

MINUTES

PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
August 19, 2026
6:00 p.m. Executive Session
7:00 p.m. Anticipated Public Session
NEW EGYPT HIGH SCHOOL

Vision Statement

“Unleashing Unlimited Opportunities . . . Empowering One Warrior At A Time!”

Mission Statement

The Plumsted Township School District shall inspire all students to realize their personal potential. A rich and challenging learning environment, in partnership with the community, will develop critical thinkers, lifelong learners and productive citizens in an emerging global society.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ashley Raywood, BOE President, presided and voiced the call to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, this is to announce that adequate notice of this meeting has been given in the form of an Annual Notice contained in Resolution No. 2025-1, which Resolution was immediately thereafter posted upon the bulletin board in the main office of all four schools and the Board Secretary's office and disseminated within seven (7) days of passage to the Asbury Park Press and The Trenton Times, and a copy of such resolution was filed with the Plumsted Township Clerk. No advance written notice of this meeting was requested and paid for by any person according to the record of the Secretary of the Board. I direct the Secretary of the Board to enter into the minutes of this meeting this public announcement.

III. ROLL CALL

Mrs. Raywood	Present
Dr. Giardina	Absent
Mrs. Gill	Absent
Mrs. Kovacs	Present
Dr. Semko	Present
Mr. Stepnowski	Present

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Ytreboe, Superintendent
Mr. Gately, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Supsie, Board Attorney

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dr. Semko made a motion to go into executive session at 6:06 p.m. for the purpose of discussing student and personnel matters, pending litigation, HIB and board matters. Seconded by Mr. Stepnowski, passed unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.) permits bodies to discuss certain matters in closed sessions, and

WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO THE Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.), such a meeting may be held in private;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

- 1. The Board shall meet in closed session on these matters; and
- 2. The matters to be discussed in private may be shared with the public at such other time as the Board may determine that there is no longer any requirement for confidentiality.

Dr. Semko made a motion to end the executive session at 7:01 p.m. Seconded by Mrs. Kovacs, passed unanimously.

V. ROLL CALL

Mrs. Raywood	Present
Dr. Giardina	Absent
Mrs. Gill	Present
Mrs. Kovacs	Present
Dr. Semko	Present
Mr. Stepnowski	Present

VI. FLAG SALUTE

VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION VACANCY APPOINTMENT

A. Interview of Candidates

B. Executive Session

Mrs. Kovacs made a motion to go into executive session at 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Board of Education candidate interviews. Seconded by Mrs. Gill, passed unanimously.

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.) permits bodies to discuss certain matters in closed sessions, and

WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO THE Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.), such a meeting may be held in private;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

- 1. The Board shall meet in closed session on these matters; and
- 2. The matters to be discussed in private may be shared with the public at such other time as the Board may determine that there is no longer any requirement for confidentiality.

Dr. Semko made a motion to end the executive session at 8:21 p.m. Seconded by Mrs. Kovacs, passed unanimously.

C. Roll Call

Mrs. Raywood	Present
Dr. Giardina	Absent
Mrs. Gill	Present
Mrs. Kovacs	Present
Dr. Semko	Present
Mr. Stepnowski	Present

Mrs. Raywood made a motion to elect Craig Goldberg to fill the Board of Education vacancy position. Seconded by Mrs. Kovacs, passed unanimously.

Comments by Board of Education members - Members stated it was a difficult decision as they had three good candidates; however, they spoke very highly of Mr. Goldberg and believe he is a great addition to the board. They encouraged the other candidates to apply again should another vacancy occur.

D. Administer the Oath of Office - None

VIII. ELECTION FOR THE OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT

A. Election of the Vice-President

Mrs. Raywood called for the nomination of Vice President of the Board of Education.

A motion was made by Dr. Semko to nominate Mrs. Gill as the Board Vice President. Seconded by Mrs. Raywood.

B. Close nominations for the Office of the Vice President of the Board

A motion was made by Dr. Semko to close the nominations for the election of the Board Vice President. Seconded by Mrs. Kovacs.

Roll Call

Yes	Dr. Semko, Mrs. Kovacs, Mrs. Gill, Mr. Stepnowski, Mrs. Raywood
No	None
Absent	Dr. Giardina

The following roll call vote was taken for the motion to nominate Mrs. Gill as Board Vice President.

Roll Call

Yes	Dr. Semko, Mrs. Raywood, Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Kovacs, Mr. Stepnowski
No	None
Absent	Dr. Giardina

IX. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Gill made a motion, with a second by Mrs. Kovacs, that IX.A. be approved:

- A. Recommend that the Board approve the regular meeting agenda for August 19, 2026

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Kovacs,
Dr. Semko, Mr. Stepnowski,
Mrs. Raywood

No

None

Absent

Dr. Giardina

X. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Gill made a motion, with a second by Mrs. Kovacs, that X.A. be approved:

- A. The minutes are presented for necessary correction and approval for the regular meeting on July 15, 2026.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Kovacs,
Mr. Stepnowski, Mrs. Raywood

No

None

Absent

Dr. Giardina

Abstain

Dr. Semko

XI. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy Committee - Discussed policy and regulation 5516. The related presentation will be presented at tonight's meeting. Policy 1643 is on for a first reading regarding updates to eligibility. All are mandatory updates from Strauss Esmay.

Curriculum Committee - Discussed grades 3-5 ELA program, basic skills scheduling at MS/HS. Mrs. DeGrandis discussed training that administrators participated in. They also discussed a health grant, New Staff Orientation, BOE and district goals, and strategic planning.

Personnel Committee - Discussed new hires.

Finance Committee - Submitted grant.

XII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

None

XIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Ytreboe, Superintendent, commented on the following:

Thanked Deputy Mayor Potter and Mayor Hagelstein for facilitating a meeting with the Department of Education and representatives from the Governor's Office, which allowed him to talk about the budget cuts to our district from S2 and how our students and staff are not being given what they deserve from the State budget. Will be present if there are any future opportunities to discuss this with State leaders in the future.

Thanked Mrs. Kovacs for opening her farm to our new teachers during orientation.

New teachers also had the opportunity to try out our renovated ropes course.

XIV. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS

A. Bell to Bell Policy

B. End of Year Report on District Goals

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - Open at 9:09 p.m. - Closed at 9:11 p.m.
Sue Potter, 94 Sanders Lane, Cream Ridge, NJ 08514 - Thanked the BOE for public interviews; Policy 0169.2.

XVI. SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA

Mrs. Gill made a motion, with a second by Mr. Stepnowski that A.1. - A.14. be approved:

The following items are presented for approval as recommendations by the Superintendent of Schools:

A. Finance Motions

1. Recommend approval of an agreement between Plumsted Township School District and Ocean Academy for the purchase of educational services for student 203560, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, for 180 billable days, at a cost of \$79,232.40.
2. Recommend an agreement between Plumsted Township School District and Manchester Regional High School (Passaic) for the purchase of educational services for student 271101, effective September 3, 2026 through June 30, 2027, at a cost of \$21,919.00.
3. Recommend approval of a membership with Ocean County Curriculum Consortium (OC3) for the 2026 - 2027 school year, at a cost of \$125.00.
4. Recommend ratification of approval of a professional services contract with Andrew Nelson, M.D., to provide school physician services from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et. seq. Andrew Nelson, M.D. has submitted a Political Contribution Disclosure Form which certifies that Andrew Nelson, M.D. has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Plumsted Township School District in the previous one year and the contract will prohibit Andrew Nelson, M.D. from making any reportable contributions through the term of contract, at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.00.
5. Recommend approval of a contract with Ocean County Vocational Technical School Board of Education for tuition from September 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, for fifty-three (53) shared-time Vocational School students and eight (8) full-time students for a total contract cost of \$59,685.00.
6. Recommend approval of an agreement with Entourage School Services and the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School to publish the 2026-2027 yearbook, at a cost of \$3,590.00, at no cost to the Board of Education.
7. Recommend an approval of an agreement with Ventris Learning to purchase the Word Origins program for students in grades 3 - 6 at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary for the 2026 - 2027 school year, at a cost of \$4,138.75
8. Recommend an agreement with Project Read to purchase UFLI Assessment and Planning Portal for students in grades 1 and 2, at the Dr. Gerald. H. Woehr Elementary School for the 2026 - 2027 school year at a cost of \$600.00.
9. Recommend approval of a proposal with AAC & Me L.L.C. to provide our staff with AAC training, and consultations for students and conduct evaluations during the 2026 - 2027 school year, as per the attached fee schedule:

10. Recommend approval of the 2026 - 2027 Annual Tuition Schedule for non-certificated, non-resident employees, as follows:

Paraprofessional	\$100.00
Secretary	\$100.00
Technology Personnel	\$100.00

11. Recommend approval of the following meal prices for the 2026 - 2027 school year, as follows:

School	Full Price
PS Breakfast	\$1.95
ES Breakfast	\$1.95
MS Breakfast	\$1.95
HS Breakfast	\$1.95
PS Lunch	\$3.30
ES Lunch	\$3.30
MS Lunch	\$3.70
HS Lunch	\$3.85

12. Recommend approval of a 2026-2027 joint transportation agreement with host Plumsted Township School District and joiner Manchester Regional High School (Passaic), at a cost of \$20,604.60.
13. Recommend approval of an agreement with Heartland Payment Systems for the 2026-2027 school year, at a cost of \$3,450.00.
14. Recommend approval of the 2026 - 2027 District Bus Routes, as per the attached:

