MINUTES OF THE PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING

September 16, 2026 – 6:04 p.m.
Remote Meeting (Via Zoom)

Presiding: Comm. Joel Ramirez, President

Present:
Dr. Laurie W. Newell, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Rodney Henderson, Deputy Superintendent
Albert Buglione, Esq., General Counsel
Boris Zaydel, Esq., Board Counsel

Comm. Valerie Freeman
Comm. Alex Mendez
Comm. Hector Nieves
Comm. Mohammed Rashid
Comm. Kenneth Rosado
Comm. Kenneth Simmons
Comm. Corey Teague
Comm. Della Wilder, Vice President

The Salute to the Flag was led by Comm. Ramirez.

Comm. Ramirez read the Open Public Meetings Act:

> The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of, and to attend the meetings of the Paterson Public School District, as well as other public bodies at which any business affecting the interest of the public is discussed or acted upon.
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> In accordance with the provisions of this law, the Paterson Public School District has caused adequate and electronic notice of this meeting:
>
> **Regular Meeting**
> **September 16, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**
> **Remote**
> **90 Delaware Avenue**
> **Paterson, New Jersey**
>
> to be published by having the date, time and place posted in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Paterson, at the entrance of the Paterson Public School offices, on the district's website, and by sending notice of the meeting to TAPinto, the Arab Voice, El Diario, the Italian Voice, the North Jersey Herald & News, and The Record.

PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Student Safety Data System for HIB, Violence & Vandalism, Substance Awareness

Dr. Newell: Thank you, President. Good evening, Commissioners and everyone. Tonight, we will be having a presentation on our Student Safety Data System for HIB, Violence & Vandalism, and Substance Awareness. We will be reporting first from Ms. Olson, then Mr. Price, and then with Ms. McKay.

Ms. Laurel Olson: Good evening, everybody. I will begin by going over the Student Safety Data System report for substance awareness and possession cases. For any substance case to be considered positive in the eyes of the NJDOE, the student must be confirmed that they are under the influence via drug testing, they are found in possession of a substance or drug paraphernalia, they could refuse to take the medical exam, or the amount of their possession is enough for a sale or distribution charge by the police department. For the 2025-2026 school year, 335 students were referred for testing. We did have more positives, 271 students, than negatives. We had more males at 214 referrals than females at 121. Of the 335, 49 of our students refused to test, making them automatically positive. I am happy to report that our percentage of positive accuracy is increasing from the 2024-2025 school year at 71% to 81% last year. This is a quick data snapshot of our three-year comparison of all positive cases. In 2023-2024, we had 369 positive cases. In 2024-2025, we had 265. Last year we had 271 cases. This pie chart will show you what grade levels the cases are found in. You can see that we have cases in grades 1-12, but our hotspots are in 8, 9, 10 and some 11 and 12. With regard to possessions, this is a three-year comparison. In 2023-2024, we had 180 cases of possession. In 2024-2025, we had 130. For 2025-2026, we are back up at 156 cases. Most of those cases involved THC or marijuana vaping devices at 131. We had 8 cases of marijuana itself, 5 cases of paraphernalia, 3 cases of alcohol, 3 prescription drugs, 3 edibles, 1 case of crack cocaine, 1 over-the-counter drug, and 1 unknown substance. Our next slides are going to be some examples of photos of the possessions that we found this year. You'll see cough medicine, over-the-counter drugs, a small bottle of alcohol, drug paraphernalia, and the fourth photo is that unidentified substance. This slide will show you different variations of THC vape pens, excluding that one Lava Plus that is there just for size comparison. Some more examples of possession, we had baggies that held marijuana itself, the Bob Marley rolling papers, a little container that held marijuana and THC vape pen lighter. This is a photo of one of our schools and their collection from September through March. This is another one of our schools. The top row is all nicotine-based vape pens. The middle bottom is THC products and then we have the bottle of alcohol and some other drug paraphernalia. Lastly, we had distribution. On the left, that's one of those containers you carry your drink in everyday, but it was filled with nicotine-based products that were brought into the school. The right photo is the crack cocaine that was found. This year we started doing dual usage, trying to track if more positive cases were associated with nicotine uses as well. I did mention that we tested 335 students for the year. 254 or 76% of our referrals tested at our vendor site. 40% of those kids tested positive for marijuana and nicotine usage. One of the reasons for people not using our site is refusal to test. They wanted to use their own doctor. Or the intoxication was so bad for us in the building that we sent them directly to the ER where they do not test for nicotine. We will continue to update the Board as we move towards the first report of 2026-2027 in February. We do have positive efforts. I do want to share this quick little PSA video. Our students at MLK won first place statewide for an anti-vaping contest. I hope you enjoy this as much as they did.

Video

Ms. Olson: Those students are going to be honored by a couple different news stations. They are working on setting that up now. This slide will show you the SAC intervention and treatment that we have been tracking. We had 163 referrals come in and talk with our licensed social worker and they were referred to treatment. We had 22% referred back to the SAC in the school. We had 28.8% referred to our Teen THRIVE after-school program and they accepted. They began their treatment. 25% were referred but declined treatment. We referred about 4% to mental health services versus substance

use. We had over 50% come to the initial intake, which is amazing. 7.7% did not show up to their intake appointment. We are trying to find what the mismatch is. Why are they not making it? Is it a transportation issue? I will be able to provide you with more information about that. But I am happy to share that those who did go to treatment we've had successful completion with and are still in the program at our highest rate. Reasons for withdrawing include not coming often, skipping the program, insurance issues, whether they have it or the insurance has lapsed, referred to a higher level of care, the after-care program was not enough, or were referred right to mental health services. Our SAC partnerships continue. We are a group of 11 and we work with the whole district, but our partnerships help us expand on our services. I won't read them all for you, but a big one that we work with is Alumni in Recovery. We have people come speak to our students. Montclair State University comes in and does free programs on socioemotional learning and drug abuse. New Bridge Medical Center is our vendor partner for all substance testing and treatment. NJ4S has been wonderful, as well as the Passaic County Sheriff's Office, the Prosecutor's Office, and of course the Paterson Police Department. We are having a great time with K9 Dave, especially with our little ones. With that, I will pass it to Mr. Price to talk to you about the Violence, Vandalism and Weapons section.

Mr. Dalton Price. Good evening, everyone. Here are the enumerated items that we use every year to depict why people are removed from the system, whether they're suspended in school our out of school. Arson, assault, computer trespass, damage to property, false public alarm, fight, HIB alleged, HIB confirmed, kidnapping, robbery/extortion, sexual contact, sexual assault, substance use, substance possession/sale, theft, threat-simple assault, threat-criminal, trespass, weapon use, weapon possession/sale, or other incidents leading to removal. There are incidents that do not meet the criteria for violence, vandalism, substance, weapons, HIB alleged or confirmed, but do lead to removal of a student from the educational placement for half a day or more. Disciplinary removals are defined as any instance in which a child is removed from their educational placement for disciplinary purposes, including in-school suspension, out of school suspension, expulsion or removal to another educational setting. The number of those incidents is 380. Here's a quick scenario. Max and Ricky, both third grade students, were chasing and tackling each other during recess. While they were playing, Ricky picked up an eight-inch stick and swung it around, hitting Max on the arm and causing a small scratch. An aide witnessed the situation and stopped any further contact between the students. The aide asked Ricky why he hit Max and he explained that he was just pretending to be a helicopter and did not mean to hurt Max. In the two scenarios Ricky did not purposefully, knowingly or recklessly cause an injury to Max. The injury was accidental. Do not report this incident unless Ricky received disciplinary removal for more than half a day for the incident. In this case, it would be reported as Other Incident Leading to Removal. How the situation may differ. Max was bleeding and had to be seen by the nurse to treat the injury. Ricky said he meant to hit Max, saying, "He was mean to me. I don't like him." Report this incident as an assault because the small stick cannot readily be used as a cause of lethal or serious bodily injury. Do not report it as an assault with a weapon. Here are the numbers for 2025-2026. Violence, 245; Vandalism, 18; Weapons, 13; Other incidents leading to removal, 380. Total is 658. Here is the list of incidents for 2025-2026. Assault, 182; Fight, 38; Threats, 19; Damage to property/theft, 12; Computer trespass/trespass, 8; Arson, 0; Weapon possession/use, 13; Fire and false alarms, 0; Sexual assault, 0; Sexual contact, 6; Other incidents leading to removal, 380. Total is 658. No incidents were reported to police and no offenders arrested. Are there any questions?

Comm. Ramirez: Are there any questions from the Board?

Comm. Wilder: I do have one question about the insurance matter. When we have children who are removed from treatment because of insurance, what is the next step or protocol?

Ms. Olson: Typically, if their insurance lapses, it is the parents' responsibility to renew their insurance. If they are undocumented or do not have enough insurance, the hospital does sit with them and work out charity care.

Comm. Wilder: What happens when all of that fails? What do we do as a district for that child?

Ms. Olson: I haven't run into a situation where they haven't been reconnected with services yet.

Comm. Wilder: That's good to hear. I just wanted to make sure. Insurance is a serious matter throughout this entire country. When I hear insurance, it becomes an alarming matter for me. If a child is not getting services for substance abuse, I want to make sure that we are able to connect them to the Board of Social Services or wherever to get them the help that they need. I saw some increases. What do we think are some of the factors in that? Is it that we're tracking it better? Or is it that we're actually having more incidents in some of those areas where I saw the increases?

Ms. Olson: In looking at our data summary for the past two years, it's pretty much the same. We did have an increase of possession cases, and I feel like the sensors on our scanning devices might be getting stronger. They're picking up THC vape pen batteries. They are going off a lot more, so we are stopping a lot from coming into the building. The accuracy of our numbers has gone up, not necessarily the amount of kids reported, which is wonderful. That means the training that we are putting on our Onspire platform for all staff, the drug identification training and the training that I create specifically for our district, is helping the accuracy when staff members are looking for observable behaviors of someone who might be under the influence or they know what kinds of vape pens to look for. All of that is involved in our training. I'd be happy to share that with the Board if you'd like to see it.

Comm. Wilder: Concerning the possession of weapons, are we catching those things before they get in the building? Are there any stats on how many were detected because of these safety guards that we have in place? Are we detecting it after they are already in the building? If you don't have an answer for that, that's fine. But that's something I would like to see tracked because if we're finding that our security system is working for us, great. If we're finding that maybe it's not giving us 90% accuracy about what's coming in and out of the buildings, my suggestion would be that maybe we need to relook at some better state-of-the-art safety equipment. That's why I'm asking the question. I know that once weapons are in the building, we have a problem. If these weapons are all being confiscated at the security point, then I feel comfortable. If you don't have that answer for me tonight, that's okay. But I do want that answer. I want to know how we get the weapon. Did we get the weapon at entry? Are some of these weapons getting into the school and then it's being dealt with in the actual facility?

Ms. Price: While I would like to have more state-of-the-art equipment of course, I would say that 99% of the weapons that we have recovered are getting captured at the door before they enter the building.

Comm. Wilder: That's good to hear. Thank you, Mr. Price. Sometimes we listen to these reports and it's so much information at one time and we're trying to write all these

questions. I don't want to take all day to ask, but for me they're important. Thank you so much for giving me that capture. I'm concerned about getting the weapon, but I'm more concerned about when we get the weapon. Thank you for that answer. I have a lot more questions, but I'll just forward them to the Superintendent and she can get what I need. I don't want to take up the whole meeting. Thank you for answering those questions.

Comm. Ramirez: Mr. Price, are we confiscating more weapons on the high school or elementary level?

Mr. Price: High school.

Comm. Simmons: Comm. Wilder asked the question regarding the insurance. I wanted to know what happens to those students as well. With regard to the increased incidents that Comm. Wilder alluded to, with more smoke shops popping up in the city and around the schools, has there been any conversation with the city about approaching these businesses or how we deal with what time these businesses open and whether or not they are asking for ID for the students getting the vapes, THC and things like that?

Mr. Price: We've had very polite conversations with the police department and certain council people have brought it up. We push it back to them about these things being sold to our students first before it even gets to the schools. The fact that they're not doing much about it, we just have to do our part to keep them out of the building as best as possible. We can't control how they handle or address it.

Comm. Ramirez: I will let you know that the city did pass an ordinance where there is a license for smoke shops, which did not exist a year ago. There are no more new smoke shops. If you were in existence at the time of the ordinance, you had 60 days to apply for the license. After that, no more licenses will be issued so there will be no more smoke shops. The licenses are not available. ABC, the police and the health department are doing enforcement. We've confiscated thousands of illegal vape products. I have a whole storage at the department of health. There is stuff being done by the city. I think we have to have different conversations, and I'll circle back to the health officer to speak to Captain Navarro for the ABC so they can schedule a meeting. It seems like there's some communication issue there.

Comm. Simmons: Thank you for elaborating on what's happening on the city level. With regard to the incidents in Mr. Price's report, in terms of reporting are we seeing more or less? Do we think there should be more reporting? A lot of times we hear about things that are happening, but we don't necessarily see them in the reports. I always question whether or not folks are using the Hibster incident reporting with fidelity.

Mr. Price: In the work safety meeting with the union every month there were complaints in the last few years about incidents that happened in the schools that were not on an SSDS, but there was no way for us to prove that the incident actually took place. We did make sure the principals understood that these things had to be reported. For the last six or eight months that concern from the union has gone down. We haven't been getting calls or information about an incident or fight in the school that we did not have an SSDS for. I would say yes everything is being reported.

Comm. Nieves: In that report, I saw that there was no police involvement or arrests for the 2025-2026 school year.

Mr. Price: Correct.

