

**HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
WORK STUDY MEETING
August 19, 2026
MINUTES**

Generated by Alexander Hernandez on Thursday, August 20, 2026

The Hempstead Public Schools Board of Education Work Study Meeting was held in the A.B.G.S. Middle School Band Box, 70 Greenwich Street. Hempstead New York 11550. The Meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM, Moved by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Nicholson. All trustees arrived on time. The board proceeded to review the agenda and take action.

Board Members Present:

Trustee LaMont E. Johnson
Trustee Elise Nicholson
Trustee Jeffrery Spencer
Trustee Gwendolyn Jackson
Trustee Joylette E. Williams, PhD.

NYSED Monitor

Williams Johnoson

Staff Members Present

Mr. Gary Rush, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Alexander Hernandez, Acting District Clerk
Mr. Jamal Scott, Deputy Superintendent
Dr. Rodney Gilmore, Associate Superintendent
Mrs. Djuana Wilson, Assistant Superintendent

A. OPENING OF MEETING

Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of Silence

B. PRESENTATION

Cullen, Edward - School Business Consultant - Business Office

C. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent's Report

D. TRUSTEES' REPORT

Trustees' Reports - Trustee Williams, Johnson, Jackson offered remarks.

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Johnson Moved, seconded by Trustee Williams to convene to executive session at 5:31 PM to discuss a particular individual and advise of legal counsel.

MOTION

YES 5

MOTION CARRIED

To convene to executive session

F. OPEN SESSION

Trustee Jonson Moved, seconded by Trustee Nicholson to reconvene to open session at 6:39 PM

MOTION**YES 5****MOTION CARRIED**

To reconvene to open session

G. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Reports: 1. President's Report

H. EX-OFFICIO STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

1. Ex-Officio Melani & Christopher gave remarks

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Williams Moved, seconded by Trustee Nicholson to convene to executive session for the second time at 6:42 PM to discuss a particular individual and advise of legal counsel.

MOTION**YES 5****MOTION CARRIED**

To convene to executive session

J. OPEN SESSION

Trustee Jackson Moved, seconded by Trustee Williams to reconvene to open session at 8:25 PM

MOTION**YES 5****MOTION CARRIED**

To reconvene to open session

K. INFORMATIONAL

Information: 1. Informational

L. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Approval of the Consent Agenda Items

Trustee Johnson Moved, seconded by Trustee Williams to approve the following agenda items: R1, Resignations page 8, R4 Professional appointments page 10 through 14, R6 Student orientation page 14, S1 page 19 Employee, Pamela Parsley to state "resignation for purposes of retirement", S2 - civil service appointments page 19.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the resignation from the following professional personnel:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REASON</u>
Nicholas Parsley Eff. 8/31/2026	School Psychologist Jackson School	Resignation for personal reasons.
Corrine Fee-Thompson Eff. 8/30/2026	Special Education Teacher David Paterson	Resignation for personal reasons.
Cheryl Treasure - Myles Eff. 9/11/2026	Special Education Teacher ABGS Middle School	Resignation for personal reasons.
Jassoda Sugrim Eff. 8/19/2026	Substitute Teacher District	Resignation for retirement purposes.

Patricia Pacheco
Eff. 8/19/2026

Teaching Assistant
High School

Resignation contingent upon appointment as Math Teacher.

