Andover Regional Board of Education Regular Meeting

July 22, 2026

Attendance:

Present: Ms. Jane Byron, Mr. James Fetcho, Mr. Brian Hertenstein, Mr. Steven Minnick, Mr. William Porter, Ms. Kelsey Shalinksy and Ms. Margaret Widgren

Also Present: Mr. John Fritzky, Superintendent
Ms. Nicole Sylveter, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
6 members of the public

Not Present: Dr. Maria Dunbar and Dr. Robert Koroski

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS:

Mr. Porter called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Porter led the flag salute.

Mission Statement: Mr. Porter read the mission statement:

Andover Regional Schools prepare students to successfully meet the challenges of today and tomorrow by fostering a love of learning. Our safe, supportive, and stimulating environment encourages students to reach their full potential. It is an expectation that all students shall achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards at all grade levels. In Andover Regional, every child catches the learning spirit!

Public Meeting Notice: Mr. Porter read the following public meeting notice:

"The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is either discussed or acted upon. The Board has fully complied with the notice requirements by advertising in the New Jersey Herald, posting publicly and by notifying the municipal clerk of the date, time and place of the meeting."

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None at this time.

III. PRESENTATION: None at this time.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Minnick moved and Ms. Byron seconded, that the Andover Regional Board of Education approve the minutes as amended of the following Board of Education meeting, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

June 16, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Ms. Byron, Mr. Fetcho, Mr. Hertenstein, Mr. Minnick, Mr. Porter, Ms. Shalinksy and Ms. Widgren

No: None

Abstain: None

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Board Committees:

Personnel/Policy	Finance/Operations	Curriculum/Instruction
Mr. Porter (Chair)	Mr. Fetcho (Chair)	Ms. Byron (Chair)
Dr. Dunbar	Ms. Widgren	Mr. Hertenstein
Dr. Koroski	Mr. Minnick	Ms. Shalinsky

Special Committees/Ad Hoc Assignments:

WHAT	DELEGATE	ALTERNATE(s)
Sussex County School Boards Association	Dr. Koroski	Ms. Byron/Ms. Widgren/Dr. Dunbar
NJSBA Delegate Assembly	Mr. Minnick	Ms. Widgren/Dr. Dunbar
Newton Board of Education Rep.	Ms. Widgren	Mr. Hertenstein/Dr. Koroski
Sussex County Educational Services	Dr. Koroski	Ms. Widgren/Mr. Hertenstein
Andover Regional PTA	Ms. Shalinsky	Ms. Widgren/Dr. Dunbar
Township Liaison	Ms. Widgren	Dr. Dunbar
Negotiations/Sick Bank	Dr. Koroski	Mr. Fetcho/Ms. Widgren/Mr. Hertenstein
QSAC Committee	Dr. Koroski	Mr. Minnick/Ms. Widgren
SEPAG Liaison	Mr. Hertenstein	Dr. Koroski/Mr. Fetcho/Ms. Widgren
Andover Regional Education Foundation	Dr. Dunbar	Dr. Koroski

Mr. Porter reported on the Personnel/Policy committee stating that they met to discuss the new cell phone policy, QSAC, Buildings & Grounds big ticket items and personnel matters, discussion ensued.

Ms. Sylvester reported on the Finance/Operations committee stating that they met to discuss maintenance items along with FMB septic and playground updates, discussion ensued.

Ms. Byron reported on the Curriculum/Instruction committee stating they discussed facilities upgrades as well as reporting that the ESEA grant award was reduced, discussion ensued.

Ms. Widgren reported on the Newton board meeting she attended stating they had several presentations on artwork throughout the district, updates on the new turf field and press box, reporting on achievements from the athletics department, state score updates and special education scores from the school performance report decreased, discussion ensued.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

A. Mr. Fritzky gave an update on ESY.
B. Mr. Fritzky reported that Safety Town was a success.
C. Mr. Fritzky stated Ms. Sylvester gave an update on the FMB playground.
D. Mr. Fritzky stated Ms. Sylvester gave an update on the FMB septic.
E. Mr. Fritzky gave an update on staffing saying that we are now fully staffed for September.
F. Mr. Fritzky gave his monthly Suspension/HIB Report.

