

**MORRIS COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

DATE: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

Time: _____

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. STATEMENT BY PRESIDING OFFICER

“The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure 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 discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Morris County Vocational School District Board of Education has caused adequate and electronic notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on the District website, sent to the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners and the Clerk of the Township of Denville at the same time. The Secretary of this Board shall incorporate into the minutes of this meeting a copy of the notice as above set forth.”

IV. ROLL CALL

Board of Education: _____ Mrs. Barbara Dawson
_____ Mr. John Hyland
_____ Mrs. Hanna Roth Starr
_____ Mr. John Velez, Esq.
_____ Dr. Nancy Gartenberg

Superintendent:	_____ Dr. Anita Champagne
Assistant Superintendent	_____ Dr. Melissa España
Business Administrator/Board Secretary:	_____ Mr. Michael Davison
Attorney for the Board of Education:	_____ Mr. John Mills III, Esq.
Student Representative:	_____ Mr. Duncan Felch

Press: _____

Visitors: _____

V. CORRESPONDENCE

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| • Student Report | Duncan Felch |
| • Student Safety Data System Report (January – June 2026) | Dr. España |
| • 2026 Graduation Data and 2026-2027 Enrollment | Dr. España |
| • Athletic Fee Update (Budget) | Mr. Davison |
| • Phase I Design Development | Mr. Davison |
| • Policy Update | Dr. Champagne |
| • Billboard Advertising/Application Update | Dr. Champagne |

VII. COMMITTEE PROGRAMS

VIII. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC (related to agenda items only)

IX. MINUTES

1. Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of August 11, 2026 as submitted. (Attachment #1)
2. Motion to approve the minutes of the Closed Session of the Board of Education Meeting of August 11, 2026 as submitted.

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____ **Roll Call:** _____

X. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT AND TREASURER'S REPORT

1. Motion to approve the Report of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary submitted pursuant to 18A:17-9 for the period ending and investments made during the month of July 2026. Further, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4 the Board of Education certifies that as of July 31, 2026, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriate section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, 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 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. (Attachment #2)

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, I certify that as of July 31, 2026 no budgetary line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10.

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Date

2. Motion to approve the Report of the Treasurer submitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-36 for the period ending July 31, 2026. (Attachment #3)

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____ **Roll Call:** _____

XI. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The following Resolution has been recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Motion to approve the following policies/regulation for second reading: (Attachment #4)

<u>Policy</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Reason</u>
P 2363	Student Use of Privately-Owned Technology	Abolished
P 5516	Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices (M)	Revised
R 5516	Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices (M)	Revised
P 8660	Transportation by Private Vehicles (M)	Revised
P 8662	Transportation by Private or District-Owned Vehicles - To and From School (M)	New
(M) = Mandated by law or monitoring standards		

2. Motion to approve the following policies/regulation for first reading: (Attachment #5)

<u>Policy</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Reason</u>
P 5240	Tardiness	Revised

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____ **Roll Call:** _____

XII. FINANCE

The following Resolutions have been recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Motion to approve the payment of bills as attached. (Attachment #6)
2. Motion to approve and authorize the Board Secretary to pay urgent and unforeseen bills and meet financial obligations for September 9, 2026 through the next Morris County Vocational School District Board of Education meeting.
3. Motion to approve the following amendments to the 2026-2027 Current Expense anticipated revenue budget statement and the corresponding appropriations budget for Funds 11, 12, 13, 20, 30, 62, 63 and 66 as per listing attached. (Attachment #7)
4. Motion to approve the attached list of travel and related costs which are educationally necessary, fiscally prudent, in compliance with state travel reimbursement guidelines, are related to and within the scope of the employee's current responsibilities and promote the delivery of instruction or further the efficient operation of the school district. (Attachment #8)
5. Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Morris County Vocational School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, (the "Board"), desires to proceed with an "other capital project," generally

consisting of renovations of a former Auto Body Shop to create an Esports lab at the Morris County School of Technology; and

WHEREAS, the Board now seeks to take steps in order to proceed with the project and comply with NJAC 6A:26-5.2 and 5.3 and related sections of the code; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education reviews and approves "other capital," and school facilities projects; and

WHEREAS, the District is NOT seeking ROD Grant Funding or Debt Service Aid, and the Board has included in its budget a Capital Reserve withdrawal for the purpose the creation of an Esports lab at the Morris County School of Technology.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Morris County Vocational School District Board of Education does hereby authorize and direct the architectural firm of USA Architects, Planners, and Interior Designers, LTD and the School Business Administrator, as applicable, to prepare the Department of Education Submission Package in connection with the project.

