RUMSON-FAIR HAVEN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION

FY 2026-2027 No.03
OFFICIAL MINUTES August 25, 2026 Regular Meeting

"Our mission is to empower all of our students with the tools to find their passions and thrive as knowledgeable, confident, resilient, creative, and compassionate citizens of a global community."

1. Call to Order

The Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School Board of Education regular meeting was held in the Learning Commons. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mrs. Thompson, Board President.

2. Salute the Flag

3. Statement of Compliance - Mrs. Thompson read the statement of compliance

Adequate notice of this meeting has been disseminated in accordance with NJSA 10:4-8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, specifying the date, time and place and filed with the Asbury Park Press, the Two River Times, the Borough Clerks, posted on the District website and in the Main Office.

4. Roll Call

Mr. Dougherty	Present	Mr. Leddin	Present	Ms. Romano	Present
Mr. Grant	Present	Mrs. McGinty	Present	Mrs. Thompson	Present
Mrs. Kiley	Present	Mrs. Pagano	Present	Mrs. Whitehouse	Absent

Also in attendance:
Dr. Lee McDonald, Superintendent
Sean Cranston, School Business Administrator
Athina Cornell, Board Counsel

Mrs.McGinty read the mission statement.

5. Welcome of Visitors

Mrs. Thompson and Dr. McDonald welcomed the visitors to the meeting.

6. Communications

a. None

7. Special Recognition / Presentations

a. SSDS Report - Dr. Meredith Brow, Assistant Principal
   i. Dr. Brow reported on the SSDS report.
b. Graduation Report - Dr. Lee McDonald, Superintendent
   i. Dr. McDonald presented the Graduation Report.
c. District Goals - Dr. Lee McDonald, Superintendent
   i. Dr. McDonald presented the district goals. The board had questions relating to the goals.

8. Board Reports

a. Athletics & Activities - Mr. Grant read the minutes from the meeting held on August 13, 2026. Mrs. Ginty asked a question in regards to the Hall of Fame. Mrs. Kiley asked a question in regards to sports scheduling.
b. Education - Mrs. Kiley read the minutes from the meeting held on August 18, 2026.
c. Personnel - Mrs. McGinty provided the board an update on Personnel Items on the Agenda tonight that was discussed in their meeting held on August 19, 2026.
d. Student Wellness - Ms. Romano read the minutes from the meeting held on August 12, 2026.
e. Superintendent's Report
   i. Dr. McDonald reported on the following:
      1. Construction project updates
      2. Admin retreat
      3. 9th grade orientation
      4. Thursday night home football game
      5. Staff returning on Monday
      6. School starts on September 2nd

Drills

TYPE OF DRILL	DATE	TIME	DURATION
Fire Drill	August 4	9:20 a.m.	9 minutes
Communication email	August 6	3:00 p.m.	

*Mrs. Pagano left the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

9. Public Comment on Agenda Items

a. None

10. ACTION ITEMS

MINUTES

The Superintendent recommends approval of minutes #1.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes

1. Recommend Board approval of the following meeting minutes:

a. August 11, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

Board Comment: None

On a **MOTION** made by Mr. Grant and seconded by Mr. Dougherty , the Board of Education approved the minutes #1 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mr. Leddin	Yes	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Mrs. Pagano	n/a	Mrs. Whitehouse	n/a

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PERSONNEL

The superintendent recommends personnel items #2 - 14

2. Approval to Amend Start Date

Recommend Board approval to amend the start date for Lorena Fahringer from August 31, 2026 to September 30, 2026.

3. Approval of Sixth Assignment

Recommend Board approval of the following sixth assignment for the 2026 - 2027 school year for the following teachers at a stipend of 20% of the Level 1 salary of the teachers' guide at the appropriate degree level:

NO	NAME	SUBJECT	DATES	GUIDE	STIPEND
1.	Patricia Beattie	Spanish	9/2/2026 - 9/29/2026	BA	$13,289 prorated
2.	Christina Gauss	Spanish	9/2/2026 - 9/29/2026	BA + 30	$13,560 prorated
3.	Seth Herman	Spanish	9/2/2026 - 9/29/2026	BA + 30	$8,500 prorated
4.	Petronila Luccarelli	Spanish	9/2/2026 - 9/29/2026	BA	$13,289 prorated
5.	Yannell Maglione	Spanish	9/2/2026 - 9/29/2026	BA + 60	$13,831 prorated

4. Approval of Substitute Coordinator for the 2026 - 2027 School Year

Recommend Board approval of Luz Coby as Substitute Coordinator for the 2026 - 2027 school year at a stipend of $6,000.00.

