



Palisades Park Board of Education

Work Session/Regular Business Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, October 14, 2026- 6:30 PM

Early Childhood Center, 270 First Street, Palisades Park, NJ

A. Meeting Opening

1. Call to Order: Board President
2. Flag Salute
3. Roll Call
4. Statement of Presiding Officer

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), I hereby state that notice of this **Regular Meeting** has been provided to the public by a written notice dated January 15, 2026 (date of published notice)

The Meeting Notice has been:

1. Emailed to all staff members at the district's 3 school locations.
2. Communicated to The Record.
3. Filed with the Borough Clerk of Palisades Park.
4. Posted on the District Website.

B. Work Session

1. Review and Discuss Resolutions to be Voted on at the Regular Meeting
2. Adjourn Work Session: Open Regular Meeting

C. Reports

1. Report of the Board President
2. Superintendent's Report
3. Report of the Board Attorney

Committee Reports

D. Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. **Regular Business Meeting – August 18, 2026**

Move that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the minutes of the following meetings:

- August 18, 2026 Regular Business Meeting Minutes

E. Buildings and Grounds

Consent agenda for Items 1-2 – Sergio Calle

1. Palisades Park Leonia Little League

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Palisades Park Leonia Little League to use the Palisades Park Jr/Sr High School auditorium and cafeteria on November 11, 2026 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm, with set up beginning at 6:30pm, for a championship award ceremony.

2. Palisades Park Police Department

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the use of the Palisades Park Jr/Sr High School by the Palisades Park Police Department to conduct Active Shooter Training Drills on Saturday, November 14, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., provided that:

- No students or staff are present during the drills,
- All safety protocols are followed, and
- The facility is restored to its original condition after use.

F. Education

Consent agenda for Items 1 - 2 - Justin Jeong

1. Field Trips

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following Field Trips:

- Destination: Grounds for Sculpture
- Date: November 2, 2026
- Time: 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Group: Fine Arts Department
- Cost per Student: \$40
- Destination: New Milford High School
- Date: October 20, 2026
- Time: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Group: Athletics
- Cost per Student: \$0
- Destination: Felician University
- Date: April 13, 2027
- Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Group: Preschool

- Cost per Student: \$0
- Destination: Donna's Pizza
- Date: October 26, 2026 (Rain Date: October 27, 2026)
- Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- Group: LLD Grades 1-6
- Cost per Student: \$17

2. **Approval of NJQSAC District Improvement Plan**

WHEREAS, the Palisades Park Board of Education is required to develop and approve a District Improvement Plan (DIP) pursuant to the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC); and

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed the proposed NJQSAC District Improvement Plan addressing the areas identified for improvement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education hereby approves the NJQSAC District Improvement Plan for the 2026–2027 school year and authorizes the Superintendent to submit the approved Plan to the New Jersey Department of Education and implement the Plan as required.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized to take all necessary actions to fulfill the District’s NJQSAC requirements.

G. Finance

Consent agenda for Items 1-14 – Jun Yim

1. **Staff Member Visitations/Workshops**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following requests for professional Visitations/Workshops:

Staff Member	Activity	Date(s)	Cost
Teresa Scarpati	Bergen County Gifted PD	10/23/2026, 12/11/2026, 1/11/2027, 3/8/2027, 6/11/2027	\$0
Brandon Karlok	PE Jam	12/4/2026	\$0
Sylvia Yoon	Protecting Students in the Digital Realm	10/22/2026	\$0
Bethany VanAlstine	Protecting Students in the Digital Realm	10/29/2026	\$0
Vera Csizmadia	NIEER Virtual Workshop	11/2/2026 1-2pm, 12/10/2026 1-2pm,	\$150

		1/14/2027 1-2pm	
Caitlin Rotundo	Intro to Learning Station	10/20/2026, 10am-12pm	\$0
Caitlin Rotundo	Bringing Math to Life through Responsive Teaching	11/19/2026, 10am - 12pm	\$0
Caitlin Rotundo	Make Time for Science by Integrating Children's Literature	11/12/2026, 10am-12pm	\$0
Sara Vetter	Cornerstone Fall Conference for School Professionals	10/22/2026	\$0
John Sarcone, Carl Albano	Gang Awareness Training	10/27/2026	\$0
Marisa McGuire	2026 Fall Conference for School Professionals	10/22/2026, 11/12/2026 AM only	\$0

2. **Approval of the October Bill List**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the October bill list in the amount of \$2,323,551.44

- Fund 10 (General/Current Expenses) \$1,713,807.52
- Fund 20 (Special Revenue) \$509,833.03
- Fund 30 (Capital Projects Fund) \$0
- Fund 60 (Food Service) \$99,910.89

3. **Approval of September Payroll**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following payroll amount:

Payroll Date	Amount
09/15/2026	\$857,291.56
09/30/2026	\$877,631.36

4. **Student Activity Accounts**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the financial reports for the High School and the Lindbergh School Activities Accounts, for the month ending September 2026 (on file in

BOE Office).

5. **Treasurer's Report - July 2026**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted by the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of July 2026.

6. **Out of District Contracts**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following out of district contracts for July 2026 - June 2027:

Student ID	School	Term	Base Tuition	Additional Services
9260	BCSS	26-27 FY	N/A	\$56,754
373810	BCSS	26-27 FY	N/A	\$56,754

7. **Approval of Agreement with Silvergate Prep**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves an agreement with Silvergate Prep to provide home instruction services to student ID#10452 at a rate of \$65/hour for 10 hours/week.

8. **Tuition Reimbursement**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following tuition reimbursement requests:

Staff Member	College/ University	Course Name	Credits
Jessica Graf	American College of Education	Learning Life Lessons with Literature	3
Jessica Graf	American College of Education	Content Writing Skills for College Reading	3
Jessica Graf	American College of Education	Write on! Using Personal Narrative in the Classroom	3
Jared Zuckerman	American College of Education	Capstone Experience for Professional Education Studies	1
Jared Zuckerman	American College of	Research Methods	3

	Education		
Jared Zuckerman	American College of Education	The Americans History of Western Influence	3

9. **Approval of Acceptance of IDEA FY 2026 Grant Application**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the acceptance of the IDEA FY2026 Grant Application as approved by the NJDOE on September 18, 2026 as follows:

IDEA Grant	FY 2027
Basic	\$522,149
Preschool	\$13,164

10. **Approval of Agreement with William Paterson University**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education approves the 2026–2027 Professional Development School Agreement with William Paterson University for Notre Dame Academy, at a cost of \$12,000, to be funded through ESEA Title II, Part A.

11. **Acceptance of Donation**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, gratefully accepts the donation of a three-quarter cord of wood, with an estimated value of \$200, from SK Landscaping, for the bonfire held at Palisades Park Jr./Sr. High School.

12. **Approval of Agreement with LearnWell**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves an agreement with LearnWell to provide educational services for a hospitalized student at the rate of \$62.85 per hour, plus administrative fees, beginning 10/7/2026, not to exceed 5 hours per month.

13. **Approval of Partnership with Fairleigh Dickinson University**

WHEREAS, Fairleigh Dickinson University's School Psychology Program seeks to provide supervised, school-based counseling practicum experiences for graduate students enrolled in its MA + Certification Program in School Psychology; and

WHEREAS, this partnership will provide eligible K–12 students with short-term counseling and support in developing social-emotional skills, coping strategies, and positive relationships;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves a partnership with Fairleigh Dickinson University to provide supervised school-based counseling practicum opportunities, subject to parental/guardian consent, applicable district policies, and all required student privacy and safety requirements.

14. **Approval of Agreement with BCSS for the Suspension Alternative Program (SAP)**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves an agreement with the Bergen County Special Services School District for student participation in the Suspension Alternative Program (SAP) for the 2026–2027 school year, at a membership fee of \$950, which includes up to five weeks of services, with each additional week billed at a rate of \$195.

H. Personnel

Consent agenda for Items 1-15 – Sookyung Park

1. **Appointment of Staff**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of the following personnel for the 2026-2027 school year.

Employee Name	Position	Salary/ Stipend	Start Date	Location
Ahne, Anne	Per Diem Substitute	\$150/day	10/19/2026	All
Altwerger, Joshua	School Nurse	MA, Step 5 \$64,700	11/2/2026	PPHS
Guillen, Natalia	Permanent Substitute	\$150/day	10/15/2026	ECC
Kim, Gahyeon	Per Diem Substitute	\$150/day	10/19/2026	All
Tokatlioglu, Aline	Per Diem Substitute	\$150/day	10/19/2026	All

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the appointment of Maralle Arakelian as a leave replacement teacher from December 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

2. **Request for Leave**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following leave requests:

Staff ID No.	Effective Date	Return Date
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5031	11/30/2026	2/1/2027
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3. **Home Instruction Teachers**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following home instruction:

Staff Member	Student ID	Anticipated Start Date
Elizabeth Porrino	10733	09/18/2026
Brigitte Stieglitz	10169	10/1/2026

Up to 10 hours a week; \$50 Per Hour

4. **Resignation of Softball Coach**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education accepts the resignation of Sara Prtoric as the Head Softball Coach at the Palisades Park Jr/Sr High School.

5. **Resignation of Head Winter Track Coach**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education accepts the resignation of Jordan Coleman as the Head Winter Track Coach at the Palisades Park Jr/Sr High School.

6. **Appointment of Coaching Positions**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following coaching positions:

Staff Member	Coaching Position	Stipend
Coleman, Jordan	Asst. Boys Basketball Coach	\$5,005
Travia, Matthew	Head Winter Track Coach	\$6,435

7. **Retirement of Staff - Annette Cruz**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, hereby accepts the retirement of Annette Cruz, effective January 1, 2027.

8. **Amendment of September 16, 2026 Salary Resolutions**

WHEREAS, the Palisades Park Board of Education approved resolutions on September 16, 2026, regarding Teamsters Local 97 salaries and Joseph Sperlazzo; and

WHEREAS, the salary resolution inadvertently listed Joseph Sperlazzo under the generic title of "Custodian/Maintenance worker";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board hereby amends the September 16, 2026 resolutions to confirm that Joseph Sperlazzo's position and job title remains Maintenance Worker; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other terms of the September 16, 2026 resolutions, including the base salary freeze at \$75,532 and the increment withholding toward his

outstanding balance, remain unchanged and in full force.

9. **Appointment of Residency Officer - Steven Thompson**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, appoints Steven Thompson as the Residency Officer for the 2026-2027 school year at a rate of \$75 per hour, not to exceed 100 hours.

10. **Approval of Grade Level Leaders**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following Grade Level Leaders at Lindbergh Elementary School, at a compensation rate of \$45 per hour, not to exceed six (6) hours per month:

Staff	Grade
Campos, Karla	Grade 1
Hanlon, Patricia	Grade 3
Lee, Michele	Grade 4
Paiotti, Nicole	Grade 2
Velardo, Jennifer	Grade 6
Ventimiglia, Tamara	Grade 5

11. **Preschool Parent Night**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following staff to work for the Preschool Parent Night taking place on November 12, 2026, 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at the following rates:

Staff	Role	Hours	Total
Carbone, Rosemarie	Presenter	3 hours	\$135
Csizmadia, Vera	Event Planner and Coordinator	3 hours	\$135
Karlok, Brandon	Child Care	1.5 hours	\$75
Menzella, Cheryl	Presenter	3 hours	\$135
Ostuni, Isabella	Child Care	1.5 hours	\$75

Ostuni, Nicole	Presenter	3 hours	\$135
Rodas, Leslie	Translator	1.5 hours	\$67.50

Grand total - \$757.50

PEA (Preschool Expansion Aid) Funds will be used

12. **Reappointment of Non Tenured Teacher Appointments**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby approves the renewal of employment of the non-tenured certificated teaching staff members listed below for the 2026–2027 school year, with the salaries and salary guide placements as set forth herein, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Palisades Park Education Association (PPEA) collective bargaining agreement, applicable Board policies, and approved salary schedules.

Teacher	Lane/Step	FTE	Annual Salary	Hire Date	Tenure Date
Kim, Jeehee	MA+15, Step 9-10	1.0	\$75,225	11/11/2024	11/12/2028

13. **Approval of Dance Team Chaperones**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following individuals as volunteer chaperones for the Palisades Park Junior/Senior High School Dance Team trip to the DTL National Championships in Orlando, Florida, taking place March 3-9, 2026:

- Rachel Morgese
- Diana Hong
- Rwan Elmohdli

14. **Resolution for Administrative Leave**

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that Employee ID # 4082 is hereby placed on paid administrative leave, maintaining all current health and employment benefits, effective October 8, 2026, pending the outcome of an ongoing investigation.

15. **Approval of SAT Prep Tutors**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following individuals to provide SAT preparation tutoring from October 13, 2026, through December 2, 2026, at a rate of \$50 per hour, not to exceed 40 hours per individual.

- Dellosa, Jaclyn
- Elmohdli, Rwan

I. **Policy**

Consent agenda for Item 1 – Jun Yim

1. **Policy #1316 - Posting of Signs or Displays Prohibited - 2nd Reading**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Palisades Park Board of Education approves the second reading of Policy #1316 “Posting of Signs or Displays Prohibited” as attached.

[Policy 1316 - Posting of Signs or Displays Prohibited.pdf](#) 

J. School Safety and Security

K. Negotiations

L. Evaluation Advisory Committee

M. County School Boards Rep/Alternative

N. NJ School Boards Liaison/Alternate

O. New Business

1. School Tours for Board Members

The following dates are available for school tours for Board Members:

- Early Childhood Center: Monday, November 9, 2026, 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
- Lindbergh Elementary School: Friday, November 13, 2026, 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
- Palisades Park Jr/Sr High School: Wednesday, November 11, 2026, 9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

P. Old Business

Q. Public Comment

1. In order to conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board shall require the following procedures to public participation at Board Meetings:
- Any individual desiring to speak shall give his/her name, address and group, if any, that is represented.
 - The presentation shall be as brief as possible but no more than three (3) minutes per individual.
 - The Board vests in its President, or other presiding officer, authority to terminate the remarks of any individual if he/she deems it in the best interest of those present to do so.

R. Executive Session

1. Legal Matters

S. Adjournment

1. Adjourn Meeting