Stacey Lagnese
Eff. 6/30/2026

Elementary
Assistant Principal
Jackson School

Resignation contingent upon appointment as Elementary Principal.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to APPOINT the following PROFESSIONAL Personnel:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
Sarita Pearson Eff. 9/1/2026 4 Year Probationary Period, 8/31/2030 Students With Disabilities (All Grades) Initial, Eff. 3/27/2024	Special Education Teacher Prospect School	\$74,406 (Lv. 5 St. 4) PURPOSE: To fill new position.
Melissa Kabak Eff. 9/1/2026 4 Year Probationary Period, 8/31/2030 Students With Disabilities (All Grades) Initial, Eff. 5/21/2025	Special Education Teacher Prospect School	\$71,634 (Lv. 5 St. 3) PURPOSE: To fill new position.
Kelly Blando Eff. 9/1/2026 4 Year Probationary Period, 8/31/2030 Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) Initial, 3/15/2025	Elementary Teacher David Paterson	\$68,885 (Lv. 5 St. 2) PURPOSE: Fill new position.
Gabrielle Malave Eff. 9/1/2026 4 Year Probationary Period, 8/31/2030 Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) Initial, 1/31/2024	Elementary Teacher Jackson School	\$84,689 (Lv. 10 St. 3) PURPOSE: Fill new position.
Francelia Torres Eff. 9/1/2026 4 Year Probationary Period, 8/31/2030 Childhood Education (Grades 1-6) Initial, Eff. 7/9/2026 Bilingual Education Extension Initial, 7/9/2026	Elementary Teacher (Bilingual) Jackson School	\$60,902 (Lv. 1 St. 2) PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing M. Sebelen, retired, 6/30/2026 Board Action: 6/17/2026

Manto Ottaviano
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/2030
Childhood Education (Grades
1-6)
Professional, Eff. 5/4/2022

Elementary Teacher
Rhodes Academy

\$88,218 (Lv. 5 St. 9)

PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing R. Brown-Walker, retired, 6/30/2026
Board Action: 4/15/2026

Lucia Lanzer
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/2030
English 7-12
Permanent, Eff. 9/1/2008

ELA Teacher
High School

\$82,694 (Lv. 5 St. 7)

PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing A. Kowalck, resigned, 8/26/2026
Board Action: 7/22/2026

Loren Tice
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/2030
Business And Marketing
Internship, Eff. 7/21/2026

Business Teacher
High School

\$71,634 (Lv. 5 St. 3)

PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing P. Ortmann, retired, 2/26/2025
Board Action: 6/30/2025

Nicole Mercadante
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/2030
School Psychologist
Provisional, Eff 6/3/2025

School Psychologist
David Paterson

\$74,406 (Lv. 7 St. 2)

PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing , J. Goodman resigned 4/28/2026,
Board Action: 4/28/2026

Sony Alexandre
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/2030
Mathematics 7-12
Permanent, Eff. 2/1/2004

Math Teacher
High School

\$99,268 (Lv. 9 St. 9)

PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing S. Alam, resigned 6/30/2026,
Board Action: 4/15/2026

Patricia Pacheco Solar
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/2030
Mathematics 7-12
Initial, Eff. 6/17/2026

Math Teacher
High School

\$66,114 (Lv. 5 St. 1)

PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing J. Guerrero-Lacrete, resigned 6/30/2026,
Board Action: 4/15/2026

Erik Brillon
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/2030
Technology Education
Transitional G, Eff. 5/1/2026

Computer
Technology Teacher
ABGS Middle School

\$99,268 (Lv. 9 St. 9)

PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing B. Pratt, retired 6/30/26
Board Action: 4/15/26

Anne Sullivan
(Leave Replacement)
 Eff. 9/1/2026 - 6/30/2027
 English To Speakers of Other
 Languages
 Initial, Eff. 8/1/2025

ENL Teacher
 Prospect

\$74,406 (Lv. 7 St. 2)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing C.
 Squillante, LOA,
 Board Action: 8/19/2026

Laura Hazelton
(Leave Replacement)
 Eff. 9/1/2026 - 6/30/2027
 Childhood Education (Grades
 1-6)
 Initial, Eff. 2/1/2025

Elementary Teacher
 Jackson School

\$68,885 (Lv. 5 St. 2)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing Employee
 #618, 3020a,
 Board Action: 4/15/2026

Christopher Paultre
 Eff. 9/1/2026
 4 Year Probationary
 Period, 8/31/30
 Childhood Education (Grades
 1-6)
 Initial, Eff. 1/18/2025

Elementary Teacher
 Barack Obama

\$66,114 (Lv. 5 St. 1)
PURPOSE: Fill new position.

