

PARK RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 15, 2026

Public Started: 4:00 P.M.

Private Started: 4:02 P.M.

Public Started: 5:00 P.M.

Public Ended: 5:25 P.M.

High School Little Theater

I. Roll Call

A. Wagner	R. Malloy	S. Jensen	N. Agoos	M. Rozzi	R. Browne	D. Bradler
X	A	X	X	X	A	X

Also Present:

P. Bernardo R. Wright S. Eveland

II. Pledge of Allegiance – was led by Board President, David Bradler.

III. Open Public Meetings Statement – was read by Board President, David Bradler.

This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the minutes that in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the “Open Public Meetings Act,” the Park Ridge Board of Education on July 10, 2026, caused to be posted at the Office of the Board of Education located at 85 Pascack Road, Park Ridge, New Jersey and on July 10, 2026, sent to The Record, 1 Garret Mountain Plaza, P.O. Box 471, Woodland Park, NJ 07424-0471 and The Ridgewood News, 41 Oak Street, Ridgewood, NJ 07450-3805 and on July 10, 2026, delivered to the Office of the Municipal Clerk of Park Ridge and the Park Ridge Public Library a meeting notice setting forth the time, date and location of this meeting.

IV. Adjournment to Private Session

Private Closed Session was read by President Bradler.

The Park Ridge Board of Education will adjourn into private session to discuss item(s), which fall within specific exceptions contained in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b.

Be it resolved that the Board will now go into private session to discuss matters rendered confidential due to the nature of pending or anticipated litigation, attorney client privilege and personnel – employment matters affecting a specific, prospective or current employee privilege. Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of the 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 (RICED

– in accordance with Policy #0162, Notice of Board Meetings by the Board Secretary/Business Administrator).

Motion, second and vote to enter into private session at 4:02 pm.

M: AW S: NA
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB
Y A Y Y Y A Y

Private Session Agenda

The Regular Session of the Board of Education was recalled at 5:00 pm.

M: AW S: NA
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB
Y A Y Y Y A Y

V. Discussion

A. Little Theater Project

The Board held a discussion on the bids received for the Little Theater Project.

The Board Architect, Chris Borduin, explained that during the first round of bids on June 11, 2026, while there were several bids on the abatement portion of the project, there were no bids on the construction portion of the project. As a result, the Board went back out to bid on June 30, 2026, for the construction portion of the project. During this round they received two bids but they both came in much higher than the projected budget.

Ms. Wagner asked how the budget numbers were derived and why the Architect thought the numbers came in so high. Mr. Borduin responded that they used bids received from similar projects and current industry costs to develop the budget. Unfortunately, the bids came in \$500K over that budget. He thought it had a lot to do with the time of year for the bid and not giving vendors enough time to properly develop a cost.

Ms. Agoos asked if the asbestos represented an immediate safety concern. Mr. Borduin responded that the district's asbestos consultant tested the areas in the planned renovation. They determined that the asbestos was done in the 1960's and is only found in areas that are encapsulated such as the area above the curtain and some duct work. The Plaster walls which were reported as chipping, do not contain any asbestos. The architect clarified that as long as those areas are not disturbed, there is no health issue from Asbestos.

Ms. Wagner asked who selected the environmental consultant. Mr. Wright responded that they were appointed by the Board of Education.

Mr. Widmer asked about the areas that are encapsulated and if they are at risk of being damaged. The architect responded that the areas are newer encapsulated by paint. Mr. Widmer asked if he could get a copy of the bids. Mr. Wright indicated that he could email him the bid packets after the meeting.

Mr. Widmer asked what the timeline was for the project. Mr. Borduin responded that they gave a period of 2 weeks for the abatement and 3 months for the construction with construction not starting until August. This was done to entice bidders who typically are booked for the beginning of the summer but free up later on.

Ms. Wagner asked if the building needed to be empty when doing the abatement. The Architect responded that it is usually done that way because it is more cost effective.

Mr. Widmer asked if the project could still be completed over the summer if one company did both pieces. The Architect replied that it was feasible but would require that staff be moved. Mr. Wright added that the asbestos portion of the project would require a readvertisement of the project and then a ten-day waiting period for notification of a Section 8 asbestos abatement. You would be looking at a minimum of twenty days from the date of advertisement.

Mr. Widmer asked the Architect if, in his opinion, the stage was safe. The Architect responded that he felt it was. He added that a structural engineer looked at lighting and had no issues.

Mr. Widmer wanted to correct a statement that was made about the lighting. They were not new lights and were acting as a band aid for now.

When asked about the next steps, Mr. Borduin indicated that they need to re-evaluate the schedule. The best time to go out to bid would be in the Fall. Contractors will be looking for work for the following year. He also recommended allowing the bid timeframe to be 4-5 weeks so that bidders are not rushed developing numbers. He also felt you can ask for a shorter timeframe for the project completion.

Mr. Widmer asked if there could be a clause in the contract to deduct money if the project runs over the timeframe. Mr. Borduin responded that there already is such a clause in the contract which calls for liquidated damages if timelines are not met.

Mr. Widmer also brought up the idea of looking for Grants.

Upon completion of the discussion, Mr. Wright read the following resolution.

S1. WHEREAS, the Park Ridge Board of Education (the Board), went out to bid on a project to renovate the High School Little Theater on June 11, 2026, and;

WHEREAS they received a total of 8 bids for the Asbestos Abatement portion of the contract (8B) but no bids for the Auditorium Renovation portion (8A), and;

WHEREAS the project requires work for both sections (8A & 8B) in order to move forward, and;

WHEREAS, the Board rebid the Auditorium Renovation portion (8A) on June 30, 2026, and;

WHEREAS they received two bids, both of which were deemed to be above the projected budget,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Park Ridge Board of Education hereby rejects all bids received for the Asbestos Abatement portion of the contract (8A) which was done

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on June 11, 2026, and the Auditorium Renovation portion of the contract which was done on June 30, 2026.

Summary of Bids Received

Bid Date	Project	Contractor	Base (*)	Alt #1	Alt #2	Alt #3
6/11/26	8B	Greenwood Abatement	\$127,600			
6/11/26	8B	Teal Management Corp.	\$133,000			
6/11/26	8B	Two Brothers Contracting	\$133,900			
6/11/26	8B	VMC Company Inc	\$107,700			
6/11/26	8B	MTM Metro Corp.	\$117,700			
6/11/26	8B	Unicom Contracting Corp.	\$118,048			
6/11/26	8B	Spes Contracting LLC	\$118,320			
6/11/26	8B	SMAC Corp.	\$124,000			
6/30/26	8A	Salazar & Associates	\$1,199,000	\$110,000	\$175,000	\$85,000
6/30/26	8A	Brahma Construction	\$1,447,930	\$78,100	\$229,321	\$100,843

Notes (*) Bid includes a \$40,000 Contingency.

Alt #1 – Replace Drapery, Tracks and Static Rigging

Alt #2 – Install three Motorized Electrics

Alt #3 – Install Motorized Cyclorama Pipe

The motion was added to the consent agenda for a vote.

VI. Consent Agenda

M: NA S: MR

AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

Y A Y Y Y A Y

VII. Hearing of Citizens - None

VIII. Adjournment – 5:25 pm

M: MR S: SJ

AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

Y A Y Y Y A Y

Robert Wright
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSENT AGENDA

EDUCATION RESOLUTIONS

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that the following actions be taken:

- E1. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the Shared Services Agreement with the Pascack Valley School District in a Student Internship Program for the 2026/27 school year. ***“E1”***

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- E2. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the Region II join Transportation Agreement for the summer of the 2026-27 school year. ***“E2”***

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- E3. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the tuition for the following students for the 2026/27 school year:

<u>STUDENT</u>	<u>PLACEMENT</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED</u>
2010(a)-050	Sage Day Rochelle Park, NJ	9/2/26 – 6/30/27	\$82,553.31
823(e) - 070	River Edge School District Building Bridges River Edge, NJ	6/23/26 – 6/30/27	\$89,898.00
918 – 070	River Edge School District Building Bridges River Edge, NJ	9/1/26 – 6/30/27	\$81,725.00
815(g)	Ho Ho Kus School of Trade & Technical Services Hackensack, NJ	9/9/26 – 6/11/27	\$11,700.00
1223	Ho Ho Kus School of Trade & Technical Services Hackensack, NJ	9/9/26 – 6/11/27	\$11,700.00

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- E4. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the agreement with West Bergen Mental Healthcare, Inc. to provide 2 clinicians for the period of July 1, 2026 to August 31, 2026, at a rate of \$35,333.00.

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

<u>FINANCE RESOLUTIONS</u>

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that the following actions be taken:

- F1. WHEREAS the Park Ridge Board of Education (the Board) held a Request for Proposal for Occupational Therapy services - Rebid (RFP) on June 16, 2026, and;

WHEREAS the Board received a total of five bids from the following vendors:

EZ Therapy & Handwriting LLC
Jump Ahead Pediatrics
Oxford Consulting
Dr. L. Hanes & Associates
School Based Occupational Therapy

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids based on the criteria outlined in the RFP document, the Board has decided that the two providers who best meet the Board's needs are:

EZ Therapy & Handwriting LLC
School Based Occupational Therapy

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Park Ridge Board of Education hereby awards the Occupational Therapy contracts as follows:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>HOURLY RATE</u>	<u>PROGRESS REPORT</u>	<u>EVALUATION REPORT</u>
EZ Therapy & Handwriting LLC	\$98/hr.	\$25 per report	\$450
School Based Occupational Therapy	\$98/hr.	n/a	\$425

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- F2. WHEREAS the Park Ridge Board of Education conducted a Request for Proposal for Mental Healthcare services on July 8, 2026, and;

WHEREAS they received a total of six responses, and

WHEREAS after reviewing the bids based on the criteria outlined in the RFP document, it was determined that West Bergen Mental Health best meets the Board of Education's needs as per the Bid Matrix;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Park Ridge Board of Education appoints West Bergen Mental Health to provide mental healthcare services at an amount of \$176,667 for the period September 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

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- F3. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the following tuition contract, in which the Park Ridge Board of Education is the receiving school district, for the period July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027:

<u>STUDENT</u>	<u>SCHOOL DISTRICT</u>	<u>CONTRACT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1822 – 050	Mahwah Board of Education	Owl House Life Skills Program	\$63,500.00

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- F4. The Park Ridge Board of Education accepts the following non-public funds for Our Lady of Mercy Academy for the 2026/27 school year budget:

Non-Public Technology Aid	\$ 2,234.00
Non-Public Nursing Services	\$20,384.00
Non-Public Textbook Aid	\$ 3,167.00
Non-Public Security Aid	<u>\$30,380.00</u>
Total	\$56,165.00

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- F5. The Park Ridge Board of Education accepts the following donations:

<u>DONOR</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>TYPE OF DONATION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
West Ridge PTO	2026 Frost Valley Field Trip	Monetary	\$12,069.00
East Brook PTO	2026 Frost Valley Field Trip	Monetary	\$6,820.00

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- F6. The Park Ridge Board of Education accepts the FY 27 IDEA Grant award as follows:

<u>GRANT</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF GRANT</u>	<u>(PARK RIDGE SD)</u>	<u>(OLM)</u>
IDEA – Basic	\$328,215.00	\$292,962.00	\$35,253.00
IDEA – Preschool	\$21,955.00	\$21,955.00	0

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- F7. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the submission of the IDEA FY27 Grant.

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- F8. The Park Ridge Board of Education accepts the FY 2027 ESEA Grant as follows:

<u>ESEA GRANT</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF GRANT</u>	<u>PARK RIDGE SD</u>	<u>OLM</u>
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Title I	\$34,971.00	\$34,971.00	-0-
Title II A	\$15,590.00	\$13,799.00	\$1,791.00
Title III	\$3,745.00	\$3,745.00	-0-
Title III Immigrant	\$2,288.00	\$2,288.00	-0-
Title IV	\$10,000.00	\$8,851.00	\$1,149.00

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

F9. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the submission of the FY27 ESEA Grant.

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

F10. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves participation in a Title III Consortium with the Hoboken School District in the amount of \$3,745.00 for the 2026/27 school year.

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

<u>BUILDING AND GROUND RESOLUTIONS</u>

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that the following actions be taken:

- BG1. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the following payment to LAN Architects for the following project: **"BG1"**

<u>PROJECT NO.</u>	<u>PROJECT NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
20529.08	HS Auditorium Renovations	\$1,750.00

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- BG2. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the Use of the Building Facilities Application by Valley Chabad, for use of the HS Cafeteria, as per attached, on various Sundays from December 6, 2026, through March 21, 2027. **"BG2"**

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- BG3. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the Use of the Building Facilities Application by Valley Chabad, for use of the HS classrooms, as per attached, on Sunday September 6, 2026. **"BG3"**

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- BG4. WHEREAS the Park Ridge Board of Education held a bid opening for the 2026-27 Field and Grounds maintenance on June 16th at 3:30 pm and;

WHEREAS the sole bidder, Field Pro Enterprises, was deemed to be the lowest responsible bidder;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Park Ridge Board of Education hereby awards the Field and Grounds Maintenance bid to Field Pro Enterprises as follows:

Base Contract Price	\$78,769
Per Unit Prices	
Clay	\$185/ton installed
Grass Seed	\$200/per 50lb bag installed
Top Soil	\$110/yd installed
Mulch	\$89/yd installed

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

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BG5. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves payment #2 to Trane, for work on the West Ridge Univent project, in the amount of \$15,000.00. ***"BG5"***

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

BG6. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves payment #5 to Trane, for work on the East Brook Univent project, in the amount of \$22,210.00. ***"BG6"***

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

Be it resolved, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that the following actions be taken:

- P1. The Park Ridge Board of Education approves the reimbursement of anticipated conference/seminar expenses for the following staff members for the 2026/27 school year:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REASON/LOCATION FOR CONFERENCE/SEMINAR</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>AMOUNTS NOT TO EXCEED</u>
Connolly, Jill	Kleen Education Law Boonton, NJ	8/13/2026	\$300.00
Worgul, Julie	Kleen Education Law Boonton, NJ	8/13/2026	\$300.00

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB

- P2. The Park Ridge Board of Education rescinds the appointment of Angelica Paton as HS Special Education leave replacement teacher for the 2026-27 school year.

M: S:
AW RM SJ NA MR RB DB