



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

AGENDA
August 31, 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. Opening of Schools
2. PTA Thank You
3. Enrollment
4. General Information

V *Presentation: Student Data Privacy & Cloud Services- Alex Menard, Manager of Information Systems and Russell Anderson, Technology and Information Services Department Head*

VI Approval of Minutes as follows:

Business Meeting:	July 23, 2026
Closed Session:	July 23, 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 and 9 as listed below:

1. After review, we hereby accept the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for July 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 August 2026, in the amount of \$3,296,420.26
3. Approve the generous donation, by the NPHS PTSA, NPMS PTO, AWR PTA, and Salt Brook PTA, of lunch for all staff on the 8/31/26 District opening day, in the amount of \$2,070.00.
4. Approve the Nonpublic School Security and Technology Program spending plan for the participating school located within the District, The Academy of Our Lady of Peace, for the 2026/2027 school year.
5. Approve the Rental Agreements between the New Providence Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights YMCA, for before and after school care at Allen W. Roberts School and Salt Brook School, for the 2026/2027 school year, copies in the hands of each Board member.
6. Approve the grant application submission under the School Lead Filters Program through the New Jersey Department of Education to fund the purchase of filtered bottle-filling stations and filters, in the amount of \$3,321.84.
7. Approve the generous donation, by Strand Tennis Center, for 60 warmup shirts provided to the girls' tennis team, in the amount of \$1,200.00.
8. Approve the generous donation of the Municipal Alliance to the New Providence School District, to be used to partially fund the Project Reboot program, in the amount of \$3,000.00.
9. Approve the District Summary of bid awards through Educational Data Service, Inc., for the 2026/2027 school year:

CATEGORY	BID OPENING DATE	AMOUNT
Athletic Supplies	9/25/2025	\$42,407.50
General Classroom Supplies	9/25/2025	\$25,123.10
Audio Visual Supplies	9/25/2025	\$25.19
Custodial Supplies	9/25/2025	\$5,996.82
Fine Art Supplies	9/25/2025	\$8757.78
Health and Trainer Supplies	9/25/2025	\$7,348.61
Library Supplies	9/25/2025	\$693.47

Math Supplies	9/25/2025	\$156.88
Music Supplies	9/25/2025	\$134.91
Office and Toner Supplies	9/25/2025	\$7,783.03
Photography Supplies	9/25/2025	\$445.98
Physical Education Supplies	9/25/2025	\$4,349.64
Science Supplies	9/25/2025	\$6677.64
Special Needs	9/25/2025	\$121.98
Teaching Aids	9/25/2025	\$208.04
Technology Supplies	9/25/2025	\$99.70
World Languages	9/25/2025	\$151.77

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

No Facilities Items for approval.

C. Education—Mrs. Castellano

Approve Items 1 through 21 as listed below:

1. Approve the following curriculum guides with the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools. Each of these curricula has been written by a District teacher and revised by the appropriate Department Head according to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and District expectations. The Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Supervision has reviewed and approved each curriculum, and each one has been reviewed and approved by the Board of Education Curriculum Committee.

Mathematics

BSI Math Elective (Phase 2) (Grade 7)

Revised

Precalculus & Honors Precalculus (Phase 1) (Grades 10-12)

Revised

Physical Education

Advanced Weight Training (Phase 1) (Grades 10-12)

New

STEM

Biomedical Engineering (Phase 2) (Grades 11-12)

Revised

STEM (Phase 2) (Grade K)

Revised

Science

AP Chemistry (Phase 1) (Grades 11-12)

Revised

AP Biology (Phase 1) (Grades 10-12)

Revised

Healthcare Organizations, Addendum to Rutgers Curriculum (Grades 10-12)

Revised

Language Arts

Universal Literacy Screening (Grades K-3)

New

Cursive Reading & Writing (Phase 1) (Grades 3-5)	New
BSI Language Arts (Phase 2) (Grade 7)	Revised

<u>Music/Performing Arts</u>	
Voice Class (Phase 1) (Grades 9-12)	Revised

<u>World Language</u>	
FLES Spanish (Phase 2) (Grade K)	Revised
AP Spanish Language & Culture (Phase 1) (Grades 11-12)	Revised

<u>Social Studies</u>	
World Studies (Phase 1) (Grade 9)	Revised

2. Approve the following textbook/educational material adoption for the 2026/2027 school year, details of which are in the hands of each Board member:
 - a. Biology for the AP Course, Second Edition (Advanced Placement Biology- Grades 10, 11, and 12)
3. Approve the Superintendent of Schools' goals for the 2026/2027 school year.
4. Approve the New Providence Board of Education School Safety and Security Plan for the 2026/2027 school year and approve submission of the School Safety and Security Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2026/2027 school year to the NJDOE, on file at the Board office.
5. Approve the New Providence Board of Education Traumatic Loss Response Plan for the 2026/2027 school year, on file at the Board office.
6. Approve the New Providence Board of Education School Critical Incident Plan for the 2026/2027 school year, on file at the Board office.
7. Approve the NPHS Athletics Emergency Action Plan for the 2026/2027 school year, copies in the hands of each Board member.
8. Approve the NPHS courses with enrollment of under 10 students for the 2026/2027 school year, copies in the hands of each Board member. **(EXHIBIT A)**
9. Approve the New Providence School District Annual Professional Development Plan for the 2026/2027 school year, prepared in compliance with the New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:9C-4.2, inclusive of its funding, and approve submission of the plan Statement of Assurance for the 2026/2027 school year to the NJDOE, copies in the hands of each Board member.
10. Approve the New Providence School District's annual mentoring program, "Provisional Teacher Mentoring Plan- 2026/2027," prepared and updated in accordance with all mentoring program regulations for non-tenured teachers in their first year of employment, as set forth in regulations N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-4.2(b)(6) and N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-5.3, and approve submission of this plan for the 2026/2027 school year to the NJDOE, copies in the hands of each Board member.
11. Approve the submission of Fiscal Year 2027 Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) Consolidated Grant Application, in the amount of \$525,277.00 (Basic: \$504,720.00; Preschool: \$20,557.00), for the period 7/1/26 through 6/30/27.

12. Approve acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Consolidated Grant Application for Title IIA (\$22,630.00), Title III Consortium (\$6,590.00), and Title III Immigrant funds (\$25,742.00), totaling \$54,962.00 for the period 7/1/26 through 6/30/27.
13. Approve for the 2026/2027 school year acceptance into a Title III Consortium with the Springfield Board of Education in order to receive the amount of \$6,590.00, since federal legislation requires a consortium given that the District's allocation is below the \$10,000.00 minimum requirement. The Springfield Board of Education will be the lead district in this consortium.
14. Approve the enrollment of Student #11882 at Shepard Preparatory High School, for the 2026 Extended School Year, at a tuition cost of \$10,503.00, and for the 2026/2027 school year, at a tuition cost of \$64,068.30, effective 7/1/26.
15. Approve the enrollment of Student #12309 at Shepard Preparatory High School, for the 2026/2027 school year, at a tuition cost of \$64,068.30, effective 9/1/26.
16. Approve the Camden County Educational Services Commission general services contract, for the 2026/2027 school year, effective 7/1/26.
17. Approve the use of Educere to offer online AP Italian Language & Culture courses to 11th-12th grade students for the 2026/2027 school year. The cost per student is \$549.00. There are two (2) students taking the course, for a total of \$1,098.00, copies in the hands of each Board member.
18. Approve the enrollment of the following out-of-district students for the 2026/2027 school year, effective 9/3/26:
 - a. 3rd grade student, on a tuition basis of \$20,817.00
 - b. 4th grade student, on a tuition basis of \$20,817.00
 - c. 8th grade student, on a tuition basis of \$19,418.00
19. Approve Springfield School District student #13382 as a 10th grade tuition student at New Providence High School, for the 2026/2027 school year, at a tuition cost of \$20,743.00, effective 9/3/26.
20. Approve the following book lists for the 2026/2027 school year. These lists are available on the District website.
 - a. K-6 Expanded Book List
 - b. 7-8 Expanded Book List
 - c. 9-12 Expanded Book List
21. Approve the list of District software, cloud-based services, and data privacy agreements for the 2026/2027 school year, copies in the hands of each Board member.

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 9 as listed below:

1. 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. Marissa Glynn, teacher, \$63,469.00, effective 9/1/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - b. Michelle Pugliese, HS marching band (fall), assistant color guard director, \$1,209.00 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - c. Melissa Halpern, HS advisor, freshman class, \$945.00
 - d. Christine Noppenberger, HS advisor, freshman class, \$945.00
 - e. Christine Noppenberger, HS summer college application boot camp, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$57.09/hr.
 - f. Kristy McCauley, HS summer college application boot camp, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$57.09/hr.
 - g. Dr. Colleen Hasson, HS summer college application boot camp, not to exceed 20 hours @ \$57.09/hr.
 - h. Elizabeth Shipley, district communications coordinator, part-time, 20 hrs./week unless approved by the Superintendent of Schools, \$55.00/hr., effective 8/27/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - i. Gregory Paradis, long-term substitute teacher, 33,602.00 (base \$67,204.00), effective 9/1/26 through 1/31/27 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - j. Gregory Paradis, MS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, half year, \$2,000.00 (base \$4,000.00), effective 9/1/26-1/31/27
 - k. Michael Cassu, cross country (fall), girls, head coach, \$7,562.00 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - l. Eleanor Ross, 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)
 - m. Nicole Troncoso, teacher aide, \$26,275.00, effective 9/1/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
 - n. Brandon Hilf, cross country (fall), boys, head coach, \$7,562.00
 - o. Morgan Eriksen, HS, for teaching above three (3) classes as a department head (four (4) classes total), full year, \$8,000.00
 - p. Lisa Matrale, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
 - q. Aracely DiGirolamo, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
 - r. William Burroughs, HS, for teaching seventeen (17) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
 - s. Sydney Bleach, HS, for teaching sixteen (16) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$4,000.00
 - t. Arlen Mase, HS, for teaching seventeen (17) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
 - u. Dr. Raquel De Cicco, HS, for teaching sixteen (16) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$4,000.00
 - v. Sujin Lee, HS, for teaching sixteen (16) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$4,000.00
 - w. Charles Carell, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00

- x. Holly Pizzonia, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- y. Cory Arnold, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- z. Walter Kempner, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- aa. Andrew McCulley, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- bb. Samantha Cram, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- cc. Grace Hofheinz, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- dd. Glen Robertson, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- ee. Carine Rubinetti, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- ff. Kaely Maire Sturges, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- gg. Denise Thompson, HS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- hh. Gina Bellitti, MS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- ii. Todd Bennington, MS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- jj. Rebecca DeCelestino, MS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- kk. Brandon Hilf, MS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- ll. Matt Sossin, MS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, full year, \$8,000.00
- mm. Tracey Blanchard, MS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, half year, \$4,000.00
- nn. Alyssa Machado, MS, for teaching eighteen (18) periods per four (4) day rotation, half year, \$2,000.00 (base \$4,000.00), effective 2/1/27-6/30/27
- oo. Sioned Sanders, 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)
- pp. Virginia Gifford, 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)
- qq. Brenda Debski, long-term substitute teacher aide, effective 9/1/26 through 11/20/26, to be paid on a per diem basis of \$144.37 (prorated base of \$26,275.00)
- rr. Karen Chun, teacher aide, \$26,275.00, effective 9/1/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
- ss. Marcello Fois, music student intern, for the 2026/2027 school year, effective 9/1/26 through 6/30/27 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
- tt. Elizabeth Miner, student intern, for the 2026/2027 school year, effective 9/1/26 through 6/30/27 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
- uu. Kevin Caputo, night custodian, \$60,336.00 (base \$72,071.00 (\$71,385.00 + night stipend \$686.00)), effective 8/31/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
- vv. Gabriella Tundo, playground/lunch assistant, 3.0 hrs./day, \$21.28/hr., based on 176 days, \$10,878.00 (base \$11,236.00), effective 9/14/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
- ww. Sweetie Patel, Director of School Counseling, \$121,438.00 (base \$145,000.00), effective 8/31/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)

- xx. Gabriella Martins, counseling student intern, for the 2026/2027 school year, effective 9/3/26 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
- yy. Jennifer Davison, long term substitute teacher, \$30,914.00 (base \$67,204.00), effective 9/14/26 through 1/31/27 (subject to criminal history review procedures)
- 2. Approve the following substitutes for the 2026/2027 school year: teachers, teacher aides, secretaries, nurses, custodians, and home instructors as listed below:

Substitute Teacher, Teacher Aide, Secretary

Kelly Acque	Katelynn Huber	Katie McGurn
Julia Alves (pending criminal history review)	Michael Gorman	Bethany McKnight
David Aprill	Patricia Gribbon	Carole Mea
Kelly Broedlin	Richa Gupta	Jaiden Menen
Marianne Browe	Vandana Gupta	Jennifer Niederhoffer
Mitchell Brown	Zaneera Haniff-Romero	Ryan O'Day
Gian Cacioppo	Angela Hawes	Brady O'Day
Chas Cadmus	Megan Huber	Jane Okkinga
Neil Carrozza	Peter Kane	Megan Olsen
Art Cattano	Christine Kelly	Michael Ondrey
May Chan	Randi Kelly	Margaret Pfeifer
Sydney Chan	Alyssa Kickenweitz	George Pharmakides
Patience Conlin	Cathy Killian	Wendi Porretti
Kelly Cook	Youkyung Kim	Catherine Reddington
Anna Darity	Nicole Labombarda	Matt Roughley (pending certification)
Shimaa Desooki	Jess Lasoff-Santos (pending criminal history review)	Mark Shea
Nicholas DiGirolamo	Kyra Licari	Mamta Singal
Tonya Donnelly	Renjun Ma	Gina Snyder
Khaled Elserty	Judith Mahlstadt	Rhonda Stern
Lina Elshamy	Natalie Matonis	Cindy Sullivan
Aaron Engelhardt	Marybeth Matthews	Joanne Trimble
Ryan Glatz	Ryan McDonald	Roberta Bloom

Nurses

Kathy Andrews	Patricia Glen	Suzanne Kruep
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Home Instructors

Roberta Bloom	Marianne Browe	
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Custodians

Anna Caicedo	Eduardo Lopez Munoz	Elizabeth Rapoano
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3. Approve the Shared Services Agreement for the Provision of Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs) between the Borough of New Providence and the New Providence Board of Education, for the 2026/2027 school year, copies in the hands of each Board member.
4. Approve for the 2026/2027 school year the following School Resource Officers who are employed by the Borough of New Providence and who will be partially funded by the Board of Education:
 - a. Eduar Cruz New Providence High School/Middle School
 - b. Mark Martin Allen W. Roberts School
 - c. Mario Suarez Salt Brook School
5. Accept the resignations of the following employees:
 - a. Lauren Abbatemarco, school nurse, effective 8/5/26
 - b. Jillian Shadis, director of school counseling, effective 9/4/26
 - c. Amanda Spencer, lunchroom/playground aide, effective 7/28/26
 - d. Victoria Hinz, school psychologist, effective 10/6/26
 - e. Gianna Del Viscovo, teacher, effective 10/6/26
 - f. Mary Jo Sodano, lunchroom/playground aide, effective 8/7/26
 - g. Kelly Waldron, lunchroom/playground aide, effective 8/10/26
 - h. Tara Garcia, teacher, effective 10/23/26
6. Approve the following revisions for the 2026/2027 school year:
 - a. Jennifer McSweeney, teacher, from Step 10, Column III (\$71,230.00), to Master's, Step 10, Column IV (\$74,091.00), effective 9/1/26, due to course credits
 - b. Brenda Debski, extended school year PSD program aide, not to exceed 30 half days, \$2,165.52
 - c. Brenda Debski, playground/lunch assistant, 3.0 hrs./day, \$21.28/hr., \$8,056.72 (base \$11,236.00), effective 11/23/26 through 6/30/27
 - d. Bonnie Platek, secretary and accounts payable, \$25.00/hr., effective 7/9/26
 - e. Michael Sudberg, teacher, from Step 10, Column II (\$68,980.00), to Step 10, Column III (\$71,230.00), effective 9/1/26, due to course credits
 - f. Sharon Licari, from AWR to AWR and Salt Brook
7. Rescind the following appointments for the 2026/2027 school year:
 - a. P.J. Browne, soccer (fall), boys, volunteer
 - b. Corey Arnold, cross country (fall), boys, head coach, \$7,562.00

c. Alexander Meyer, cross country (fall), girls, head coach, \$7,562.00

8. Approve the following revised Job Descriptions, copies in the hands of each Board member.

<u>Job No.</u>	<u>Job Title</u>	
113	Director of School Counseling	Revised
119	Student Assistance Coordinator	Revised
123	High School Counselor	Revised
124	Middle School Counselor	Revised
125	Elementary School Counselor (PreK-6)	Revised

9. Approve the request of Alyssa Machado, teacher, (currently on maternity leave), for an extended unpaid child-rearing leave for the 2026/2027 school year, pursuant to Article X of the Agreement between the Board and the NPEA, effective 11/21/26 through 1/31/27.

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

Approve Item 1 as listed below:

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

Bylaws and Policies:

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

(Mandated) Techniques for Students with Disabilities
Revised

Regulation:

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

Seconded by: _____
Roll Call Vote:

_____ 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

XI Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

XII Motion to Recess to Closed Session, if necessary

XIII Adjournment