Comm. Teague: For clarification, in the past few weeks there have been no reports at all since school opening?

Comm. Ramirez: What time frame was the data covering?

Ms. Olson: That is not included in this report.

Comm. Teague: Okay.

Comm. Ramirez: Thank you for the clarification. Are there any other questions?

Ms. Monique McKay: Good evening, everyone. Tonight, I'm going to report on January through June of 2026 for the 2025-2026 school year on Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying. To provide a little framework for you, the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act is defined to include any gesture that is written, verbal, physical act or electronic communication that meets the statutory criteria and substantially disrupts or interferes with the school's operation or student rights. It is also a requirement under the state code 18A:37 that we report and investigate all HIB cases brought to our attention and placed in the portal, as well as provide prevention and training for both staff and students. It is also inclusive for accountability that we as a district make implementations of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act along with HIB data, school assessments, prevention efforts, and related practices that support state accountability. My next slide is to tell you the differences between HIB versus conflict in the State of New Jersey. It is important to note that not every disagreement is HIB, but every concern deserves a safe and thoughtful response. A conflict is a disagreement. A disagreement can be an argument or a problem between students and may involve hurt feelings, frustration or poor choices. Usually, it does not meet the legal definition of HIB. The focus is problem-solving, accountability, communication, and repairing relationships. HIB can be a single incident or a series of incidents. It must meet the New Jersey statutory definition under code N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14 and also involve reasonably perceived or actual characteristics, such as race, religion and sexual orientation. It must substantially disrupt or interfere with a school or the student's rights, and cause harm or fear which will be inclusive of insults or demeaning or creates a hostile educational environment for the students. The key question is does a conduct meet all parts of the New Jersey HIB definition. We look at that and we ask that question. There are three legal factors for an HIB finding in New Jersey. All three factors must be satisfied in order to meet the legal findings for HIB. Is the conduct reasonably perceived as motivated by an actual or perceived characteristic? Is there substantial disruption? Does the conduct substantially disrupt or interfere with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students? It also has to meet one legal effect. Was there any physical, emotional or reasonable harm or fear included within the case that was initiated? Were there any demeaning comments made to the student or group of students? Did it include a hostile educational environment? We're going to go over the data for the second portion of the school year for 2025-2026. We're going to look at the number of cases reported for each unit. If we look at Unit I, we have 3 cases founded and 26 unfounded for a total of 29 cases. In Unit II there were 32 cases founded and 24 unfounded for a total of 56 cases. In Unit III there were 20 cases founded and 26 unfounded for a total of 46 cases. In Unit IV there were 17 cases founded and 27 unfounded for a total of 44 cases. Our next slide provides a breakdown of what the cases were. 72 were classified as founded. 103 cases were classified as unfounded. 30 cases were listed as inconclusive. 17 cases were classified as partially founded. 2 cases were classified as founded with no offender.

The next slide shows what our overall breakdown is per unit for the 175 founded and unfounded cases. Unit I had 17%, Unit II had 32%, Unit III had 26% and Unit IV had 25%. The next slide is just a breakdown of concentrated areas where we started to see schools gaining the most traction for the second part of the school year. School No. 26 went up to 3 cases and School No. 19 the same. School No. 18 is about 5. School No. 21 was 5. School No. 1 was partially founded. School No. 27 was 9. School No. 12 was 10. New Roberto Clemente was 12. International was 13. School No. 10 was 14. Eastside High School was 17. Our next slide is a four-period comparison of both founded and unfounded cases. We show that there was a stable volume of cases. However, there was a 2.23% decrease in cases once we got to June of 2026. Are there any questions?

Comm. Teague: You mentioned founded with no offender.

Ms. McKay: At times there are cases that are social media based or they may not know who the offenders were. They were not able to provide the details on the aggressors. But there was evidence that showed there was something that took place with the children.

Comm. Rashid: When a case is founded, what is the next procedure? Do we consult with the parents?

Ms. McKay: We do have parent conferences along with restorative conference circles with the children as well. We also try to put remedial practices in place and educate the children on what bullying is and how their actions have affected others. We do have things that we put in place for the children. It's usually left up to the building administration to decide what remedial actions are taking place, but we do have practices across the board.

Comm. Rashid: The individual schools handle those kinds of cases, correct?

Ms. McKay: Yes, sir.

Comm. Rashid: Every school has some specialist for that?

Ms. McKay: Yes. Every school has an anti-bullying specialist. Some schools have more than one. Every school has an anti-bullying specialist along with the school safety team. Some schools do it monthly and some biannually, but they are able to come together and figure out the trends that are happening in the school and ways to address those to decrease the incidents of HIB.

Comm. Rashid: Sometimes the kids are mentally depressed or frustrated. We need to handle those things. Thank you so much.

Ms. McKay: You're welcome. Thank you.

Comm. Ramirez: Any other questions for Ms. McKay?

Dr. Newell: Thank you to the team for the report.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Newell: I'd like to start off by recognizing the 9/11 remembrance that was held at Eastside High School on Friday, September 11. It was hosted by JROTC Program

Leader, Major Luis Barraza, and Eastside High School Principal, Dr. Florita Cotto. This event gave our school community the opportunity to remember and honor the lives lost on September 11, 2001. It also gave us an opportunity to recognize the courage and sacrifice of our first responders and reflect on the resilience and unity demonstrated by Americans in the aftermath of this very tragic day. I extend my sincere appreciation to Major Barraza, Dr. Cotto, the JROTC program, the students, staff and community members who contributed to this very important commemoration. I'm also happy to announce the start of Hispanic Heritage Month, which began yesterday, September 15, and continues through October 15. This month provides an important opportunity to celebrate the rich histories, cultures, traditions and contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans within our schools, community and throughout our nation. At the October regular Board meeting, the district will provide a special presentation recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and highlighting how it is being celebrated across all of our schools here in Paterson. Finally, I would like to provide an update on the development of our district goals for the 2026-2027 school year. At the special Board meeting held on Monday, September 14, I presented three proposed district goals. These goals were developed collaboratively with the Board of Education and reflect our shared priorities for the students, staff and families we serve. Our first proposed goal is to enhance school safety and security for students and staff. The district will strengthen districtwide safety practices, procedures and security measures to ensure that every school provides a safe, welcoming and supportive environment in which to learn and work. Our second proposed goal is to increase the high school graduation rate. The district will implement targeted academic supports and early interventions to help students remain on track, meet all graduation requirements and earn a high school diploma. Our third proposed goal is to reduce chronic absenteeism. The district will strengthen attendance monitoring, family outreach and tiered interventions while working with students and families to address the barriers that can prevent consistent school attendance. These three proposed goals establish the district's overall direction and the action plans developed with administration will provide more detail as to how we will accomplish these goals. Each plan will include specific strategies, timelines, responsible parties, measurable outcomes and clearly defined numerical targets. For example, the action plans will specify the amount by which we intend to reduce chronic absenteeism, the amount by which we intend to improve the graduation rate, and the measures we will use to evaluate improvements in school safety and security. The completed action plans will be presented to the Board at the October 2026 meeting. We will also provide progress updates at the January and April 2027 Board meetings so that the Board and the Community can follow our progress throughout the school year. I appreciate the Board's partnership and collaboration in developing these proposed goals. Together we are establishing clear priorities and creating a measurable path towards stronger outcomes for all our students. That concludes my report.

REPORT OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Comm. Ramirez: Thank you, Madam Superintendent. I, too, want to take an opportunity as part of my report to thank the Board members for the participation on Monday and for having sent in all of their comments on the goals. Madam Superintendent and I had a conversation earlier this morning. We are going to make sure that these action plans have measurable goals on there so that the community and the Board can hold all of us accountable. I also want to remind everyone who is logged on that on September 24 we will be having our First Annual Paterson Student Scholarship Golf Classic. It is the first time that we do this. This is the fund for Paterson Public Schools, which is a non-profit established years ago to provide students with scholarships and help the district raise money for things that we typically do not have the ability to fund through other sources. It's a big deal. I want to thank

Comm. Nieves for spearheading this and for putting in a lot of work with the members of the Board for the fund for Paterson Public Schools. If anyone would like to participate or make a contribution, the funds will benefit Paterson Public School students via scholarships. They can contact Mr. Brian Frierson at (973)931-4512. I look forward to seeing many of you out there on the green on September 24 at 8:00 a.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Items Requiring a Vote

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

Comm. Ramirez presented the minutes of the August 12, 2026, Workshop Meeting, the August 12, 2026 Executive Session, and the August 19, 2026, Regular Meeting, and asked if there were any questions or comments on the minutes.

It was moved by Comm. Nieves, seconded by Comm. Rashid that the minutes be accepted with any necessary corrections. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION ITEMS (1-56)

Resolution No. I&P-1

WHEREAS, the consolidated application for FY26/27, IDEA-B Basic funds, in the amount of $ 6,206,208.00 and IDEA Pre-school funds, in the amount of $ 188,756.00 is anticipated to be expended within the following categories;

	CATEGORIES		IDEA-B BASIC		IDEA-B PRESCHOOL
1.	Instructional salaries		$ 13,200.00		$
2.	Instructional supplies and other objects		200,000.00		1,632.00
3.	Tuition		4,815,754.00		187,124.00
4.	Support salaries		242,000.00		
5.	Benefits		221,179.00		
6.	Travel/Transportation		20,000.00		
7.	Non-instructional supplies		95,900.00		
8.	Equipment		0		
9.	Purchased Services		594,675.00		
10.	Other Objects		3,500.00		
	TOTAL		$ 6,206,208.00		$ 188,756.00

WHEREAS, there are no matching funds requirement within this grant, and

WHEREAS, the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education and Services will be responsible for the district complying with the terms and conditions of the grant and will make every effort to target grant funds for the academic advancement and achievement of the students and expend the funds in the most effective manner,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools Board of Education supports the submission of the consolidated FY 26/27 application and accepts the funds from IDEA-B Basic in the amount of $ $ 6,206,208.00 and IDEA Pre-school funds, in the amount of $ 188,756.00 for the purposes stated above.

Resolution No. I&P-2

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools Strategic Plan 2025-2030, Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow, reflects the District's commitment to nurturing the holistic development of every student and equipping students with the critical skills necessary for future success and engaged citizenship, and specifically, Goal 4: Strengthen Family and Community Partnerships emphasizes expanding collaboration with families and community organizations to create inclusive, supportive, and equitable learning environments through shared initiatives that increase student enrichment, wellness, and career-readiness opportunities while ensuring the social, emotional, academic, and physical needs of the whole child are met; and

WHEREAS, under Title IV, Part B of The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the Nita M. Lowry 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) are defined as centers that offer academic remediation and enrichment activities in tandem with a broad array of other enrichment activities in the areas of arts and culture, youth development, and physical activity to students and their adult family members when school is not in session. The purpose of the 21st CCLC program is to supplement the education of students in grades 3-12. The program aims to assist students in attaining the skills necessary to meet New Jersey's Student Learning Standards (NJSLS). Therefore, all 21st CCLC programs must provide participating students with academic enrichment opportunities that complement the regular school day; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools applied for and was awarded the competitive 21st CCLC grant for School 2 and School 16 to service approximately 151 students by extending the school day until 6 pm beginning October 2026 and providing approximately 4 weeks of additional instruction and programming in the summer. Programming may be provided in-person according to District and State guidelines and through virtual activities as needed; and

WHEREAS, the 21st CCLC Program will be referred to as FOCUS 21 at each of the selected sites (Fostering Our Children's Unique Strengths); and

WHEREAS, awards will be issued annually with the NJDOE reviewing program performance through on-site and desk monitoring, reports, local and state-level evaluations, adequate and efficient use of federal funds, and a continuation application to determine continued program funding. Based on the availability of federal resources, this five-year grant program began on September 1, 2022 and will end August 31, 2027. The final year of the grant will run September 1, 2026, through August 31, 2027; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Paterson Public Schools Board of Education approves the acceptance of the grant award in the amount of $475,000.00 to be facilitated by the Department of Full Service Community Schools on behalf of Paterson Public Schools, as the Local Education Agency (LEA), to provide academic enrichment, youth development, arts and cultural activities, physical activity, family engagement, and other enrichment opportunities for the Nita M. Lowry 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program (FOCUS 21) for the funding period of September 1, 2026 through August 31, 2027, and authorize the provision of in-kind services, as required and available.

Resolution No. I&P-3

WHEREAS, the Board of Education accepts funding from the Passaic County Workforce Development Board (WDB) to operate a New Jersey Youth Corps for the

budget reduction amount (11.39%) from $290,000 to $256,960 for the 2026-2027 school year; and

WHEREAS, increasing student achievement through effective academic program is Goal 1 of Priority 1 of the Strategic Plan for Paterson Public Schools and creating and sustaining partnerships with community organizations, agencies and institutions is Goal 3 of Priority 3; and

WHEREAS, the Passaic County Workforce Development Board (WDB) approved the Paterson Public School District's Application for Funding for July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Adult School is currently operating the New Jersey Youth Corps program with supplemental funding from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 in order to assist young adults (ages 16-25) who have dropped out of High School in successfully transitioning to employment, college, or additional training by obtaining a state-issued high school diploma, by receiving career counseling and employability skills instruction and by engaging in meaningful community service activities; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Adult School wishes to continue operating a Program for Youth in conjunction with the New Jersey Youth Corps program; and

WHEREAS, there are no matching fund requirements within this grant; and

WHEREAS, the Assistant Superintendent for School Administration will be responsible for the district complying with the terms and conditions of the grant and will make every effort to target grant funds for the academic advancement and achievement of the students and expend the funds in the most effective and efficient manner; now

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools accept a contract for funding from the Workforce Development Board of Passaic County to operate a WIA New Jersey Youth Corps Program at the Paterson Adult School for the project period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 for the budget reduction amount of $256,960.

Resolution No. I&P-4

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District is committed to providing meaningful educational experiences that promote student achievement, creativity, cultural awareness, community engagement, and college and career readiness; and

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Taub Middle School has been awarded $10,000 through the Passaic County America 250 Mini Grant Program to implement Voices of Passaic County: 250 Years of American Stories Through Art, History, and Student Voice; and

WHEREAS, the project will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States by engaging students in visual art, oral history, music, performance, and student storytelling that highlight the history, culture, diversity, and lived experiences of Paterson and Passaic County; and

WHEREAS, grant funds will support arts residency facilitators, student exhibitions and performances, event production and equipment, and other approved activities associated with the implementation of the America 250 initiative; and

WHEREAS, the project supports the district's Strategic Plan by providing interdisciplinary, student-centered learning experiences that promote creativity, critical thinking, student voice, cultural awareness, family and community engagement, and authentic connections between classroom learning and local and national history; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves Joseph A. Taub Middle School's participation in the Passaic County America 250 Mini Grant Program and authorizes the acceptance of the $10,000 grant award to implement Voices of Passaic County: 250 Years of American Stories Through Art, History, and Student Voice during the 2026-2027 school year, in accordance with district policies and the requirements of the grant agreement, AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT.

Resolution No. I&P-5

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District Strategic Plan 2025-2030 was developed through a collaborative, multi-stage process. This plan is the culmination of years of reflection, data analysis, stakeholder engagement, and community collaboration. Together, we will cultivate a high-performing workforce, advance instructional excellence, and ensure our schools are places of safety, inclusion, and innovation. "Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow;" and

WHEREAS, the Vision of the district is to create a vibrant, inclusive school community where empowered students have diverse opportunities to learn, grow, and thrive, and the Mission is to nurture the holistic development of every student, equipping them with critical skills for future success as engaged citizens; and

WHEREAS, Goal Area #1: Academic Excellence and Student Achievement emphasizes providing high-quality instruction and real-world learning experiences that prepare students for college and careers, and Goal Area #4: Strengthen Family and Community Partnerships focuses on expanding collaboration with external organizations to enhance student opportunities and access to innovative programming; and

WHEREAS, the P-TECH Planetarium has been awarded a Women and Girls in Astronomy Program (WGAP) Mini-Grant in the amount of $2,000.00 to support the project "Sun in Our City: Girls Leading Solar Science in Paterson," at no cost to the district; and

WHEREAS, the project will provide approximately 50 girls participating in the Paterson Girl Goals Summer Camp with hands-on astronomy and environmental science experiences through immersive planetarium programming, solar observations, STEM investigations, engineering challenges, and community engagement activities; and

WHEREAS, use of awarded funds will be directed toward the purchase of solar observation tools, instructional materials, STEM activity supplies, student science journals, and materials necessary to support program implementation as outlined in the approved grant proposal; and

WHEREAS, the project supports equitable access to STEM education by increasing participation and leadership opportunities for girls and underrepresented students while strengthening scientific literacy, confidence, and community engagement through astronomy-based learning experiences; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the acceptance of the WGAP Mini-Grant in the amount of $2,000.00 to support the implementation of the project "Sun in Our City: Girls Leading Solar Science in Paterson," in alignment with the district's Strategic Plan and instructional priorities. No Cost to District

Resolution No. I&P-6

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District recognizes its proud tradition and diverse community and partnerships, and its mission is to provide an academically rigorous, safe, and nurturing educational environment by meeting the social, emotional, and academic needs of students as they prepare for post-secondary education and careers; and

WHEREAS, the district's Five-Year Strategic Plan-Goal Area #1: Teaching and Learning-supports student-centered STEM instruction that promotes innovation, collaboration, critical thinking, and college and career readiness through authentic learning experiences; and

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Taub Middle School has been awarded the 2026-2027 REC Foundation Aerial Drone Competition Grant (#1958) with a total value of $3,177.00, at no cost to the district, to support its Aerial Drone Competition Program; and

WHEREAS, the grant consists of the following:

- In-Kind Support - $2,082.00 Three (3) team registrations ($600.00) Competition game and field elements, equipment cases, and field components ($1,482.00)
- Grant Funds Received - $1,095.00 -
    1. $795.00 for the purchase of three (3) CoDrone competition drones through Robolink
    2. $300.00 for coaching support, in accordance with grant guidelines

WHEREAS, the grant resources will be used to support student participation in regional and national Aerial Drone Competition events by providing competition registrations, instructional equipment, new competition drones, and coaching support during the 2026-2027 school year; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the acceptance of the 2026-2027 REC Foundation Aerial Drone Competition Grant (#1958) with a total value of $3,177.00 to support the Aerial Drone Competition Program at Joseph A. Taub Middle School, in alignment with the district's Strategic Plan and instructional priorities.

Resolution No. I&P-7

WHEREAS, the Nonpublic Security Aid supports the District Strategic Plan under Goal 1 Advance Instructional Excellence by Cultivating a High-Performing Workforce; and

WHEREAS, the district is eligible for the Nonpublic Security Aid funds in the amount of $64,449.00 to provide nonpublic schools students with security services, equipment, and technology; and

WHEREAS, there is no matching fund requirement for this grant; and

WHEREAS, the district will comply with the terms and conditions of the grant, will target the grant funds to assist in ensuring a safe and secure school environment for nonpublic school students, and will expend the funds in the most effective and efficient manner, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approve the acceptance of the Nonpublic Security Aid in the amount of $64,449.00 for the Paterson students attending Compassion House Outreach Ministry, Dawn Treader Christian School, and Saint Gerard School to provide security equipment and other technologies for the grant period of September 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Resolution No. I&P-8

WHEREAS, the Nonpublic Technology Aid supports the District Strategic Plan under Goal 1 Advance Instructional Excellence by Cultivating a High-Performing Workforce; and

WHEREAS, the district is eligible for the Nonpublic School Technology Initiative funding in the amount of $11,642.00 to provide nonpublic school students with computers, educational software, distance learning equipment, and other technologies that can improve their education by meeting their specific educational needs and give nonpublic school teachers the resources and incentives to use educational technologies effectively to improve teaching and learning in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, there is no matching fund requirement for this grant; and

WHEREAS, the district will comply with the terms and conditions of the grant, will target the grant funds for the academic advancement and achievement of the students, and will expend the funds in the most effective and efficient manner, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approve the acceptance of the Nonpublic Technology Aid in the amount of $11,642.00 to provide Paterson students attending Compassion House Outreach Ministry, Dawn Treader Christian School, and Saint Gerard School with computers, educational software, distance learning equipment, and other technologies for the grant period of September 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Resolution No. I&P-9

WHEREAS, the nonpublic school, Ohr Yisrael of Bergen County, has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) as a recipient of the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes in Nonpublic Schools grant commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, this grant is available to nonpublic schools that have formed a partnership with a public- school teacher employed by a school district and their school district. The grant program provides additional remuneration for public school teachers to teach STEM classes in nonpublic schools during hours mutually agreed upon by the partnering teacher, school district and nonpublic school; and

WHEREAS, the grant award is based on the application submitted by the nonpublic school on March 17, 2026, in partnership with Michelle Greveson, who is employed by Paterson Public Schools, and the signed agreements. The approved grant award for Michelle Greveson is $22,128.43, which is based on the teacher's 2026-27 employment

contract with your district at an hourly rate of $109.46, and a maximum of 202.16 hours of teaching. The final grant award will be calculated based on the teacher's hourly rate from their 2026-27 employment contract and the actual hours taught at the nonpublic school, not to exceed the maximum hours listed above; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes for the 2026-2027 school year in Nonpublic Schools grant in partnership with Michelle Greveson, who has been grant approved in the amount of $22,128.43, which is based on the teacher's 2026-2027 employment contract with our district at an hourly rate of $109.46, and a maximum of 202.16 hours of teaching.

Resolution No. I&P-10

WHEREAS, the nonpublic school, Dawn Treader Christian Academy, has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) as a recipient of the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes in Nonpublic Schools grant commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, this grant is available to nonpublic schools that have formed a partnership with a public- school teacher employed by a school district and their school district. The grant program provides additional remuneration for public school teachers to teach STEM classes in nonpublic schools during hours mutually agreed upon by the partnering teacher, school district and nonpublic school; and

WHEREAS, the grant award is based on the application submitted by the nonpublic school on March 17, 2026, in partnership with Lynn Hazelman, who is employed by Paterson Public Schools, and the signed agreements. The approved grant award for Lynn Hazelman is $31,859.20, which is based on the teacher's 2026-27 employment contract with your district at an hourly rate of $104.80, and a maximum of 304 hours of teaching. The final grant award will be calculated based on the teacher's hourly rate from their 2026-27 employment contract and the actual hours taught at the nonpublic school, not to exceed the maximum hours listed above; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes for the 2026-2027 school year in Nonpublic Schools grant in partnership with Lynn Hazelman, who has been grant approved in the amount of $31,859.20, which is based on the teacher's 2026-2027 employment contract with our district at an hourly rate of $104.80, and a maximum of 304 hours of teaching.

Resolution No. I&P-11

WHEREAS, the nonpublic school, Dawn Treader Christian Academy, has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) as a recipient of the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes in Nonpublic Schools grant commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, this grant is available to nonpublic schools that have formed a partnership with a public- school teacher employed by a school district and their school district. The grant program provides additional remuneration for public school teachers to teach STEM classes in nonpublic schools during hours mutually agreed upon by the partnering teacher, school district and nonpublic school; and

WHEREAS, the grant award is based on the application submitted by the nonpublic school on March 17, 2026, in partnership with Rodrigo Lipon, who is employed by Paterson Public Schools, and the signed agreements. The approved grant award for Rodrigo Lipon is $32,117.60, which is based on the teacher's 2026-27 employment contract with your district at an hourly rate of $105.65, and a maximum of 304 hours of teaching. The final grant award will be calculated based on the teacher's hourly rate from their 2026-27 employment contract and the actual hours taught at the nonpublic school, not to exceed the maximum hours listed above; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes for the 2026-2027 school year in Nonpublic Schools grant in partnership with Rodrigo Lipon, who has been grant approved in the amount of $32,117.60, which is based on the teacher's 2026-2027 employment contract with our district at an hourly rate of $105.65, and a maximum of 304 hours of teaching.

Resolution No. I&P-12

WHEREAS, the nonpublic school, Dawn Treader Christian Academy, has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) as a recipient of the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes in Nonpublic Schools grant commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, this grant is available to nonpublic schools that have formed a partnership with a public- school teacher employed by a school district and their school district. The grant program provides additional remuneration for public school teachers to teach STEM classes in nonpublic schools during hours mutually agreed upon by the partnering teacher, school district and nonpublic school; and

WHEREAS, the grant award is based on the application submitted by the nonpublic school on March 17, 2026, in partnership with Ryan Martin, who is employed by Paterson Public Schools, and the signed agreements. The approved grant award for Ryan Martin is $24,836.80, which is based on the teacher's 2026-27 employment contract with your district at an hourly rate of $65.36, and a maximum of 380 hours of teaching. The final grant award will be calculated based on the teacher's hourly rate from their 2026-27 employment contract and the actual hours taught at the nonpublic school, not to exceed the maximum hours listed above; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes for the 2026-2027 school year in Nonpublic Schools grant in partnership with Ryan Martin, who has been grant approved in the amount of $24,836.80, which is based on the teacher's 2026-2027 employment contract with our district at an hourly rate of $65.36, and a maximum of 380 hours of teaching.

Resolution No. I&P-13

WHEREAS, the nonpublic school, Ohr Yisrael of Bergen County, has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) as a recipient of the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes in Nonpublic Schools grant commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, this grant is available to nonpublic schools that have formed a partnership with a public- school teacher employed by a school district and their school district. The grant program provides additional remuneration for public school teachers to teach

STEM classes in nonpublic schools during hours mutually agreed upon by the partnering teacher, school district and nonpublic school; and

WHEREAS, the grant award is based on the application submitted by the nonpublic school on March 17, 2026, in partnership with German Rojas, who is employed by Paterson Public Schools, and the signed agreements. The approved grant award for German Rojas is $20,878.71, which is based on the teacher's 2026-27 employment contract with your district at an hourly rate of $100.63, and a maximum of 207.48 hours of teaching. The final grant award will be calculated based on the teacher's hourly rate from their 2026-27 employment contract and the actual hours taught at the nonpublic school, not to exceed the maximum hours listed above; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes for the 2026-2027 school year in Nonpublic Schools grant in partnership with German Rojas, who has been grant approved in the amount of $20,878.71, which is based on the teacher's 2026-2027 employment contract with our district at an hourly rate of $100.63, and a maximum of 207.48 hours of teaching.

Resolution No. I&P-14

WHEREAS, the nonpublic school, Moriah School, has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) as a recipient of the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes in Nonpublic Schools grant commencing July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027; and

WHEREAS, this grant is available to nonpublic schools that have formed a partnership with a public- school teacher employed by a school district and their school district. The grant program provides additional remuneration for public school teachers to teach STEM classes in nonpublic schools during hours mutually agreed upon by the partnering teacher, school district and nonpublic school; and

WHEREAS, the grant award is based on the application submitted by the nonpublic school on March 17, 2026, in partnership with Sherri Rothstein, who is employed by Paterson Public Schools, and the signed agreements. The approved grant award for Sherri Rothstein is $29,237.40, which is based on the teacher's 2026-27 employment contract with your district at an hourly rate of $109.75, and a maximum of 266.40 hours of teaching. The final grant award will be calculated based on the teacher's hourly rate from their 2026-27 employment contract and the actual hours taught at the nonpublic school, not to exceed the maximum hours listed above; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the FY2027 Teach STEM Classes for the 2026-2027 school year in Nonpublic Schools grant in partnership with Sherri Rothstein, who has been grant approved in the amount of $29,237.40, which is based on the teacher's 2026-2027 employment contract with our district at an hourly rate of $109.75, and a maximum of 266.40 hours of teaching.

Resolution No. I&P-15

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools Strategic Plan 2025-2030, Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow, Goal 4: Strengthen Family and Community Partnerships, reflects the District's commitment to expanding engagement and collaboration with families and community organizations to create inclusive, supportive, and equitable learning environments, develop shared initiatives with community partners that expand student

enrichment, wellness, and career-readiness pathways, and ensure that the social, emotional, academic, and physical needs of the whole child are met; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Full Service Community Schools has solicited quotes for services and recommends Metis Associates for program evaluation at $26,500 and Arts for Kids, Inc. for art instruction at $25,000 for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant at Schools 2 and 16, pending the availability of funds and satisfactory performance; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Full Service Community Schools has selected Health N Wellness Inc. through RFP-492-27 for health clinic and behavioral health services at Schools 2 and 16 by increasing the approved RFP amount within the allowable 20% for the amount of $24,000; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Superintendent supports the Departments of Full Service Community Schools and Purchasing's recommendation that the following vendors continue contracts for 21st Century Full-Service Community School Partners for Schools 2 and 16, from September 1, 2026 - August 31, 2027, pending the availability of grant funds and satisfactory performance, at a cumulative amount not to exceed $75,500 annually, paid from the Nita M. Lowry 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant.

Resolution No. I&P-16

WHEREAS, our mission states, "To create a vibrant, inclusive school community where empowered students have diverse opportunities to learn, grow, and thrive." Our vision is, "To nurture the holistic development of every student, equipping them with critical skills for future success and engaged citizenship."

WHEREAS, Goal 3 aims to strengthen leadership practices, improve operational efficiency, and maintain financial stability to support student learning and growth. Goal 4 strives to expand engagement and collaboration with families and community organizations to create inclusive, supportive, and equitable learning environments.

WHEREAS, this manual aims to clearly articulate the district's expectations for student behavior and the principles of mutual respect that should govern student interactions. It also outlines the district's policies regarding violations of the Student Code of Student Conduct. Many of its contents will be reflected in the district's model student handbook.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Paterson Public School District firmly recognizes the critical importance of updating its goals, expectations, and policies related to student conduct. This commitment ensures full compliance with district and state requirements and fosters a safe, conducive learning environment for all students.

Resolution No. I&P-17

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District Strategic Plan 2025-2030 was developed through a collaborative, multi-stage process. This plan is the culmination of years of reflection, data analysis, stakeholder engagement, and community collaboration. Together, we will cultivate a high-performing workforce, advance instructional excellence, and ensure our schools are places of safety, inclusion and innovation. "Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow;" and

WHEREAS, Vision: is to create a vibrant, inclusive school community where empowered students have diverse opportunities to learn, growth and thrive. Mission: to nurture the holistic development of every student, equipping them with critical skills for future success and engaged citizens; and

WHEREAS, Goal Area #4: Strengthen Family and Community Partnerships: We will expand engagement and collaboration with families and community organizations to create inclusive, support and equitable learning environments; and

WHEREAS, The Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Coastal and Northern New Jersey at Ramapo College desires to offer a mentorship program for thirty-five fourth and fifth grade students at Paterson Public School 27; and

WHEREAS, Ramapo College desires to offer educational mentorship experiences to thirty-five Public School 27 students; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools will be responsible for the cost of transportation for students (Approximately $3000.00) and the stipend for two teacher chaperones ($2100.00); and

WHEREAS, Ramapo College will provide the meeting site, presentations, mentor/mentee activities, and food and beverages for thirty-five Public School 27 program participants; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in consideration of the mutual agreements contained herein that thirty-five students at Public School 27 be allowed to participate in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentorship Program at Ramapo College from October 27, 2026 to May 27, 2027.

Resolution No. I&P-18

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District Strategic Plan 2025-2030 was developed through a collaborative, multi- stage process. This plan is the culmination of years of reflection, data analysis, stakeholder engagement, and community collaboration. Together, we will cultivate a high-performing workforce, advance instructional excellence, and ensure our schools are places of safety, inclusion and innovation. "Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow;" and

WHEREAS, Vision: is to create a vibrant, inclusive school community where empowered students have diverse opportunities to learn, growth and thrive. Mission: to nurture the holistic development of every student, equipping them with critical skills for future success and engaged citizens; and

WHEREAS, Goal Area #4: Strengthen Family and Community Partnerships: We will expand engagement and collaboration with families and community organizations to create inclusive, support and equitable learning environments; and

WHEREAS, The Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey desires to provide scouting, sporting, and team building experiences for seventy-five girls in grades kindergarten through fifth grades at Paterson Public School 27; and

WHEREAS, there will be a continued established partnership and designation of Troop 22031; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools will be responsible for the cost of stipends for two teachers for $1155.00; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools will provide the meeting site and Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey will provide the activities, troop leaders, and food and beverages for the program participants; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in consideration of the mutual agreements contained herein that seventy-five girls at Public School 27 be allowed to participate in the Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey from October 19, 2026-June 11, 2027.

Resolution No. I&P-19

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, Goal 4 seeks to develop shared initiatives with community partners to expand student enrichment, wellness, and career readiness pathways;

WHEREAS, creating safe, engaging, and inspiring learning environments enhances student achievement, school pride, staff morale, and overall school climate while supporting equitable access to high-quality educational spaces;

WHEREAS, Jersey Cares, a New Jersey-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, mobilizes volunteers and corporate partners throughout the state to address community-identified needs through meaningful service projects that strengthen schools and neighborhoods;

WHEREAS, Jersey Cares has identified corporate volunteer partners in Bergen County that seeks to collaborate with Rosa L. Parks School of Fine & Performing Arts on campus improvement initiatives, including but not limited to painting (murals), room makeovers, furniture assembly, beautification projects, and other facility enhancements that directly benefit students and staff;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the District's participation in this partnership with Jersey Cares, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, at NO COST TO THE DISTRICT.

Resolution No. I&P-20

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools: Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow Strategic Plan 2025-2030, Goal 4: Strengthen Family and Community Partnerships focuses on expanding engagement and collaboration with community organizations to create inclusive, supportive, and equitable learning environments; and

WHEREAS, music education is an integral part of students' academic and personal development; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Music Project has been operating as a vital provider of music education to PPS students to develop students' skills in creation and performance in alignment with the NJSLS - VPA; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Music Project has received a CDS (Congressionally Directed Spending) grant to support partnerships within the Paterson Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Music Project seeks to provide 10-week music residency programs to 10 PPS schools; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves Paterson Music Project conducting residency programs at 10 PPS elementary schools, effective 10/1/2026 through 12/31/2027, at no cost to the district.

Resolution No. I&P-21

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District is committed to supporting the academic success and overall well-being of students by strengthening partnerships with families and community organizations and addressing barriers that may impact student readiness and engagement; and

WHEREAS, Joseph A. Taub Middle School has been selected to participate in the School Meal and SNAP Dual Enrollment Project through a partnership with Rutgers, The State University, with support from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture and the New Jersey Office of the Food Security Advocate; and

WHEREAS, Rutgers University will provide Joseph A. Taub Middle School/Paterson Public Schools with up to $10,000 in cost- reimbursement funding for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, with no district matching or cost-sharing requirement; and

WHEREAS, project funds will support family wellness and SNAP outreach activities, multilingual communication and informational materials, staff support, student outreach initiatives, and equipment to assist families with SNAP applications and access to available nutrition resources; and

WHEREAS, the School Meal and SNAP Dual Enrollment Project supports the district's Strategic Plan by strengthening family and community engagement, supporting student and family well-being, and reducing barriers that may affect students' readiness to learn; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves Joseph A. Taub Middle School's participation in the Rutgers University School Meal and SNAP Dual Enrollment Project and authorizes the acceptance of up to $10,000 in cost-reimbursement funding under Subaward Agreement #4146 for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, in accordance with district policies and the requirements of the agreement, AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT.

Resolution No. I&P-22

Joseph A. Taub Middle School Partnership with the Center for Prevention for the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) Initiative

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District's A Promising Tomorrow Strategic Plan Goal 1: Teaching and Learning is aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and supports initiatives that foster positive school climate, leadership development, and whole-child education; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Prevention has awarded Joseph A Taub Middle School a multi-year grant totaling up to $24,000 ($8,500 in Year 1, $8,000 in Year 2, and $7,500

in Year 3), which includes $4,500 annually for funding initiatives and $4,000 annually for a lead teacher or teachers to coordinate program activities; and

WHEREAS, through this partnership, the school will have access to:

- Mindfulness classes for teachers to enhance staff wellness;
- The Wyman Teen Connection Program for 8th graders to develop social-emotional skills and leadership capacity;
- A Youth Advisory Board where students can build leadership skills, engage in monthly online meetings, and participate in statewide leadership summits and conferences,
- Student workshops on financial literacy and action planning for high school transition;
- Staff training in Youth Mental Health First Aid to better identify and address student needs; and

WHEREAS, the goal of this initiative is to positively impact the 8th grade class and strengthen overall school culture by creating opportunities for student leadership through afterschool and enrichment programs, under the guidance of the school's counseling and guidance team; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the partnership with the Center for Prevention to implement the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) Initiative at Joseph A Taub Middle School for the 2026-2027 school year, at no cost to the district, and authorizes the school to receive and manage grant funds in accordance with district policies and grant requirements AT NO COST TO THE DISTRICT.

Resolution No. I&P-23

WHEREAS, Advanced Placement (AP) courses serve the purpose of providing instruction that challenges high end learners and meets each student's learning needs.

WHEREAS, the Advanced Placement (AP) Program is a nationally recognized rigorous course of study, with higher level of expectation than Honors and college preparatory courses. Students study advanced material, more in- depth and at an accelerated pace. The classes are designed for students who want to experience challenging, college-level material and give students a head start in college.

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools recognizes taking AP courses and exams can help students stand out on college applications, AP courses on a student's transcript shows that they have challenged themselves with the most rigorous courses available to them, and success on an AP Exam demonstrates that they are prepared for college-level coursework.

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School will pay for exam fees for all students registered to take AP Exams and/or submit portfolios in the following courses: AP African American Studies, AP Biology, AP Computer Science Principles, AP US History I & II, AP Human Geography, AP Language & Composition, AP Literature & Composition, AP Physics, AP Precalculus, AP Research, AP Seminar English 10, AP Spanish Language & Culture, AP Statistics and 2D Art & Design.

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED that the Paterson Board of Education approves payment to the College Board for Advanced Placement (AP) Exam fees, not to exceed $45,000.00.

Resolution No. I&P-24

WHEREAS, this supports the Strategic Plan, "Paterson - Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow" Goal 1: Advance Instructional Excellence by Cultivating a High-Performing Workforce; and

WHEREAS, partnerships for College Readiness and Enrichment Programs support Goal 1 by providing students with access to high-quality educational experiences, mentorship, college awareness, academic enrichment, and career exploration opportunities that promote college and career readiness and lifelong success; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools Board of Education ("Board") is committed to preparing students for postsecondary success and recognizes the value of partnering with colleges, universities, and community organizations that offer college readiness, preparation, and academic enrichment programs aligned with the District's mission, thereby expanding meaningful educational opportunities for students; and

WHEREAS, participation in these programs will be voluntary and require parental consent, with the District responsible for sharing program information with students and families; and

WHEREAS, each partnering organization will be required to sign a written agreement with the District and will be designated as a "school official" under FERPA for the limited purpose of receiving student information needed to administer the program; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to enter into partnership agreements with the following colleges, universities, and community organizations providing such programs for the 2026-2027 school year:

Org 1 College Bound GEAR UP PCCC	Org 4 NJ SEEDS
Org 2 Upward Bound Ramapo College	Org 5 Robert & Seth Memorial Foundation
Org 3 Upward Bound Montclair State University	Org 6 Circle Match

Resolution No. I&P-25

WHEREAS, this supports the Strategic Plan, "Paterson - Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow" Goal 1: Advance Instructional Excellence by Cultivating a High-Performing Workforce; and

WHEREAS, Dual enrollment advances Strategic Plan Goal I by investing in instructional excellence through partnerships with colleges and universities that provide students with access to rigorous, college-level coursework. These partnerships support teacher development, strengthen curriculum alignment, and cultivate a high-performing workforce capable of preparing students for post-secondary success; and

WHEREAS, the rigor of the FDU Early College Program offers students in Grades 9-12, dual enrollment opportunities for articulated college credit, from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Students enrolled in a variety of courses will be eligible to earn three (3) college credits per course and four (4) college credits per course. Upon dual credit course completion, students receive a letter grade that is recorded on their official FDU transcript; and

WHEREAS, the proposed articulation agreement demonstrates the following relationship, between successful completion (grade of "C" of higher) of courses, and credits issued at FDU upon enrollment (not including other requirements outlined within the Agreement); and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Paterson Board of Education approves the attached articulation agreement between Fairleigh Dickinson University and Paterson Public Schools at a cost to not exceed $318.00 per three credit courses, or $424.00 per four credit courses, for a total not to exceed 50,000.00.

Resolution No. I&P-26

WHEREAS, this supports the Strategic Plan, "Paterson - Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow" Goal 4: Strengthen Community Partnerships; and

WHEREAS, this supports Goal 4 by strengthening the district's collaborative partnership with Felician University to enhance teacher, school counselor and nursing preparation, support professional learning, and promote continuous improvement through shared expertise and innovative educational practices; and

WHEREAS, school district and university partnerships bridge the gap between K-12 and higher education, fostering a more cohesive and supportive educational journey. Student Interns bring fresh perspectives and current best practices from their university programs, potentially enriching the school and classroom environment; and

WHEREAS, student interns will gain real-world classroom, counseling and nursing experience, which is critical for developing effective professional skills and working closely with experienced teachers, school counselors and school nurses who provide guidance and feedback to help them grow professionally; and

WHEREAS, this partnership will strengthen collaboration between Felician University and Paterson Public Schools as equal partners in preparing the next generation of educational professionals. Through clinical experience and field- based learning opportunities for teacher candidates, school counselor interns, and school nurse candidates, the partnership enables the district to observe, mentor, and prepare potential future employees; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the partnership with Felician University for the 26-27 school year at no cost to the district.

Resolution No. I&P-27

WHEREAS, Goal Area #1: Teaching & Learning of the Paterson School District's Strategic Plan - A Promising Tomorrow is to create a student-centered learning environment to prepare students for career, college readiness and lifelong learning; Dual Enrollment courses serve the purpose of providing instruction that challenges high end learners and meets each student's learning needs.

WHEREAS, Rutgers School of Health Professions will partner with Paterson STEAM in providing continuing education of the Joint/Dual Enrollment Program.

WHEREAS, the Rutgers School of Health Professions is one of the schools that form Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, a division of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

BE IT RESOLVED Paterson STEAM shall solely be responsible for all aspects of students' clinical experiences including teaching, evaluation, transportation and other arrangements for clinical experiences. The Curriculum for the joint program will be mutually agreed upon by Rutgers School of Health Professions and Paterson STEAM. The Paterson Public School District will be responsible for the $80.00 fee for each exam for every student who is qualified in the dual enrollment courses. The total amount will not exceed $8,000.00.

Resolution No. I&P-28

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the District, as per the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow, to provide an academically rigorous, safe, and nurturing educational environment by meeting the social, emotional, and academic needs of our students as we prepare them for post-secondary education and career; and

WHEREAS, Goal # 4: Communications & Connections establishes viable partnerships with parents, educational institutions, and community organizations to support Paterson Public School educational programs, advance student achievement and enhance communication; and

WHEREAS, the district will contract with St Luke’s Christhouse and Pony Power Therapies to provide Work-Based Learning volunteer experiences; and

WHEREAS, students will be involved in work experiences at the site, where they will develop skills relevant to their future. Through these work interactions, students at the T.I.E.S. Program can enhance their knowledge, personal development, and professional preparation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Paterson School District approves St Luke’s Christhouse and Pony Power Therapies as work-based sites for 2025-2030 school years.

Resolution No. I&P-29

WHEREAS, this resolution advances Goal 4 of the District's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan by strengthening family and community partnerships, expanding collaboration with community organizations, and supporting inclusive and equitable learning environments that address the social, emotional, academic, and physical needs of the whole child; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 226 of the Laws of 1991 requires school districts to provide certain nursing services to eligible nonpublic school students; and

WHEREAS, the District has been allocated $43,243.00 in State Aid to provide Chapter 226 nursing services during the 2026- 2027 school year; and

WHEREAS, Northern Region Educational Services Commission ("NRESC") is authorized by the Commissioner of Education to provide such nursing services; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to contract with NRESC to provide Chapter 226 nursing services to the three nonpublic schools identified in the attached agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the attached Provider Agreement with Northern Region Educational Services Commission for the provision of Chapter 226 nursing services to three nonpublic schools during the 2026-2027 school year, in an amount not to exceed $43,243.00.

Resolution No. I&P-30

WHEREAS, the District's priority under the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan is to promote student-centered teaching and learning, and the Department of Special Education has aligned its programs to meet this priority;

WHEREAS, the District is required to identify, evaluate, and address the unique educational needs of each student with a disability;

WHEREAS, consistent with N.J.A.C. 6A:14-5.1(c)(1), the District may contract for the provision of related services by private providers who are appropriately licensed and credentialed according to State statutes and rules;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the following contracts with private providers of 1:1 nursing services, effective September 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 at an annual cost not to exceed the amounts listed:

Nursing Services Provider Name	Cost Per Day	ESY Days	RSY Days	Total Days	Total Cost
PREFERRED HOME HEALTH – LMV 5275164	$632	-	180	180	$ 113,760.00
STARLIGHT AGENCY – CT 5277011 & JR 5258803	$520	-	350	350	$ 182,000.00
STAY WELL SERVICES – DMA 5263611	$600	-	185	185	$ 111,000.00
	Total Cost *Not to Exceed:*				**$ 406,760.00**

Resolution No. I&P-31

WHEREAS, the District's priority under the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan is to promote student-centered teaching and learning, and the Department of Special Education is aligned its programs to meet this priority;

WHEREAS, the District is required to provide a free, appropriate public education for all students, including special education services and placements that are tailored to the unique needs of students with disabilities;

WHEREAS, students whose Individualized Education Plans (IEP's) warrant out-of-district placement are entitled to attend receiving schools free of charge, at the District's expense, pursuant to a written contract concerning the tuition charges, costs, terms, conditions, services and programs to be provided for each student;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the following tuition contracts with out-of-district schools for students with disabilities, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 at an annual cost not to exceed the amounts listed:

School Name	RSY, ESY, or 1:1	# of Students	# Days	Per Diem Rate	Req #	Acct. #	Total Tuition Not to Exceed
Ridgefield AUT	ESY/RSY	3	11 mos	$62,400.00	2128	11 000 100 566 657	$187,200.00
Ridgefield AUT	1:1	1	11 mos	$55,000.00	2128	11 000 100 566 657	$55,000.00
Ridgefield AUT	RSY	1	10 mos	$53,500.00	2128	11 000 100 566 657	$53,500.00
Ridgefield MD	ESY/RSY	1	11 mos	$50,700.00	2128	11 000 100 566 657	$50,700.00
Ridgefield MD	RSY	1	10 mos	$43,500.00	2128	11 000 100 566 657	$43,500.00
Ridgefield SP services	ESY/RSY	6	480 sessions	$90.00	2128	11 000 100 566 657	$43,200.00
Ridgefield OT services	ESY/RSY	4	246 sessions	$90.00	2128	11 000 100 566 657	$22, 140.00
Ridgefield PT services	ESY/RSY	3	168 sessions	$90.00	2128	11 000 100 566 657	$15,120.00
Banyan School	RSY	1	180	$350.11	2219	11 000 100 566 657	$63,019.80
Windsor Prep	ESY/RSY	1	211	$346.43	2220	11 000 100 566 657	$73,096.73
Windsor Prep	RSY	2	183	$346.43	2220	11 000 100 566 657	$126,793.38
UCESC - Lamberts Mill	ESY	2	1 MO	$11,760.00	2221	11 000 100 566 657	$23,520.00
UCESC - Lamberts Mill	RSY	2	10 Mos	$71,075.00	2221	11 000 100 566 657	$142,150.00
Benway School	RSY	1	184	$499.95	2222	20 250 100 566 657	$91,990.80
Benway School	1:1	1	184	$253.00	2222	20 250 100 566 657	$46,552.00
Comm of the Blind level 1	RSY	23	10 mos	$2668.00	2223	11 000 100 566 657	$61,364.00
Comm of the Blind level 2	RSY	5	10 mos	$6367.00	2223	11 000 100 566 657	$31,835.00
Comm of the Blind level 3	RSY	1	10 mos	$17,706.00	2223	11 000 100 566 657	$17,706.00
Deron School of NJ	RSY	1	180	$435.93	2237	20 250 100 566 655	$78,467.40
Deron School of NJ	1:1	1	180	$250.00	2237	20 250 100 566 655	$45,000.00
Windsor Learning Center	RSY	2	180	$376.00	2238	20 250 100 566 655	$135,360.00
Windsor Learning Center	1:1	2	180	$290.00	2238	20 250 100 566 655	$104,400.00
Windsor Learning	1.1	1	30	$290.00	2249	11 000 100	$8,700.00

Center						566 657	
Eastwick College	RSY	2	180	$65.00	2240	20 250 100 566 655	$23,400.00
P.G. Chambers - 5262739	RSY	1	173	$532.71	2250	20 250 100 566 655	$92,158.83
						Total	$1,635,873.94

Resolution No. I&P-32

WHEREAS, the District's priority under the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan is to promote student-centered teaching and learning, and the Department of Special Education is aligned its programs to meet this priority;

WHEREAS, the District is required to provide a free, appropriate public education for all students, including special education services and placements that are tailored to the unique needs of students with disabilities;

WHEREAS, students whose Individualized Education Plans (IEP's) warrant out-of-district placement are entitled to attend receiving schools free of charge, at the District's expense, pursuant to a written contract concerning the tuition charges, costs, terms, conditions, services and programs to be provided for each student;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the following tuition contracts with out-of-district schools for students with disabilities, effective March 5, 2026 through June 30, 2027 at an annual cost not to exceed the amounts listed:

School Name	RSY, ESY, or 1:1	# of Students	# Days	Per Diem Rate	Req #	Acct. #	Total Tuition Not to Exceed
YCS – George Washington AP - 5256315	RSY	1	68	$473.14	1986	11 000 100 566 657	$32,173.52
						Total	$32,173.52

Resolution No. O-33

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive proposal for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, on the Authorization of the Business Administrator the competitive contracting process NJSA 18A:18A-4.5, using the request for proposal (RFP) document was solicited for RFP-451-27, Professor in Residence for the 2026-2027, 2027-2028, 2028-2029 school years; and

WHEREAS, this solicitation was made by advertised public notice appearing in The Record and The Herald News on May 26, 2026. Sealed proposal was opened and read aloud on June 17, 2026 at 11:00 am in the Conference Room, 4th floor, 90 Delaware Avenue, Paterson, NJ 07503 by the Purchasing Department; and

WHEREAS, RFP specifications were e-mailed to Six (6) potential vendors. One(1) sealed proposal were received, opened and read aloud June 17, 2026, at 11:00 am by the Purchasing Department; and

WHEREAS, based on the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee Members, it is recommended that this contract be awarded to William Paterson University of NJ for Professor in Residence, RFP-451-27, pursuant to18A:18A-4.5; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the district's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, Goal 1: Advance Instructional Excellence by Cultivating a High-Performing Workforce; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the awarding of the contract for Professor in Residence, RFP 451-27 to William Paterson University of NJ during the 2026-2027, 2027-2028, 2028- 2029 school year(s), as follows:

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY OF NJ	**2026-2027**	**2027-2028**	**2028-2029**
Professor in Residence	$ 240,000.00	$ 250,000.00	$260,000.00

Resolution No. O-34

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the District, as per the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, A Promising Tomorrow, to provide an academically rigorous, safe, and nurturing educational environment by meeting the social, emotional, and academic needs of our students as we prepare them for post-secondary education and career; and

WHEREAS, building capacity of all- stakeholders to address the social and emotional needs of the students and staff through professional development, instruction and support services is Goal # 4: Social - Emotional Learning of the Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, the District will contract with QBS-Quality Behavioral Solutions, who are fully licensed and qualified to provide professional development services of Safety-Care, to train and recertify district personnel to become trainers who will train district personnel. The training will recertify district personnel to train stakeholders on Incident prevention, Incident minimization, and Incident management; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the District approves an agreement to provide payment to QBS for providing professional development to train District stakeholders on Safety-Care processes and procedures.

September 1, 2026 June 30, 2027
Specialist Certification Fee (certification in the Safety-Care curriculum) - $7.00 X 500 = $3,500.00

Resolution No. O-35

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the lowest responsible bid for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, approving the following routes for student transportation services will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation, Goal 3, ensuring operational effectiveness and fiscal stability; and

WHEREAS, formal public bids were solicited for student transportation services for the 2026-2027 school year for special needs students and regular education students; and

WHEREAS, the solicitation was made by a public notice advertisement in the Herald News on Thursday, July 2nd, 2026. Sealed bids were opened and read aloud on Wednesday, July 15th, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. during a Zoom meeting. WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation as per attached bid analysis, recommends that the bid for student transportation services for the remainder of the 2026-2027 school year, using PPS Bid#571-27 be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder; and second and third bidders in the event that the lowest bidder cannot perform as stated in our bid specifications

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, each vendor has been notified that no goods or services will be provided to the District without first receiving a fully executed purchase order; and that the terms on the purchase will be honored completely; if the vendor does not agree with the terms on the purchase order, the vendor will not provide any goods or services to the District until such time a new purchase order is completed and delivered with terms the vendor will honor; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this resolution to award contracts to the lowest responsible bidder to transport special needs and regular education students to in-district and out-of-district schools is stipulated on the attached page(s). This shall take effect with the ratification of the Board of Education. The approximate cost for the PPS Bid#571-27 for the contractor and route below is $8,172,266.00 for the 2026-2027 school year.

Contractor	School Name	Route #	Per Diem Cost	# of Days	Total Cost
SEE ATTACHED LIST					
SPED ACCT#110002705114685000000000					**$7,564,936.00**
REG-ED ACCT#110002705114685000000000					**$ 607,330.00**

			TOTAL		**$8,172,266.00**

Resolution No. O-36

WHEREAS, the Board of Education and the State District Superintendent support N.J.S.A 18A:37- et. Seq. by prohibiting acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying (HIB) of our students grades Pre-K thru 12, and

WHEREAS, Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (HIB), means any gesture, any written or physical, or any electronic communication, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18:37-14, whether it be a single incident or series of incidents, and

WHEREAS, the law requires thorough investigation to be conducted for each report of an alleged incident of harassment, intimidation or bullying, and

WHEREAS, the Chief School Administrator is required to report the results of each HIB investigation to the Board of Education for review and approval of any consequences imposed under the student code of conduct, interventions services provided, counseling ordered, training established or other actions taken or recommended by the Chief School Administrator, and

WHEREAS, of the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting, following the receipt of this report or following a hearing in Executive Session, the Board shall issue a decision in writing to affirm, reject, or modify the Chief School Administrator's decision.

NOW THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education has reviewed the Student Safety Data System (Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying) for the 2025-2026 School Year Reporting Period II for the months of January-June 2022 in which there was a total of 264 incidents reported, 72 founded, 103 unfounded, 30 inconclusive, 17 partially founded and 2 founded with no offender.

Resolution No. F-37

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District approves the payment of bills dated September 16, 2026, totaling $31,880,585.92, including checks numbered 254580 through 255295 and direct deposits numbered 2928 through 2953; and

WHEREAS, the District also acknowledge voided transactions totaling (8,725.00), resulting in a net total disbursement of $31,871,860.92; and

WHEREAS, a separate bills list of claims approved by the Superintendent will be presented to the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting for ratification; and

WHEREAS, all claims and payments have been reviewed, verified, and audited in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A 18A: 19-2; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the payment of the bills, wire transfer payments, and related transactions as presented.

Resolution No. F-38

WHEREAS, the School Business Administrator, pursuant to 18A:22-8.1, has prepared and presented for approval the monthly transfer report 1701, for the month of July 2026, and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:23A-13.3 requires the Board Secretary and the Board of Education to certify that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations, all transfers were fully executed consistent with code and policy prior to obligating funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves transfer of funds within the 2025-2026 school year budget, for the month of July 2026, so that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations, as requested by various budget managers, and as identified in the list of transfers attached hereto and shall be made part of the minutes. Furthermore, the transfers were approved by the Department of Education.

Resolution No. F-39

WHEREAS, the School Business Administrator, pursuant to 18A:17-9, has prepared and presented the Board Secretary Report, A-148, for the month of July 2026, and

WHEREAS, the School Board Administrator certifies, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A-23A-16.10(c)(3), that no line item or program category account has been over expended, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary's Report is in agreement with the Treasurer's Report, A-149, and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary's Report is subject to adjustments following annual audit and Department of Education directions regarding Fund 15's School Based Budgets, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Paterson Public Schools acknowledges receipt and certifies the Board Secretary Report for July 2026 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A-23A-16.10(c)(4), acknowledging no line items or program category account has been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools hereby incorporates the Board Secretary's Report for the fiscal period ending July 2026, as part of the minutes of this meeting and note the public discussion of same for the minutes; and, that the School Business Administrator be directed to forward to the County Superintendent the minutes together with Treasurer's Report, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Resolution No. F-40

WHEREAS, the Treasurer of School Monies, pursuant to 18A:17-36, has prepared and presented the Treasurer's Report, A-149, for the month of July 2026, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Paterson Public Schools acknowledges receipt of the Treasurer's Report for July 2026 and acknowledges agreement with the July 2026 Board Secretary's Report, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools hereby incorporates the Treasurer's Report for the fiscal period ending July 2026, as part of the minutes of this meeting and note the public discussion of same for the minutes; and, that the School Business Administrator be directed to forward to the County Superintendent the minutes together with Treasurer's Report, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Resolution No. F-41

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School approves payment for the gross payroll checks and direct deposits dated 8/13/2026 in the grand sum of $3,343,104.37 beginning with check number 1029123 and ending with check number 1029127 and direct deposit number D003838599 and ending with D003839824.

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School approves payment for the gross payroll checks and direct deposits dated 8/31/2026 in the grand sum of $4,294,638.04 beginning with check number 1029128 and ending with check number 1029139 and direct deposit number D003839825 and ending with D003841306.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that each claim or demand has been fully itemized, verified and has been duly audited as required by law in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-2.

Resolution No. F-42

WHEREAS, the students of School 13 in Paterson, NJ would like to create a student activity account at TD Bank to participate in student activities that will be student-directed, funded through student-generated events and expended on behalf of the students; and

WHEREAS, these activities require the establishment of a Student Activities Account to be held at TD Bank North in Paterson, NJ; and

WHEREAS, the organization and management of this account will be consistent with established Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Principal of School 13 will be responsible for working with the students and professional staff in implementing the policies adopted by the Board and providing guidance to the students; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that School 13 is approved to establish a Student Activities Account; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent and is being provided to the Board for advisory purposes.

Resolution No. F-43

Resolution of the Paterson Public School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizes the ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS provided by the State of New Jersey for participation in the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) during the 2026-2027 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District recognizes the importance of creating a healthier school environment by nurturing children and exposing them to healthier food choices, with an emphasis on expanding their experience of trying different varieties of fruits and vegetables each week, thereby increasing their overall consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, continued participation in the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program will also support the district's Wellness Policy and in return educate children to establish a healthy diet that will continue into the future; and

WHEREAS, The NJDA is awarding twelve (12) schools funding to participate in the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program throughout the 2026-2027 school year beginning September 8, 2026; and

WHEREAS, based on actual reported enrollment figures the combined anticipated funding is set at, but not limited to, a total of $372,868.48; and

WHEREAS, the estimated breakdown of funds, per school, awarded to the Paterson Public School District for SY 2026-2027 shall be as follows:

SCHOOL	SEPT. 2026 FUNDING	OCT. 2026-JUNE 2027 FUNDING	TOTAL ESTIMATED 2026-2027FUNDING
School #2	$1,896.60	$29,975.00	$31,871.60
School #4 (Dr. Frank Napier)	$1,701.72	$26,895.00	$28,596.72
School #5	$2,509.08	$39,655.00	$42,164.08
School #6 (Sen. Frank Lautenberg)	$2,119.32	$33,495.00	$35,614.32
School #8	$1,061.40	$16,775.00	$17,836.40
School #9 (Charles J. Riley)	$2,390.76	$37,785.00	$40,175.76
School #15	$1,820.04	$28,765.00	$30,585.04
School #16	$2,721.36	$43,010.00	$45,731.36
School #19	$1,064.88	$16,830.00	$17,894.88
School #24 (Maria Magda O'Keefe)	$2.188.92	$34,595.00	$36,783.92
Martin Luther King Jr School	$1,771.32	$27,995.00	$29,766.32
Edward W. Kilpatrick School	$943.08	$14,905.00	$15,848.08
	$22,188.48	$350,680.00	$372,868.48

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education on behalf of the Department of Food Services ACCEPTS the funds offered by the State of New Jersey in the amount of, BUT NOT LIMITED TO $372,868.48 for having been APPROVED to participate in the USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program during the 2026-2027 school year.

Resolution No. P-44

WHEREAS, The Superintendent recommends the appointment, salary adjustments, transfers, supports the Paterson: A Promising Tomorrow Strategic Plan 2019-2024 which amongst its strategies goals is Priority I- Effective Academic Programs-Goal 1 - Increase Student Achievement; and

WHEREAS, The Board of the Paterson Public School District has reviewed the recommendation of the Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, The Board of the Paterson Board of Education communicated expectations that such recommendations are made on a timely basis and include the proposed appointment, transfer, personnel in compliance with the contractual and/or statutory requirements.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of the Paterson Board of Education accepts the personnel recommendations of the Superintendent adopted in the September 16, 2026 Board Meeting.

PERSONNEL

F.1 Motion to take action on personnel matters, as listed below; and appoint and submit to the County Superintendent applications for emergent hiring and the applicant's attestation that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et. Seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et. seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et. seq. for those employees listed below:

(All appointments are contingent upon receipt of proper teaching certification and all salary placements are pending receipt of college transcripts verifying degree status and letter stating years of service in other districts).

A. POSITION CONTROL ABOLISH/CREATE

A1. Action to reclassify **PC# 381** from IA Kinder at 6 to IA Kinder at #15.

A2. Action requested to transfer Sub **PC# 10796** from student **RR 5254543** to student **SA 5276950** at School #5. Action requested to transfer Sub **PC# 10240** from student **LRV 5273994** to student **RA 5269471** at School #7.

A3. Action requested to transfer shared aide **PC# 10172** from Dale Ave. to MLK to be assigned to Student **LN 5266815**.

B. SUSPENSIONS- N/A

C. RESIGNATION/ RETIREMENT

D. TERMINATIONS

E. NON-RENEWAL

F. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

G. APPOINTMENT

	Last Name	First Name	School/Location	Title	Salary	Reason
G1	Keeling-Geddis	Deborah	RPHS	IA-Sped	$48,524.00	filling vacancy
G2	Wong	Adamson	Rosa Parks HS	Teacher Chemistry	$67,830.00	filling vacancy

H. TRANSFERS

	Last Name	First Name	School/Location	Title	Salary	Reason
H1	Almanzar	Rosemary	Newcomers HS	Teacher Bilingual ELA	no change	transfer
H2	Aponte	Sindy	Dr. Hani	Teacher Grade 6-8 Bilingual/ESL	no change	transfer
H3	Barroso Aguilar	Katia	School #8	Teacher Grade 4 Bilingual	no change	transfer
H4	Chavez	Valeria	School #8	Teacher Grade 2 Bilingual	no change	transfer
H5	Davis	Chamekea	Norman S. Weir	Personal Aide w/ AR 5262546	no change	transfer
H6	Ortiz	Jajaira	Family Community Engagement	School Community Program Coordinator	no change	transfer
H7	Robinson	Beverly	School #26	Personal Aide 504 for AP 5273374	no change	transfer
H8	Simon	Letitia	NSW	Personal Aide for JB 529641	no change	transfer
H9	Tarhan	Betul	Dr. Hani	Teacher Grade 6-8 Bilingual/ESL	no change	transfer
H10	Zamudio	Melissa	School # 15	IA Kindergarten	no change	transfer

I. RECALL FROM RIF

	Last Name	First Name	School/Location	Title	Salary	Reason

I1	Cironi	Dana	International HS	Teacher Biology	$81,960.00	recall from RIF

J. LEAVE REPLACEMENT

K. DISTRICT/SCHOOL PROGRAM HIRING - N/A

L. STIPENDS

L1. Request approval to compensate **Robert Silva** as crowd control/security – event staff /Job ID: 5819489 beginning August 28, 2026 through May 26, 2027, as follows: 90 athletic games x $80, salary not to exceed $7,200. Note: Dates are subject to change per NJSIAA guidelines. Crowd control/security at away games.
Account# 15.402.100.100.051.053.0000.000 Not to exceed: $7,200.00

L2. Request to hire **Kerolus Banoub** to teach a 6th period science class due to vacancy. Effective 9/01/2026.

L3. Action to pay two (2) Teachers for School 18 Math Club beginning 10/05/26 – 6/27/2027. 2 times a week for 20 weeks = 40 hours each, $35 an hour - $1,400.00 per person. Not to exceed $2,800.00. Time of program will be: 7:14 a.m. – 8:14 a.m. The program is scheduled for Tuesdays and Wednesdays; However, this is subject to change based on school closures. **Ronald Barone, Alessandra King**
Account# 15.401.100.018.053.0000.000 Not to exceed: $2,800.00 per teacher

L4. Action to pay (1) Teacher for School 18 Soccer Club beginning 10/2026 – 6/2027, 2 days per week, for 32 weeks totaling 66 hours at $35.00 an hr, not to exceed $2,310.00. Time of program will be 7:14 a.m. – 8:14 a.m. The program is scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays; However, this is subject to change based on school closures.
Raymond Rivera.
Account# 15.401.100.100.018.053.0000.000 Not to exceed: $2,310.00

L. STIPENDS (CONT.)

L5. Request approval to compensate **Charles Hill as** public address announcer – event staff / JobID 5819489 beginning August 28, 2026 through March 7, 2027, as follows: 25 athletic games x $57, salary not to exceed $1,425. Note: Dates are subject to change per NJSIAA guidelines.
Account# 15.402.100.100.051.053.0000.000 Not to exceed: $1,425.00

M. AMENDMENTS

N. ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES

O. SICK/VACATION DAY PAY OUT

P.WITHHOLDING OF INCREMENTS
Q. HEALTH BENEFITS

R. MISCELLANEOUS

	Last Name	First Name	School/Location	Title	Salary	Reason
R1	Mercedes	Yrma	School #16	Teacher World Language	$71,320.00	salary adjustment 26-27
R2	Muhammad	Dawud	School #20	Personal Aide to NP 5253806	no change	student resassignment

R3. The New Jersey Department of Education regulations require the assignment of a mentor to all Traditional and Alternate Route Teachers. Payroll deductions should start for the attached novice teacher to fulfill payment due at the end of the mentoring process. The spreadsheet reflects the amount of deductions each provision teacher needs. These fees are taxable. The fee will be deducted in equal installments starting as soon as possible through December 31, 2026.

First Name	Last Name	Grade	Cert	Full Amt. Needed	Acct #
Alaa	Hamdan	6-8	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Lucien	Charles	9-12	CE	$1,000.00	11.140.100.101.690.110
Joani	Campusano	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Loulou	Angibeu	k-6	Limited CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Hiba	Adi	P-3	CE	$1,000.00	11.120.100.101.690.110
Shaina	Loran	P-3	Limited CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Shahadiar	Habib	6-8	Limited CE	$550.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Shirley	Alvarez	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Karima	Bencharot	9-12	CE	$1,000.00	11.140.100.101.690.110
Rabia	Barqqqi	9-12	CE	$1,000.00	11.140.100.101.690.110
Ana Gabriela	Kayal	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Michelle	Hibbert	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Merve	Mol	k-6	CEAS	$550.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Nilufa	Yasmin	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Genely	De La Cruz	P-3	CEAS	$550.00	11.120.100.101.690.110
First Name	**Last Name**	**Grade**	**Cert**	**Full Amt. Needed**	**Acct #**
Teodoro	Llallire	9-12	CE	$1,000.00	11.140.100.101.690.110
Brian	Joosten	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Sara	Dale	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
William	English	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Giovana	Chunga Bahamonde	6-8	CEAS	$550.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Frank	Lopresti	9-12	CEAS	$550.00	11.140.100.101.690.110
Adriana	Herrera	k-6	CEAS	$550.00	11.130.100.101.690.110

	Velastegui				
Bilal	Mernich	9-12	CE	$1,000.00	11.140.100.101.690.110
Clarissa	Barrera	9-12	CEAS	$550.00	11.140.100.101.690.110
Karim	Hashem	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Kallief	Fender	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110
Dania	Abu Eid	9-12	CE	$1,000.00	11.140.100.101.690.110
Violeta	Galdino	k-6	CE	$1,000.00	11.130.100.101.690.110

S. MISCELLANEOUS (FUNDING.)

T. ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

U. Administrative Longevity

V. RESTORE INCREMENTS

W. NEGOTIATIONS

X. JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Y. Grievance Settlements

Resolution No. G-45

WHEREAS, the Paterson Board of Education Policy Manual receives periodic revisions and additions, and

WHEREAS, the Policy Committee submitted policies and regulations to the Board for first reading, and

WHEREAS, a special public comment session was held at the September 9, 2026, board meeting, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the following policies and regulations for second reading and adoption:

P 0151	Organization Meeting
P 0162	Notice of Board Meetings
P 0162.01	Legal Notices (M)
P 1230	Superintendent's Duties (M)
P 1643	Family Leave (M)
P 2200	Curriculum (M)
P 2260	Equity in School and Classroom Practices (M)
P 2411	Career Education and Academic Counseling (M)
P 5460	High School Graduation (M)
P 5461	High School Diplomas (M)
P 5561	Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities (M)
P 6112	Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures (M)

R 6115.01 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Allowability of Costs (M)
P 6115.02 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Mandatory Disclosures (M)
P 6311 Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M)
P 8561 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs (M)
P 8660 Transportation by Private Vehicles – to and From School-Related Activities (M)
P 8662 Transportation by Private or District-Owned Vehicles – To and From School (M)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following regulations are abolished:

R 2200 Curriculum Content (M)
R 2411 Guidance Counseling (M)
R 2460.30 Additional/Compensatory Special Education and Related Services (M)

FINALLY RESOLVED, that in the event any policy, part of a policy or section of the bylaws is judged to be inconsistent with law or inoperative by a court of competent jurisdiction or is invalidated by a policy or contract duly adopted by the Superintendent or Board of Education, the remaining bylaws, policies, and parts of policies shall remain in full effect.

Resolution No. I&P-46

WHEREAS, the District's priority under the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan is to promote student-centered teaching and learning, and the Department of Special Education has aligned its programs to meet this priority;

WHEREAS, homeless children from Paterson who temporarily reside outside the city are eligible to enroll in the public schools of another school district pursuant to the Stewart B. McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, which is codified at 42 U.S.C. §§ 11431, et seq.;

WHEREAS, the District is required to pay tuition and transportation costs to boards of education of receiving districts where homeless children from Paterson are enrolled, according to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-19 and N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.3; and

WHEREAS, the District intends to enter into tuition contracts with various boards of education that enroll students who lived in Paterson before becoming homeless and enrolling in the receiving district's schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the following McKinney-Vento & Educational Stability tuition contracts with receiving districts, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027:

Requisition #	Account #	School District Name	Student ID	# Days	Tuition Per Diem Rate	Extraordinary Services Per Diem Rate	Total Payment ***Not to Exceed***
1846	561	Boonton Town Board of Education	KMN 5256953	12	$96.68	-	$1,160.19
1849	562	Passaic Valley Regional School District	HC 5277993 (REVISED)	52	$349.09	$265.70	$31,969.08

1849	561	Passaic Valley Regional School District	DC 5277992 (REVISED)	52	$111.96	-	$5,821.92
1849	561	Passaic Valley Regional School District	JN 5219217 (REVISED)	49	$111.96	-	$5,486.04

Total: $44,437.23

Resolution No. I&P-47

WHEREAS, the District's priority under the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan is to promote student-centered teaching and learning, and the Department of Special Education has aligned its programs to meet this priority;

WHEREAS, homeless children temporarily residing in the City of Paterson are eligible to enroll in District schools pursuant to the Stewart B. McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, which is codified at 42 U.S.C. §§ 11431, et seq.;

WHEREAS, Boards of education of sending districts whose students are enrolled in District schools are required to reimburse the District for tuition and transportation costs pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-19 and N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.3; and

WHEREAS, the District intends to enter into various tuition contracts with sending districts that are responsible for the education of students who resided there before becoming homeless and enrolling in the District's schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the following McKinney-Vento tuition contracts to receive reimbursement from sending districts, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027:

School District Name	Student	# Days	Per Diem Rate	Total Reimbursement to PPS
Elizabeth Public School District	AM 5270577 (NC)	26	$106.09	$2,758.34
Elizabeth Public School District	JP 5219663 (NC)	26	$115.06	$2,991.56
Hanover Township Public School District	IA 5244386 (LLD-M)	42	$146.51	$6,153.42
Hanover Township Public School District	ZA 5244821 (LLD-M)	42	$146.51	$6,153.42
Newark Public School District	AM 5220393 (NC)	29	$115.06	$3,336.74

Total: $21,393.48

Resolution No. I&P-48

WHEREAS, the District's priority under the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan is to promote student-centered teaching and learning, and the Department of Special Education has aligned its programs to meet this priority;

WHEREAS, homeless children from Paterson who temporarily reside outside the city are eligible to enroll in the public schools of another school district pursuant to the Stewart B. McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, which is codified at 42 U.S.C. §§ 11431, et seq.;

WHEREAS, the District is required to pay tuition and transportation costs to boards of education of receiving districts where homeless children from Paterson are enrolled, according to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-19 and N.J.A.C. 6A:17-2.3; and

WHEREAS, the District intends to enter into tuition contracts with various boards of education that enroll students who lived in Paterson before becoming homeless and enrolling in the receiving district's schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the following McKinney-Vento & Educational Stability tuition contracts with receiving districts, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027:

Req#	Acct #	School District Name	Student ID	Per Diem Rate Charged	Certified Per Diem Rate	Total Number of Days	Total Payment (Owed for 23/24 or 24/25 School Year) *Not to Exceed*
1969	561	Clifton Board of Education (24/25 SY)	JC 5211928	$97.38	$103.90	52	$339.04
1969	561	Clifton Board of Education (24/25 SY)	SC 5205357	$97.38	$103.90	52	$339.04
1969	561	Clifton Board of Education (24/25 SY)	XP 5230713	$104.08	$110.61	52	$339.62
1967	561	Hawthorne Board of Education (24/25 SY)	AM 5205586	$90.90	$98.63	63	$486.99
1967	561	Hawthorne Board of Education (24/25 SY)	AM 5207321	$90.90	$98.63	63	$486.99
1967	561	Hawthorne Board of Education (24/25 SY)	KH 5232958	$85.79	$96.67	63	$685.44
1968	561	Millville Board of Education (23/24 SY)	SS 5257736	$98.78	$103.59	140	$673.40
						Total:	**$3,350.52**

Resolution No. I&P-49

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools: Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow Strategic Plan 2025-2030, Goal 4: Strengthen Family and Community Partnerships focuses on expanding engagement and collaboration with community organizations to create inclusive, supportive, and equitable learning environments; and

WHEREAS, dance education is an integral part of students' academic and personal development; and

WHEREAS, the Inner City Ensemble has previously been approved to partner with Rosa L. Parks School of Fine & Performing Arts and Maria Magda O'Keefe School's Fine & Performing Arts program to develop students' skills in creation and performance in alignment with the NJSLS VPA; and

WHEREAS, the Inner City Ensemble has received funding totaling $45,840 from various sources to support partnerships within the Paterson Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Maria Magda O'Keefe School's Fine & Performing Arts Program, Rosa L. Parks School of the Performing Arts, and other locations seek to continue work with community partners such as Inner City Ensemble to provide students with extended learning opportunities in the arts; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the Inner City Ensemble conducting residency programs at Magda O'Keefe School/School 24 and Rosa L. Parks School of the Performing Arts, effective 10/1/2026 through

8/30/2027, at a cost not to exceed $26,775, subject to the availability and allocation of funding under the District's 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 budgets.

Resolution No. O-50

WHEREAS, approving the following quoted routes for student transportation service will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation Goal 3, ensuring operational effectiveness and fiscal stability; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has identified a need to provide transportation for the 2026-2027 school year; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent supports the Department of Transportation recommendation in awarding the route to the lowest quote submitted for the transportation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the vendor has been notified that no goods or services will be provided to the District without first receiving a fully executed purchase order; and that the terms on the purchase will be honored completely; if the vendor does not agree with the terms on the purchase order, the vendor will not provide any goods or services to the District until such time a new purchase order is completed and delivered with terms the vendor will honor; and the vendor being awarded this contract, has complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution, to provide quoted transportation to the routes listed below that are in district and out of district students. This shall take effect for the 2026-2027 school year with the ratification of the Board of Education.

Contractor	School	Route #	Per Diem Cost	# of Days	Total Cost
SEE ATTACHED LIST					
SPED ACCT#110002705146850000000000					$840,013.00
REG-ED ACCT#110002705116850000000000					$291,577.44
				TOTAL	$1,131,590.44

Resolution No. O-51

WHEREAS, ratifying the addendum of cancellation of days and additional 1:1 aides for the routes listed below providing transportation for a student out of Paterson from in district and out of district for student transportation service will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation Goal 3, ensuring operational effectiveness and fiscal stability; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has identified vendors cancellation and additional 1:1 aides for the routes listed below for students out of Paterson for the remainder of the 2026-2027extended school year and school year; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent supports the Department of Transportation's recommendation in amending cancellation of days and additional 1:1 aides for the route granted to the lowest quote that was submitted for the transportation of special needs students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the vendor has been notified that no goods or services will be provided to the District without first receiving a fully executed purchase order; and that the terms on the purchase will be honored completely; if the vendor does not

agree with the terms on the purchase order, the vendor will not provide any goods or services to the District until such time a new purchase order is completed and delivered with terms the vendor will honor; and the vendor being awarded this contract, has complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution, is to ratify the addendum of cancellation of days and additional 1:1 aides for the routes listed below below for students out of Paterson from in district and out of district for the remainder of the 2026-2027 extended school year and school year. This shall take effect with the ratification of the Board of Education.

Contractor	School Name	Route #	Additional Aide Cost	# of Days	Total Cost
SEE ATTACHED LIST					
SPED ACCT#110002705114685000000000					$ 25,390.00
				TOTAL	$25,390.00

Contractor	School Name	Route #	Per diem Cost	# of Days Deducted	Total Cost
SEE ATTACHED LIST					
REG-ED ACCT#110002705111685000000000					($538,038.20)
SPED ACCT#110002705114685000000000					($291,739.00)
				TOTAL	($829,777.20)

Resolution No. O-52

WHEREAS, approving the following route for student transportation service will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation Goal 3, ensuring operational effectiveness and fiscal stability, and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has identified a need to provide transportation for Paterson pupils to out of district special needs/regular education programs and to various other in district schools for the 2025-2026 SY, and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has agreed to jointure with Lodi School District and the District agrees to the terms of the contract for the 2025-2026 SY, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public School District ratifies the action of the Superintendent approving the following jointure contract for the 2025-2026 SY with the School District listed, as follows:

Lodi School District

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, each vendor has been notified that no goods or services will be provided to the District without first receiving a fully executed purchase order; and that the terms on the purchase will be honored completely; if the vendor does not agree with the terms on the purchase order, the vendor will not provide any goods or services to the District until such time a new purchase order is completed and delivered with terms the vendor will honor; and the vendor being awarded renewal of these contracts have complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this resolution, to jointure with Lodi School District throughout New Jersey, to transport regular and special needs pupils to their respective schools in and out of the district for regular and special needs pupils for the 2025- 2026 SY, shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

REG-ED Account # 11-000-270-511-685-000-0000-000	$16,575.00
Cost for 2025-2026 SY	$16,575.00

Resolution No. O-53

WHEREAS, approving the following route for student transportation service will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation Goal 3, ensuring operational effectiveness and fiscal stability, and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has identified a need to provide transportation for Paterson pupils to out of district special needs/regular education programs and to various other in district schools for the 2025-2026 SY, and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has agreed to jointure with Hanover Township Public Schools and the District agrees to the terms of the contract for the 2025-2026 SY, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public School District ratifies the action of the Superintendent approving the following jointure contract for the 2025-2026 SY with the School District listed, as follows:

HANOVER TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, each vendor has been notified that no goods or services will be provided to the District without first receiving a fully executed purchase order; and that the terms on the purchase will be honored completely; if the vendor does not agree with the terms on the purchase order, the vendor will not provide any goods or services to the District until such time a new purchase order is completed and delivered with terms the vendor will honor; and the vendor being awarded renewal of these contracts have complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this resolution, to jointure with Hanover Township Public School throughout New Jersey, to transport regular and special needs pupils to their respective schools in and out of the district for regular and special needs pupils for the 2025-2026 SY, shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

SPED Account # 11-000-270-514-685-000-0000-000	$1,849.00
Cost for 2025-2026 SY	$1,849.00

Resolution No. G-54

Whereas, the district's Strategic Plan's Goal Area #1 is to advance instructional excellence by cultivating a high- performing workforce; and

Whereas, the intention of the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) is to assure compliance with the statutes and regulations that govern

schools and districts in New Jersey and to lead the school community into reflection on the performance of its students and revision of its practices; and

Whereas, school districts that scored below 80% in any District Performance Review (DPR) area (Instruction and Program, Fiscal Management, Operations, Personnel, Governance) of the NJQSAC process must complete a District Improvement Plan (DIP); and

Whereas, in the QSAC Review for SY25-26 Paterson Publics Schools scored a 76% on the Instruction & Program indicator and requires a DIP to be completed and sent to the NJDOE for approval; and

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the submission of the Instruction & Program DIP to the NJDOE.

Resolution No. F-55

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has made funding available through the FY26 School Lead Filters Program for Filtered Bottle-Filling Stations and Filtered Faucets Grant Program to support the purchase and installation of point-of-use filtered drinking water equipment in public schools; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools has been allocated $30,561.27 through the grant program, with no matching funds required from the District; and

WHEREAS, grant funds will be used for the purchase and installation of eligible point-of-use filtered bottle-filling stations and filtered faucets in accordance with NJDOE program requirements; and

WHEREAS, the District will coordinate with the Superintendent's Cabinet and Director of Facilities to identify and prioritize schools and locations based on need; and

WHEREAS, the administration and expenditure of grant funds will be conducted in accordance with NJDOE requirements, District purchasing procedures, and all applicable laws and regulations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools District Board of Education hereby approves and authorizes the submission of an application to the New Jersey Department of Education for the FY26 School Lead Filters Program for Filtered Bottle-Filling Stations and Filtered Faucets Grant Program in the amount of $30,561.27, with no required District match, and authorizes the Superintendent of Schools and/or designee to execute all necessary documents and administer the grant in accordance with applicable requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Resolution No. G-56

WHEREAS, the intention of the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) is to assure compliance with the statutes and regulations that govern schools and districts in New Jersey and to lead the school community into reflection on the performance of its students and revisions of its practices, and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Paterson Public School District is to nurture the holistic development of every student, equipping them with critical skills for future success and engaged citizenship, and

WHEREAS, the vision is to create a vibrant, inclusive school community where empowered students have diverse opportunities to learn, grow, and thrive, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with NJQSAC, the board's annual review of the Chief School Administrator is based on the adoption of goals and performance measurements that reflect that highest priority is given to student achievement and attention to subgroup achievement, and

WHEREAS, the three (3) major District Goals formulated in collaboration with the Board of Education will be:

Goal 1: Enhance School Safety and Security for Students and Staff: Strengthen districtwide safety practices, procedures, and school security measures to provide safe and welcoming learning and working environments. The completed action plan, including timelines and measurable outcomes, will be presented at the October 2026 Board meeting. Progress updates will be presented at the January 2027 and April 2027 Board meetings.

Goal 2: Increase the Graduation Rate: Implement targeted academic supports and early interventions to help more students remain on track, meet graduation requirements, and earn a high school diploma. The completed action plan, including timelines and measurable outcomes, will be presented at the October 2026 Board meeting. Progress updates will be presented at the January 2027 and April 2027 Board meetings.

Goal 3: Reduce Chronic Absenteeism: Strengthen attendance monitoring, family outreach, and tiered interventions to address barriers that prevent students from attending school consistently. The completed action plan, including timelines and measurable outcomes, will be presented at the October 2026 Board meeting. Progress updates will be presented at the January 2027 and April 2027 Board meetings.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopts the District Goals for the 2026-2027 school year which will include goals/strategies, the person(s) accountable to complete the goal, and indicators of success in completing the goals.

It was moved by Comm. Rosado, seconded by Comm. Mendez that Resolution Nos. 1 through 56 be adopted. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative, except Comm. Simmons and Comm. Teague who voted no. The motion carried.

Paterson Board of Education
Standing Abstentions

Commissioner Valerie Freeman
- Self
- Family
- Paterson Cares, Inc.
- Paterson Community Health Center

Commissioner Alexander Mendez, Jr.
- Self
- Family

- Passaic County Board of Social Services

Commissioner Hector L. Nieves, Jr.
- Self
- City of Paterson

Commissioner Joel D. Ramirez
- Self
- City of Paterson
- Passaic County Community College
- State of New Jersey

Commissioner Mohammed H. Rashid
- Self
- City of Paterson

Commissioner Kenneth Rosado
- Self
- City Housing Authority
- City of Paterson
- Paterson Restoration Corp.

Commissioner Kenneth L. Simmons
- Self
- Family

Commissioner Corey L. Teague
- Self
- Paterson Police Department
- Paterson Policing

Commissioner Della Wilder
- Self
- City of Paterson
- Educational Staffing Solutions (ESS) -Substitute Teachers

Committee Reports

Facilities

Comm. Nieves: No report.

Family and Community Engagement

Comm. Freeman: I was not able to get on the meeting, but I was sent a text on what was talked about. They talked about the welcome back events. There was an event held at Eastside High School and John F. Kennedy. It included the district departments, community organizations and outside vendors that provided information and resources to families. The second thing they talked about was the state of the bell-to-bell policy. A series of parent information sessions are being held to explain the new policy. If you don't know what it is, it's about cell phones in the schools. There was one yesterday at 90 Delaware. The next meeting is on September 22 at the Madison-K site. There's one on September 24 at Dr. Napier School. There's another one on September 29 at School No. 24. The next event they talked about was the School No. 24 fall family

event. They are planning an October Fall-fest at School No. 24. The event will combine fall family fun with parent information resources and engagement opportunities. They talked about expanding the Family & Community Engagement school coverage. Family & Community Engagement staff is now assigned to two schools. The new structure is intended to increase Family & Community Engagement's coverage, visibility and support across the district. They talked about the Parent University. It is being launched with a parent leadership workshop series. The dates are to be announced. It will focus on strengthening parent leadership, advocacy, school involvement and PTO capacity. They also talked about a grandparent's initiative, developing workshops specifically for grandparents raising or actively supporting school-age children and grandchildren. They will begin with a grandparents listening session to identify the needs, concerns and priority topics. The findings will help shape the future of the Parent University grandparent workshops. They talked about working directly with schools to support ASP goal attainment. Particular attention will be given to the ASP goals where parent, family and community engagement can contribute to improved outcomes. Family & Community Engagement staff will help schools identify practical engagement strategies connected to their specific goals. That is all.

Policy

Comm. Rashid: Policy doesn't have a new agenda. Ms. Williams, if you have something please let me know and we can make a date for next week.

Technology

Comm. Simmons: Technology hasn't met, but I'm going to reach out to Cheryl and Tineish and Juleka to see if we can schedule something for next week so that we can begin to talk about some of the other items that have come up.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

It was moved by Comm. Mendez, seconded by Comm. Rosado that the Public Comments portion of the meeting be opened. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

Dr. JoAnn Cardillo: Good evening. I'm assuming that as a Board of Education the decision has most likely been made for you not to do what is right in the matter of returning Alexander Cardillo to the district. None of you has chosen to make a public statement. I'm very disappointed in that. Also no one has contacted Mr. Cardillo to meet with him. Being who I am, it is hard to wrap my mind around your efforts going unanswered because the district administration refuses to address the matter. This is corruption, pure and simple. I can't wrap my mind around the actions of three judges in this matter that bring us here today. Your Superintendent remains closemouthed when she has the authority to open an investigation, call DCPP and get the answer to what we know. There was no investigation of Mr. Cardillo and Ms. Florez is a liar. Simple, no? I'm not asking you to solve for x. As we continue to rationalize this matter when Ms. Florez lied under oath, I assumed Mr. Rojas and Ms. Shafer were not aware. In retrospect, I now believe the administration will not act because the friendship of Ms. Shafer and Ms. Florez trumped the truth. They knew she lied. Has to be. Early on in this matter when I spoke to Ms. Shafer, she firmly recommended I should not move forward with the lawsuit. I replied we had no choice to get to the bottom of the situation. Obviously, my professional relationship mattered less, even though I worked for her years and years and was her peer in the superintendent arena. Dr. Newell, as Superintendent you took an oath to protect this district and every year you're reminded

about your ethics requirement. That is directly connected to your certificate to hold the seat. You now have more to lose than this Board. Who is stopping you from moving forward? Why are you refusing to get to the bottom of this matter when your Board understands the severity of this resolve? Why are you putting the district on the wrong side of this? I sense your fear and your inaction is an assurance that Mr. Rojas has no guardrails. Mr. Cardillo continues to be blackballed. Everyone knows it and yet you do nothing. Who are you afraid of? We kept you informed step by step from when Ms. Shabazz tried to keep the information from you and we began to come to you every month for two years. It is documented in your Board minutes. We will all walk into this new journey together. Everyone knows what we know now. No surprises. My ethics will not allow it. Thank you and have a great evening.

Mr. Alexander Cardillo: I want everyone to notice something I saw in last week's Board packet. In letter 'I' there was a recall from RIF list. I noticed that cafeteria monitors were called back. I find this interesting because Ms. Shafer constantly said there's no seniority in non-tenured employees. However, here we have cafeteria monitors who are part-time and do not require a certificate being called back from a reduction-in-force. How is it possible that this job classification has more rights than a certified full-time teacher who's non-tenured? Does that make any sense? The fact remains that I'm still on the RIF list of 2019. If a part-time employee has recall rights, then so should a full-time certified teacher. Ms. Shafer admitted this when she was pressed in deposition. Dr. Newell now actually implemented it. Mr. Rojas deliberately did not call me back when positions became available because I was involved in litigation with the district. This is not a legitimate reason to not call somebody back. As a matter of fact, it's retaliation for whistleblowing and raises concerns through the legal channel and it is against the law. I brought a very real issue to the district's attention through a demand letter and through my lawsuit. The administration of the time did not like that I brought this issue to the surface, but that does not mean my rights in other areas of this case should have been denied. In January of 2020 when the district posted a position for a library media specialist, I was already sitting on the RIF list waiting to be returned to the district. That position should not have been posted without considering my recall rights. As a matter of fact, I also noticed on the current RIF list that someone who has been hired as a teacher after previously serving as an aide was returned to an aide position. I was an aide in the district in the 2014-2015 school year. I was told I could not go back to being an aide, yet here we are allowing that exactly to happen. Again, how is that consistent? At so many points from 2019 to now there have been exit ramps, an opportunity for everyone involved to correct this and finally resolve it. Again, why are we covering for Monica Florez instead of taking the exit ramp and fixing this? If criminal conduct occurred here and anyone knowingly acted to conceal it or interfere with it being investigated, that raises serious obstruction of justice concerns. Is there a shadow superintendent? Thank you.

Ms. Rosie Grant: Good evening, Mr. President, Commissioners, Dr. Newell, staff and community. First, thank you for this evening's presentations on substance abuse, HIB and violence. These are difficult issues and I wish we didn't have to grapple with them, but we do need to understand what our young people are experiencing if we are going to respond effectively and it seems that the district is responding effectively. Thank you. One thing I heard tonight that particularly troubles me, as it did Comm. Wilder, is that children receiving treatment may have that treatment interrupted or ended because of insurance coverage or lack thereof. When a child needs behavioral health and substance abuse treatment, decisions about continuing care should be driven by what the child needs. Access to appropriate care for children is not just a school issue. It's a community and societal issue. As we approach the midterm elections this November, I encourage everyone in the sound of my voice to educate themselves about where

candidates stand on healthcare, mental health, substance abuse services, education, and other priorities that directly affect our children and families. Then make your voice heard at the ballot box. That brings me to another election which is much closer to home. Paterson Education Fund will once again publish our Educated Voters Guide to the School Board Election. To the candidates, you should have received our candidate profile questionnaire. Please complete it and return it as soon as possible. This is your opportunity to tell Paterson voters who you are, why you're running, and where you stand on the issues affecting our children and schools. We want every candidate to have the opportunity to be represented in the guide and our distribution is 6,000 in print and much more on the web. I encourage you to send your information in. Finally, I want to share some great news. Paterson Education Fund has received final approval for our 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant, which is $2.375 million over five years. This means we have five years of additional after-school opportunities, academic support, enrichment and safe spaces for Paterson children and families. We're excited, grateful, and as always, ready to work. Please do reach out. Thank you.

Comm. Ramirez: Thank you, Rosie and congratulations on the grant.

It was moved by Comm. Mendez, seconded by Comm. Rosado that the Public Comments portion of the meeting be closed. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

It was moved by Comm. Rosado, seconded by Comm. Mendez that the Board goes into Executive Session to discuss issues that warrant confidentiality, as consistent with NJSA 10:4-12 for matters of Attorney/Client Privilege, Contracts, Legal, Litigation, Negotiations, Personnel and Student Matters. The minutes will be made available to the public upon request, when the confidentiality of the subject is no longer warranted. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

The Board went into executive session at 7:06 p.m.

It was moved by Comm. Mendez, seconded by Comm. Rosado that the Board reconvenes the meeting. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

The Board reconvened the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Comm. Nieves, seconded by Comm. Mendez that the meeting be adjourned. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

June Gray

Ms. June Gray
Business Administrator/Board Secretary