MANVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MANVILLE, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

August 5, 2026 – 5:00 PM – MHS Media Center

A meeting of the Board of Education will be held this day in the Manville High School Media Center. The order of business and agenda for the meeting is:

I. **CALL TO ORDER –** Board of Education President Justina Breen **- approximately 5:05 p.m.**

II. **OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT –** Ms. Breen

Adequate notice of this meeting in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the "Open Public Meetings Act," has been provided by action of the Board of Education at its Reorganization Meeting on January 7, 2026. Notices were sent to the Courier News, circulated in the school district, and a notice to this effect was posted on the Board of Education website and the building bulletin board at the Administrative Headquarters, 1100 Brooks Boulevard, Manville, New Jersey.

III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, MOMENT OF REFLECTION, AND READING OF THE MISSION STATEMENT**

We believe in the potential of our students, the ability of our teachers and administrators, and the support of our parents and community. Every child. Every day.

The Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Mission Statement were read by Ms Breen. There was no Moment of Reflection.

IV. **ROLL CALL:**

Present:	**Lisa Antonelli, Debra Babich, Justina Breen, Kelly Harabin (left the meeting at approximately 6:28 pm), Timothy Kenyon, Sharon Lukac, Louis Petzinger. Kimberly Fleming (arrived at approximately 5:16 pm)**
Also Present:	**Dr. Jamil Maroun, Superintendent;** **Ms. Kelli Eppley, Assistant Superintendent;** **Mr. Devanshu L. Modi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary;**
Absent:	**None**

V. **Oath of Office administered to the successful candidates. (18A: 12-2.1)**

- Administered by Mr. Devanshu Modi, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
  - Dorothy Martinez-Garcia
  - Kelly Harabin**, previously sworn in on August 5, 2026, at the BOE Offices**

VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES –** RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the regular and executive session minutes of the following meeting: July 15, 2026.

Ms. Breen made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Babich, and approved by a majority voice vote of the members present.

VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION - INTERVIEWS FOR SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH FIRMS

Board of Education members interviewed the following firms:

1. **Kathleen Helewa of Kathleen Helewa Educational Consultants, LLC; and**
2. **Catherine Pouria and Gwen Thornton of New Jersey School Board Association**

At approximately 6:25 p.m., Ms. Breen motioned to take a recess. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Fleming and approved by unanimous voice vote.

At approximately 6:36 p.m., Ms. Breen made a motion to reconvene. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lukac and approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. CLOSED SESSION (If necessary - use this resolution to identify the qualified matters to be discussed)

At approximately 6:37 p.m., Ms. Breen made a motion to enter Closed Session. Items discussed would be in reference to items #6, 7 & 9 listed below. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lukac and approved by unanimous voice vote of the members present.

Motion by Ms. Breen, seconded by Ms. Babich, the Board of Education of the Manville School District in the County of Somerset will adjourn into a closed meeting to discuss the item(s) 9, which fall(s) within an exception of our open meetings policy and permits the Board to have a private discussion, since it deals with specific exceptions contained in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 b.

1. *Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule.*
2. *Individual privacy*
3. *Collective bargaining agreements*
4. *Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected*
5. *Investment of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected*
6. *Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property*
7. *Pending or anticipated litigation*
8. *Attorney-client privilege*
9. *Personnel - employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee*

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board will now go into private session to discuss matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule and Individual privacy, pending or anticipated litigation, Attorney-client privilege, Personnel-employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee. Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of this private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

All appropriate persons, who may be discussed in private session, have been adequately notified.
_X_ We anticipate board action to be taken following the Executive Session
___ We do not anticipate board action to be taken following the Executive Session

At approximately 7:32 p.m., Ms. Breen made a motion to end Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Antonelli and approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT – The Board of Education President will invite questions and comments from the public on agenda items. Comments are limited to three minutes per speaker. Individuals wishing to speak

must state their name and address. All statements and/or questions shall be directed to the presiding officer, and no participant may address or question Board members individually. All speakers are requested to express themselves in a civil manner, with due respect for the dignity and privacy rights of others whose legal rights may be affected.

At approximately 7:33 p.m., Ms. Breen moved that the meeting be opened to the public for comment on agenda items only. The motion was seconded by Mr. Petzinger and approved by unanimous voice vote. Ms. Breen invited questions from the public on agenda items only.

NO COMMENTS

At approximately 7:33 p.m., Ms. Breen motioned to close the meeting to the public. The motion was seconded by Ms. Babich and approved by unanimous voice vote.

