



MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION

60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430

Richard DeSilva, Jr.
1st Vice President

Brett Coplin
Trista Daveniero
Michael Galow

Prema C. Moorthy, PhD
President

Benjamin A. Kezmarsky
2nd Vice President

Christopher L. Hughes
Steve Huston
Janine Ting Jansen

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORK SESSION/ACTION MEETING OF THE MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION held on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, in the Administrative Offices, 60 Ridge Rd., Mahwah, New Jersey.

PLEASE NOTE: This meeting of the Mahwah Board of Education is open to members of the public to be physically present. Members of the public that attend will be asked to follow the same procedures as all other visitors to our schools. Those procedures can be found on the agenda page of our website. Additionally, the Board meeting will be live streamed for viewing purposes only. Anyone wishing to view the meeting, may do so via Zoom (<https://zoom.us>).

CALL TO ORDER

President Dr. Moorthy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mesdames Ting Jansen, Daveniero and Dr. Moorthy
Messrs. Coplin, Hughes, Huston, Kezmarsky, and Galow

ABSENT: Messrs. DeSilva

ALSO PRESENT: Michael DeTuro, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Dennis M. Fare, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent
Katherine A. Hiromoto, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary
Lisa Rizzo, Director of Special Services

PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of agenda of this meeting has been provided to *The Ridgewood News* and *The Record* specifying that the Mahwah Board of Education will meet on August 26, 2026, in the Administrative Offices, 60 Ridge Rd., Mahwah, New Jersey. A copy was filed with the Township Clerk.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

MOTION TO OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS

Motion by Mr. Galow and seconded by Mr. Hughes to open the meeting to the public for comments.

Motion carried at 7:02 p.m.

AGENDA QUESTIONS

There were no questions about the agenda.

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS

Motion by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mr. Coplin to close the meeting to the public for comments.

Motion carried at 7:02 p.m.

MAHWAH STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

No student representative report.

SUPERINTENDENT AND ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – DR. MICHAEL DETURO AND DR. DENNIS M. FARE

Dr. DeTuro began his report by introducing Lisa Rizzo, who presented the District's 2025–2026 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Self-Assessment.

Ms. Rizzo explained that the annual HIB Self-Assessment is required by the New Jersey Department of Education and evaluates each school's compliance with the requirements of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act. Each building's School Safety Team reviews supporting evidence and evaluates its performance using the State-established rubric. The building scores are then reviewed by Ms. Rizzo in her role as District Anti-Bullying Coordinator before being submitted to the Department of Education.

The self-assessment evaluates eight core elements, including HIB programs and initiatives; training on the Board-approved HIB policy; staff instruction and training; curriculum and instruction related to HIB; personnel; school-level HIB incident reporting; investigative procedures; and HIB reporting. The maximum score available to each school is 78 points.

For the 2025–2026 school year, Mahwah High School, Ramapo Ridge Middle School, and Joyce Kilmer School each received a score of 77 out of 78. Betsy Ross School, George Washington School, and Lenape Meadows School each received the maximum score of 78 out of 78. The District-wide average was 77.5 out of 78, demonstrating that all schools met or exceeded the requirements within the core elements of the State rubric.

Ms. Rizzo emphasized that the self-assessment scores are based on compliance with the requirements of the law and District policy and are not determined by the number of HIB investigations or confirmed HIB incidents.

During the 2025–2026 school year, the District conducted 100 HIB investigations, of which 15 resulted in confirmed HIB findings. Ms. Rizzo explained that Mahwah follows a non-discretionary approach to HIB reporting and investigates matters whenever harassment, intimidation, or bullying is alleged or when conduct is suspected of potentially meeting the HIB criteria. All matters referred to the District were investigated, and investigations were completed within the timelines required by law.

Ms. Rizzo also reviewed historical HIB data by school and discussed how student age and developmental level may affect both reported incidents and confirmed findings. She noted that, in addition to appropriate consequences when warranted, the District focuses on remedial measures and interventions designed to stop inappropriate behavior and support students. Students involved in repeated concerns may be reviewed more closely through the District's tiered intervention system to determine whether additional supports are appropriate.

The District will continue to incorporate HIB and School Safety Team data into its student support and tiered intervention processes. Student Support Data Teams consider non-academic factors affecting students, including attendance, social-emotional needs, discipline, and HIB-related information, to identify students who may benefit from Tier 2 or Tier 3 interventions.

For the 2026–2027 school year, the District will also provide additional training to School Safety Teams, including a review of relevant New Jersey legal findings and developments related to HIB. The District will continue its efforts to educate parents and families regarding the legal definition of HIB and the distinction between conduct that meets the statutory HIB criteria and other student social or behavioral conflicts.

Following Board presentation of the self-assessment, the District's 2025–2026 scores will be formally submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education for review. Ms. Rizzo concluded by noting that she was pleased with the District's results and that the District's strategic goals and tiered intervention system will continue to support and strengthen its approach to student safety, HIB prevention, and student support.

Mr. Galow asked whether membership on the School Safety Teams remains relatively stable or experiences regular turnover. Ms. Rizzo explained that the teams are predominantly comprised of consistent members from year to year, with most turnover occurring among parent representatives.

Ms. Rizzo noted that the continuity of team membership is beneficial because it allows members to identify trends, revisit prior concerns, and evaluate whether previous interventions have been effective. As an example, she discussed a student cohort that experienced similar concerns involving inappropriate commentary at Lenape Meadows and later at Joyce Kilmer. Because of the continuity and collaboration among the teams, the prior experience at Lenape Meadows was used to help inform an intervention plan at Joyce Kilmer.

Dr. DeTuro recognized and thanked the District's administrative team and building Anti-Bullying Specialists for their work throughout the HIB investigation process. He noted that the 100 investigations conducted during the 2025–2026 school year required a significant amount of time and effort and commended the schools for conducting thorough and comprehensive investigations. He also thanked Ms. Rizzo for her continued guidance and collaboration with each school throughout the process, emphasizing the District's commitment to taking all allegations of bullying seriously and ensuring the safety and well-being of its students.

Dr. DeTuro then transitioned to highlights from over the summer and recognized the Miller family for their generous contribution to the Mahwah community through the installation of patriotic American flag crosswalks. He noted the family's strong ties to the District, including Vicky Miller's service as a paraprofessional and their daughter Sienna's attendance at Joyce Kilmer School. Dr. DeTuro thanked the Miller family for their generosity and commitment to the community.

Dr. DeTuro provided an update on the District's involvement with Habitat for Humanity, an initiative that began approximately two years ago with Ms. Kaczynski, Mr. Giandoli, and members of the Class of 2024. Students helped raise significant funds for the project through several activities, including the Board of Education versus Township Council volleyball game. This past summer, several former students returned from college to participate in the construction of the home and had the opportunity to meet the family who will be moving into it. Dr. DeTuro noted that Mahwah Schools was one of the largest contributors to the home and described the project as a meaningful learning and community service experience. He thanked the students, staff, Board members, and community members who supported the initiative.

Dr. DeTuro also highlighted the District's summer programming, including Safety Town, Summer Booster, Extended School Year, Camp Ignite, and Kindergarten Kickstart. He reported that the programs were very successful and provided students with opportunities to remain engaged, continue learning, and prepare for the upcoming school year. He specifically highlighted an expansion of Camp Ignite that provided younger

students with opportunities to utilize the District's T3 facility and explore resources including drones, robotics, and 3D printing. Parents were also invited to visit the facility and learn more about the resources and educational opportunities available to students within Mahwah Public Schools.

Dr. DeTuro then provided an update on the District's Summer Internship and Externship Program. The program, which began several years ago as a pilot with three students, has grown to include more than 70 students. Students participated in authentic, career-based learning experiences throughout the community in areas including financial services, environmental outreach, architecture, medicine, law, and the Mahwah Regional Chamber of Commerce, among others. Dr. DeTuro noted that the program allows students to connect classroom learning with their individual career interests and real-world professional experiences. He also highlighted student internship opportunities with NEVCO and thanked the District staff responsible for coordinating the program, as well as the many community organizations that sponsored and hosted Mahwah students.

Dr. Fare highlighted orientation activities held over the summer for students transitioning to Joyce Kilmer School, Ramapo Ridge Middle School, and Mahwah High School. The programs provided students with opportunities to explore their new buildings, meet staff, learn school routines and expectations, and begin developing connections before the start of the school year. Dr. Fare noted that these transition activities grew directly out of the District's Strategic Plan and its focus on creating stronger connections and more intentional transition experiences for students.

Dr. Fare also provided an update on grants awarded by the Mahwah Schools Foundation. He highlighted the installation of new art showcase displays at George Washington School, which provide students with additional opportunities to display and celebrate their artwork throughout the building. Additional Foundation-funded projects will be highlighted throughout the fall as they are implemented.

Dr. Fare then shared the District's 2025–2026 Advanced Placement (AP) results. A total of 200 students completed 530 AP exams, with 94% of students earning a score of 3 or higher. This represents the District's highest percentage over the past five years. Dr. Fare recognized the dedication of Mahwah students and staff and noted that the District is also looking to expand its AP course offerings.

Lastly, Dr. Fare recognized Nurse Mertz on her upcoming retirement following more than 21 years of service to the District as a school nurse at George Washington School. He recognized her leadership within the District's nursing team and, in particular, her important role in helping guide the District through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Fare expressed the District's appreciation for her many years of service and wished her well in retirement.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT – MS. KATHERINE A. HIROMOTO

Ms. Hiromoto provided an update on Business Office operations and facility projects as the District prepared for the start of the 2026–2027 school year. She noted that the Business Office had a very busy summer closing out the 2025–2026 school year while simultaneously preparing for the new school year. The Business Office has also begun preparations for the District's annual audit and upcoming QSAC review. Ms. Hiromoto thanked the entire Business Office team for their hard work throughout the summer.

Ms. Hiromoto also provided an update on referendum projects throughout the District. Roofing work at Betsy Ross was approximately 95% complete, while roofing at George Washington was approximately 90% complete. At Mahwah High School, the new gymnasium roof was completed and additional roofing work was well underway. Significant progress was also made on the temperature controls project at Building 7. The Building 5 Life Skills project was out to bid and had received strong contractor interest. Ms. Hiromoto noted that referendum work continuing during the school year will be carefully coordinated and scheduled to ensure that construction does not impact instruction or disrupt students and staff.

In addition to the referendum projects, the Buildings and Grounds Department completed a number of facility improvements throughout the District over the summer. These included drainage and heating improvements at Betsy Ross and George Washington; new flooring in the World Language wing at Mahwah High School, along with new safety netting for softball and lacrosse, paving and curbing, and Media Center window glazing replacements; and window and cafeteria door replacements at Ramapo Ridge Middle School.

Ms. Hiromoto also reported that 80 trees were planted throughout the District in the spring of 2026 through the Trees for Schools Grant. Seven of the trees did not survive and are covered under the installer's Tree Guarantee warranty. Those trees will be replaced and replanted during the school year at no additional cost to the District.

Ms. Hiromoto recognized Amazon for its generous donation to the District of assorted school supplies, backpacks, electronic accessories, and instructional supplies for use by District students and staff. The donation was presented for Board acceptance under Resolution 18HH on the evening's agenda. She expressed the District's appreciation to Amazon for its generosity and support of the Mahwah school community.

Ms. Hiromoto concluded by recognizing the significant amount of work completed throughout the summer and thanking everyone who worked behind the scenes to prepare the District's buildings and operations for the return of students and staff. She also thanked the administrative team, including Dr. DeTuro, Dr. Fare, Lisa Rizzo, and Jodi Craft, for their collaboration and work in helping to ensure a smooth opening of the 2026–2027 school year. Ms. Hiromoto wished all students, staff, and families a wonderful and successful school year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Moorthy welcomed everyone to the start of the new school year and wished students, staff, and families a wonderful year ahead. She thanked the Buildings and Grounds staff and all those who worked to prepare the District's facilities for reopening, as well as the teachers returning to prepare their classrooms. Dr. Moorthy expressed her excitement for the start of the school year and wished all Mahwah students a safe and happy return to school.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Instructional & Curriculum/Special Education – P. Moorthy (Chair), T. Daveniero, M. Galow, B. Coplin, J. Ting Jansen (Alt.)

Finance & Facilities – M. Galow (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky, J. Ting Jansen, P. Moorthy (Alt.)

Policy – J. Ting Jansen (Chair), C. Hughes, S. Huston, R. DeSilva

Community Relations – B. Coplin (Chair), T. Daveniero, S. Huston, C. Hughes, M. Galow (Alt.)

Executive/Planning Committee – P. Moorthy (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky Transportation Committee – B.

Coplin (Chair) T. Daveniero, C. Hughes, M. Galow Negotiations – J. Ting Jansen (Chair), M. Galow, B. Kezmarsky, P. Moorthy

Bergen County School Boards Liaison – M. Galow, P. Moorthy (Alt.)

New Jersey School Boards Legislative Liaison – P. Moorthy

Mahwah Schools Foundation Liaison – B. Kezmarsky, B. Coplin (Alt.)

Mahwah Access for All Liaison – S. Huston, M. Galow (Alt.)

Board of Education Liaison to Town Council - B. Kezmarsky, R. DeSilva, (Alt.)

On behalf of the Finance and Facilities Committee, Mr. Galow reported that the Committee met on Tuesday

and discussed ongoing referendum projects and the reporting that will be provided as the work progresses. The Committee discussed tracking project expenditures, schedules, and overall progress, as well as the development of a public-facing reporting mechanism on the District website to provide the community with updates on the status of referendum projects. Mr. Galow thanked the community for its support of the referendum and noted that the District is already seeing the results of that investment.

Mr. Galow also discussed the significant increases being considered for State health and prescription benefit plans and the potential financial impact on the District. He noted that the District has taken steps in prior years to mitigate increases in healthcare costs; however, rising health and prescription costs continue to represent a significant financial concern for the upcoming year and future budgets. The Committee will continue to monitor these developments and work with the District's advisors to identify opportunities to manage and mitigate the impact on the District's financial plan, programs, students, and community.

As the Board of Education Liaison to the Town Council, Mr. Kezmarsky reported that the school-zone flashing lights throughout the Township have been repaired and programmed to be operational for the first day of school. He noted that the lights had not been operational for several years and that the Township's Department of Public Works was able to identify a cost-effective solution for the necessary repairs. The school-zone lights will operate from 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on school days to reinforce the 25-mile-per-hour speed limit.

On behalf of the Policy Committee, Mrs. Ting Jansen highlighted the District's updated policy regarding student use of internet-enabled devices and noted that information regarding the policy has been communicated to students. She also noted that several policies are included on the evening's agenda for second reading and adoption.

On behalf of the Instructional & Curriculum/Special Education Committee, Dr. Moorthy reported that the Committee held its first meeting of the school year in August and received several instructional and program updates.

The Committee reviewed the District's Advanced Placement (AP) program and recent AP results. Mr. O'Hara shared that Mahwah High School earned Silver recognition on the AP School Honor Roll. The District continues to focus on increasing student participation in AP courses, strengthening communication with students regarding available opportunities, and exploring additional AP course offerings for the 2027–2028 school year.

Ms. Craft presented the proposed Parent Academy calendar, which includes a variety of programs addressing topics relevant to families at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Programs will be offered both in person and virtually at no cost to families, with materials and presentations also made available on the District website. Dr. Moorthy encouraged parents to take advantage of these opportunities. Dr. Fare provided an update on the District's 23 recent hires and the orientation program conducted for new staff. The Committee also discussed a new partnership with Ramapo College through the Archway Program, a clinical internship program through which approximately nine Ramapo College students will complete coursework at the College while spending two days each week working within the District. Central Office administrators will serve as clinical supervisors for the participating students.

The Committee also reviewed curriculum updates, including several initiatives at Ramapo Ridge Middle School. A new science curriculum pilot for grades 6–8, which began development in June 2026, will be implemented during the school year. The Ready Math program for grades 6–8 will also begin following curriculum work completed over the summer. Additionally, the Grade 6 English Language Arts program has been revised to utilize novels as vehicles for developing broader literacy skills through a more thematic and

skills-based approach, with an increased emphasis on critical thinking and writing.

Lastly, the Committee received an update from Dr. Fare regarding reflective practice, with additional information to be shared at a later date. The next Instructional & Curriculum/Special Education Committee meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2026.

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS/ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON REPORTS OR OTHER NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Coplin thanked the Policy Committee and District administration for their work in developing the District's policy regarding student use of internet-enabled devices in response to new State requirements. He acknowledged that the new restrictions will represent a significant change for students, particularly at the high school level, and expressed his appreciation for the Committee's efforts to develop a policy that appropriately addresses the State requirements while considering the needs of Mahwah students and schools.

17. OLD BUSINESS

Resolutions 17a-17f were moved by Mr. Galow and seconded by Mr. Hughes.

a. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the July 08, 2026, Public Work Session/Action Meeting.

b. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the July 08, 2026, Executive Session.

c. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the July 22, 2026, Public Work Session/Action Meeting.

d. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the July 22, 2026, Executive Session.

e. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the August 05, 2026, Public Work Session/Action Meeting.

f. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the August 05, 2026, Executive Session.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 17a-17b

Motion 17a-17b carried 6 ayes, 0 nays, with Mr. Hughes, and Mrs. Ting Jansen abstaining.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 17c-17d.

Motion 17c-17d carried 5 ayes, 0 nays, with Mr. Kezmarsky, Mr. Coplin, and Mr. Galow abstaining.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 17e-17f.

Motion 17e-17f carried 5 ayes, 0 nays, with Mr. Kezmarsky, Mr. Huston, and Mrs. Ting Jansen abstaining.

18. NEW BUSINESS- OTHER

Resolutions 18a-18hh were moved by Mr. Huston and seconded by Mr. Kezmarsky.

a. Financial Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of bills for the period of 07/23/2026 to 08/26/2026.

General Fund	Fund 10	\$6,496.18
General Current Expense	Fund 11	\$2,258,941.78
Special Revenue Funds	Fund 20	\$1,645.91
Capital Projects Funds	Fund 30	\$674,893.67
Region 1	Fund 52	\$402.71
Region I-Contracted Trans.	Fund 53	\$1,212,180.69
Region 1 –Summer School	Fund 54	\$854.60
Cafeteria	Fund 60	\$81,930.34
Total of All Checks		\$4,237,345.88

b. Secretary's Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Secretary's Report for June 2026.

c. Treasurer's Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts, and affixes to the minutes, the Treasurer's Report for June 2026.

d. Budget Transfers

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves budgetary transfers for June 2026, as per attached.

e. Certification

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, as per New Jersey Administrative Code and New Jersey Statutes Annotated legislation and requirements, the following statement is approved:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of June 2026 no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1, and

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), I certify that as of June 2026 no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(a).

Katherine A. Hiromoto, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

f. Region 1- Transportation Routes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education awards the following special education transportation routes for the 2026-2027 school year as per quotes received:

Route	Contractor	Per diem	Inc/Dec	Aide
Q724	D&J Transport	\$186.00	\$4.50	\$110.00
Q725	D&R Transportation	\$297.00	\$2.00	\$60.00
Q726	Lenoir's Transport	\$180.00	\$2.50	\$55.00
Q727	Lenoir's Transport	\$66.00	\$2.50	
Q728	Triumph Invalid Coach	\$201.00	\$3.00	\$69.00
Q729	Joshua Tours	\$275.00	\$3.00	\$90.00

g. Region 1- Bid of August 11, 2026

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education awards the following transportation routes for the 2026-2027 school year as per the bid of August 11, 2026:

Route	Contractor	Per diem	Inc/Dec	Aide
E1668	D&J	\$173.00	\$4.75	\$95.00
E1669	D&J	\$163.00	\$4.75	\$95.00
E1670	Star Transportation	\$149.00	\$2.99	\$50.00
E1672	Alpha Generation	\$148.00	\$3.00	\$40.00
E1673	Triumph Invalid Coach	\$260.00	\$5.00	\$120.00
E1674	R&May Transportation	\$165.00	\$0.99	\$30.00
E1675	Star Transportation	\$149.00	\$2.99	\$35.00
E1676	Destiny 23	\$162.00	\$1.50	\$50.00
E1677	Shaddai Transportation	\$210.00	\$0.49	\$45.00
E1678	School Related Services	\$228.00	\$1.75	\$40.00
E1679	M&M Group	\$249.00	\$2.99	\$49.00

E1680	School Related Services	\$238.00	\$1.75	\$40.00
E1681	Jaris Transportation	\$215.00	\$1.00	\$70.00

h. Depository of Bond Proceeds- Recission

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education rescinds the resolution authorizing the establishment of a separate bank account at TD Bank for deposit and administration of the bond proceeds related to the March 10, 2026, voter-approved referendum.

i. Cooperative Contract Bid Award- Mahwah High School Auditorium Audio Upgrade Project- Recission

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education rescinds the 07/22/2026 resolution awarding a contract to Generations Services for Bid #12730-Audio Visual Equipment Maintenance and Repair.

* j. Cancelled Checks - Operating Account

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves voiding the following prior year checks:

Check #	Date	Amount
114432	01/19/2024	\$3,275.54
121767	11/05/2025	\$2,400.00
119962	06/04/2025	\$1,177.00

k. Transportation Reimbursement

RESOLVED; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the parent of student with local identification number 39280 be reimbursed for transportation of school to home and home to school at a rate of \$90.00 per day for the period September 1, 2026 –June 30, 2027.

l. Transportation Reimbursement- Extended School Year

RESOLVED; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the parent of student with local identification number 36700 be reimbursed for transportation of school to home and home to school at a rate of \$90.00 per day for the period September 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027.

m. Transportation Reimbursement

RESOLVED; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the parent of student with local identification number 38843 be reimbursed for transportation of school to home and home to school at a rate of \$100.00 per day for the period of September 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027.

n. Conferences/Workshops

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves attendance at the following conferences/workshops that are deemed to be educationally appropriate and for the benefit of the school district including conference/workshop fees and necessary travel expenses. The conference/workshop amount shall align with the staff member's annual contractual allowance.

First	Last	Conference/Workshop	Date	Amount
Michael	DeTuro	AASA National Superintendent Cert Program East 2028 Cohort	09/22 - 09/25/2026	\$1,700.00
Katherine	Hiromoto	QSAC: Fiscal, Governance, Operations, and Personnel	9/22/2026	N/A

o. Field Trips

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following field trips:

Group/Destination	Date(s)	School	# of Students
18–21-year-old Lifepath Program to Mahwah Library, Mahwah, NJ	9/3 & 9/9/26	MHS	4
18–21-year-old Lifepath Program to MacArthur Plaza, Mahwah, NJ	9/4 & 9/10/26	MHS	4
18–21-year-old Lifepath Program to Shoprite, Ramsey, NJ	9/8/26	MHS	4
Music (6-8) to Dorney Park, Allentown, PA	5/14/27	RR	250

p. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the disposal of six (6) obsolete audiometers that have exceeded their useful life and are no longer required for educational or operational purposes.

q. Policy Abolished

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the abolishment of the following policy:

P 2363- Student Use of Privately-Owned Technology

r. First and Second Reading and Adoption of Policy & Regulation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education suspends Board Policy 0131 requiring 2 Board Meetings prior to the adoption of policies and approves the immediate adoption of the following:

P&R 5516 – Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices

s. Second Reading and Adoption of Policies and Regulations

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the second reading and adoption of the following:

P 0162 Notice of Board Meetings
 P 0162.01 Legal Notices
 P 1230 Superintendent's Duties
 P 1643 Family Leave
 P 2200 Curriculum
 P 2260 Equity in School and Classroom Practices
 P 2411 Career Education and Academic Counseling
 P 5460 High School Graduation
 P 5461 High School Diploma
 P 5561 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities
 P 6112 Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures
 R 6115.01 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls - Allowability
 P 6115.02 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Mandatory Disclosures
 P 6311 Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants
 P 8561 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs
 P&R 8630 Bus Driver/Bus Aide Responsibility
 P 8635 Student Transportation Vehicles and School Buses
 P 8651 Community Use of Transportation
 P 8820 Opening Exercises/Ceremonies
 R 8690 Monitoring Devices on School Vehicles

t. Vendor

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following agency to provide inpatient educational services. Life Works School and Foundations of Behavioral Health located in Doylestown, PA. The hourly rate for instruction is \$56.00.

* u. Self-Contained Field Trips

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves field trips for the self-contained program K-12 functional skills within Bergen County for the 2026-2027 school year.

v. 18–21-Year-Old Field Trips

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves field trips for the 18–21-year-old program functional skills within Bergen County for the 2026-2027 school year.

w. Consulting Service Agreement Contract – Alludo

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the contract with Alludo, at a cost of \$15,750.00, utilizing Title II & Title III funding for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

x. Consulting Service Agreement Contract - LinkIt!

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the contract with LinkIt! at a cost of \$45,107.30, utilizing partial Title IV part A funding for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

y. Professional Development Day

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves Lisa Thumann Consulting, as presenter to grades 6-12 teachers on October 12, 2026, at a fee of \$4,000.

z. Professional Development Day

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves Phil Seyfried of Columbia University and Mary Ehrenworth of Harvard University, as presenters to grades K-5 teachers on October 12, 2026, at a fee of \$3,000.

aa. Course Title Change

RESOLVED; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves course title change for the following courses:

Current Course Title	Updated Course Title
Honors Studio Portfolio Development	Honors 2D Studio Portfolio Development

bb. Curriculum Revisions

RESOLVES: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the revised curricula for the following courses of study.

*All courses with Math and/or ELA Standards have been updated to the new NJSLA ELA and Math 2023 Standards. The various courses below have been updated.

Science	English Language Arts
Science K-3	English Language Arts Gr 6
Science Grade 6	Literacy Workshop Gr 6
Science Grade 7	Business
Science Grade 8	Economics for the 21 st Century
Mathematics	Financial Literacy
Pre-Algebra 6	Sports & Entertainment Management
Pre-Algebra 7	Digital Production & Broadcasting
Pre-Algebra 7/8	Digital Film Production

Pre-Algebra 8	Digital Media
	Digital Photography
	Broadcast Journalism

cc. Consulting Service Agreement Contract - Curriculum Associates

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the contract with Curriculum Associates, at a cost of \$113,652.00, utilizing partial Title IV part A funding for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.

dd. Submission – District Professional Development Plan Statement of Assurance

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the submission of the 2026 – 2027, district professional development plan statement of assurance in compliance with the Department of Education requirements.

ee. Submission – District Mentoring Plan Statement of Assurance

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the submission of the 2026 – 2027, district mentoring plan statement of assurance in compliance with the Department of Education requirements.

ff. Change of Column on the Salary Guide

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a change of column on the MEA Teachers' Salary Guide for the following certified staff who completed graduate/in-service credits, effective September 1, 2026.

First Name	Last Name	From Column	To Column
Valentina	Castaldo	D - MA	E - MA+15
Gabriel	Castro	E - MA+15	F - MA+30
Whitney	Cohn	F - MA+30	G - MA+45
Rebekah	Cusick	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Jacqueline	D'Angelo	F - MA+30	G - MA+45
Rachel	Dillon	E - MA+15	F - MA+30
Michael	Doris	E - MA+15	F - MA+30
Emily	Doughan	F - MA+30	G - MA+45
Samantha	Fogarty	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Michele	Giannattasio	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Linda	Hornyak	F - MA+30	G - MA+45
Justin	Jaskot	E - MA+15	F - MA+30
Jillian	Laurice	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Yovana	Mena	C - BA+30	E - MA+15
Matthew	Miller	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Estania	Noel	E - MA+15	F - MA+30
Kristen	Oroszlany	F - MA+30	G - MA+45
Ludmila	Picioccio	C - BA+30	D - BA+45
Eric	Pragdat	B - BA+15	C - BA+30
Salvatore	Scillieri	C - BA+30	D - BA+45

First Name	Last Name	From Column	To Column
Stacey	Shapiro	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Danielle	Signore	G - MA+45	H - MA+60
Josie	VanPuttenVink	A - BA	B - BA+15
Maria	Weinpel	F - MA+30	G - MA+45

gg. Out of District Placements

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following students be placed at their respective out of district placement and as noted receive their extraordinary services for the 2026-2027 school year.

Local ID	Attending School	2026-2027 Tuition	Extraordinary Services	Total
39539	The Craig School	\$68,250.00	\$0.00	\$68,250.00
38541	Peter Cooper School (Ringwood) - REALM	\$70,347.40	\$45,953.76	\$116,301.16
39263	Reed Academy (Franklin Lakes)	\$116,667.00	\$0.00	\$116,667.00
39100	Academy 360-Lower School	\$98,410.08	\$47,580.00	\$145,990.08
38564	Bergen Center For Child Development	\$75,513.60	\$53,100.00	\$128,613.60
38867	Shepard School	\$59,617.74	\$48,495.00	\$108,112.74
37023	Eastwick	\$11,700.00	\$0.00	\$11,700.00
38808	Developmental Learning Center (DLC)-New Providence	\$111,262.00	\$0.00	\$111,262.00
34492	Academy 360 - Upper	\$88,041.30	\$0.00	\$88,041.30
37809	Reed Academy (Franklin Lakes)	\$116,667.00	\$0.00	\$116,667.00
38735	Windsor Learning Center	\$67,680.00	\$0.00	\$67,680.00
35591	Alpine Learning Group	\$127,612.80	\$0.00	\$127,612.80
38325	Windsor Learning Center	\$86,040.00	\$0.00	\$86,040.00
38843	Bleshman	\$83,142.00	\$0.00	\$83,142.00
37706	Windsor Learning Center	\$86,040.00	\$0.00	\$86,040.00
39511	BCSS - New Bridges	\$91,368.00	\$0.00	\$91,368.00
39510	BCSS - New Bridges	\$91,368.00	\$56,754.00	\$148,122.00
38750	PG Chambers	\$95,887.80	\$0.00	\$95,887.80
38894	Franklin Lakes	\$116,674.00	\$0.00	\$116,674.00
37785	Rutgers Day	\$90,800.00	\$0.00	\$90,800.00
37070	David Gregory School	\$57,646.80	\$36,540.00	\$94,186.80
34493	ECLC of New Jersey	\$92,737.80	\$53,100.00	\$145,837.80
40471	CTC Academy	\$94,987.98	\$0.00	\$94,987.98
40132	Washington Elementary School - BCSS	\$91,368.00	\$56,754.00	\$148,122.00
39728	Reed Academy Franklin Lakes	\$116,667.00	\$0.00	\$116,667.00
39280	Celebrate the Children	\$89,100.00	\$37,800.00	\$126,900.00

Local ID	Attending School	2026-2027 Tuition	Extraordinary Services	Total
37087	Fusion Academy	\$84,390.00	\$0.00	\$84,390.00
39226	The Valley Program	\$94,063.00	\$63,845.00	\$157,908.00
36700	CTC Academy (Oakland)	\$96,217.74	\$41,175.00	\$137,392.74
40459	Bleshman	\$83,142.00	\$0.00	\$83,142.00
34415	Owl House	\$58,181.81	\$0.00	\$58,181.81
40128	CTC Academy Fairlawn	\$94,987.98	\$42,273.00	\$137,260.98
38047	Glenview Academy	\$109,180.00	\$55,510.00	\$164,690.00
39857	Franklin Lakes	\$116,674.00	\$0.00	\$116,674.00
38864	Reed Academy- Franklin Lakes	\$116,667.00	\$0.00	\$116,667.00
39908	Reed Academy - Franklin Lakes	\$116,667.00	\$0.00	\$116,667.00
35912	Park @ Pascack Valley Reg'l HS District	\$48,929.00	\$0.00	\$48,929.00
39565	Forum School	\$89,100.00	\$0.00	\$89,100.00
40363	Bleshman	\$83,142.00	\$0.00	\$83,142.00
40218	Reed Academy - Oakland	\$120,717.00	\$0.00	\$120,717.00
38131	Bergen Center For Child Development	\$75,513.60	\$53,100.00	\$128,613.60
39896	CTC Academy (Oakland)	\$96,217.74	\$0.00	\$96,217.74
39583	CTC Academy (Oakland)	\$96,217.74	\$0.00	\$96,217.74
36626	The Forum School	\$89,100.00	\$0.00	\$89,100.00
34398	Crotched Mountain School-Seven Hills New Hampshire	\$245,520.03	\$145,356.89	\$390,876.92
38387	Reed Academy (Oakland)	\$120,717.00	\$0.00	\$120,717.00
39887	Celebrate the Children	\$89,100.00	\$37,800.00	\$126,900.00
39726	Celebrate the Children	\$89,100.00	\$37,800.00	\$126,900.00
Extra Services				
39100	South Bergen Jointure Commission - Home Programming	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00

* hh. Donation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education gratefully accepts a donation from Amazon consisting of assorted school supplies, backpacks, electronic accessories, and instructional supplies for use by Mahwah Township Public Schools students and staff. The Board sincerely appreciates Amazon's generosity and support of the Mahwah school community.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 18a-18q.

Motion 18a-18q carried 8 ayes, 0 nays, with Mr. Kezmarsky abstaining from check 124696.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 18r.

Motion 18r carried 7 ayes, 1 nays.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 18s-18hh.

Motion 18s-18hh carried 8 ayes, 0 nays.

19. NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

Resolutions 19a was moved by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mr. Hughes.

Resolutions 19b-19m were moved by Mr. Coplin and seconded by Mr. Hughes.

a. Retirement

RESOLVE; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the retirement of Nancy Mertz, certified school nurse, at George Washington School, for the purpose of retirement; with a final date of employment January 1, 2027.

FURTHER RESOLVED; that the Mahwah Board of Education expresses its sincere appreciation for her 21 years and 4 months of dedication and service to the Mahwah Public Schools.

b. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Nicole Eckert, leave replacement for Employee # 5473, effective retroactive to August 24, 2026.

c. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Christopher Moye, paraprofessional, at Mahwah High School, effective retroactive to August 4, 2026.

d. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of JoAnn Hunt, paraprofessional, at Betsy Ross School, effective retroactive August 11, 2026.

e. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Angela Hogue, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at George Washington School, effective retroactive to August 25, 2026 - June 30, 2027; salary to be Step 1, \$21,605.76; pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

f. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Luz Paredes, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per

day, at Joyce Kilmer School, effective September 8, 2026 - June 30, 2027; salary to be Step 1, \$21,605.76, prorated; pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

g. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Michelle Zimmerman, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Mahwah High School, effective August 27, 2026 - June 30, 2027; salary to be Step 1, \$21,605.76; pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

h. Appointment – Leave Replacement

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Jessica De La Rosa, as leave replacement for Employee #5473, pursuant to New Jersey Statute 18A:16-1.1, effective retroactive from August 25, 2026 – January 22, 2027; salary to be Column D, Step 8, \$72,831, pro-rated; pending employment verification.

i. NJFLA/Childcare/Maternity Leave of Absence - Update

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence update for Employee #4864, using 39 sick days and taking FMLA concurrently, effective retroactive May 11, 2026 – September 4, 2026, taking NJFLA from September 8, 2026 – November 27, 2026, and taking an unpaid leave of absence from November 30, 2026 – June 30, 2027.

j. Stipend – Extra Service Positions (SEL Coaches)

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the extra service stipend for the following staff, who serve as SEL coaches for the 2026-2027 school year; at the negotiated stipend rate, as shown on Schedule L of the MEA contract; stipend to be \$1,000.

First Name	Last Name	Building
Alexandra	Graff	Mahwah High School
Caitlin	Yeck	Mahwah High School
Jennifer	Chung	Ramapo Ridge Middle School
Morgan	Ridgway	Ramapo Ridge Middle School
Dena	Scudieri	Joyce Kilmer School
Kristen	Cavallo	Joyce Kilmer School
Beth	Clark	Lenape Meadows Schools
Jennifer	Lederer	Lenape Meadows School
Jillian	Laurice	Betsy Ross School
Christina	Rainey	Betsy Ross School
Christine	Piotrowski	George Washington School
Christina	Zucaro	George Washington School

k. Rescission – Volleyball Head Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education rescinds the appointment of Brianna Jimenez, as head volleyball coach, at Ramapo Ridge Middle school for the 2026-2027 school year.

l. Summer Hours

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following staff, to assist Ramapo Ridge Middle School with scheduling and logistical responsibilities, periodically, retroactive from June 29, 2026, to August 24, 2026; to be paid their hourly rate for hours worked, via a submitted voucher.

First Name	Last Name
Marykate	Coakley
Courtney	Deloughery
Cassidy	Sarka

m. Paraprofessional Substitutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following paraprofessional substitutes for the 2026-2027 school year:

First Name	Last Name	City
Amanda	Bonilla	Bergenfield
Nina	Bogaenko	Ramsey
Dean	Bohus	Ramsey
Brooke	Bregman	Suffern
Jennifer	Campana	Mahwah
Julie	Cornacchia	Allendale
Kari	Covello	Mahwah
Nicholas	Crames	Mahwah
Linnette	Decker	Mahwah
Stephanie	Dunlap	Mahwah
Bonnie	Enea	Mahwah
Rebecca	Genardi	Mahwah
Katherine	Gusmano	Mahwah
Anna	King	Ramsey
Lisa	Kovalsky	Mahwah
Yana	Krikorian	Mahwah
Dawn	Kurzer	Mahwah
Jean	Lauturner	Oakland
Concetta	Lehmann	Mahwah
Elizabeth	Lindstrom	Mahwah
Amanda	Modelfino	Elmwood Park

First Name	Last Name	City
Sheryl	Moskovitz	Mahwah
Jacqueline	Patti	Wanaque
Jennifer	Petrie	Mahwah
Priya	Prasad	Mahwah
Madonna	Shenouda	Mahwah
Taylor	Thoelen	Mahwah
Lida	Trupp	Montebello

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 19a.**Motion 19a carried 8 ayes, 0 nays.****ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 19b-19m.****Motion 19b-19m carried 8 ayes, 0 nays.****PUBLIC QUESTION OR COMMENT**

Public participation at Board meetings is in accordance with Bylaw 0167.

At this time, members of the public may ask questions or make a comment on educational issues or school matters of community interest. As a matter of fairness, you are asked to limit your questions to no more than one, and your remarks to no longer than three minutes. If you are here representing a group, please identify yourself, the group, and your position in the group. If you are here as an individual, please give us your name and address.

Note: This section of public participation will be limited to fifteen minutes.

MOTION TO OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Motion by Mrs. Ting Jansen and seconded by Mr. Galow, to open the meeting to the public.

There were no public questions or comments.

Motion carried at 7:47 p.m.**MOTION TO CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

Motion by Mr. Coplin and seconded by Mr. Hughes to close the meeting to the public.

Motion carried at 7:48 p.m.**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mr. Coplin to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried at 7:48 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine A. Hiromoto". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Katherine" being more prominent.

Katherine A. Hiromoto
Business Administrator/Board Secretary