5. Approval of Resignation

Recommend Board approval to accept the resignation of George Massabni, Paraprofessional, effective August 10, 2026.

6. Approval to Amend Curriculum Writing Hours

Recommend Board approval to amend the following curriculum writing for the 2026-2027 school year at a rate of $50.00 per hour:

COURSE	NAME	FROM TOTAL HOURS PER WRITER	TO TOTAL HOURS PER WRITER
Abnormal and Social Psychology	Thomas Colella	15	20
Abnormal and Social Psychology	Kali Lerner	15	5

7. Approval of Paraprofessionals for Extracurricular Activities for the 2026 - 2027 School Year

Recommend Board approval for the following paraprofessionals to provide support during extracurricular activities for the 2026-2027 school year beginning September 2, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 at a rate of $40.00 per hour, not to exceed a total of 600 hours:

NO.	NAME
1.	Jacqueline Briody
2.	Maryann Costa
3.	Gabrielle Eglinton
4.	Kyle Marinelli
5.	Kathleen McMahon
6.	Margaret Primavera
7.	Aaron Rogers
8.	Meagan Springsteen
9.	Susan Trocchia
10.	Brandon Wall

8. Approval of Sound Engineer for Outside Events for the 2026 - 2027 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the following staff members as the Sound Engineers for Outside Events at $80 per hour on an as needed basis, paid for by use of facility requestor.

NO.	NAME
1.	Jorge Borges Carvalho
2.	Kevin Gunther
3.	Aaron Rogers

9. Approval of AVA Coordinators for the 2026 - 2027 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the following staff members as AVA Coordinators at $30.00 per hour on an as needed basis for the 2026 - 2027 school year:

NO.	NAME
1.	Nicholas DelBuono
2.	Jeffrey Herkimer
3.	Anna Higgins
4.	Elisa Verran

10. Approval of AVA Coordinators for the 2026 - 2027 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the following staff members as AVA Coordinators for Use of Facilities at $50.00 per hour, paid by the facility requestor, on an as needed basis for the 2026 - 2027 school year:

NO.	NAME
1.	Nicholas DelBuono
2.	Jeffrey Herkimer
3.	Anna Higgins
4.	Elisa Verran

11. Approval to Rescind Coaching / Extracurricular Appointments for the 2026 - 2027 SY:
Recommend Board approval to rescind the following coaching/extracurricular appointments for the 2026 - 2027 school year.

NO.	NAME	POSITION
1.	Laura Grande	Assistant Field Hockey Coach (.50 FTE)
2.	Martin Januario	Business Club / FBLA Advisor
2.	Kyle Sheehan	Tower Players Advisor

12. Approval to Amend Appointments for the 2026 - 2027 School Year
Recommend Board approval to amend the following extracurricular advisor appointments for the 2026 - 2027 school year.

NO.	NAME	FROM / STIPEND	TO / STIPEND
1.	Alexandra Carroll	Assistant Field Hockey Coach (.50 FTE) / $2,977 (Step 7)	Assistant Field Hockey Coach $5,954 (Step 7)
2.	Thomas January	Spectrum Advisor / $3,018	Spectrum Co-Advisor / $1,509
3.	Thomas January	Cooking Club Advisor / $2,296	Cooking Club Co- Advisor / $1,148

13. Approval of Extracurricular Advisors for the 2026 - 2027 School Year
Recommend Board approval of the following extracurricular advisor positions for the 2026 - 2027 school year:

NO.	NAME	POSITION	STIPEND
1.	Nicholas Bashore	Cooking Club Co- Advisor	$1,148
2.	Alexa James	Spectrum Co-Advisor	$1,509
3.	Michael Zink	FBLA Advisor	$3,018

14. Approval of Substitutes for the 2026 - 2027 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the following substitute teachers for the 2026 - 2027 school year:

NO.	NAME
1.	Mary Vallone
2.	David Zeni

Board Comment: None

On a **MOTION** made by Mr.Leddin and seconded by Mrs. McGinty, the Board approved Personnel Item #2-14 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mr. Leddin	Yes	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Mrs. Pagano	n/a	Mrs. Whitehouse	n/a

FINANCE

The superintendent recommends finance items #15 - 18

15. Approval of Bill List

Recommend Board approval of the following bill lists dated **August 25, 2026**:

General Fund	$ 202,839.62
Total	**$ 202,839.62**
Payroll 08-13-26	$ 204,453.69
Total Expenditures	**$ 407,293.31**

All votes are subject to a standing recusal by Leddin and Whitehouse regarding any matter involving or relating to Dr. McDonald (Sup.), Steve Sarles (Principal) and Beth English (AD). Additional action may require recusal and those will be acknowledged with specificity as the circumstances arise.

16. Approval of Attendance at Professional Conferences and or Workshops:

Recommend Board approval of the following staff to attend professional conferences and or workshops as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Date	Name	Conference/Workshop (Budget Account #)	Registration	Estimated Travel	Day	Location
10-15-26 to 10-16-26	Suzanne Crowley	NJPSA/FEA/NJASCD Fall Conference	$450	$250	Full	Atlantic City, NJ
10-27-26	Nicholas DelBuono	High School Mock Trial Workshops	$0	$0	Full	New Brunswick, NJ
12-11-26 to 12-16-26	Elizabeth English	National Athletic Director Conference	$295	$2040	Full	Phoenix, AZ
10-15-26 to 10-16-26	Lauren Malaney	NJPSA/FEA/NJASCD Fall Conference	$450	$250	Full	Atlantic City, NJ
10-20-26 to 10-21-26	Lindsey McCarthy	NJSBA Conference - Frontline Seminar	$0	$0	Full	Atlantic City, NJ
10-15-26 to 10-16-26	Jonathan Pennetti	NJPSA/FEA/NJASCD Fall Conference	$450	$250	Full	Atlantic City, NJ

17. Approve Shared Service Agreement with Rumson - SLEO

Recommend Board approval of a Shared Service Contract with the Borough of Rumson to provide an SLEO Officer to Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School for the 2026-2027 SY.

18. Approval of Change of Out-of-District Placement

Recommend Board approval of the change of out-of-district placement for the following student for the 2026 - 2027 school year:

STUDENT NO.	FROM PLACEMENT	TO	2026-2027 AIDE	TRANSPORTATION
29001551	Cornerstone Day School $108,240.00	Collier High School $73,080.00	N/A	Yes

Board Comment: None

On a **MOTION** made by Mrs. McGinty and seconded by Mr. Leddin the Board approved Finance Items #15-18 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mr. Leddin	Recuse per footnote Yes to rest	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Mrs. Pagano	n/a	Mrs. Whitehouse	n/a

All votes are subject to a standing recusal by Leddin and Whitehouse regarding any matter involving or relating to Dr. McDonald (Sup.), Steve Sarles (Principal) and Beth English (AD). Additional action may require recusal and those will be acknowledged with specificity as the circumstances arise.

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EDUCATION

The superintendent recommends education items #19 - 25

19. Approval of Curricula
Recommend Board approval of the following revised curricula:

- **English**: Advanced Creative Writing,
- **Fine and Performing Arts**: AP Art History, Chorus
- **Health & Physical Education**: Health 9, Health 11, Health 12, Sports Medicine I, Sports Medicine II, Physical Education 9-12
- **Social Studies**: AP Business, Social and Abnormal Psychology, US History II
- **Special Education**: Comprehensive Multiple Disabilities, Work Based Learning
- **STEM**: AP Physics C, Engineering II, Multivariable Calculus, Precalculus, Anatomy & Physiology Honors, AP Biology, AP Calculus BC, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, AP Physics I & II, AP Statistics, Biology, Biology Honors, Chemistry, Chemistry Honors, Contemporary Issues in Environmental Science, Engineering I, Forensic Science, Math Analysis, Physics, Physics Honors, Professional Woodworking Applications, Traditional Woodworking, Woods Technology
- **World Language**: French IV, French V, Spanish IV, Spanish V

20. Approval of New Textbook
Recommend Board approval of the following new textbook:

- *AP Business with Personal Finance*

21. Approval of Evaluation Tool for Faculty for the 2026 - 2027 School Year
Recommend Board approval of the Danielson Framework (2022 version) as the evaluation tool for the teachers in the 2026 - 2027 school year.

22. Approval of Evaluation Tool for Administrators and Supervisors for the 2026 - 2027 School Year
Recommend Board approval of the New Jersey Principal Evaluation for Professional Learning (NJPEPL) (2018 version) as the evaluation tool for principals, assistant principals, and supervisors in the 2026 - 2027 school year.

