

**BUTLER BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUTLER, NJ 07405
MINUTES
EXECUTIVE MEETING 6:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING 6:30 P.M.
AUGUST 20, 2026
BUTLER HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER**



CALLED TO ORDER:

BY: A. Allison, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and read the Open Meeting Statement, below:

MEETING NOTICE ANNOUNCEMENT:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Butler Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be advertised by having the date, time, and place thereof posted at the Butler Board of Education Office, 38 Bartholdi Avenue, as designated by the Board of Education for posting of such notice in a public place, with copies of such notice delivered or mailed or electronically mailed to the following:

Suburban Trends and The Daily Record in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975

Chapter 8, P.L. 1995, provides for the representation of sending school district board of education members on the receiving school district board of education.

The Bloomingdale Board of Education representative has voting privileges on matters as outlined in Board Policy No. 0141.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL (MEETING ATTENDANCE):

A. Allison - **PRESENT**
J. Tacinelli - **ABSENT**
J. Tadros - **PRESENT**

A. Drucker - **PRESENT**
H. Oguss - **PRESENT**
W. Neira - **PRESENT**

J. Karpowich - **PRESENT**
K. Smith - **PRESENT**
M. Gogel - **PRESENT**

L. Grecco- Bloomingdale Representative - **PRESENT**



MOTION TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION

Motion by H. Oguss, seconded by J. Karpowich, that the Butler Board of Education adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Butler Board of Education on this 20th day of August, 2026 at 6:00 p.m, as follows:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, provides for the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, and;

WHEREAS, the Butler Board of Education is of the opinion that such circumstances exist to discuss Personnel and Finance which are exempt from public participation pursuant to New Jersey Public Law 1975, Chapter 231 "Open Public Meetings Act";

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Butler Board of Education shall enter Executive Session on 8/20/2026 at 6:00 p.m.

The Board will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the Executive Session. The information discussed during the Executive Session will be disclosed to the public as soon as it is determined by the Board that the information is no longer confidential.

1. The Board shall recess to closed session in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (1), (2), (6), (7) and (8). The general nature of the discussion will involve matters confidential by law, any investigations or tactics or techniques to protect persons or public property, litigation, anticipated litigation and attorney-client matters.
2. These matters will be disclosed to the public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer applies.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

By motion of H. Oguss, seconded by J. Karpowich, the meeting was called back to public session at 6:30 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT(S): None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

DISTRICT RECOGNITION: None.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.



APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by A. Drucker, seconded by A. Allison, it was moved to approve the following minutes and dispense with the reading of the same since each member had received a copy:

July 30, 2026 executive meeting minutes.
July 30, 2026 regular meeting minutes.
July 30, 2026 addenda minutes.

Upon request, all approved minutes shall be made promptly available to the public at any time on or after the next business day following the meeting, unless the need for confidentiality with respect to the approved Executive Session Minutes exists, in which case all privileged and/or confidential information shall be redacted.

After a review of these executive session minutes, the reasons for prior redactions remain present, to the extent that any prior redactions have been made.

All in Favor. J. Karpowich, K. Smith, & L. Grecco abstained.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

a. Good News and Progress in Our Schools

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

DELEGATE/LIAISON REPORTS:

- a. Butler Education Foundation - K. Smith
 - No News
- b. NJ School Boards Delegate - M. Gogel
 - No News
- c. MOCESCOM - H. Oguss
 - No News
- d. MCSBA - J. Tadros
 - No News

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION #1 (on agenda action items only, if applicable): None.

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules (Per District Policy #0167):

1. The Public participation period shall be for thirty minutes or fewer;
2. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his or her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate;
3. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes' duration;
4. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;
5. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer;
6. The presiding officer may:
 - a) Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is



- too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
- b) Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
- c) Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
- d) Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and
- e) Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.

Please note that "Comments from the Audience" is not a time for dialogue – it is an opportunity for you to share a comment with the Board of Education. In addition, by law, administrators and Board of Education members are not permitted to publicly discuss personnel matters, student discipline, or other issues requiring confidentiality. While we may not respond to your comments, all input shared with the Board of Education is taken very seriously, and will be discussed at future deliberations by the Board of Education and its Committees.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY - J. Karpowich, Chair

Personnel Committee Meeting Report

Policy Committee Meeting Report

Motion by J. Karpowich, seconded by L. Grecco, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions PP 08-27 through PP 10-27 as described below:

PP 08-27 Appointments*

PP 09-27 Approval of Home Instructors*

PP 10-27 Approval of the Substitute Teacher Rate for the 2026-2027 SY*

Discussion: None.

ROLL CALL:

A. Allison -**YES**

J. Tacinelli -**ABSENT**

J. Tadros -**YES**

A. Drucker -**YES**

H. Oguss -**YES**

W. Neira -**YES**

J. Karpowich -**YES**

K. Smith -**YES**

M. Gogel -**YES**

L. Grecco - Bloomingdale Representative -**YES**

Motion carried 9-0-0

Motion by J. Karpowich, seconded by H. Oguss, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motion PP 11-27 as described below:

PP 11-27 Appointments

Discussion: Board president Ms. Smith and the Butler Board of education recognised Mr. Coppola for his years of service in the Butler Public School district. Mr. Coppola retires after 27 years



of service. The Board thanks Mr. Coppola for his deduction during the time of his employment and wishes him a healthy retirement.