Maegan Bitler
 Eff. 9/1/2026
 4 Year Probationary
 Period, 8/31/30
 Students with
 Disabilities (Grades 1-6)
 Professional, Eff. 3/21/2023

Special Education
 Teacher
 Joseph A. McNeil

\$71,634 (Lv. 5 St. 3)
PURPOSE: Fill new position.

Catherine Tangredi
 Eff. 9/1/2026
 3 Year Probationary
 Period, 8/31/29
 Students with Disabilities
 (Grades 1-6)
 Professional, Eff. 3/21/2023

Biology Teacher
 Middle School

\$88,218 (Lv. 5 St. 9)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing M.
 Henriquez, retired 8/9/2026,
 Board Action: 7/22/2026

Mark Newman
(Leave Replacement)
 Eff. 9/1/2026 - 6/30/2027
 Childhood Education (Grades
 1-6)
 Professional, Eff. 1/5/2023

Elementary Teacher
 Barack Obama

\$74,406 (Lv. 5 St. 4)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing K. Guido,
 LOA,
 Board Action: 7/22/2026

Marchel Cathey
 Eff. 9/1/2026
 4 Year Probationary
 Period, 8/31/30
 Teaching Assistant I
 Initial, Eff. 6/17/2026

Teaching Assistant
 Rhodes Academy

\$35,385 (Lv. 4 St. 2)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing A. Perez,
 retired 6/30/2026,
 Board Action: 4/28/2026

Javeria Ayub
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/30
Teaching Assistant III
Initial, Eff. 11/25/2025

Teaching Assistant
High School

\$37,425 (Lv. 4 St. 4)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing S. Mayo,
resigned 8/31/2026
Board Action: 7/22/2026

Amy Arias Torres
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/30
Teaching Assistant I
Initial, Eff. 11/28/2025

Teaching Assistant
Barack Obama

\$37,425 (Lv. 4 St. 4)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing K. James,
resigned 8/31/2026
Board Action: 7/22/2026

Lorraine Kenny
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/30
Teaching Assistant I
Initial, Eff. 10/7/2025

Teaching Assistant
David Paterson

\$36,408 (Lv. 4 St. 3)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing A. Stewart,
resigned 6/30/2026
Board Action: 4/28/2026

Muskaan Dutt
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/30
Teaching Assistant I
Initial, Eff. 10/7/2025

Teaching Assistant
High School

\$36,408 (Lv. 4 St. 3)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing J. Chajon
Urbina, resigned 8/31/2026
Board Action: 7/22/2026

Anan King
Eff. 9/1/2026
4 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/30
Teaching Assistant I
Initial, Eff. 1/10/2025

Teaching Assistant
Rhodes Academy

\$35,385 (Lv. 4 St. 2)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing J. King,
retired 6/30/2026,
Board Action: 4/28/2026

Stacey Lagnese
Eff. 7/1/2026
3 Year Probationary
Period, 8/31/2029
School Building Leader
Initial, Eff. 12/22/2021

Elementary Principal
Jackson School

\$168,844 (Lv. 8 St. 3)
PURPOSE: Fill vacant position. Replacing R. Brown,
resigned 6/30/2026,
Board Action: 7/22/2026

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to APPROVE the following personnel to participate in back to school Student Orientation at Jackson School, effective Monday, August 24, 2026 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
Tomasina Minneci	Teacher	\$58.79/hr.
Stephanie Sutter	Teacher	\$58.79/hr.
Stephanie Finney	Teaching Assistant	\$58.79/hr.
Jeanette Tillman	Teacher	\$58.79/hr.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the **RESIGNATION** from the following **CIVIL SERVICE** personnel for **PERSONAL/RETIREMENT** purposes:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REASON</u>
Pamela Parsley Eff. 8/19/2026	Security Aide ABGS Middle School	Resignation for purposes of retirement disability.
Anan King Eff. 9/1/2026	Teacher Aide Rhodes Academy	Resignation contingent upon appointment as Teaching Assistant.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to **APPOINT** the following **Civil Service Personnel**:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
Yves Hyppolite Eff. 9/1/2026	Security Aide High School	\$35,935 (Lv. 9, St. 5) PURPOSE: Replacing J. Bowens, resigned 5/5/26 Board Action: 5/27/26
Christian Holder Eff. 9/1/2026	Security Aide High School	\$35,935 (Lv. 9, St. 5) PURPOSE: Replacing J. Jackman resigned 12/10/25 Board Action: 12/15/25
Jasmine Byrd Eff. 9/1/2026	Security Aide High School	\$38, 821 (Lv. 9, St. 8) PURPOSE: Replacing R. Mahoney, retired 7/1/26. Board Action: 6/17/26
Maurice Gilreath Eff. 8/24/2026	Cleaner/Bus Driver District	\$55,496 (Lv. 2, St. 4) PURPOSE: To meet the needs of the district.

Trinityann Lofters Eff. 9/1/2026	School Monitor, P/T Joseph A. McNeil	\$18.15/hr. PURPOSE: Replacing J. Lyons, resigned 3/4/26. Board Action: 4/15/26
Regina Fields Eff. 9/1/2026	School Monitor, P/T Joseph A. McNeil	\$18.15/hr. PURPOSE: Replacing C. McDonald, retired 4/15/26. Board Action: 4/15/26
Shaniquia Nelson Eff. 9/1/2026	School Monitor, P/T Barack Obama	\$18.15/hr. PURPOSE: To meet the needs of the district.
Vandella Rogers Eff. 8/24/2026	Typist Clerk - P/T - Sub District	\$18.89/hr. (Lv. 9A, St. 10) PURPOSE: Expand Substitute list services to be utilized by District
Melanie Gonzalez Eff. 8/24/2026	Typist Clerk - P/T - Sub District	\$18.89/hr. (Lv. 9A, St. 10) PURPOSE: Expand Substitute list services to be utilized by District
Laura Udik Eff. 8/24/2026	Provisional Personnel Clerk Human Resources	\$49,199 (Lv. 4, St.6) - Prorated PURPOSE: Replacing C. Brown, retired 6/29/2024. Board Action: 3/20/24

MOTION

To approve the said items

YES 5**MOTION CARRIED**

I. INDEPENDENT ITEM**RESOLUTION****Trustee Spencer Moved, seconded by Trustee Johnson to approve the independent item**

WHEREAS, on or about January 5, 2026, the District and Employee Number 3425 entered into an employment agreement for Employee Number 3425 to be employed as a Confidential Secretary ("Employment Contract"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VII. of the Employment Contract, Employee Number 3425 agreed that if Employee Number 3425 "breaches her duty and responsibility to maintain the confidentiality of information and documents," then "[t]he District has the right to terminate this contract and your confidential status, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education and the Board of Education adopting the Superintendent of Schools' recommendation"; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools is recommending the District terminate Employee Number 3425's Employment Contract based upon the reasons addressed in the Confidential Attachment; and

WHEREAS, upon adoption of this resolution, Employee Number 3425, pursuant to the terms of Employee Number 3425's Employment Contract, is reverting to the Hempstead Schools Civil Service Association and will be placed in a position within the District consistent with Employee Number 3425's Nassau County Civil Service title.

NOW THEREFORE, it is

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the District terminates the Employment Agreement between Employee Number 3425 and the District; and it is further

RESOLVED, that effective August 27, 2026, Employee Number 3425 is reverted to the Hempstead Schools Civil Service Association and will be placed in a position within the District consistent with Employee Number 3425's Nassau County Civil Service title, which will be a Clerk Typist; and it is finally

RESOLVED, that Employee Number 3425 is placed on Administrative Leave With Pay at the pay rate consistent with the pay scale in the collective bargaining agreement with the Hempstead Schools Civil Service Association, which is Level 1A, Step 18, which shall remain her rate of pay pending further resolution of the Board.

MOTION	YES 2 (Trustees Spencer, Johnson)	No (Trustee Nicholson)	Abstain 2
(Trustee Williams, Trustees Jackson)		MOTION FAILED	

21 ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Williams Moved, seconded by Trustee Nicholson to adjourn meeting at 8:33 p.m.

MOTION	YES 5	MOTION CARRIED
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Respectfully Submitted:

Alexander Hernandez
Acting District Clerk