Mr. Minnick moved and Ms. Byron seconded, that the Andover Regional Board of Education approve the resolution below as presented:

Resolve that the Board of Education accepts the attached HIB Report**,** as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Ms. Byron, Mr. Fetcho, Mr. Hertenstein, Mr. Minnick, Mr. Porter, Ms. Shalinksy and Ms. Widgren

No: None

Abstain: None

B. Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment: Listed below is the report from **Jennifer Reynolds,** Coordinator of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

- Attended Open Sci Ed Training with Mr. Petersen and Mrs. VanBenschoten
- Created the 26-27 Vector Training Schedule for staff
- Working on agenda preparations for New Teacher Orientation and Opening Two Days
- Working on PLC agenda for the 26-27 school year
- Working on preschool scheduling
- Meeting with new staff regarding curriculum
- Working with Admin team on 26-27 planning

C. Technology Report: Listed below is a report from **Joseph DeLuca**, Technology/Network Systems Administrator.

- Facilitated the onboarding process for incoming personnel.
- Coordinated classroom readiness for next-generation interactive panels.
- Executed inventory management protocols, including asset tagging for all new hardware.

Mr. Fetcho moved and Ms. Widgren seconded, that the Andover Regional Board of Education approve resolution D below as presented:

D. HIB Findings: Resolved that the Andover Regional Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, affirm the Superintendent's findings on HIB(s) LPS-2526-7 and LPS-2526-8.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Ms. Byron, Mr. Fetcho, Mr. Hertenstein, Mr. Minnick, Mr. Porter, Ms. Shalinksy and Ms. Widgren

No: None

Abstain: None

E. Principal's Reports- None at this time.

VII. SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY REPORT:

None at this time.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS: None at this time.

IX. ACTION ITEMS:

A. PERSONNEL/POLICY:

Mr. Minnick moved and Ms. Byron seconded, that the Andover Regional Board of Education approve resolutions #1-12 as presented:

1. **New Hire**: Approve Deirdre Fretz as Spanish Teacher with a start date of August 31, 2026 through June 30, 2027 with a salary of $74,740, MA Step 6 (salary may be subject to adjustment upon conclusion of AREA negotiations and after successor Collective Negotiation Agreement is ratified by the Association and approved by the BOE) pending receipt of all required paperwork, including criminal history clearance, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

2. **New Hire**: Approve Laureen Golden as Leave Replacement Teacher for Employee #1391 with a start date of September 8, 2026 through June 30, 2027 with a salary of $66,622 , MA Step 1 (salary may be subject to adjustment upon conclusion of AREA negotiations and after successor Collective Negotiation Agreement is ratified by the Association and approved by the BOE) pending receipt of all required paperwork, including criminal history clearance, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

3. **New Hire**: Approve Mariah Adams as Music Teacher with a start date of August 31, 2026 through June 30, 2027 with a salary of $76,377, BA +30 Step 9 (salary may be subject to adjustment upon conclusion of AREA negotiations and after successor Collective Negotiation Agreement is ratified by the Association and approved by the BOE) pending receipt of all required paperwork, including criminal history clearance, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

4. **New Hire**: Approve Nicole Caldarone as Preschool Teacher with a start date of August 31, 2026 through June 30, 2027 with a salary of $63,755, BA Step 2 (salary may be subject to adjustment upon conclusion of AREA negotiations and after successor Collective Negotiation Agreement is ratified by the Association and approved by the BOE) pending receipt of all required paperwork, including criminal history clearance, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

5. **Inventory/Box Opener:** Approve Bradley Heinke to be the inventory/box opener for both FMB and LPS at a rate of $15.49/hour up to 50 hours at each school, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

6. **2026 Extended School Year ParaProfessional:** Approve the following ParaProfessional for the Extended School Year for the period of July 6, 2026 through August 6, 2026 running 4 days/week M-Th for 4 hrs/day for 20 days at a rate of $20 per hour (salary may be subject to adjustment upon

conclusion of AREA negotiations and after successor Collective Negotiation Agreement is ratified by the Association and approved by the BOE), as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
Kiana Mellogno

7. **Summer 2026 Technology Assistant**: Approve Susan Ross as the 2026-2027 school year Summer Technology Assistant starting ASAP, pending receipt of all required paperwork, including criminal history clearance, for up to 28 hrs/wk, at the rate of $16/hour for 10 weeks, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

8. **Appointment of the AAO:** Approve Jenn Reynolds as the Andover Regional School District School Affirmative Action Officers, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools, for the 2026-2027 school year.