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Gill, Mr. Stepnowski,
Mrs. Kovacs, Dr. Semko,
Mrs. Raywood

No

None

Absent

Dr. Giardina

B. Personnel Motions

Mrs. Gill made a motion, with a second by Mrs. Raywood, that B.1. - B.20. be approved:

1. Recommend acceptance of the retirement of Karen Kasper, Paraprofessional at the New Egypt High School, effective September 30, 2026, with regrets.
2. Recommend acceptance of the resignation of Christopher Stephenson, District Coordinator of School Safety, effective July 31, 2026, with regrets.
3. Recommend acceptance of the resignation of Chelsey Wood, Paraprofessional at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School, effective August 31, 2026, with regrets.
4. Recommend approval of an NJFLI/FMLA leave of absence for employee 5831, teacher at the New Egypt High School:

LEAVE	FROM	THROUGH
NJFLI w/o pay, with benefits	September 1, 2026	November 20, 2026
FMLA w/o pay, with benefits	November 23, 2026	January 22, 2027

5. Recommend approval of an NJFLI leave of absence for employee 6119, paraprofessional at the New Egypt Primary School:

LEAVE	FROM	THROUGH
NJFLI w/o pay, with benefits	September 1, 2026	November 20, 2026

6. Recommend approval of Megan Garrett as an LOA Art Teacher, at the New Egypt High School, effective September 1, 2026 through January 22, 2027, at a prorated salary of \$62,119.00, equal to BA Step 1, of the PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools, and that the criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
7. Recommend approval of Amy Keating, as a Paraprofessional, at the New Egypt High School, effective September 1, 2026, at a salary of \$20,028.00, equal to Para Step 1, of the PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools, and that the criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
8. Recommend approval of Linda Kelvy, as an LLD Paraprofessional, at the New Egypt High School, effective September 1, 2026, at a salary of \$20,028.00, equal to Para Step 1, of the PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools, and that the criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
9. Recommend approval of Autumn Killmer, as an MD PreK Paraprofessional, at the New Egypt Primary School, effective September 1, 2026, at a salary of \$20,028.00, equal to Para Step 1, of the PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools, and that the criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
10. Recommend approval of Kevin DiEugenio, as a District Substitute Principal, effective September 1, 2026, at a daily rate of \$400.00, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools, and that the criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
11. Recommend revision of approval of the certified staff for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school years, [as per the attached](#):
12. Recommend ratification of approval of staff transfers/position changes, [as per the attached](#):
13. Recommend approval of additional non-affiliated staff for the 2026 - 2027 school year, [as per the attached](#):
14. Recommend ratification of approval of the 2026 summer special education staff and their rates of pay,

[as per the attached](#):

15. Recommend approval of staff stipend positions for the 2026 - 2027 school year, [as per the attached](#):
16. Recommend approval of a revision of the fall sports stipends for the 2026 - 2027 school year, as [per the attached](#):
17. Recommend approval of the 2026 - 2027 Mentor/Mentees, [as per the attached](#):
18. Recommend approval of extra-curricular staff for the 2026 - 2027 school year, [as per the attached](#):
19. Recommend approval for district Paraprofessionals to attend a professional development session on September 1, 2026, during non-contractual hours, [as per the attached](#):
20. Recommend approval of staff professional development/travel reimbursements, [as per the attached](#):

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Raywood,
Mrs. Kovacs,
Dr. Semko (B.1.-B.10., B.12.-B.14., B.17.,
B.19.), Mr. Stepnowski
None
Dr. Giardina
Dr. Semko (B.11., B.15., B.16., B.18., B.20.)

No

Absent

Abstain

C. Policy

Dr. Semko made a motion, with a second by Mrs. Kovacs, that C.1. - C.21. be approved:

1. Recommend approval of the first reading of Policy 1643, Family Leave, M.
2. Recommend approval of the first reading of Policy 5516, Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices, M.
3. Recommend approval of the first reading of Regulation 5516, Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices, M.
4. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 0162](#), Notice of Board Meetings.
5. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 0162.01](#), Legal Notices, M.
6. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 0169.02](#), Board Member Use of Social Networks.
7. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 1230](#), Superintendent's Duties, M.
8. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 2200](#), Curriculum, M.
9. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 2260](#), Equity In School and Classroom Practices, M.
10. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 2411](#), Career Education and Academic Counseling, M
11. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 5460](#), High School Graduation, M.

12. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 5461](#), High School Diplomas, M.
13. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 5561](#), Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students With Disabilities, M.
14. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 6112](#), Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures, M.
15. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 6115.02](#), Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls - Mandatory Disclosures, M.
16. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 6311](#), Contracts For Goods or Services Funded By Federal Grants, M.
17. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 8561](#), Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs, M.
18. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Regulation 5111.13](#), Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students-Choice School District, M.
19. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Regulation 6115.01](#), Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Allowability of Costs, M.
20. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Regulation 2624](#), Grading System.
21. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Regulation 5600](#), Student Discipline/Code of Conduct, M.

Roll Call

Yes

Dr. Semko (C.1.-C.6., C.10.-C.19., C.21.)
Mrs. Kovacs, Mrs. Gill,
Mr. Stepnowski, Mrs. Raywood

No

None

Absent

Dr. Giardina

Abstain

Dr. Semko (C.7. - C.9., C.20.)

D. Other Motions

Mrs. Gill made a motion, with a second by Mr. Stepnowski, that D.1. - D.15. be approved:

1. Recommend receipt of the HIB (Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying) Report on August 19, 2026, by the Board of Education.
2. Recommend approval to adopt the following decisions on HIB matters reported to the Board at the preceding Board meeting:
 - a. Affirm the Superintendent-level decision on HIB investigation No. HS-13-25-26 from the July 15, 2026 meeting.
 - b. Affirm the Superintendent-level decision on HIB investigation No. ES-07-25/26 from the July 15, 2026 meeting.
3. Recommend approval of the [Fire Drill/Security Drill](#) report for the month of July 2026.

4. Recommend approval of an Admissions Agreement for non-resident student(s) from Jennifer Conk teacher at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School to permit her children Grades 10 and 11, to attend the New Egypt High School, effective September 3, 2026, enrollment permitting, for the 2026-2027 school year, according to the stipulations contained in the 2024-2028 PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement.
5. Recommend approval of an Admissions Agreement for non-resident student(s) from Erin Merwin, teacher at the New Egypt High School to permit her child(ren) Grade 12, to attend the New Egypt High School, effective September 3, 2026, enrollment permitting, for the 2025-2026 school year, according to the stipulations contained in the 2024-2028 PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement.
6. Recommend approval of an Admissions Agreement for non-resident student(s) from Caitlin DeBenedictis and Diane DeBenedictis, teachers at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School, to permit their children Grades 2 and 5, to attend the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School, effective September 3, 2026, enrollment permitting, for the 2026-2027 school year, according to the stipulations contained in the 2024-2028 PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement.
7. Recommend approval of student teachers/interns for the 2026 - 2027 school year, [as per the attached](#):
8. Recommend approval of the 2026-2027 Mentoring Plan and submission of the Annual Statement of Assurance.
9. Recommend approval to apply for the NJDOE IDEA and ESEA grants, and the acceptance of funds for the 2026 - 2027 school year.
10. Recommend approval to apply and accept the funds for the IDEA and ESEA through the NJDOE, for the 2026 - 2027 school year.
11. Recommend approval for the students in grades 2 - 12 to be able to participate in the Marble Health Virtual Program, at no cost to the Board.
12. Recommend approval of the District 2026 - 2027 Organizational Chart, [as per the attached](#):
13. Recommend approval of the District curricula, in accordance with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards of 2023 and the recently updated New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English Language Arts of 2024, the recently updated New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Math of 2024, and the recently updated New Jersey Science Standards for 2025.
14. Recommend approval to apply for, and participate in the Rutgers University, NJ DCF, NJ DOE, and SAMHSA collaboration "Project Aware, Support and Training for Trauma-Informed Schools during the 2026 - 2027 school year.
15. Recommend approval for Plumsted Pharmacy to host a flu shot clinic at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School, on September 2, 2026, for staff members, at no cost to the Board of Education.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Gill, Mr. Stepnowski,
Mrs. Kovacs, Dr. Semko,
Mrs. Raywood

No

None

Absent

Dr. Giardina

E. Facilities

XVII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SCHOOL-RELATED TOPIC - Open at 9:13 p.m. - Closed at 9:16 p.m.
Tricia Tantum, 23 Woods Road, New Egypt, NJ 08533 - Flex schedule, late-in

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS

XIX. OLD BUSINESS

Board email - Website has a BOE email address. BOE email can receive emails but not respond.

XX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Request resolution for Executive Session at this point in the meeting of the Plumsted Township Board of Education on _____ for the purpose of discussing _____.

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.) permits bodies to discuss certain matters in closed sessions, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.), such a meeting may be held in private;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

1. The Board shall meet in closed session on these matters; and
2. The matters to be discussed in private may be shared with the public at such other time as the Board may determine that there is no longer any requirement for confidentiality.

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Semko made a motion to adjourn at 9:17 p.m.
Seconded by Mrs. Kovacs, passed unanimously.



Sean Gately
Business Administrator/Board Secretary