ROLL CALL:

A. Allison -**YES**

J. Tacinelli -**ABSENT**

J. Tadros -**YES**

A. Drucker -**YES**

H. Oguss -**YES**

W. Neira -**YES**

J. Karpowich -**YES**

K. Smith -**YES**

M. Gogel -**YES**

Motion carried 8-0-0

RESOLUTIONS PP 08-27: APPOINTMENTS*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following appointments pending applicants' completion of all required background checks pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A6-4 et seq., and P.L. 2018, c. 5 as applicable:

PERSONNEL

A. Administrative/ Office Personnel

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
Jacqueline Molina	Approve Resignation	Assistant Principal / Supervisor of Counseling, Intervention, & Assessment	\$112,988.00	BHS		08/14/2026	
Sarah Colbath	Approve	Assistant Principal	\$110,000.00	BHS	08/17/2026	06/30/2027	
Jessica Rosenberg	Approve Resignation	Coordinator of Student Instructional Services	\$66,950.00	DT		08/14/2026	
Elizabeth Bauer	Approve	Confidential Assistant to the Director of Student Instructional Services	\$58,000.00	DT	08/17/2026		
Emily Rizzo	Approve	SIS, Data, and Compliance Coordinator	\$80,000.00	DT	09/14/2026 or sooner		
#5572	Approve	Coordinator of IT	\$118,408.00	DT	08/08/2026	11/08/2026	Employee is requesting a medical leave. Employee will be utilizing sick time and personal time. The remainder of leave will be unpaid.

B. Instructional

Name	Nature of Action	De/Step	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
#5497	Approve	MA/11	\$80,603.00	BHS	11/30/2026	04/23/2027	Employee is requesting medical



							leave for the purpose of maternity leave. The employee will use 15 sick days before the due date from 11/30/2026 - 12/18/2026 and 22 sick days after the due date from 12/21/2026 - 01/29/2027. FMLA & NJLA leave will start concurrently on or around 01/30/2027 - 04/23/2027. Employee will return to work on 04/26/2027.
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C. Substitute/Other

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
Damien Gnecco	Approve	Substitute Teacher	\$120.00/day	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	

D. Coaches/Activity Positions

Sport	Nature of Action	Coach	Position	Season	Stipend	Longevity	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
Good As Gold	Approve	Michael Prachthauser	Advisor	2026-2027 SY	\$3,300.00	-	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	
Vocal Music Director	Approve	Michael Prachthauser	Advisor	2026-2027 SY	\$1,100.00	-	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	

E. Student Interns/Teacher

Name	Nature of Action	School	Program	Subject	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion

F. Non-Instructional

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
Mallory Sanchez	Approve Resignation	Paraprofessional	\$23,182.00	DT		08/09/2026	
Bobby D'Angelo	Approve	Tech Stipend	\$2,000.00	DT	08/01/2026	6/30/2027	Prorated
Matthew Moran	Approve	Tech Stipend	\$2,000.00	DT	08/01/2026	6/30/2027	Prorated
Janelle Omodeo	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$24,782.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	\$22,132.00 - Salary \$2,100.00 - ABA/MD Stipend \$550.00 - Specialized Skill Stipend
Samia Salcedo	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$550.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	Specialized Skill Stipend



Dania Valdez	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$550.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	Specialized Skill Stipend
Kathy Mazzei	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$550.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	Specialized Skill Stipend
Angela Maione	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$550.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	Specialized Skill Stipend
Cheyenne Preziosi	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$550.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	Specialized Skill Stipend
Magdaly Rodriguez de Fernandez	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$550.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	Specialized Skill Stipend
Donna Rogers	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$550.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	Specialized Skill Stipend
Patsy Montesino	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$550.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	Specialized Skill Stipend
Fran Findura	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$550.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	Specialized Skill Stipend
Michele Cammarata	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$1,050.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	ABA Therapy Stipend
Angela Maione	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$1,050.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	ABA Therapy Stipend
Donna Rogers	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$1,050.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	ABA Therapy Stipend
Jamie Hecht	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$2,100.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	ABA/MD Therapy Stipend
Cheyenne Preziosi	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$2,100.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	ABA/MD Therapy Stipend
Magdaly Rodriguez de Fernandez	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$2,100.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	ABA/MD Therapy Stipend
Nancy Tillie	Approve	Paraprofessional	\$2,100.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	ABA/MD Therapy Stipend
Kathy Mazzei	Rescind	Paraprofessional	\$1,050.00	DT	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	College Degree/Sub Cert Stipend