That the Architect and the School Business Administrator, as applicable, prepare a minor amendment submission to the district's Long Range Facilities Plan in connection with the project.

That the Architect, School Business Administrator, Bond Counsel, and Board Attorney as applicable, are hereby authorized to undertake all related actions necessary in connection with the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Morris County Vocational School District Board of Education authorizes the submission of the project to the New Jersey Department of Education for consideration and approval.

6. Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Morris County Vocational School District, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, (the "Board"), desires to proceed with a "school facilities project," generally consisting of HVAC upgrades to the proposed Esports lab in Building #4 at the Morris County School of Technology; and

WHEREAS, the Board now seeks to take steps in order to proceed with the project and comply with NJAC 6A:26-5.2 and 5.3 and related sections of the code; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education reviews and approves "other capital," and school facilities projects; and

WHEREAS, the District IS seeking Grant Funding or Debt Service Aid.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Morris County Vocational School District Board of Education does hereby authorize and direct the architectural firm of USA Architects, Planners, Interior Designers and the School Business Administrator, as applicable, to prepare the Department of Education Submission Package in connection with the project.

That the Architect and the School Business Administrator, as applicable, prepare a minor amendment to the district's Long Range Facility Plan in connection with the project.

That the Architect, School Business Administrator and Board Attorney as applicable, are hereby authorized to undertake all related actions necessary in connection with the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Morris County Vocational School District Board of Education authorizes the submission of the project to the New Jersey Department of Education for consideration and approval.

7. Motion to approve the attached agreement with USA Architects, Planners and Interior Designers to provide professional services in accordance with the current Architect of Record Agreement for Phase I, Design Development, of the proposed Cosmetology Lab at the Morris County Career Training Center. (Attachment #9)
8. Motion to accept a donation of wall vinyl and door wraps from Morris County School of Technology Athletic Booster Club with an estimated value of \$3,930.00 for use in the athletic hallway and gymnasium doors, with a letter of appreciation to the donor.

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____ **Roll Call:** _____

XIII. CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, PROGRAMS, STUDENTS

The following Resolutions have been recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Motion to approve the senior Work-Based Learning Experiences for the 2026-2027 school year as per the attached list. (Attachment #10)
2. Motion to approve the attached list of Field Trips for the 2026-2027 school year. (Attachment #11)
3. Motion to approve that October 5 - October 9, 2026 be recognized as a "Week of Respect" in the Morris County Vocational School District.
4. Motion to approve that October 19 - October 23, 2026 be recognized as "America's Safe Schools Week" in the Morris County Vocational School District.
5. Motion to approve the attached Student Safety Data System report for the district for the period January 1 – June 30, 2026. (Attachment #12)
6. Motion to approve the attached Memorandum of Understanding between Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and Morris County Vocational School District, effective September 9, 2026, for a term of five (5) years. (Attachment #13)
7. Motion to approve the attached Education and Learning Academy Little Learners Program for local community pre-school students ages two to five years old accompanied by their parents to be held in the Education and Learning Academy classroom at the Morris County School of Technology. (Attachment #14)

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____ **Roll Call:** _____

XIV. PERSONNEL

The following Resolutions have been recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Motion to rescind the appointment of Richard Post as part-time Security Guard (10-month position) at Step 8 with a prorated annual salary of \$26,268 (0.6 FTE) for 4 days per week, effective August 27, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
2. Motion to rescind the appointment of Thomas Shemon as Evening Custodian at Step 2 to be prorated with an anticipated start date of September 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
3. Motion to accept the resignation of Sandra Papish, Secretary, School Counseling Office, effective September 23, 2026.
4. Motion to accept the resignation of Patrick Zemaitis, Evening Custodian, effective September 4, 2026.
5. Motion to approve the appointment of James McBride as Evening Custodian at Step 9 - 10 with a prorated annual salary of \$50,610 with an anticipated start date of September 9, 2026 through June 30, 2027, pending successful completion of a criminal history background check and pre-employment physical examination.
6. Motion to approve the appointment of Michael Abdinoor as part-time Security Guard (10-month position) at Step 8 with a prorated annual salary of \$26,268 (0.6 FTE) for 4 days per week, with an anticipated start date of September 9, 2026 through June 30, 2027.
7. Motion to approve the following substitutes as listed on an as-needed basis at the current Board approved substitute rate for the 2026-2027 school year effective September 9, 2026 through June 30, 2027, pending completion of documentation in accordance with law or district policy:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Certification</u>
Julia Cappello	Substitute Teacher Substitute Secretary	Substitute Credential - <i>Expires July 18, 2030</i>
Eva Giannella	Substitute Teacher Substitute Secretary	Substitute Credential - <i>Expires July 18, 2030</i>
Susan Hoffman	Substitute Nurse	School Nurse - <i>Standard</i>
Leonard Sheehy	Substitute Teacher	Supervisor & Elementary School Teacher - <i>Standard</i>
Frank Wu	Substitute Teacher	Substitute Credential - <i>Expires February 24, 2030</i>

8. Motion to approve the appointment of the following staff members as Detention Monitors to supervise students assigned detention on Saturday mornings (8:00 am-11:00 am) on an as-needed basis at the rate of \$34 per hour for the 2026-2027 school year:

Dale Bendsak
Carol Maffei
Regina Murphy
Laurie Sisto
Denise Stierch
Kathleen Whitehead

9. Motion to approve the appointment of the following staff members as After School Student Monitors at the rate of \$34 per hour for 2.5 hours per day from 3:00 – 5:30 p.m. for 4 days per week for a maximum of 35 weeks (total hours to be shared between all monitors) for the 2026-2027 school year:

Dale Bendsak
Mary Gonnella
Kathleen Harrington
Carol Maffei
Laurie Sisto
Gina Visconti

10. Motion to approve the appointment of Chancelevie Mengara as Virtual and Onsite Adult Education Coordinator (MSW Partnership) for 300 hours at \$40 per hour from September 9, 2026 through June 30, 2027 with funding provided by the FY27 Consolidated Adult Basic Skills (ABS) and Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) Grant.

11. Motion to approve the appointment of the following Adult & Continuing Education Part-Time Instructors at the rate of \$40 per hour for the 2026-2027 school year:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Homeowner's Electrical	Daniel Wilce	38	9/19/2026	11/21/2026
Electrical Year 3	Daniel Wilce	178	9/14/2026	4/7/2027
Electrical Year 1	Thomas Van Houten	178	9/15/2026	3/18/2027

12. Motion to approve the appointment of the following part-time ESL/Basic Skills Instructors for the period of September 9, 2026 through June 30, 2027 at an hourly rate of \$40, with funding provided by the FY27 Consolidated Adult Basic Skills (ABS) and Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) Grant:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Johnson	Luz	MCVTS- Saturday ESL Beginner	175
Johnson	Luz	Substitute (All Locations)	65
Fierro	Lisa	MHS- Saturday ESL Advanced	175
Fierro	Lisa	Substitute (All Locations)	65
Drakeobrien	Constance	Warren - Remote Tues/Thursday	222
Pinar	Meliha	MCVTS - Saturday ESL Intermediate	175

13. Motion to approve the appointment of the following Athletic Coaches for the 2026-2027 school year:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Coach</u>
Baseball: Junior Varsity	Jacob Hall
Basketball: Girls Junior Varsity	Emily Cuccio

14. Motion to approve the appointment of Angela Bernardino as a Work-Based Learning Consultant for up to 160 hours at her hourly rate for the period September 9, 2026 through June 15, 2027, in accordance with the terms of the agreement on file with the Sussex County Vocational School District.

15. Motion to approve the appointment of Mary Hammond as a Work-Based Learning Consultant for up to 120 hours at her hourly rate for the period September 9, 2026 through June 15, 2027, in

accordance with the terms of the agreement on file with the Sussex County Vocational School District.

16. Motion to approve the submission of merit goals on file in the Board Office for Michael Davison, School Business Administrator, in accordance with his 2026–2027 contract, to the County Executive Superintendent for review and approval.
17. Motion to approve the appointment of the following faculty members to write curriculum at the rate of \$34 per hour for the 2026-2027 school year, with the final approval product due by December 23, 2026:

Name	Course	Pathway	Term	Type	Maximum Hours	Funding
Hatzel, Russell	Criminology (CJS 116)	Criminal Justice	Semester	Revision	10	Perkins Secondary
Hatzel, Russell	Intro to Policing (CJS 110)	Criminal Justice	Semester	Revision	10	Perkins Secondary
Hatzel, Russell	Juvenile Delinquency (CJS 214)	Criminal Justice	Semester	Revision	10	Perkins Secondary
Hatzel, Russell	Intro to Emergency Management (CJS 126)	Criminal Justice	Semester	Revision	10	Perkins Secondary
Pascale, Colleen	Police and the Community (CJS 213)	Criminal Justice	Semester	Revision	10	Perkins Secondary
Pascale, Colleen	Investigative Function (CJS 215)	Criminal Justice	Semester	Revision	10	Perkins Secondary
Rywalt, Dawn Marie	Introduction to Info Tech (CMP 130)	Information Technology	Semester	Revision	10	Perkins Secondary
Rywalt, Dawn Marie	SQL Data Base Programming (CMP 241)	Information Technology	Semester	Revision	10	Perkins Secondary
Sedlak, Alyssa	Introduction to Business (BUS 112)	Business	Full Year	Revision	30	General
Sedlak, Alyssa	College Student Success	All Pathways	Semester	Revision	20	Perkins Secondary

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____ **Roll Call:** _____

XV. FACILITIES

The following Resolutions have been recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education for approval:

1. Motion to approve the use of the facilities by the Township of Denville Recreation Department for adult men's basketball games and practices in the Building #4 Multipurpose Room from 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. on Mondays from October 19, 2026 through June 7, 2027.

2. Motion to approve the use of the facilities by Denville PAL for games and practices in the Morris County School of Technology Building #1 Gymnasium and Building #4 Multipurpose Room per the attached schedule. (Attachment #15)
3. Motion to approve the use of the facilities by Morris Plains Basketball for games and practices in the Morris County School of Technology Building #1 Gymnasium and Building #4 Multipurpose Room per the attached schedule. (Attachment #16)
4. Motion to approve the use of the facilities by Jersey Aces Basketball for practices in the Morris County School of Technology Building #1 Gymnasium per the attached schedule. (Attachment #17)
5. Motion to approve the use of the facilities by Vietna.lew, Inc. as a location to film a video production in a Building #3 classroom and the Building #4 Multipurpose Room on Saturday, September 26, 2026 from 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____ **Roll Call:** _____

XVI. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

XVII. OLD BUSINESS

- NJ School Boards Annual Fall Workshop: October 19-22, 2026, Atlantic City
- Career Pathways Night: Thursday, May 6, 2027 at **6:30 PM**
- Share Time Completion Ceremony: Wednesday, June 2, 2027 at **1:00 PM**
- Graduation: Monday, June 14, 2027 at **3:00 PM**

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS

- Next Board Meeting: October 13, 2026 at **6:00 p.m**
 - Presentation by Paul Pineiro, NJSBA, Superintendent Evaluation Tool and Board Goals

XIX. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

XX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Time: _____

Motion by: _____ **Seconded by:** _____ **Roll Call:** _____

**Morris County Vocational School District
Board of Education Meeting
September 8, 2026**

Addendum

XIV. PERSONNEL

18. Motion to approve the appointment of the following Club Advisors for the 2026-2027 school year:

<u>Club/Organization</u>	<u>Advisor</u>
Chorus	Michael LeRose
Jewish Student Union (JSU)	Ashley Brooks
DECA	Mary Gonnella

Motion by:_____ Seconded by:_____ Roll Call:_____