X. BOARD RETREAT

- Board of Education's Role in Finance - led by Cathy Pouria, New Jersey School Boards Association: **Rescheduled**
- Board of Education - Training On Artificial Intelligence by **Barry Bachenheimer, Adjunct Professor at Montclair State University**
- Development of Board of Education Goals and District Goals - **led by Cathy Pouria, New Jersey School Boards Association and Dr. Jamil Maroun**

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Policy Committee: Debra Babich, Chairperson

NO REPORT

Ms. Babich moved item A-1 as follows:

A-1 RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education hereby approves the following policies/regulations for the *Second* read:

- P5516 Student Use Of Internet-Enabled Devices (M)

The motion was seconded by Ms. Breen and approved by roll call vote as follows:

AYES:	**Lisa Antonelli, Debra Babich, Justina Breen, Kimberly Fleming, Timothy Kenyon, Sharon Lukac, Louis Petzinger**
NAYES:	**None**
ABSTAIN:	**Dorothy Martinez Garcia**
ABSENT:	**Kelly Harabin**

B. Personnel Committee: Lisa Antonelli, Chairperson

NO REPORT

The next Personnel Committee meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2026.

Mrs. Antonelli moved items B-1 through B-3 as follows:

WHEREAS the Superintendent of Schools has recommended certain appointments, payments, and leaves of absence, now, therefore be it.

B-1 RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following Leaves of Absence, Resignations, and Retirements as per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

Line Item	Name	Position	Action	Effective Dates
A	Jennifer Lynn	Teacher Weston/Roosevelt	Resignation	September 22, 2026
B	Kelli Eppley	Asst Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction District	Resignation	September 25, 2026
C	Andrea Pazmino	School Nurse District	Resignation	September 28, 2026
D	Dr. James McLaughlin	Interim Supervisor of Special Services District	Resignation	August 13, 2026 mn

B-2 RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following person in the position and with terms as stated, pending satisfactory completion of employment requirements as per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

Line Item	Name	Position	Certificate	Compensation	Effective Dates
A	Athena Marin	Teacher Weston	Std, Elem School Teacher in G K-6 Std, Preschool through G PK-3 CE, Students with Disabilities	BA, Step 16, $85,120	On or about September 28, 2026
B	Sleiman Aboujaoude	Maintenance, Night Shift District	N/A	Step 7, $70,025	August 6, 2026
C	Erin Sperduto	Teacher Weston *Maternity Leave Replacement*	Limited CE, Preschool through Grade 3	BA, Step 1, $66,705	September 3, 2026 - February 5, 2027
D	Patrick Scura	Teacher MHS	CE, Teacher of Comprehensive Business CE, School Business Administrator	MA, Step 3, $70,305	On or about Sept 3, 2026

B-3 BE IT RESOLVED, that Robert Mooney be appointed as Interim Superintendent of Schools, effective August 17, 2026, through June 30, 2027, at the per diem rate of $750, subject to the terms of an Employment Contract approved by the Somerset County Executive County Superintendent of Schools.

The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lukac and approved by roll call vote as follows:

AYES: **Lisa Antonelli, Debra Babich, Justina Breen, Kimberly Fleming, Timothy Kenyon, Sharon Lukac, Louis Petzinger**

NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: Dorothy Martinez Garcia
ABSENT: Kelly Harabin

C. **Finance and Facilities Committee:** Louis Petzinger, Chairperson

NO REPORT

The next Finance and Facilities Committee meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2026.

Mr. Petzinger moved item C-1 as follows:

C-1 **APPROVAL OF TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT RENEWAL**

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves Happy Lime LLC to cover athletic trips, field trips, late runs for the fall, winter and spring seasons for the 2026-2027 school year at a renewal cost per bus of $636.95 for the first three hours and each hour after the first three hours will be billed at the rate of $212.32 per hour.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Kenyon and approved by roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Lisa Antonelli, Debra Babich, Justina Breen, Kimberly Fleming, Timothy Kenyon, Sharon Lukac, Louis Petzinger
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: Dorothy Martinez Garcia
ABSENT: Kelly Harabin

XII. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - The Board President will invite questions and comments from the public.

At approximately 9:04 p.m., Ms. Breen moved that the meeting be opened to the public for comment. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Lukac and approved by unanimous voice vote. Ms. Breen invited questions and comments from the public.

NO COMMENTS

At approximately 9:04 p.m., Ms. Breen made a motion to end Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Fleming and approved by unanimous voice vote.

XIII. **OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

OLD BUSINESS

- **NONE**

NEW BUSINESS

- **Ms. Breen thanked Dr. Maroun for his service to the District.**
- **Mrs. Antonelli mentioned two Manville students will be performing in a local play.**
- **Mr. Kenyon asked that the school calendar be discussed at the next meeting.**
- **Dr. Maroun advised that NJSBA magazine will be highlighting the Manville School District**

- **Dr. Maroun advised that there will be two presentations by the Manville School District at the NJSBA fall conference**

XIV. CLOSED SESSION (If necessary - use this resolution to identify the qualified matters to be discussed)

WHEREAS the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adjourns to a closed session to discuss: (select one or more)

1) *a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law*
2) *a matter in which the release of information would impair the right to receive government funds*
3) *material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy*
4) *a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it*
5) *a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds*
6) *protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law*
7) *pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege*
8) *specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session*
9) *deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss, and be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

NO CLOSED SESSION

XV. ADJOURNMENT

At approximately 9:11 p.m., Ms. Breen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Babich and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Devanshu L. Modi
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary