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The following items are contained in the August 12, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes:

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5. Superintendent's Report & Principals' Updates
6. MEA Report
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24. Adjournment

The Regular Meeting of the Margate City Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 P.M. on August 12, 2026 by Board President, Mr. Joseph Pepe, at the Eugene A. Tighe Media Center.

Certification of Notice:

Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary, announced that adequate notice of this meeting had been provided and read the following Certification Notice:

On May 14, 2026, a notice of this meeting was posted on the district website, the bulletin board in the Board of Education Administration Office, the Eugene A. Tighe School, the William H. Ross III School and emailed to the City Clerk.

<u>Roll Call</u> - Members Present:	Mr. Joseph Pepe; Mr. Jack Sorensen; Mrs. Amy Brog; Mrs. Shannon Wray-Norris; Mrs. Danielle Gomes-Chapman; Mr. Nicholas Palmisano; Mr. Steve Swift
Members Absent:	Mrs. Amy Brog
Others Present:	Mr. Ryan Gaskill, Superintendent of Schools; Mrs. Melina Skwarek, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; Mrs. Samantha Dulude, Principal; Mrs. Bernadette Marino, Principal; Mr. Eric Goldstein, Solicitor

Public Comment:

Members of the community addressed the Board regarding a job applicant and their qualifications for one of the previously advertised open teaching positions within the district.

Fire Drill and Security Drill Report:

Mr. Gaskill distributed the Fire and Security drill reports for Eugene A. Tighe School & William H. Ross School for the month of July 2026 attached as Exhibit # 1, pages 31,459-31,460.

Superintendent's Report & Principals' Updates:

Mr. Ryan Gaskill shared a few items on the agenda that require annual approvals including the Mentor Plan and Professional Development Plan. He provided an overview of the policy regarding the use of internet enabled devices in schools. He also shared the MOU with the Margate Education Association was on the agenda for board approval.

Mrs. Marino shared information on current activities at Ross School.
Mrs. Dulude shared information on current activities at Tighe School.

Ms. Lisa Drexler shared her gratitude and the gratitude of the MEA members for the time that was put in to reach an agreement. She thanked the Board and the Negotiations Committee for all their efforts throughout the negotiations process.

General Board Discussion:

Mr. Pepe shared that the Board would go through the general approvals but would table the other matters approvals until after the Executive Session this evening. He also thanked Ms. Drexler and both the MEA committee and the Board Negotiations Committee for their difficult work.

Personnel Matters:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Personnel matters:

1. Approve Nicolle Gilligan as a substitute nurse pending the completion of paperwork. Cost: \$200.00 per day.
2. Approve the following club and activity stipends and advisors at Tighe School for the 2026-2027 school year:
 - Academic Trivia Team - \$1,200.00 - Tracy Magel; \$600.00 - Kelly Crawford
 - Mathletes/Math Counts Advisor - \$1,000.00 - Natasa Coughlin
3. Approve Marshall Evaluation Rubric for teaching staff evaluations and NJ Principal Evaluation for Professional Learning Rubric for Principal Evaluations.
4. Approve the Margate School District Affirmative Action Team of Ryan Gaskill, Bonnie Marino, Dr. Jacque Jones, Kaitlin Roselli, and Mark Winterbottom who will review and update the District's Comprehensive Equity Plan as needed.
5. Approve Derek Cipressi, a Walden University student, to complete his 50 hours of field experience with Lisa Drexler from August 31-November 30, 2026.
6. Approve the registration and reimbursement of Melina Skwarek in the Fleet Management and Employee Training & Safety Education courses, through Rutgers University, as part of the NJDOE mandated School Transportation Supervisor Certification Program. Costs: \$1,223.00 registration fees.
7. Approve the following substitutes to return for the 2026-2027 school year: Olivia Azulay, Gail Beauchamp, Theresa Camoratto, Linda Carbone, Kristyn Cella, Janice Chrone, Pamela Frank, Erin Funk-Horner, Jessica Garrabrant, James Glenn, Nancy Greenberg, Heidi Grutzmacher, Sarah Jamrogowicz, Rebecca Kanter, Carole Kessler, Elizabeth LaRocca, Donna McManus, Hilary Morris, Rona Schwarts-Stevens, Natassia Shypionak, Anne Walsh, Nurses - Jennifer Hale, Julianne Weaver, Transportation - Maria Golebiewski, John Zaccardi.
8. Approve Amy Hughes and Jaime Collins to complete individual screenings for all incoming Kindergarten students in August. Cost: MEA contractual rate of \$56.00 per hour. Not to exceed 7 hours or \$392.00.

Personnel Matters (Continued):

9. Approve a medical leave for employee 62646393 beginning on November 9, 2026 with an anticipated return date of June 1, 2027.
10. Approve a medical leave for employee 88935572 beginning on October 5, 2026 with an anticipated return date of June 1, 2027.
11. Approve Megan Winterbottom as a substitute teacher for the 2026-2027 school year pending the completion of paperwork.
12. Approve the following staff for Morning Schoolyard Supervision at William H. Ross School for the 2026-2027 school year:
 - Erin Gorman (\$3,000 stipend for 7:45-8:05 am)
 - Janice Saul (hourly rate of per MEA Contract for 7:45-8:00 am)
 - Substitutes Kaitlin Roselli and Jaime Collins (MEA contracted hourly rate for teachers at 20-minutes per day from 7:45-8:05 a.m.)
13. Approve the following club/activity stipends and advisors at William H. Ross School for the 2026-2027 school year:
 - Student Leadership/Pride Advisors -Tracy Magel and Lisa Carey - \$2,500.00 each
 - Art & Pottery Club-Barbara Farrell-\$1,000.00
 - Running Club-Lisa Carey-\$500, a second teacher \$500.00
 - 4th Grade Memory Book-Erin McGuigan-\$1,000.00
 - Ross Garden Club- Lora Blanco- \$1,000.00
 - Girls on the Go Running Club- Jaime Collins and Emily Rubino- \$500.00 per teacher

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Instructional Support/Activities:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Instructional requests:

1. Approve the Ross kindergarten students and families to attend the Kindergarten Ice Cream Social at the Ross School in September. Staff: Kindergarten Staff. Cost: MEF Sponsored.
2. Approve the Tighe School 8th grade class to attend the Margate City 9/11 Memorial Ceremony at the Margate Fire Department on Ventnor Avenue in September. Staff: Brian Pasternak, Michelle Cossaboon, Natasa Coughlin, Chris Bruscato.
3. Approve the creation of a Learning/Language Disabilities Classroom in the William H. Ross School.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Workshops:

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Workshop matters:

1. Approve registering for the NJ School Boards Association annual conference from October 19-22, 2026 at a group rate of \$2,400.00. Staff: Ryan Gaskill, Melina Skwarek, Bonnie Marino, Samantha Dulude, Matthew Burton, Leigh Turner, Colleen Culmone, and Ron Nellom.
2. Approve the attendance of Melina Skwarek at the SPELL JIF Joint Retreat from September 23-25, 2026 at The Grand Hotel in Cape May. Costs: Funded by the JIF.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Contracts:

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mrs. Wray-Norris, to approve the following Contract requests:

1. Approve the services contract with ACCSES NJ for afternoon/evening janitorial services for the Eugene A. Tighe School from September 2, 2026, through June 30, 2027, in the amount of \$40,963.83 (NJSTART State Contract T-1480/77110).
2. Approve a residential tuition contract for one student with Grove School for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of approximately \$146,500.00.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Mr. Swift, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, the board unanimously agreed to accept the July 15, 2026, Regular Session Minutes.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Financial Reports:

Motion by Mr. Swift, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to accept the Secretary's Financial Reports for the month of June 2026 as attached to these minutes and certifying that no budgetary account has

Financial Reports Continued):

been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(a). See Exhibit # 2, pages 31,461 - 31,484. The Secretary's Reports agree with the Report of Receipts and Disbursements.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Board of Education Certification:

Motion by Mr. Swift, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11, the Margate City Board of Education certifies that as of June 30, 2026 after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Reports (Revenue and Appropriation Sections) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials that to the best of our knowledge there have been no changes in anticipated revenue sources and/or amounts and no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)2-3 so that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Report of Receipts and Disbursements:

Motion by Mr. Swift, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to accept the Report of Receipts and Disbursements for the month of June 2026, attached as Exhibit # 3, pages 31,485 – 31,497.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Cash Report:

Motion by Mr. Swift, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to accept the Cash Report for the month of June 2026, attached as Exhibit # 4, page 31,498.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Bills and Payrolls:

Motion by Mr. Swift, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the payment of bills and payrolls, as listed on Exhibit # 5, pages 31,499 - 31,528.

Bills and Payrolls (Continued):

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Transfer of Funds:

Motion by Mr. Swift, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following Transfer of Funds:

Transfer of Funds within the General Current Expense Account

Ratified Budget Transfers for 2025-2026

TO:	11-000-216-320-00-00-025	SPEECH SERVICES	\$5,000.00
	11-000-262-622-00-04	AC ELECTRIC	\$2,000.00
		TOTAL	\$7,000.00
FROM:	11-000-217-320-00-00-025	SPEECH SERVICES	\$5,000.00
	11-000-262-610-00-04	AC ELECTRIC	\$2,000.00
		TOTAL	\$7,000.00

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Unfinished Business:

Motion by Mr. Swift, seconded by Mr. Palmisano, to approve the following Unfinished Business:

- A. Approve the second and final reading of the abolishment of the following policy and regulation as they are no longer applicable to our district:
 - Regulation 2200 Curriculum Content
 - Regulation 2411 Guidance Counseling
- B. Approve the second and final reading of the following new policy:
 - Policy 0162.01 Legal Notice
- C. Approve the second and final reading of the following policies and regulations revisions:
 - Policy 0162 Notice of Board Meetings
 - Policy 1230 Superintendent's Duties
 - Policy 1643 Family Leave
 - Policy 2200 Curriculum

Unfinished Business (Continued):

- Policy 2260 Equity in School and Classroom Practices
- Policy 2411 Career Education and Academic Counseling
- Policy 5561 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities
- Policy 6112 Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures
- Regulation 6115.01 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Allowability of Costs
- Policy 6115.02 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Mandatory Disclosures
- Policy 6311 Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants
- Policy 8561 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs
- Policy 8600 Student Transportation

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

New Business:

Motion by Mrs. Wray-Norris, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, to approve the following New Business:

- A. Approve the application submissions to Atlantic City Electric for the ACE Energy Efficiency Commercial & Industrial Program, in coordination with Bright Idea LED, for Prescriptive Lighting Rebates on LED lighting fixtures for Ross School - Phase II lighting upgrades.
- B. Approve the submission of the verification of payroll check distribution to the County Office in compliance with the requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.7, for the payroll check distribution period September 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.
- C. Approve the submission of the 2026-2027 District Website Accessibility compliance certification.
- D. Approve the 2026-2027 Budget Timetable.
- E. Approve to suspend Bylaw 0131 that requires two readings and adopt Policy and Regulation 5516 with one reading to have the Policy and Regulation in place for September 2026; the action suspending Bylaw 0131 shall only be in effect for the adoption of Policy and Regulation 5516.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mr. Swift, to approve the following New Business:

New Business (Continued):

F. Approve the first reading and adoption of the following policies and regulations revisions:

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

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Motion by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, seconded by Mr. Swift, to approve the following New Business:

G. Approve the negotiated Memorandum of Understanding with the Margate Education Association for both the Teachers and Educational Assistants for a five-year contract, 2026-2027, 2027-2028, 2028-2029, 2029-2030 and 2030-2031.

H. Approve the Margate School District Employee Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe

Nays: None

Executive Session:

Upon motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, the board unanimously approved the following resolution at 6:22 P.M.:

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-13 requires adoption of a resolution of the Board to go into Executive Session;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, New Jersey Title 18A and the Margate City Board of Education Bylaw No. 9322 hereby enters Executive Session to discuss the following matters:

- Personnel

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of this Executive Session shall be made public following formal action by the Board and/or at the conclusion of any investigation(s), due process proceeding, or litigation, so long as not prohibited by law and so long as the need for maintaining confidentiality no longer exists. No formal action shall be taken.

Upon motion by Mr. Sorensen, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, the board unanimously agreed to reconvene the regular meeting at 7:42 P.M.

Motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mr. Swift, to approve the following Other Matters:

- A. WHEREAS, the Margate City School District Business Office received proposals from two (2) contractors for the Photovoltaic System at the William H. Ross School located at 8103 Winchester Avenue, Margate City, NJ as follows:

CONTRACTOR NAME:	BASE & TOTAL BID SINGLE OVERALL
Instrata Communications LLC	\$ 709,000.00
Wysocki Electric Inc.	\$ 727,000.00

BE IT RESOLVED, the Margate City Board of Education does hereby approve the recommendation of Spiegle Architectural Group, Inc. to award the Photovoltaic System at the William H. Ross School to Wysocki Electric Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, located at 51 W Mill Street, Pendricktown, NJ, 08067, as per bid submission dated August 4, 2026, in the amount of \$727,000.00; reviewed and approved by Matthew Burton, Director of Facilities and Melina Skwarek, School Business Administrator.

- B. Approve the revised 2026-2027 School Calendar.
- C. Approve the Ross preschool students and families to attend preschool orientation at the Ross School in August.
- D. Approve the hiring of Nina Owens as a full time Educational Assistant for the 2026-2027 school year at Step 2 on the Educational Assistant guide per the MEA contract pending the completion of paperwork.
- E. Approve the hiring of Priscilla Donnalley as a full time Special Education Teacher for the 2026-2027 school year at Step 1 MA on the Teacher Guide per the MEA contract pending the completion of paperwork.
- F. Approve the non-resident tuition students for the 2026-2027 school year pending the completion of signed contracts: Ross School - 11 students; Tighe School - 2 students.
- G. Approve the revised Margate Public Library rentals of the Dominick A. Potena Performing Arts Center for the Summer Movie Series on July 29, 2026, August 12, 2026, and August 19, 2026 and the addition of September 2, 2026. Cost: Affiliated PAC Rental \$1,050.00, Miscellaneous Cost: \$100.00, Staff Cost: \$2,970.00. Total Cost: \$4,120.00.

Motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Mr. Swift, Mr. Palmisano, Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, Mrs. Wray-Norris, Mr. Sorensen and Mr. Pepe
Nays: None

Public Comment:

No members of the community commented.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Mr. Palmisano, seconded by Mrs. Gomes-Chapman, the board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melina Skwarek
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator