Mission Statement: We empower members of our community to lead purposeful lives with integrity, to cultivate a spirit of discovery, and to embrace connections in our diverse, global society.

I. CALL TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT – OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

Mr. Rizza called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6-21) and was open to the media and public. Effective March 1, 2026, all legal notices and board meeting dates shall only be posted on the district website in conformity with state code. Formal action was taken.

Present: Mrs. Cassidy, Mr. Lopes, Mrs. DePinto, Mrs. Rad, Mr. Rizza

Also Present: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent, Jason M. Bohm, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Absent: Mrs. Fiore, Mrs. Mencer, Mr. Pieros, Mrs. Ryan

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. RESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBER

Motion: Mr. Rizza

2nd: Mr. Lopes

Roll Call Vote: Carried 5 Yes

Motion to accept the resignation of Michele Mencer, Board Member, effective July 17, 2026.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Dr. Hart presented on district enrollment, staffing and housing developments in the township.
- Dr. Hart recognized Michele Mencer who is resigning from the board, sharing gratitude for her dedication and hard work to better the district as well as support teachers, students and families over her term.

V. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (LIMITED TO ACTION ITEMS ON THE AGENDA)

- A community member asked about IDEA funding, special education programming and support, as well as resignation of Ms. Mencer from the Board of Education. Dr. Hart and Mr. Rizza provided information in response.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

- Email NJASL/NJLA - Book Challenge

VII. BOARD ACTION

A. APPROVAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. Motion to adopt 1.01 - 1.04

Motion: Mrs. DePinto

2nd: Mr. Lopes

Roll Call Vote: Carried 5 Yes

- 1.01 Motion to approve Enrollment and Drill Reports June 2026.
(Attachment 1.01)

- 1.02 Motion to accept the HIB reports and affirm the Superintendent's decision:

CASE NUMBER	SCHOOL	DATE	FINDINGS OF HARASSMENT INTIMIDATION OR BULLYING
7	WHS	05/04/2026	No
8	WHS	05/04/2026	No
9	RMS	06/03/2026	Yes

- 1.03 Motion to approve the Emergency Virtual or Remote Instructional Program Plan for the 2026-2027 school year.
(Attachment 1.03)
- 1.04 RMS Quarterly Discipline Report Quarter 4/April 15, 2026 - June 30, 2026.
(Attachment 1.04)

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Motion to adopt 2.01 - 2.02
Motion: Mrs. Rad **2nd: Mr. Lopes** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 5 Yes**
- 2.01 Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes June 9, 2026.
- 2.02 Motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes June 9, 2026.

C. FINANCE/FACILITIES

Committee Report: None

3. Motion to adopt 3.01 - 3.12
Motion: Mr. Lopes **2nd: Mrs. DePinto** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 5 Yes**
- Motion to adopt 3.13
Motion: Mr. Rizza **2nd: Mr. Lopes** **Roll Call Vote: Carried 5 Yes**
- 3.01 Motion to approve the **Bill List** for the period from **June 11, 2026, through July 21, 2026** for a total amount of **\$8,027,309.51**.
(Attachment 3.01)
- 3.02 Motion to approve the **Travel Expenditures July 7, 2026** in the amount of **\$5,682.27**.
- 3.03 Motion to ratify and approve **Payroll and Agency** for the month of **June 2026** for a total amount of **\$2,787,473.58**.
(Attachment 3.03)
- 3.04 Motion to ratify and approve the following **Account Transfers for June 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026**.
(Attachment 3.04-3.04a)
- 3.05 Motion to ratify and approve the **Student Activities Account for June 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026**.
(Attachment 3.05-3.05a)
- 3.06 Motion to accept the FINANCIAL REPORT CERTIFICATION OF BOARD SECRETARY'S MONTHLY CERTIFICATION BUDGETARY LINE ITEM STATUS June 30, 2026 pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that as of June 30, 2026 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9 and 18A:22-8.1.

Jason M. Bohm, Board Secretary

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 and 4, we certify that as of June 30, 2026 after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate

3.07 Motion to approve shared services agreement with Haddon Township School District Communications Consortium for \$6,500.00 for the 2026-2027 school year.
(Attachment 3.07)

3.08 Motion to submit the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) grant application and acceptance of funds for the 2026-2027 school year:

IDEA:
Basic: \$426,197.00
Preschool: \$15,366.00

3.09 Motion to submit the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) grant application and acceptance of funds for the 2026-2027 school year, and establish as the lead agent a Title III consortium for Hunterdon County school districts under the \$10,000.00 threshold required to access funds per participant:

ESEA:
Title I: \$41,719.00
Title II: \$18,816.00
Title III Consortium: \$6,423.00 for Readington Township
Title IV: \$10,000.00

3.10 Motion to approve the following resolution: Resolution Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is the owner of certain surplus property which is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Board is desirous of selling said surplus property in an “as-is” condition without express or implied Warranties;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Readington Township Board of Education as follows:(1) The sale of the surplus property shall be conducted through GovDeals pursuant to State Contract A-70967/T2481 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the State Contract. The terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with GovDeals is available online at govdeals.com and also available from the Board of Education. (2) The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is govdeals.com. (3) 3 The sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-9. (4) A listing of the surplus property to be sold is attached.
(Attachment 3.10)

3.11 Motion to approve the application and acceptance of the School Lead Filter Grant from the State of New Jersey in the amount of \$2,139.80 for the reimbursement for the purchase and installation of point-of-use filtered bottle-filling stations and filtered faucets in public school districts.

3.12 Motion to apply for and accept the School Health Insurance Fund (SHIF) wellness grant in the amount of \$30,000.00 inclusive of a wellness champion stipend of \$2,500.00.

3.13 Motion to authorize the board attorney to draft and effectuate a formal settlement agreement between the Readington Township Board of Education and Whitehouse Preparatory School for the 2026-2027, 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 school years. All terms are subject to board approval.

4.01 Motion to approve the Out of District Contracts for the 2026-2027 school year:

STUDENT	SCHOOL	TUITION SCHOOL YEAR	TUITION ESY
S-089	DLM New Providence	\$111,262.00	\$18,544.00
S-035	Lakeview School	\$110,914.20	\$18,485.70
S-009	The Newmark School, Inc	\$69,886.80	\$6,600.42
S-206	Rutgers Day School	\$90,540.00	\$18,108.00
S-223	Shepard School	\$59,617.74	N/A
S-277	Somerset Hills	\$132,436.80	\$22,072.80

4.02 Motion to approve a tuition contract for student # 4029120539 from Kingwood Township School District to attend the Readington Township School District's Autism Program for \$47,850.00 for the 2026-2027 school year. The program rate was board approved on April 28, 2026 and affirmed by the County office.

4.03 Motion to ratify and amend motion 4.01 from the October 14, 2025 agenda for the Holland Brook School Clubs for the 2025-2026 school year as follows:

ADVISOR	CLUB	STIPEND
Mahoney, Lauren	Yearbook	From: \$536.50 To: \$877.50
Sivo, Carrie	Yearbook	From: \$536.50 To: \$877.50

4.04 Motion to approve the elimination of a Learning Language Disabilities program at Three Bridges Elementary School, to begin on September 3, 2026.

4.05 Motion to approve Rizked Educational Consulting, LLC as a professional services vendor to provide testing at the following rates:

SERVICE	AMOUNT
Psychological Evaluation	\$475.00
Comprehensive Psychological Evaluation	\$575.00
Comprehensive PsychoEducational Evaluation	\$1000.00
Consultation Service	\$100.00 per hour
Meeting Attendance	\$100.00 per hour

4.06 Motion to adopt the following field trip for Summer 2026:

GROUP	FIELD TRIP	LOCATION	COST TO PARENT
G&T-8	Columbia University	New York City, NY	- 0 -

- 4.07 Motion to approve Cael Moser, former student and volunteer, to conduct an Eagle Scout project at RMS over the summer for the purpose of installing a garden irrigation system.

E. PERSONNEL

Committee Report: Mr. Rizza provided minutes of the meetings held June 12 and July 13, 2026.

5. Motion to adopt 5.01 - 5.09

Motion: Mrs. Cassidy

2nd: Mrs. DePinto

Roll Call Vote: Carried 5 Yes

- 5.01 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following appointments:

NAME	POSITION	SALARY/STEP	EFFECTIVE DATE
Heather Starnes	Teacher/Special Education (RMS) 20-01-D2/ahs	\$66,545.00 BA Step 9	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
Samantha Parlato	Teacher/Grade 1 (TBS) 20-03-D2/acm	\$61,440.00 BA Step 1	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
Lisa Crowe	LTS Teacher/Grade 1 (WHS) 20-04-D2/ayi	\$68,290.00 MA Step 4-5 (5)	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
Tara Maher	Nurse (HBS) 20-02-01@bew	\$81,710.00 BA Step 18	09/01/2026 - 6/30/2027
Stephen Clarke	Bus Aide (Transp) 40-06-D3/bdj	\$25.00 per hour	09/01/2026 - 6/30/2027
Danielle Marino	Assistant to the Business Administrator (BOE) 10-05-D1/aad	\$87,000.00 (prorated)	08/03/2026 - 6/30/2027
Megan Dustin	Clerical Aide (WHS) 40-04-D4/ara	\$20.00 Clerical Step 11	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027

- 5.02 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following position control change and designated transfer effective 08/03/2026 - 06/30/2027:

NAME	CHANGE	POSITION	LOCATION	SALARY
Kristy Lowrie	Transfer From: To:	40-03-D4/arb 50-03-D4/anb	TBS Clerical Aide TBS Secretary/Principal	\$56,780.00 Step 12-13 (12) (prorated)

- 5.03 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and ratify the following Substitute Teachers/Aides/Nurses/Bus Drivers for the 2026-2027 school year, paid at the applicable substitute rates, in the Readington Township District, pending satisfactory completion of employment requirements:

NAME	POSITION
Paige Simon	Substitute Teacher/Aide

Peyton Moor	Substitute Teacher
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5.04 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following resignations:

NAME	POSITION	EFFECTIVE DATE
Christina Kocsi	Teacher/Kindergarten (TBS) 20-03-D2/axf	06/30/2026
Filomena Hengst	Teacher/Kindergarten (TBS) 20-03-D2/axf	06/30/2026
Jack Benard	LTS Teacher/PE/Health (RMS) 20-01-D2/agj	07/02/2026

5.05 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the attached list of Readington Middle School coaching assignments for the 2026-2027 school year at their contractual rate.
(Attachment 5.05)

5.06 Motion to amend agenda item 5.24 from the June 9, 2026 Board of Education meeting to reflect the addition of Chad Schubert on the Future Preparedness Strategic Planning sub committee.
(Attachment 5.06)

5.07 Motion to approve Lisa DeTommaso, Secretary to the Business Administrator, and Melinda Roethke, Payroll & Benefits Specialist, as wellness champions in the 2026-2027 school year for a stipend in the amount of \$1,250.00 each, to be paid for through the School Health Insurance Fund (SHIF) wellness grant.

5.08 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following job descriptions:
(Attachment 5.08)

- Nurse/Private Duty Nurse
- Transportation Supervisor
- Transportation Mechanic
- Preschool Paraprofessional

5.09 Motion to ratify and approve Amie Walsh, Teacher, to teach the Extended School Year Program during the summer of 2026, for 16 days, 5 hrs./day at the summer rate based on a salary of \$65,430.00.

D. COMMUNICATION

Committee Report: None

6. Motion to adopt 6.01

Motion: Mrs. DePinto

2nd: Mrs. Rad

Roll Call Vote: Carried 5 Yes

6.01 Motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the following policies and regulation for second reading:
(Attachment 6.01)

- Policy 0175 - Contracts with Independent Consultants
- Policy 1110 - Organizational Chart
- Policy 1230 - Superintendent's Duties
- Policy 2200 - Curriculum
- Policy 2361 - Acceptable Use of Computer Network/Computers and Resources
- Policy 2411 - Career Education and Academic Counseling
- Policy 3324 - Right of Privacy
- Policy 3340 - Grievance
- Policy 3410 - Compensation

- Policy 5701 - Academic Integrity
- Regulation 2418 - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Mr. Bohm provided information regarding the NJSBA Convention October
- Dr. Hart indicated the referendum proposal submitted to present at NJSBA Convention, was rejected, however the Key Communicators Group's proposal was accepted. Lori Perlow, consultant, and Dr. Hart both shall present jointly.
- On August 18, 2026 a NJSBA representative shall be there to lead the retreat along with the board self evaluation results. Mr. Rizza reminded board members to fill out the self evaluation document.

IX. NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD

- Board Vacancy Process - Dr. Hart highlighted bylaw 0143 and important dates which include:
 - Effective Date of Ms. Mencer's Resignation: July 17th
 - Public Posting of Board Member Vacancy: July 20th
 - Submission Deadline for Applications for Vacancy: August 7th
 - Interviews: August 18th at 5:00 p.m. (Board retreat starts tentatively at 6:00 p.m.)
 - Candidate selection: August 18th following executive session
 - Candidate sworn in: September 8th based on public vote

X. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

- A few residents discussed the first amendment, policy 2535, legal, and other topics. Several speakers shared concerns about the banning of a book and supporting educators.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 6:00 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Rizza

2nd: Mrs. Cassidy

Roll Call Vote: Carried 5 Yes

Motion to adopt the following resolution: Resolved to adjourn to Executive Session in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 321, P.L. 1975, to discuss a HIB and legal matters for approximately 60 minutes at which time the Board expects to return to Public Session where action may be taken. 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.

XII. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION - 7:10 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Rizza

2nd: Mrs. Cassidy

Roll Call Vote: Carried 5 Yes

XIII. ADJOURNMENT - 7:11 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Rizza

2nd: Mrs. Cassidy

Roll Call Vote: Carried 5 Yes

Mr. Jason M. Bohm
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mr. David Rizza
President, Board of Education