9. **ESY Substitute**: Approve, retroactively, Laura Kiely, as substitute paraprofessional for 2026 Extended School Year at a rate of $20.00/hr, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

10. **Substitutes:** Approve the following substitute(s) for the 2025-2026 school year pending receipt of all required paperwork, including criminal history clearance, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.
Laureen Golden - Substitute Teacher, Leave Replacement

11. **First Reading of Policies & Regulations:** Approve the first reading of the following (and attached) policies and regulations, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Alert #237

P 1230	Superintendent's Duties (M) (Revised)
P 2200	Curriculum (M) (Revised)
R 2200	Curriculum Content (M) (Abolished)
P 2411	Career Education and Academic Counseling (M) (Revised)
R 2411	Guidance Counseling (M) (Abolished)
P 0162	Notice of Board Meetings (Revised)
P 0162.01	Legal Notices (M) (New)
P 1643	Family Leave (M) (Revised)
P 2260	Equity in School and Classroom Practices (M) (Revised)
R 2460.30	Additional/Compensatory Special Education and Related Services (M) (Abolished)
P&R 5111.13	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students – Choice School District (M) (New)
P 5561	Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students w/Disabilities (M) (Revised)
P 6112	Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures (M) (Revised)
R 6115.01	Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Allowability of Costs (M) (Revised)
P 6115.02	Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls –Mandatory Disclosures (M) (Revised)
P 6311	Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M) (Revised)

P 8561 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs (M) (Revised)

Alert 238

P 2363 Student Use of Privately Owned Technology (Abolished)
P&R 5516 Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices (Revised)
P 8660 Transportation by Private Vehicles - To and From School-Related Activities (Revised)
P 8662 Transportation by Private or District-Owned Vehicles - To and From School (Revised)

12. **Special Education Coordinator Stipend**: Approve the appointment of Nicole Dilkes as Special Education Coordinator for the 2026–2027 school year, effective July 23, 2026 through June 30, 2027, at a salary of $15,000, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Ms. Byron, Mr. Fetcho, Mr. Hertenstein, Mr. Minnick, Mr. Porter, Ms. Shalinksy and Ms. Widgren

No: None

Abstain: None

B. FINANCE/OPERATIONS:

Mr. Fetcho moved and Ms. Widgren seconded, that the Andover Regional Board of Education approve resolutions #1-21 as presented:

1. **Treasurer & Board Secretary's Certification and Report**: Approve the June 2026 Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, we certify that as of June 2026 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, *and reflects all audit adjustments to date,* to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

2. **Transfers**: Approve/accept the Transfer Report for June 2026, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

3. **Bills List**: Approve/accept, retroactively, the Bills List from June 16, 2026 through June 30, 2026 for a total of $917,109.73 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

4. **Bills List**: Approve/accept the Bills List from July 1, 2026 through July 15, 2026 for a total of $321,047.31 as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

5. **Accurate Pest Control:** Approve the 2026-2027 pest management agreement with Accurate Pest

Control at a monthly cost of $100 for both schools with a one-time $40 charge for IPM books, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

6. **GenServe LLC:** Approve the Power Maintenance Agreement with GenServe for the 2026-2027 school year for generator services at a cost of $1,500 for both schools, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

7. **Contract with LBJ Interior Solutions:** Approve, retroactively, the contract with LBJ Interior Solutions, LLC for new carpet in the LPS band room at a cost of $13,316.76, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

8. **Contract with LBJ Interior Solutions:** Approve, retroactively, the contract with LBJ Interior Solutions, LLC for new stair treads in LPS at a cost of $4,984.26, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

9. **Comprehensive Equity Plan (CEP) & SOA**: Approve the Comprehensive Equity Plan (2025-2028) Statement of Assurance (SOA) for the 2026-2027 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

10. **Maintenance Reserve Proposals:** Approve the following to be paid out of maintenance reserve, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Item	Amount not to exceed:
LPS Band Room Carpet (LBJ Interior Solutions)	$13,316.76
LPS Stair Treads (LBJ Interior Solutions)	$4,984.26

11. **Contract with Total Healthcare Staffing:** Approve the proposal with Total Healthcare Staffing for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 at a cost of $75/hour for a school nurse, $45/hour for Paraprofessional/aide and $80/hour for one-to-one private duty nursing (RN/LPN) for various services, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

12. **2026-2027 ESEA Grant:** Approve the participation in a Title III Consortium with High-Point, Kittatinny Regional School District, Lenape Valley, Hampton Township Board of Education and Hopatcong School Districts with a total aggregate amount to exceed $10,000, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

13. **Participation in Morris-Union Jointure:** A resolution authorizing the Andover Regional Board of Education to enter into the MORRIS-UNION JOINTURE COMMISSION COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT NJ STATE APPROVED COOPERATIVE PRICING

SYSTEM--#302MUJC

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the Morris-Union Jointure Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency," has offered voluntary participation in the Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services;

Whereas, on July 22, 2026 the governing body of the Andover Regional Board of Education of Sussex County, duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services relating to technology, professional development and staffing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

This RESOLUTION shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the Morris-Union Jointure Commission Board of Education.

Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11 et seq., N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq., the Board Secretary of the Board of Education is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency on the Board's behalf.

The Lead Agency shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the Public School Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

14. **2026-2027 IDEA Grant:** Approve and submit the following IDEA grant monies for the 2026-2027 school year:

IDEA- Basic	IDEA- Preschool
$168,343	$7,397

15. **2026-2027 ESEA Grant:** Approve and submit the following ESEA grant monies for the 2026-2027 school year:

Title I- A	Title II- A	Title III	Title IV Part A
$36,940	$13,174	$4,287	$10,000

16. **PTA Association Approval:** Approve and recognize the Andover Regional School District Parent Teacher Association sponsored organization for the 2026-2027 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

17. **AREF Approval:** Approve and recognize the Andover Regional Educational Foundation for the 2026-2027 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

18. **Standing BOE Committees:** Approve the following standing BOE Committees for the 2026-2027 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent:

A. Personnel/Policy/Community Relations/Shared Services
B. Finance/Operations/Technology (infrastructure)
C. Curriculum(Instruction/Assessment)/ProfessionalDevelopment/Technology(instructional)

19. **YMCA:** Approve YMCA, Inc. to operate a state-approved child care program before and after school for District students at FMB & LPS for the 2026-2027 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

20. **Building Use for 2026-2027 School Year**: Approve the following building use for the Long Pond and/or Florence M. Burd schools, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

NAME OF ORGANIZATION	PURPOSE	DATE REQUESTED	INSURANCE CERTIFICATE	BUILDING
AREF	Craft Fair	Nov. 20 & 21, 2026	Yes	LPS

21. **Emergency Virtual/Remote Plans**: Approve the Emergency Virtual/Remote Plans for the 2026-2027 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Ms. Byron, Mr. Fetcho, Mr. Hertenstein, Mr. Minnick, Mr. Porter, Ms. Shalinksy and Ms. Widgren

No: None

Abstain: None

C. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION:

Mr. Hertenstein moved and Mr. Fetcho seconded, that the Andover Regional Board of Education approve resolution #1 as presented:

1. **Student Teacher/Field Experience & Clinical Internship**: Approve Maria Robins, a Clinical Intern from Centenary University's DOE, for the following, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

- **Clinical Field Experience (Fall 2026)**
  - **Dates:** On or about August 24, 2026, through December 12, 2026
  - **Schedule:** Two full days per week or four half days per week for a minimum of fifteen weeks
  - **Placement:** Grades 5-6 English Language Arts
  - **General Education Cooperating Teacher: Meredith Sajdak**
- **Clinical Internship (Spring 2027)**
  - **Placement 1**
    - **Dates:** On or about January 15, 2027, through March 15, 2027
    - **Placement:** Grades 5-6 English Language Arts
    - **General Education Cooperating Teacher: Meredith Sajdak**
  - **Placement 2**
    - **Dates:** On or about March 15, 2027, through May 12, 2027
    - **Placement:** Special Education
    - **Special Education Cooperating Teacher: To Be Determined**

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Ms. Byron, Mr. Fetcho, Mr. Hertenstein, Mr. Minnick, Mr. Porter, Ms. Shalinksy and Ms. Widgren

No: None

Abstain: None

X. COMMUNICATIONS TO BOARD: None at this time.

XI. OLD and NEW BUSINESS: None at this time.

XII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

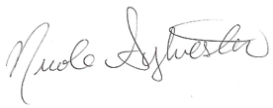
Below are the comments from the Public, all questions were answered and discussed, if applicable.

Ms. Gillespie- Asked if anyone had seen the Township Journal article on student cost. She inquired about the article on district size versus cost per student. Discussion ensued.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: None at this time.

Adjournment: Mr. Fetcho moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Byron and approved at 7:57 p.m. and carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote call by all members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Sylvester

Business Administrator/Board Secretary