23. Approval of the District Mentoring Plan for the 2026 - 2027 School Year
Recommend Board approval of the District Mentoring Plan for the 2026 - 2027 school year.

24. Approval of the District Professional Development Plan for the 2026 - 2027 School Year
Recommend Board approval of the District Professional Development Plan for the 2026 - 2027 school year.

25. Approval of District Goals for the 2026 - 2027 School Year
Recommend Board approval of the district goals for the 2026 - 2027 school year as per Attachment A.

Board Comment: None

On a **MOTION** made by Mr. Leddin and seconded by Mr. Grant , the Board approved Education Items #19-25 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mr. Leddin	Yes	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Mrs. Pagano	n/a	Mrs. Whitehouse	n/a

POLICY & PLANNING

The superintendent recommends Policy & Planning items #26

26. Approval of Second Reading of Policies and Regulations
Recommend Board approval of the first reading of the following policy and regulation:

- Policy 5516 - Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices
- Regulation 5516 - Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices

Board Comment:

On a **MOTION** made by Mrs. Kiley and seconded by Mrs. McGinty, the Board approved Policy & Planning Item #26 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mr. Leddin	Yes	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Mrs. Pagano	n/a	Mrs. Whitehouse	n/a

11. Public Comment - None

12. Executive Session

On a **MOTION** made by Mrs. Grant and seconded by Mr. Dougherty the Board by unanimous roll call vote, moved to Executive Session at 7:07 p.m.:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., (the "Act") provides that the Rumson-Fair Haven Board of Education may hold an "Executive Session" from which the public is excluded to discuss matters that are one of the nine (9) subject matters listed Section 12(b) of the Act; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended by the Business Administrator that the Rumson-Fair Haven Board of Education go into Executive Session on June 16, 2026 to discuss matters that are permissible for discussion in Executive Session; and

WHEREAS, the length of the Executive Session is estimated to be 45 minutes after which the public meeting of the Board may reconvene and proceed with business; and

WHEREAS, that the Board hereby declares that its discussion of the following subject(s) will be made public at a time when the public's interest in disclosure is greater than any privacy or governmental interest being protected from disclosure.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rumson-Fair Haven Board of Education that the Board shall go into Executive Session to discuss the following items:

A. Attorney/Client Privilege

13. Reconvene Public Session

On **a MOTION** by Mr. Grant seconded by Mrs. McGinty, the Board by unanimous roll call vote returned to open Public Session at 8:03 p.m.

*Mrs. Romano left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

14. Additional Action Items

ADDENDUM

The superintendent recommends addenda items #27

27. Approval of the 2026 - 2027 School Security Plan

Recommend Board approval of the School Security Plan for the 2026 - 2027 school year.

Board Comment: None

On a **MOTION** made by Mr. Dougherty and seconded by Mrs. McGinty , the Board approved Addenda Item #27with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mr. Leddin	Yes	Ms. Romano	n/a
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Mrs. Pagano	n/a	Mrs. Whitehouse	n/a

All votes are subject to a standing recusal by Leddin and Whitehouse regarding any matter involving or relating to Dr. McDonald (Sup.), Steve Sarles (Principal) and Beth English (AD). Additional action may require recusal and those will be acknowledged with specificity as the circumstances arise.

15. Adjournment

As there was no further business before the Board, on a **MOTION** by Mr. Grant, seconded by Mrs. McGinty, and carried by unanimous roll call vote the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean S. Cranston

Sean S. Cranston
Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School

ATTACHMENT A

RFH District Goals 2026-2027

1. **Teaching & Learning**: strengthen teacher pedagogy and improve educator capacity within the Danielson Framework Domain 3 (Learning Experiences).

- Improve classroom communication on purpose and content while leveraging assessments for learning to provide timely and appropriate feedback
- Establish a volunteer staff alternative evaluation model
- Increase capacity of co-teaching models with ongoing professional development

2. **Technology**: increase staff technological capacity to optimize operational workflows and support student learning.

- Leverage the AI Think Tank to provide further school and community AI guidance
- Coordinate staff professional development for software platforms (e.g. Genesis)
- Integrate an interactive classroom pilot (e.g. interactive panels)

3. **Operations:** establish a long-term vision for the school, campus, and community, ensuring fiscal responsibility, to support student and staff academic, social, and emotional well being.

- Complete a strategic planning process with school community stakeholders
- Explore the impact on adjusting the school start time and schedule
- Increase pupil services tri-district articulation and collaboration