G. Extra Duty Pay

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
Lisa Kindzierski	Approve	School Nurse	\$73.63/hr. NTE 10 hours	BHS	08/01/2026	08/31/2026	10 additional summer hours
Suzanne Greco	Approve	Supervisor of Humanities	\$616.73/Per Diem Rate	DT	08/01/2026	08/31/2026	2 additional days
Ryan Brown	Approve	Supervisor of Special Education	\$525.30/Per Diem Rate	DT	08/01/2026	08/31/2026	2 additional days
Alexandria Spellman	Approve	Supervisor of STEAM	\$510.00/Per Diem Rate	DT	08/01/2026	08/31/2026	2 additional days
Alissa Vogel	Approve	Teacher	\$62.08/hr./ NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training
Lisa Chestnutt	Approve	Teacher	\$75.14/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training
Jessica Mignanelli	Approve	Teacher	\$66.65/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training
Jason Kurpick	Approve	Teacher	\$49.35/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training



Alyssa Masella	Approve	Teacher	\$56.95/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training
Allison Clay	Approve	Teacher	\$49.44/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training
Lillian Faust	Approve	Teacher	\$42.34/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training
Daniel Clark	Approve	Teacher	\$60.26/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training
Brittany Marion	Approve	Teacher	\$73.63/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training
Timothy Mickens	Approve	Teacher	\$60.26/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training
Sean Centinaro	Approve	Teacher	\$45.96/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training
Wendy Gorecki	Approve	Teacher	\$67.08/hr. NTE 3 hours	DT	08/12/2026	08/12/2026	3 hours of Realtime Training

H. Horizontal Guide Movements

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Previous Step Approved	New Step	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
Alissa Vogel	Approve	Teacher	MA+45	MA+60	BHS	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	
Karrie McNear	Approve	Teacher	MA+45	MA+60	BHS	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	
Lisa Kindzierski	Approve	Teacher	MA+45	MA+60	BHS	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	

RESOLUTION PP 09-27: APPROVAL OF HOME INSTRUCTORS*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all certified teaching staff in the Butler School District as providers of Home Instruction for the 2026-2027 school year, \$50.00 per hour.

RESOLUTION PP 10-27: APPROVAL OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHER RATE FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the substitute teacher rate of \$120.00 per day for the 2026-2027 school year.

RESOLUTION PP 11-27: APPOINTMENTS

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following appointment pending applicants' completion of all required background checks pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7 et seq., N.J.S.A. 18A6-4 et seq., and P.L. 2018, c. 5 as applicable:

**PERSONNEL****A. Instructional**

Name	Nature of Action	De/Step	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
Joseph Fischer	Approve Resignation	MA/6	\$65,948.00	RBS		08/14/2026	
Nicole Meli	Approve	MA/6	\$65,948.00	RBS	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	
#5262	Approve	BA/10	\$72,700.00	ADS	11/30/2026	08/31/2027	Employee is requesting medical leave for the purpose of maternity leave. The employee will use 20 sick days before the due date from 11/30/2026 - 12/18/2026 and 20 sick days after the due date from 12/21/2026 - 01/15/2027. FMLA & NJLA leave will start concurrently on or around 01/30/2027 - 04/23/2027. Employee is requesting an additional unpaid leave from 04/24/2027 - 08/31/2027. Employee will return to work on 09/01/2027.

B. Coaches/Activity Positions

Sport	Nature of Action	Coach	Position	Season	Stipend	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion

C. Student Interns

Name	Nature of Action	School	Program	Subject	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion

D. Non-Instructional

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
Albert Coppola	Approve Resignation	Custodian	\$62,546.00	RBS		10/30/2026	For the purpose of retirement after more than 27 years of dedicated service to the Butler School District.
Burbuqe Asani	Rescind	Custodian	\$1,743.00	RBS	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	Longevity Stipend

**E. Extra Duty Pay**

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
Michelina Smith	Approve	School Nurse	\$56.63/hr. NTE 10 hours	RBS	08/01/2026	08/31/2026	10 additional summer hours
Karen Lomascola	Approve	School Nurse	\$67.63/hr. NTE 10 hours	ADS	08/01/2026	08/31/2026	10 additional summer hours

F. Substitute/Other

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion

G. Horizontal Guide Movements

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Previous Step Approved	New Step	Location	Date Effective	Date Terminated	Discussion
Jason Kurpick	Approve	Teacher	BA+20	MA	RBS	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	
Michael Konopinski	Approve	Teacher	BA+20	MA	RBS	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	
Elisabeth Krauze	Approve	Teacher	MA+30	MA+45	RBS	09/01/2026	06/30/2027	

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND SPECIAL SERVICES - J. Tadros, Chair

Committee Meeting Report

Motion by J. Tadros, seconded by H. Oguss, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions CIS 03-27 through CIS 05-27 as described below:

CIS 03-27 Approval of Fundraisers*

CIS 04-27 Approval of Out-Of-District Private Placements for 2026 ESY and 2026-2027 SY*

CIS 05-27 Approval of Curriculum Associates LLC. iReady*

Discussion: None.

ROLL CALL:

A. Allison -**YES**

J. Tacinelli -**ABSENT**

J. Tadros -**YES**

A. Drucker -**YES**

H. Oguss -**YES**

W. Neira -**YES**

J. Karpowich -**YES**

K. Smith -**YES**

M. Gogel -**YES**

L. Grecco - Bloomingdale Representative -**YES**



Motion carried 9-0-0

Motion by J. Tadros, seconded by H. Oguss, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motion CIS 06-27, as described below:

CIS 06-27 Approval of Out-Of-District Public Placement for 2026 ESY and 2026-2027 SY

Discussion: None.

ROLL CALL:

A. Allison -**YES**

J. Tacinelli -**ABSENT**

J. Tadros -**YES**

A. Drucker -**YES**

H. Oguss -**YES**

W. Neira -**YES**

J. Karpowich -**YES**

K. Smith -**YES**

M. Gogel -**YES**

Motion carried 8-0-0

RESOLUTION CIS 03-27: APPROVAL OF FUNDRAISERS*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following fundraisers and activities for the 2026-2027 school year:

Club/Activity	Dates of Fundraiser	Event Description	Purpose of Fundraiser
Boys Basketball	09/19/2026	Comedy Night	To raise money for spirit packs and backpacks.
Girls Volleyball	08/28/2026 - 09/04/2026	Leading Edge Fundraising Donations - Students send a donation link to family and friends	To raise money for equipment and apparel.

RESOLUTION CIS 04-27: APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-DISTRICT PRIVATE PLACEMENTS FOR 2026 ESY AND 2026-2027 SY*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following out-of-district private placements for the 2026 extended school year and 2026-2027 school year:

Student ID Number	District	School Attending	Dates	Tuition	Extraordinary Services	Account
# 95398	Butler	Paradigm Therapeutic School	SY: 9/3/26-6/23/27	SY: 86,432.40	N/A	11-000-100-566-00-000

RESOLUTION CIS 05-27: APPROVAL OF CURRICULUM ASSOCIATES, LLC. iREADY*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the Curriculum Associates, LLC., iReady, to provide Mathematics curriculum resources and instruction for the 2026-2027 school year plus an additional three years.

RESOLUTION CIS 06-27: APPROVAL OF OUT-OF-DISTRICT PUBLIC PLACEMENTS FOR 2026 ESY AND 2026-2027 SY

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following out-of-district public placements for the 2026 extended school year and 2026-2027 school year:

Student ID Number	District	School Attending	Dates	Tuition	Extraordinary Services	Account
# 26296	Butler	Bergen County Special Services / Washington Elementary Program	SY: 8/31/26-6/17/27	SY \$99,621	N/A	11-000-100-566-00-000

FINANCE - A. Drucker , Chair

Committee Meeting Report

Motion by A. Drucker, seconded by J. Karpowich, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions FIN 20-27 through FIN 28-27 as described below:

- FIN 20-27 Bills and Claims and Payroll Report***
- FIN 21-27 Open Purchase Order Reports***
- FIN 22-27 Transfers***
- FIN 23-27 Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer***
- FIN 24-27 Voiding and Stop Payments of Outstanding Checks***
- FIN 25-27 Approve Tuition Contract with Morris County Vocational School District ***
- FIN 26-27 Approval of Contract with C7 Technologies for the 2026-2027 SY***
- FIN 27-27 Renewal of Membership - School Alliance Insurance Fund (SAIF)***
- FIN 28-27 Approval of Agreement with The Autism Helper Inc. for the 2026/2027 SY***

Discussion: None.



ROLL CALL:

A. Allison -**YES**

J. Tacinelli -**ABSENT**

J. Tadros -**YES**

A. Drucker -**YES**

H. Oguss -**YES**

W. Neira -**YES**

J. Karpowich -**YES**

K. Smith -**YES**

M. Gogel -**YES**

L. Grecco - Bloomingdale Representative -**YES**

Motion carried 9-0-0

Motion by A. Drucker, seconded by J. Karpowich, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motion FIN 29-27 as described below:

FIN 29-27 Approval of Submission Optimal Comprehensive Universal Screeners (FOCUS) Grant

Discussion: None.

ROLL CALL:

A. Allison -**YES**

J. Tacinelli -**ABSENT**

J. Tadros -**YES**

A. Drucker -**YES**

H. Oguss -**YES**

W. Neira -**YES**

J. Karpowich -**YES**

K. Smith -**YES**

M. Gogel -**YES**

Motion carried 8-0-0

RESOLUTION FIN 20-27: BILLS AND CLAIMS AND PAYROLL REPORT*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the **Bills and Claims and Payroll Report**, as per attached list, in the amount of **\$1,052,323.43** and further move that the following bills drawn on the current account in the total amount of **\$826,602.97** for materials received and/or services rendered, having been duly audited by the business administrator and submitted to the Board, be ratified by the Board.

RESOLUTION FIN 21-27: OPEN PURCHASE ORDER REPORTS*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education authorizes approval of the **Open Purchase Order Reports**, as per attached, in the amount of **\$1,524,929.79**.

RESOLUTION FIN 22-27: TRANSFERS*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves transfers for the month of **July 31, 2026** as presented and on file in the Board Office.

**RESOLUTION FIN 23-27: REPORTS OF THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER***

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the period ending **July 31, 2026** Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13, and 6:20-2A.10 (d) and (e), and as certified by the Board Secretary, the Board certifies that no budgetary line account has been over expended or has obligations or payments which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Board of Education, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

RESOLUTION FIN 24-27: VOIDING AND STOP PAYMENTS OF OUTSTANDING CHECKS*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the voiding and stop payments of the following outstanding checks, dated more than six months ago:

Payroll Account:

Check #	Date	Amount
73266	12/15/2025	\$240.11
73271	12/15/2025	\$146.39
73418	2/13/2026	\$160.23

Athletics Account:

Check #	Date	Amount
4892	1/30/2026	\$104.00
4949	2/12/2026	\$104.00

RESOLUTION FIN 25-27: APPROVAL OF TUITION CONTRACT WITH MORRIS COUNTY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves a tuition contract with **Morris County Vocational School District** for the 2026-2027 School Year for students enrolled full-time and part-time. Estimated cost of contract based on current enrollment is \$500,915.00 per the following:

13 Regular Ed Part-Time at \$5,221 per student (6 Butler, 7 Bloomingdale)
39 Regular Ed Full-Time at \$10,562 per student (Butler only)
2 Special Ed Full Time at \$10,562 per student (Butler only)



RESOLUTION FIN 26-27: APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH C7 TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE 2026-2027 SY*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves a contract with C7 Technologies for On-demand IT Consulting services for the 2026-2027 school year for a fee of \$105.00 per hour for 100-hours with No Minimum call commitments.

RESOLUTION FIN 27-27: RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP - SCHOOL ALLIANCE INSURANCE FUND (SAIF)*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the renewal of membership in the School Alliance Insurance Fund (SAIF):

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, hereafter referred to as “Educational Facility” is a member of the School Alliance Insurance Fund, hereinafter referred to as “Fund”; and

WHEREAS, said renewal membership terminates as of July 1, 2026 at 12:01 a.m. standard time, unless earlier renewed by agreement between the Educational Facility and the Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Educational Facility is afforded the following types of coverages:

- Package - Property, Boiler & Machinery, General and Auto Liability
- Environmental Impairment Liability
- School Leaders Professional Liability
- Excess Liability (SLPL)

WHEREAS, the Educational Facility desires to renew said membership;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Educational Facility agrees to renew its membership in the Fund for a period of three years beginning July 1, 2026 and ending July 1, 2029 at 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time and to be subject to the coverages, operating procedures, bylaws, and other organizational and operational documents of the Fund presently existing or as from time to time amended by the Fund and/or the Department of Banking and Insurance.
2. The Educational Facility’s Business Official, **Pamela Vargas**, is hereby appointed as the Educational Facility’s Fund Commissioner and is authorized to execute the renewal Indemnity and Trust Agreement thereby evidencing annexed hereto and made a part hereof and to deliver same to the Fund the Educational Facility’s renewal of its membership.

RESOLUTION FIN 28-27: APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH THE AUTISM HELPER, INC. FOR THE 2026-2027 SY*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves The Autism Helper, Inc as a specialized instruction curriculum for the 2026-2027 SY



Curriculum Access Cost per License:	\$699.00
Number of Licenses Purchased Under this Agreement:	1
Total Cost:	\$699.00

RESOLUTION FIN 29-27: SUBMISSION OF OPTIMAL COMPREHENSIVE UNIVERSAL SCREENERS (FOCUS) GRANT

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the submission of Funding for Optimal Comprehensive Universal Screeners (FOCUS) grant, offered by the LEAR Committee in New Jersey in the amount of \$2,826.00, and accepts the grant award funds to be utilized for purchasing assessments, training educators, and effectively integrating data-driven literacy instruction across schools.

OPERATIONS - A. Drucker , Chair

Committee Meeting Report

Motion by A. Drucker, seconded by J. Karpowich, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motions OPS 03-27 through OPS 04-27, as described below:

OPS 03-27 HS/District Facility Use Requests*

OPS 04-27 District/Board Goals*

Discussion: None.

ROLL CALL:

A. Allison -**YES**

J. Tacinelli -**ABSENT**

J. Tadros -**YES**

A. Drucker -**YES**

H. Oguss -**YES**

W. Neira -**YES**

J. Karpowich -**YES**

K. Smith -**YES**

M. Gogel -**YES**

L. Grecco - Bloomingdale Representative -**YES**

Motion carried 9-0-0

Motion by A. Drucker, seconded by H. Oguss, to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve and adopt motion OPS 05-27, as described below:

OPS 05-27 Elementary Facility Use Requests

Discussion: None.

**ROLL CALL:**A. Allison -**YES**J. Tacinelli -**ABSENT**J. Tadros -**YES**A. Drucker -**YES**H. Oguss -**YES**W. Neira -**YES**J. Karpowich -**YES**K. Smith -**YES**M. Gogel -**YES**

Motion carried 8-0-0

RESOLUTION OPS 03-27: HS/DISTRICT FACILITY USE REQUESTS*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following application(s) for **use of facilities** for the **2026-2027** school year:

Date	Group	Event	Place	Classification/ App. #	Fee
10/1/2026	BHS Guidance	9th Grade Parent Night	BHS Media Center and Auditorium 6:30 p.m.	SY 26/27 -A1(7)	\$0.00
11/11/2026	BHS	RBS & WTB Open House	Butler High School 6:30 p.m.	SY 26/27 -A1(8)	\$0.00
10/22/2026	BHS SEPAG	Special Education Parental Advisory Group Parent Meeting	BHS Media Center 6:00 p.m.~7:30 p.m.	SY 26/27 -A1(9)	\$0.00

RESOLUTION OPS 04-27: DISTRICT/BOARD GOALS*

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adopts the following District and Board goals for the 2026-2027 school year:

The Butler Board of Education is committed to providing a comprehensive educational environment that will develop the potential of every student so as to ensure each individual's success. The following Goals have been established for 2026 - 2027:

- Review the District's Implementation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS).***

Acting on the self-assessment of its curricula, in 2026–2027 the Butler School District will examine all revision efforts to ensure alignment with the NJSLS as mandated by N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.1. Targeted areas include English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. Priority areas of focus for the 2026–2027 school year include: the integration of the updated literacy standards, with renewed attention to explicit handwriting instruction and the development of thematic units; the implementation of iReady as the district's new mathematics resource, supported by a refined scope and sequence; the continued expansion of Universal Design for Learning (UDL); the



continued strengthening of In-Class Support (ICS) and In-Class Resource (ICR) models; and the enhancement of our Parent Institutes. The district will utilize multiple measures to determine need at individual grade levels. These multiple measures will include, but will not be limited to: Common Benchmark Assessments, Universal Screeners, iReady diagnostic and growth data, mClass, CommonLit, Standards-Based Report Cards, Nearpod, and SchoolWide. This will ensure that the Butler School District is in compliance with **P.L. 2024, c. 52** and the *New Jersey Literacy Framework: A Guide to Evidence-Based Literacy Practices & Universal Screeners*, issued by the state's Office of Learning Equity and Academic Recovery.

Areas to be included in our revision efforts include:

- Educator supports, such as instructional materials and technology needs, aligned to newly adopted resources and standards;
- A curriculum revision process that allows for focused, articulated curriculum efforts to be sustained and formalized while empowering our teacher-leaders to be a part of a coordinated district-level effort;
- Integration of the updated NJSLS for English Language Arts, including the incorporation of explicit handwriting instruction and the design of cross-curricular thematic units that deepen student engagement with literacy;
- Implementation of iReady in Mathematics, including professional learning for staff, alignment of a refined scope and sequence, and the use of iReady diagnostic data to inform instruction and intervention;
- Continued implementation of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) concepts to assist all teachers in proactively designing standards-driven instruction that is accessible to every learner, including students receiving special education services;
- Continued refinement of our In-Class Support (ICS) and In-Class Resource (ICR) models, including co-teaching practices and collaborative planning, to ensure inclusive, high-quality instruction for students with disabilities in the general education setting;
- Revision of curricula in accordance with State Board of Education decisions and mandates to ensure equitable access to high-quality resources aligned with the NJSLS — these include, but are not limited to: integration of adaptive learning technologies, artificial intelligence (AI), and inclusion of diverse voices and perspectives;
- Enhancement of our Parent Institutes, as outlined in our Long Range Strategic Plan, by expanding session offerings, topics, and formats designed to strengthen families' capacity to support their students' learning — including sessions on the new literacy and mathematics resources.

2. *Enhanced Facilities Management and Upgrades to Current Facilities.*

The district will continue its efforts focused on enhancing our current facilities, upgrading necessary parts of our schools and our campus, and ensuring that all learning environments are safe, accessible, and well maintained.

- The Butler School District will work to close out its Referendum Project, ensuring all projects are completed in compliance with NJDOE Facilities Efficiency Standards (FES),



N.J.A.C. 6A:26 Educational Facilities Regulations, and all applicable health, safety, and accessibility codes. Goals for the current school year include:

- Completion of all remaining punchlist items associated with the Butler High School addition;
 - Finalization of the BHS elevator installation, providing full ADA access to the building, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-6.3 (project previously delayed due to legal issues with the vendor on the acquisition side);
 - Completion of the new Counseling/Guidance Suite at BHS through the renovation of the former main office area;
 - Completion of the RBS sanitation system, aligned with NJDOE School Sanitation Code requirements for safe and sustainable facility operations.
- Undertake capital improvement projects designed to protect and extend the life of our buildings, including:
 - Installation of new windows at Butler High School to improve energy efficiency, occupant comfort, and building envelope integrity;
 - Installation of a new roof at Richard Butler School (RBS);
 - Masonry restoration of the original stairs at the front of Butler High School, preserving the historic character of the building while ensuring structural integrity and safety;
 - Completion of a new student parking lot at BHS to improve site circulation, safety, and campus access.
- Enhance grounds maintenance across the campus, including the implementation of planned landscaping projects that improve curb appeal, safety, and the overall condition of district grounds;
 - Continuation of facilities painting projects in all three schools as part of the district's ongoing maintenance cycle;
 - Continue our replacement cycle for aging classroom furniture within the district, prioritizing ergonomics, flexible seating options, and ADA compliance;
- Review of the District's Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) to ensure compliance with:
 - NJDOE's Educational Adequacy Guidelines to ensure all instructional spaces are functionally suitable for 21st Century Learning;
 - Energy efficiency best practices, leveraging sustainable design principles where applicable, and integrating cost-saving technologies to reduce operational expenditures;
 - N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq. (Public School Contracts Law) and NJDOE's Capital Projects Procedures to maintain transparency and fiscal responsibility.

3. *To increase security protocols within the Butler School District to enhance safety for all within our learning community.*

The Butler School District will continue to strengthen districtwide safety and security systems, personnel, and protocols to enhance situational awareness, incident response capabilities, and the overall safety of students, staff, and visitors. This initiative will include:



- Continued upgrade and full integration of the districtwide video surveillance system, including:
 - Continuing the replacement and upgrade of security cameras across the district, working toward 100% operational status of all cameras;
 - Reducing the number of security technology platforms in use to a consolidated, cloud-based video storage and management system, ensuring consistency across buildings and enabling faster, more coordinated incident response;
 - Providing continued secure, remote access for district leadership and real-time integration with the Butler Police Department (BPD) to support rapid response coordination;
 - Compliance with NJDOE's Best Practices for School Safety and Security Technologies, ensuring interoperability with local law enforcement and adherence to cybersecurity protocols for data protection.
 - Upgrade of the public address (PA) system at Butler High School to ensure clear, reliable, building-wide communication during both daily operations and emergency situations;
 - Expansion of Retired Police Officer (RPO) coverage, adding an additional part-time RPO in the second semester to supplement the full-time RPO providing daily school security and safety on the RBS/BHS campus;
 - Continued implementation of upgraded visitor management protocols through the district's visitor management system in order to:
 - Conduct instant background checks against sex offender registries and flagged visitor lists;
 - Issue time-stamped visitor badges with building-specific access designations;
 - Maintain a digital visitor log for audit and security purposes.

This allows the Butler School District to align with NJDOE's Physical Security Assessment Criteria, enhancing front-entry access control and screening procedures.
 - Continuation of the Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) Team at the district level and the integration of BTAM teams at each school as part of the Crisis and Culture Teams;
 - Improving our districtwide reunification process by examining a partnership with the Kinnelon School District for evacuation and reunification;
 - Continuing to include local first responders in monthly security drills;
 - Continued partnership with the Butler Police Department through annual meetings to:
 - Collaborate on monthly security drills, including lockdowns, evacuations, and shelter-in-place scenarios;
 - Review and update the District's Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs), ensuring alignment with NJDOE EOP Templates and Guidance;
 - Maintain and update the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with local law enforcement, as required by N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2(b)13-14.
 - Continued, focused training for school personnel on safety and security preparedness through the NJDOE, local/state law enforcement, and Homeland Security.
-



4. *To continue district level efforts to provide education and resources that supports equity, access, opportunity, intervention, and support for all students and staff*

Professional development for staff during the 2026–2027 school year will focus on deepening staff pedagogical knowledge in the areas of Artificial Intelligence (AI), literacy instruction, social-emotional learning (SEL) and mental health, trauma-informed practices, dyslexia awareness, and Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS). This initiative is informed by emerging educational research and NJDOE priorities, emphasizing:

- Engagement and feedback models that allow teachers to personalize student learning;
- Streamlined teacher workflows (feedback loops, grading efficiencies, lesson construction);
- Promoting critical thinking and problem-solving through AI-assisted instructional design.

Specific professional development efforts will include:

- Year Two of our Artificial Intelligence initiative. District Leadership Team–created and –presented PD will be aligned with NJDOE's Future Ready Schools NJ Framework and will build on the foundational work of Year One, moving staff from AI literacy toward deeper classroom integration. This will include:
 - Ongoing, targeted workshops, delivered during early dismissal schedules in order to minimize the loss of instructional time;
 - Practical strategies that foster interactive, responsive classroom environments that teachers can implement that day/week;
 - Continued AI literacy training for teachers, aligned with NJDOE's Digital Learning and Equity priorities, ensuring the ethical, effective use of AI tools.
- Year Two of our districtwide literacy training with Gravity Goldberg, supporting the integration of the updated literacy standards through embedded coaching, model lessons, and workshops that strengthen teachers' instructional practice in reading and writing;
- Continued staff development with Erin Tashian focused on SEL and mental health, building staff capacity to recognize and respond to student social-emotional and mental health needs and to foster supportive classroom environments;
- Targeted training for school counselors in trauma-informed responses, ensuring our counseling staff is equipped to support students impacted by trauma with evidence-based, developmentally appropriate practices;
- Dyslexia training for staff, in alignment with New Jersey's dyslexia screening and professional development requirements (N.J.S.A. 18A:40-5.3), strengthening teachers' ability to recognize characteristics of dyslexia and deliver appropriate, evidence-based reading interventions;
- Continued MTSS training and support of intervention through Response to Intervention efforts. Having completed a three-year goal focused on increasing the integration of MTSS strategies into classrooms as part of the daily model for instruction, staff will now receive continued training to refine and sustain these practices. These efforts align with ESSA's tiered intervention requirements for supporting struggling learners;
- Continued support of student academic assistance through focused support during the school day, including the continuation of the Writing Lab and Math Lab at BHS, along with continued academic support time during the school day in all three schools. These efforts align with ESSA's tiered intervention requirements for supporting struggling learners;



- Focus on rigor in Leadership Team observations, both formal and informal, as well as summative evaluations. Feedback will focus on how staff are structuring lessons, assessing students, and following the curriculum with fidelity;
- Continuation of our Character Education efforts through the use of the comprehensive, evidence-based, CASEL-approved K-12 program, PurposeFull People/CharacterStrong, as our K-12 platform — incorporating social-emotional learning into our monthly program for all students and working to increase acceptance, community, and responsible decision making. This allows the Butler School District to remain aligned with NJDOE's SEL Competency Standards.

RESOLUTION OPS 05-27: ELEMENTARY FACILITY USE REQUESTS

RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the following application(s) for **use of facilities** for the **2026-2027** school year:

Date	Group	Event	Place	Classification/ App. #	Fee
Update to add Location: 8/3/2026 Through 8/7/2026	DC Education Solutions	Bulldog Skills Baseball/Softball Camp	ADS Gym (For Inclement Weather) 7:30 a.m.~1:00 p.m.	SY 26/27 -C1(2)	\$0.00
8/30/2026	Butler PTA	Paw Print Painting and Day of Play	ADS Field 2:00 p.m.~6:00 p.m.	SY 26/27 -B1(27)	\$0.00
9/24/2026 Through 10/3/2026	Butler PTA	Book Fair	ADS Library Setup Day 9/24/26 3:00 p.m.~9:00 p.m. Book Fair during school hours	SY 26/27 -B1(28)	\$0.00
9/25/2026	Butler PTA	Ice Cream Social and Night Book Fair	ADS Field, Library, Blacktop & Gym 3:00 p.m.~9:00 p.m.	SY 26/27 -B1(29)	\$0.00
11/13/2026	Butler PTA	Harvest Dance	ADS Gym 5:30 p.m.~8:30 p.m.	SY 26/27 -B1(30)	\$0.00
12/4/2026 12/5/2026	Butler PTA	Holiday Shop and Cookies with Santa	ADS Gym, Library, Classrooms	SY 26/27 -B1(31)	\$0.00



			12/4/2026 5:30 p.m.~9:00 p.m.		
			12/5/2026 9:00 a.m.~1:00 p.m.		
3/12/2027	Butler PTA	Shamrock Dance	ADS Gym 5:30 p.m.~8:30 p.m.	SY 26/27 -B1(32)	\$0.00
4/22/2027 Through 4/30/2027	Butler PTA	Spring Book Fair	ADS Library During School Hours 4/28/2027 Night Fair	SY 26/27 -B1(33)	\$0.00
5/7/2027	Butler PTA	Spring Plant Sale	ADS Breezeway 8:00 a.m.~1:00 p.m.	SY 26/27 -B1(34)	\$0.00
6/2/2027 Raindate: 6/4/2027	Butler PTA	4th Grade Picnic	ADS Field (Setup tent night prior) All Day Event	SY 26/27 -B1(35)	\$0.00
9/15/2026 9/22/2026 10/6/2026 10/13/2026 10/27/2026 11/3/2026 11/17/2026 12/8/2026 12/15/2026 1/12/2027 1/26/2027 2/2/2027 2/16/2027 3/2/2027 3/16/2027 4/13/2027 4/20/2027 5/4/2027 5/18/2027 6/8/2027	Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey	Girl Scout Meetings	ADS Art Room 3:45 p.m.~5:45 p.m.	SY 26/27 -B1(36)	\$0.00



9/8/2026 Through 6/18/2027	Butler Recreation	Men's Basketball	RBS Gym 6:00 p.m.~10:00 p.m.	SY 26/27 -B1(37)	\$0.00
9/10/2026 Through 6/30/2027	Butler Recreation	Circuit Fit	RBS All Purpose Room 6:30 p.m.~8:30 p.m.	SY 26/27 -B1(38)	\$0.00

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/FOLLOW UP PREVIOUS AGENDA:

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION #2:

- Chris Ziegler, 190 Boonton Ave., Butler, NJ: Proposal for schools to be involved with students in a fundraiser for Wreaths Across America.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by H. Oguss, seconded by J. Tadros, that the Butler Board of Education adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the motion to close the meeting of the Butler Board of Education at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Vargas
Board Secretary