LITTLE EGG HARBOR SCHOOL DISTRICT

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING AGENDA
SEPTEMBER 15, 2026
FROG POND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ~ MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM
OPEN PUBLIC SESSION BEGINS AT 6:00 PM
FOLLOWED BY CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION
ANTICIPATED RETURN TO OPEN PUBLIC SESSION 7:30PM
MINUTES

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1. **CALL TO ORDER -** The public meeting was called to order by Chris Filiciello at 6:03 pm

2. **SUNSHINE STATEMENT**
   This is to advise the general public that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Little Egg Harbor Board of Education meeting was advertised in the Atlantic City Press and posted at the office of the Board of Education located at 307 Frog Pond Road, Little Egg Harbor, NJ and posted at the office of the Municipal Clerk of Little Egg Harbor.

3. **ROLL CALL**
   Ms. Erber _Yes_ Mr. Leszega_Yes_Ms. Middlecoop _Yes_
   Dr. Snyder _Absent_Mr. O'Keefe_Absent_Mr. Asfeha_Yes_Mr. Filiciello_Yes_

   Also present: Dr. Michelle Cappelluti, Interim Superintendent
   Carl Morelli, Business Administrator

4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

5. **PRESENTATIONS -**None at this time.

6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
   Motion by G. Leszega. Second by L. Erber.

   RESOLUTION OF THE LITTLE EGG HARBOR BOARD OF EDUCATION, AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, ET SEQ.)

   WHEREAS, the Little Egg Harbor Board of Education ("Board") is a public body that is subject to the requirements of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. (hereinafter referred to as "OPMA"); and

   WHEREAS, pursuant to the OPMA, all meetings of public bodies are required to be open to the public, except as provided in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12, where the public body may exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the public body discusses certain specific matters; and

   WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it is necessary and appropriate to discuss certain matters in private executive session, from which the public shall be excluded.

   NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board enters into executive session, for the purpose(s) as outlined and described below (check all that apply):

   ___ **1.** Matter(s) which, by express provision of federal law, State statute or rule of court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from the provisions of the OPMA.

___ **2.** Matter(s) in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the Government of the United States.

___ **3.** Material(s) the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as any records, data, reports, recommendations, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance, and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any specific individual admitted to or served by an institution or program, including but not limited to, information relative to the individual's personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress, or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or an incapacitated individual, the individual's guardian) shall request in writing that the material be disclosed publicly.

___ **4.** Collective Bargaining Agreement(s), or the terms and conditions which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement(s), including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the Board.

_x_ **5.** Matter(s) involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates, or investment of public funds, if it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of the matters were disclosed.

___ **6.** Tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, provided that their disclosure could impair that protection, or investigations of violations or possible violations of the law.

_x_ **7.** Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation(s) in which the public body is, or may become, a party, or matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his/her ethical duties as a lawyer.

___**8.** Matter(s) involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion, or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the Board, unless all the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that the matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.

___ **9.** Deliberations of Board occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act or omission for which the responding party bears responsibility.

The minutes of the private executive session shall be available to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

It is anticipated that the Board will remain in private executive session for approximately 60 minutes.

Formal action may be taken by the Board upon its return from private executive session.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

All AYES

The Board Secretary stated the motion carried.

7. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Motion by G. Leszega. Second by L. Erber to approve the agenda.

All AYES

The Board Secretary stated the motion carried.

8. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Motion by G. Leszega. Second by T. Middlecoop to approve the following minutes:

Motion to approve the following minutes:
   A. August 11, 2026 (Attachment 8A-r) (Attachment 8A-e)
   B. August 18, 2026 (Attachment 8B-r) (Attachment 8B-e)
   C. August 31, 2026 (Attachment 8C-r)

All AYES

The Board Secretary stated the motion carried.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT 1 - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**
The Board of Education now welcomes the public to comment on the items which are on our agenda tonight. It may not always be possible or appropriate for the Board to directly answer questions during the public comment period. Each speaker is allotted a maximum of five (5) minutes to make their statement. No one may speak more than once on the same topic. You are required to give your name and address before speaking. Please keep your comments respectful and non- defamatory, and maintain the level of decorum appropriate for a public meeting where minors may be in the audience.

Rick Mellerup, Sandpaper reporter, asked if the public can comment on transportation since bus drivers are on the agenda.

Christina Borer, addressed the board regarding 4 of her concerns: transportation, parent pickup, parents and cleaning of the school. She spoke honestly about the challenges the staff are currently facing within the district.

Lyncee Gunderman spoke about her issues with transportation.

Shannon Lautner addressed the board stating our children deserve better than what we've been given them with the new transportation system. She spoke about her concerns with transportation and the financial impact it is having on the district. Ms. Lautner feels major changes like this should not have been pushed through without the data, safeguards, controls and an implementation plan to prove they're actually better.

Marian Rinaldo addressed the board about the issues she has experienced with transportation for this school year.

Ashley Gillick spoke about her issues with transportation.

Kaylee Gianantonio addressed the board regarding her concerns about the current transportation and the safety of our kids.

Tiffany Wilson spoke to the board regarding transportation. She read a statement regarding a bus driver. She is asking for more communication and decisions.

Gary Rauter spoke to the board as a district bus driver. He spoke about the procedures and issues with the bussing in the district. Mr. Rauter asked to give the drivers a break and give them time.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**
    A. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**
    The following items are being presented for informational purposes:
        1. Correspondence from Seth Cole, Facilities Manager (Attachment)
        2. Correspondence from Teri Tafaro, Technology Coordinator (Attachment with slides)
        3. Fire/Emergency Drill reports for the month ending: (Attachment)

11. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
    Dr. Cappelluti gave an update of the activities that are happening in the district for the start of the school year.

12. **PRESENTATIONS-** None at this time

13. **ACTION ITEMS:**
Motion by G. Leszega. Second by L. Erber to approve Finance Items A through F
Time was allotted for questions.

A. SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY
1. Finance
a. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve all bills and claims for September, which are presented for approval. (Attachment) (Attachment Agency)

b. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the Line Item Transfers and Adjustments as per attachments. (Attachment)

c. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the Board Secretary's Monthly Certification: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, that as of July 31, 2026, no major budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Little Egg Harbor Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.2, and no budgetary line item has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (a)1. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c)2, it is certified that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts and sources for the month of July. (Attachment)

_____ _____ _____
Board Secretary Date

d. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the Board of Education's Monthly Certification: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c)4, the Little Egg Harbor Board of Education certifies that as of July 31, 2026, and after review of the secretary's monthly financial report appropriations section as presented, and upon consultation with appropriate district officials, that to the best of the Board's knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

e. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's report and the Board Secretary's report which are in agreement for the period ending July 31, 2026. (Attachment)

f. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the payroll as follows:
i. August 15, 2026 = $360,910.88 + $25,539.26
ii. August 30, 2026 = $234,702.58 + $25,539.27

Gross pay includes gross pay, employer share of FICA and Medicare.

ROLL CALL
Ms. Erber _Yes_ Mr. Leszega_Yes_Ms. Middlecoop _Yes_
Dr. Snyder _Absent_Mr. O'Keefe_Absent_Mr. Asfeha_Yes_Mr. Filiciello_Yes_

The Board Secretary stated the motion carried.

Motion by G. Leszega. Second by L. Erber to approve School Business Administrators Non-Personnel Items A through H.
Time was allotted for questions.

2. Non-Personnel
   a. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the following donations made to the Little Egg Harbor School District:

DONATION	AMOUNT	FROM	TO	LOCATION
GE Washer and Dryer	$1279.50	Anonymous Donor	Confidence Closet	District
Backpacks with school supplies	Approx. $300	Atlantic Medical Imaging	FPE	FPE
Play Sand	$220.47	Tractor Supply Company	Garden Area	GJM
School Supplies	Approx. $2500.00	Italian American Social Club	Students/Teachers	GJM

   b. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the travel and related expense reimbursement per policy. (Attachment)

   c. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the renewal of membership for the School Alliance Insurance Fund and the premium schedule for 2026-2029. (Attachment)

   d. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve Para-Plus translation services for the 2026-2027 school year on an as needed basis, to be paid with Title I funds. (Attachment)

   e. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the attached list of Obsolete Equipment for the Little Egg Harbor School District. (Attachment)

f. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the following tuition agreements:
    i. Sending Student #15304379 at the Regional Day School, a private school for students with disabilities within the Manchester Township School District, starting on September 1, 2026 thru June 30, 2027 at a cost of $135,500.00.

g. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the following resolution for Restatement Of 403(b) Retirement Plan :
WHEREAS, the Employer has maintained the Little Egg Harbor School District ("Plan") since January 1, 2009 for the benefit of eligible employees; and

WHEREAS, the Employer is restating the above-referenced Plan to comply with 2022 Cumulative List of Changes in Section 403(b) Requirements for 403(b) Pre-approved Plans and to continue to receive the tax benefits of an IRS pre-approved plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Employer hereby adopts the Little Egg Harbor School District as a complete restatement of the prior Plan, to be effective on January 1, 2026;

RESOLVED FURTHER that the undersigned representative of the Employer is authorized to execute the restated Plan document and authorize the performance of any other actions necessary to implement the adoption of the Plan restatement. The Employer may designate any other authorized person to execute the restated Plan document and perform the necessary actions to adopt the restated Plan. The Employer will maintain a copy of the restated Plan, as approved by the Governing Board, along with a copy of the prior plan, in its files;

h. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:
WHEREAS, the Little Egg Harbor School District Board of Education ("Board") previously issued a Request for Proposals for a Solar Energy Project; and
WHEREAS, the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et. seq., specifically including the competitive contracting process set forth at N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.1 et seq., permits the Board to select the proposal most advantageous to the Board based on an analysis of price and other factors considered; and
WHEREAS, the Board previously held a public proposal opening for the award of a contract for the Services on June 17, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Board received two (2) proposals at the public Proposal opening; and
WHEREAS, proposals were solicited and reviewed in accordance with the competitive contracting process authorized by N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.1 et seq.; and
WHEREAS, pursuant to the competitive contracting requirements, the proposals were evaluated based upon criteria set forth in the Request for Proposals to determine the vendor providing the Proposal that was most advantageous to the Board based on an analysis of price and other factors; and
WHEREAS, utilizing the evaluation criteria, National Energy Partners, LLC d/b/a Novitium Energy was determined to be the vendor providing the proposal that was most advantageous to the Board; and
WHEREAS, the Little Egg Harbor Township Board of Education retained a certified energy consultant, Gabel Associates of Highland Park, New Jersey to review the National Energy Partners submission in order that the proposal will be in the best interest of the Little Egg Harbor Township Board of Education; and
WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A 18A: 18A-4.5(d) the evaluation report recommending the award of this Solar Energy Project to National Energy Partners, LLC d/b/a Novitium Energy was made available to the public and the proposers prior to the Board's action; and
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby incorporates the findings above; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board awards the Solar Energy Project to National Energy Partners, LLC d/b/a Novitium Energy, subject to completion of all statutory requirements set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.1 et seq., for the 2025-26 school year.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, subject to completion of all statutory requirements, the Board President, Business Administrator and their designees are authorized to execute documents on behalf of the Board with National Energy Partners, LLC d/b/a Novitium Energy; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary shall publish notice of the contract award in the Board's official newspaper in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A: 18A-4.5(g).
This resolution will take effect immediately on the 15th day of September, 2026.

ROLL CALL
Ms. Erber _Yes_ Mr. Leszega_Yes_Ms. Middlecoop _Abstain Item 2h/Yes to all others_
Dr. Snyder _Absent_Mr. O'Keefe_Absent_Mr. Asfeha_Yes_Mr. Filiciello_Yes_

The Board Secretary stated the motion carried.

Motion by L. Erber. Second by D.O'Keefe to approve Personnel Items A through I
Time was allotted for questions.

B. SUPERINTENDENT'S ACTION ITEMS

1. Personnel

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve and/or accept the following appointment(s), resignations, recensions, and retirements upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools. Appointment(s) and salaries are contingent upon verified documentation.

a. Retirement:

NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	LAST DAY OF WORK	EFF. RETIREMENT DATE
Kelly Pritsch	Teacher	FPE	12/31/2026	1/1/2027

b. Resignations:

NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	LAST DAY OF WORK
Christine Brudon	Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional	GJM	10/15/2026
Danielle Detore	Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional	FPE	9/1/2026
Kayla Divona	Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional	FPE	8/25/2026
Kerry Halvorsen	Part-Time Bus Driver	District	8/31/2026
Justine Krysienski	Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional	ECC	7/1/2026
Catherine Muso	Part-Time Preschool Teacher Assistant	ECC	8/24/2026
Jenifer Sulzmann	Part-Time Preschool Teacher Assistant	ECC	8/24/2026
Kelly Theodorakis	Part-Time Bus Driver	District	8/24/2026
Timothy Vliet	Health & Physical Education Teacher	FPE	10/16/2026 (on or about)

c. Rescind:

01. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education Rescind the following motions from previous board agendas.

DATE OF MEETING	MOTION TO RESCIND	NAME
8/18/2026	CAFETERIA PLAYGROUND AIDE (Staffing) *RESOLVED* that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following candidates for the Little Egg Harbor School District for the 2026-2027 school year.	Meghan Donohue
8/18/2026	PART TIME PARAPROFESSIONALS (Staffing) *RESOLVED* that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following candidates for the Little Egg Harbor School District for the 2026-2027 school year.	Bianca Capolupo
8/18/2026	PART TIME PARAPROFESSIONALS (Staffing) *RESOLVED* that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following candidates for the Little Egg Harbor School District for the 2026-2027 school year.	Laura Healy
6/9/2026	*RESOLVED* that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following Part - Time Paraprofessional/Preschool Teacher Assistant for the Little Egg Harbor School District for the 2026-2027 school year.	Melissa Sikora

d. Staffing**:**

01. **LEHTEA POSITIONS (Staffing)**
RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following candidates for the Little Egg Harbor School District for the 2026-2027 school year, prorated.

NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	DEGREE	STEP	SALARY	NEW /REPLACE	ON/ABOUT EFF. DATE
Hannah Costa	Health & Physical Education Teacher	FPE	BA	1	$72,399.00	T. Vliet	10/14/2026

02. **PART TIME PRESCHOOL TEACHER ASSISTANTS/PARAPROFESSIONAL (Staffing)**
RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following candidate for the Little Egg Harbor School District for the 2026-2027 school year, prorated.

NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	SALARY	NEW /REPLACE	ON/ABOUT EFF. DATE
Kathryn Archer	Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional	District	$26,992.50	New	9/16/2026
Amy Giacobbe	Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional	District	$26,992.50	New	9/16/2026
Dashvinder Singh	Part-Time Special Education	District	$26,992.50	New	9/16/2026

	Paraprofessional				
Paige Snyder	Part-Time Special Education Paraprofessional	District	$26,992.50	New	9/16/2026
Jenna Trail	Part-Time Preschool Teacher Assistant	ECC	$26,992.50	New	9/8/2026

03. **TRANSPORTATION PART - TIME BUS AIDE (Staffing)**
RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following candidates for the Little Egg Harbor School District for the 2026-2027 school year, prorated

NAME	LOCATION	SALARY	NEW /REPLACE	ON/ABOUT EFF. DATE
Alisa Brennan	Transportation	$18,000.00	New	9/16/2026
Lorraine Ford	Transportation	$18,000.00	New	9/16/2026
Karen Grayson	Transportation	$18,000.00	New	9/16/2026
Victoria Spillane	Transportation	$18,000.00	New	9/16/2026

04. **TRANSPORTATION PART - TIME DRIVER (Staffing)**
RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following candidate for the Little Egg Harbor School District for the 2026-2027 school year, prorated

NAME	LOCATION	SALARY	NEW /REPLACE	ON/ABOUT EFF. DATE
Stephen Moritz	Transportation	$35,000.00	New	9/16/2026

05. **CUSTODIAL PART - TIME NIGHT CUSTODIAN(Staffing)**
RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following candidates for the Little Egg Harbor School District for the 2026-2027 school year.

NAME	LOCATION	RATE	NEW /REPLACE	ON/ABOUT EFF. DATE
Joseph Buhrs	FPE	$25.00 Per Hour Not to Exceed 29.5 Hours Per Week	P. Skeans	9/21/2026
Guiseppe Bilotta	GJM	$25.00 Per Hour Not to Exceed 29.5 Hours Per Week	A. Ramos	9/22/2026
Kristinia Lyons	FPE	$25.00 Per Hour Not to Exceed 29.5 Hours Per Week	S. O'Neil	9/21/2026
Danielle Minichini	FPE	$25.00 Per Hour Not to Exceed 29.5 Hours Per Week	L. Bransky	9/21/2026

Mark Schnepp	ECC	$25.00 Per Hour Not to Exceed 29.5 Hours Per Week	S. Lange	9/21/2026

06. **HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION (Staffing)**
RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the hiring of the following LEHSD employees for the 2026-2027 school year.

INSTRUCTOR	STUDENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	PAY RATE	START DATE
Lara Cerami	6195494436	$45.00/ hr 5 hrs / wk	9-8-26 / TBD
Janine Fitzpatrick	1415252779	$45.00/ hr 5 hrs / wk	9-8-26 / TBD
Tara Klements	15366725	$45.00/ hr 5 hrs / wk	9/14/2026 -10/2/2026
Ashley Yeager	16331744		

e. Transfers**:**

NAME	POSITION	FROM	TO	POSITION	SALARY	NEW /REPLACE	EFF. DATE
Justin Fox	Part-Time Night Custodian	GJM	ECC	Part-Time Night Custodian	Same	N/A	9/8/2026

f. Leaves of Absence:
RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following leaves of absence. (Attachment)

g. Substitutes
RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following substitute list for the 2026-2027 school year.

NAME	PARA /CPA $25.00 Per Hour	SECRETARY/CLERK $25.00 Per Hour
Meghan Donohue	X	X
Melissa Sikora	x	

h. Field Placement
RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the attached field placement for the 2026-2027 school year.

NAME	SCHOOL	SEMESTER/DATE	PLACEMENT STAFF

Rory Denckley	Stockton University	Fall 2026 Introductory 50 Hour Clinical Experience CX 9/14/2026 - 12/18/2026	Kristen Lumachi - 4th Grade-FPE

i. Salary Adjustments/Amendments:
RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following salary adjustments/amendments:

DATE OF MEETING	MOTION TO AMEND	NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE
8/18/2026	Step 1 BA $72,399.00 to Step 1 BA+30 $73,974.00	Jennifer Skiendzielewski	9/1/2026-12/31/2026

ROLL CALL
Ms. Erber _Yes_ Mr. Leszega_Yes_Ms. Middlecoop _Yes_
Dr. Snyder _Absent_Mr. O'Keefe_Absent_Mr. Asfeha_Yes_Mr. Filiciello_Yes_

The Board Secretary stated the motion carried.

Motion by L. Erber. Second by G. Leszega to approve Superintendent of Schools Non Personnel Items A through B.
Time was allotted for questions.

2. Non-Personnel
   a. Policies
   RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the following Policies and Regulations for First Reading (restricted for first reading only).

Revised Policy 0155-Board Committees
Revised Policy 5516-Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices
New Regulation 5516-Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices
Revised Policy 8660-Transportation By Private Vehicles-To and From School-Related Activities
New Policy 8662 Transportation By Private or District-Owned Vehicles-To and From School

b. ***RESOLVED*** that the Board of Education approve the Action Research Project of Rachel Harper, Vice Principal, as a requirement for the New Jersey Leaders to Leaders Principal Residency Program. The project, titled "The Impact of Structured Adult Mentorship on Student Achievement Through Increased School Connectedness: An Action

Research Study," is designed to examine whether consistent adult mentorship can strengthen student connectedness and positively influence academic achievement, attendance, engagement, and behavior. It will be implemented at the George J. Mitchell School during the 2026-2027 school year.(Attachment)

ROLL CALL
Ms. Erber _Yes_ Mr. Leszega_Yes_Ms. Middlecoop _Yes_
Dr. Snyder _Absent_Mr. O'Keefe_Absent_Mr. Asfeha_Yes_Mr. Filiciello_Yes_

The Board Secretary stated the motion carried.

14. **NEW BUSINESS -** None at this time.

15. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
The floor is now open to members of the public. The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues. The Board requests that each statement made by a participant is limited to five minutes as cited in Policy No. 0167. There is a sign-in sheet located on the podium. Please sign in before you speak.

Rick Mellerup, Sandpaper, addressed the board regarding the district bussing issues with the kids crossing the street to get on and off the bus.

Marian Rinaldo commended the Paraprofessional Academy that was held this summer. She recognized Dr. Chuck Idler for going above and beyond and trying to make things good for the paraprofessionals.

Jason Baker addressed the board with his feelings regarding the abolishment of the paraprofessionals and the bussing situation. He asked the board to fight for parents and for our kids. Mr. Baker is hoping the new year gets smoother.

16. **BOARD FORUM**

Mr. Leszega spoke about the public's comments this evening. He asked if there are answers that we can give right now so that the public can start to rebuild the trust between the administration and the public and let them know we are going in the right direction.
Mr. Morelli addressed the public regarding the transportation concerns.
Mr. Leszega explained his reasoning for voting yes to transportation.

Mrs. Erber expressed that the board does read each and every email that comes in. She spoke about transportation concerns. Mrs. Erber encouraged the parents to bring concerns to the administration.

Ms. Middlecoop stated that she is very transparent. She has spoken to many parents

regarding the bus issues. Ms. Middlecoop asked the public to please continue to communicate with board members and administration to express any concerns. She updated the public on activities happening with the LEH PTO and the town.

Mr. Leszega gave a special thank you to all the employees who came out to speak tonight. He reassured employees that they can always come speak to the board.

Mr. Asfeha expressed that this is his first full meeting and he is digesting everything that comes with this role. He thanked everyone who spoke today. Mr. Asfeha is looking forward to help the district make progress along the year.

Mr. Filiciello apologized to all the parents and the students who did not have a good transportation experience at the start of the school year. He spoke about the ongoing process of hiring a Transportation Director for the district. Mr. Filiciello explained the role of a board member when it comes to issues within the district.

17. **EXECUTIVE SESSION #2**
None at this time.

18. **ADJOURNMENT**
Motion by G. Leszega. Second by L. Erber.
The board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.
To adjourn at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Morelli
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator