BOARDROOM

Highlights of Monthly Board of Education Meeting

October 2026

★ Dr. Nisha Zoeller presented on 2026 ACCESS test scores & Graduation Data

The enrollment figures as of October 1, 2026 are as follows:

	Morris Hills	*Morris Knolls*	*Total*
Grade 9	261	366	627
Grade 10	277	369	646
Grade 11	311	340	651
Grade 12	251	396	647
Adult HS	--	161	161
Adult ASAP HS	--	22	8
AMSE	182	--	182
APA	--	152	152
SE Self- Contained	--	54	54
TOTAL	1282	1860	3128

Mr. Nicholas J. Norcia
Superintendent

- Authorized the ratification of the following Field Trip:

Name / School	Location / Date
~~**Timothy Mein / MH**~~ **CHANGED TO: CARYN GRAF** Nicholas Pelosi / MH	Wayne, NJ 10/9/2026

- Authorized the following Field Trips:

Name / School	Location / Date
Richard Abad / MK Sandra Ostrowski / MK Samora Brice /MK Stacy Wieringa / MK Rachel Gallo / MK **ADDED:** **THERESA CATLOW / MK** **PATRICIA AMBROSI/ MK**	Trenton, NJ 10/30/2026
Michelle Uhler/ MH	Denville, NJ 11/3/2026
Krystal Beck / Dist. Jodie Adessa / MK Lindsay Dunn / MK	Wharton, NJ 11/9/2026
Christopher Carrano / MK Anthony Vasile /MK Nicholas DiPaolo/ MK 15 Staff Assistants Nurse	Denville, NJ 11/10/2026
John Miraldi / MK David Honig / MH William Erickson / MK	Flanders, NJ 11/12/2026
Christopher Carrano / MK Anthony Vasile /MK Nicholas DiPaolo/ MK 15 Staff Assistants Nurse	Denville, NJ 11/12/2026
Joy Mazur / MK Amanda Manjorin / MK Nurse	Madison, NJ 11/13/2026
Jihanne Radzieski / MH Vincent Limon / MH **ADDED:** **KEITH BIGORA / Dist.**	East Rutherford, NJ 11/17/2026
Aaron Lipsen / MK Kieran McLaughlin / Mk Parent Chaperone	Boonton, NJ 11/18/2026
Christopher Carrano / MK Anthony Vasile /MK Nicholas DiPaolo/ MK 15 Staff Assistants Nurse	Rockaway, NJ 11/18/2026
Holly Bridge / MH John Nugent / MH Bryant Wanamaker / MH Brian Bollette / MH Nurse	Randolph, NJ 11/19/2026
Jenna Miller / MH	Denville, NJ 11/20/2026

Name / School	Location / Date
Justin Hill / MK	Upper Saddle River & Haskell, NJ 11/24/2026
Christopher Carrano / MK Anthony Vasile /MK Nicholas DiPaolo/ MK 15 Staff Assistants Nurse	Rockaway, NJ 11/24/2026
Lauren Sherburne / MH	Wharton, NJ 12/3/2026 (MH) 12/10/2026 (MK)
Kristen Markowski / MK Brett Izsa / Dist. Jennifer Brady / MK Parent Chaperone	Parsippany, NJ 12/4/2026
Cara Russo / MH Amy Calzone /MH	Wayne, NJ 12/7/2026
Carla Petti / MK Denis Arias / MK	Dover, NJ 12/11/2026
Jenna Miller / MH Emma Evans / MK Lauren Sherburne / MH Tracy Hornby / MH (emergency chaperone)	Trenton, NJ 12/11/2026
Brian Bollette / MH Benjamin Smolinski / MH William Livingston / MH Pam Schiele / MH	Manahawkin & Stafford, NJ 12/11 - 12/12/2026
Kristen Markowski / MK	Mountain Lakes, NJ 12/21/2026
Brian Bollette / MH Benjamin Smolinski / MH William Livingston /MH Pam Schiele / MH	Red Bank & Middletown, NJ 12/29 - 12/30/2026
Laura Malec / MK Robert Geary / MK Jennifer Volz / MK Kristi Augenstein / MK John Miraldi / MK/ Emma Evans / MK	Tannersville, PA 1/7/2027 1/14/2027 1/21/2027 1/28/2027 2/4/2027
Sandra Ostrowski / MK Richard Abad / MK Stacy Wieringa / MK Rachel Gallo / MK Samora Brice / MK 1 chaperone TBD Nurse	New York, NY 1/22/2027
Bryant Wanamaker / MH Andres Diaz / MH Erick Gill / MH Pam Schiele / MH	Toms River & Bayville, NJ 1/23 - 1/24/2027
Bruce Campbell / MH Mark DiGennaro, Sr. / MH Joseph Visaggio / MH Anthony Lusardi / MH	East Rutherford, NJ 2/12/2027

Name / School	Location / Date
Brian Bollette / MH Benjamin Smolinski /MH William Livingston / MH Bryant Wanamaker / MH Andres Diaz / MH Erick Gill / MH Anthony Vasile / MK Christopher Cervona / MK Erik Leonhardt / MK Michael Kaiser / MK Christopher Lantz / MK	Atlantic City, NJ 2/24 - 2/27/2027
Jenna Miller / MH Emma Evans / MK Peter Adams / MH (emergency chaperone) Tracy Hornby / MH (emergency chaperone)	Lawrenceville, NJ 2/26/2027
Cara Russo / MH 1 chaperone TBD	Teaneck, NJ 3/12/2027
Samara McGhee / MK Rebecca Hansen / MK	~~**Flemington, NJ**~~ **CHANGED TO: MORRISTOWN, NJ** 3/13/2027 3/14/20217
Samara McGhee / MK Rebecca Hansen / MK	~~**Bridgewater, NJ**~~ **CHANGED TO: FLEMINGTON, NJ 3/19/2027 3/20/2027**
Keith Bigora / Dist. Justine Sobieski / MH Martha Fundora / MK	Succasunna, NJ 4/8/2027
Jennifer Baggot / MK Amy Richter / MK James Pisciotto / MK	Parsippany & Rockaway, NJ 4/27/2027

- Authorized the following Staff Conferences:

Name / School	Location / Date	Conference
Shari Russo / MK	Online 10/27/2026 - 1/30/2027 (asynchronous)	NJPSA/FEA: Legal One Anti-Bullying Specialist Online Certificate Program
Janine Rinaldi / MH Heather Jensen /MK	Online 10/27/2026	Rutgers University: Understanding and Addressing the Needs of People with Dual Diagnosis
Heather Jensen / MK	Online 11/2/2026	Rutgers University: Introduction to Positive Behavior Supports
Melissa Sabo / MH Rusty Obra / MK	New Hyde Park, NY 11/3/2026	Culinary Institute of America PD
Kristen Markowski / MK	Atlantic City, NJ 11/4/2026	NJMEA: NJ All State Mixed Choir Choral Procedures Chair
Kelly Lestrange / MK	New Brunswick, NJ 11/4/2026	The Arc of NJ: The 3rd Annual Beverly Roberts Memorial Healthcare Symposium
Kristen Markowski / MK	Vernon, NJ 11/11/2026	Sussex County Choral Directors Association: Guest Conductor for Sussex County Honor Choir 2026
Nicholas Pelosi / MH	Sparkill, NY 11/13/2026	Counselor Connect: A Networking Lunch at St. Thomas Aquinas College
Monika Weissensee / MH	New York, NY 11/16/2026	College Board: AP Reading Technology Pilot

Name / School	Location / Date	Conference
Ciana Roman / MH	Wharton, NJ 11/16/2026 11/30/2026	Picatinny Arsenal: Programming Language Literacy
Lara Carlson / MK	Monroe, NJ 11/17/2026	FEA: Human Advantage Skills in an AI World - Leading for Impact
Emily Barkocy / MH	Online 11/19/2026	NJPSA/FEA: Foundation for Education Administration - Legal One - Attendance, Residency, and Homelessness Issues
Nicholas Pelosi / MH	South Orange, NJ 11/20/2026	HESAA School Counselor Workshop at Seton Hall University
Janine Rinaldi / MH	Online 11/24/2026	Rutgers University: Introduction to Positive Behavior Supports
Meaghan Cordero / MK Sara Lakatos / MK Kristin Pennisi / MK	New Providence, NJ 11/30/2026	Morris-Union Jointure Commission: Streamlining the Digital Classroom - AI As a Teaching Assistant
Christopher Frangipane / MK	Morristown, NJ 12/3/2026	CAE: Aviation Round Table
Brenda Gupta / MH Rebecca Rock / MK	Montclair, NJ 12/4/2026	Montclair State University Counselor Workshop
Joseph Avagliano / MH	Princeton, NJ 12/4/2026	NJ Council for History Education at Princeton University
Stefana Niemoczynski / MH Lauren Sherburne / MH	Old Tappan, NJ 12/7/2026	NJ AI Literacy Summit: Presenters of “Leveraging AI to Enhance Critical Reasoning Skills” at Northern Valley Regional High School.
Lauren Jackson / MH Angela Salisbury / MK Mark DiGennaro, Jr. / MH	Woodland Park, NJ 12/10/2026 Jersey City, NJ 1/21/2027 Ramsey, NJ 3/18/2027 TBD 5/20/2027	NJCECA Meetings
Tiffany Doltz / MH	Morristown, NJ 1/8 - 1/10/2027-	American Flyers Private Pilot Ground School
Meaghan Cordero / MK Sara Lakatos / MK	New Providence, NJ 1/11/2027	Morris-Union Jointure Commission: AI in Action - Practical Strategies for Using Artificial Intelligence to Strengthen Student Learning
Kevin Doyle / Dist.	Online 1/13/2027	TMI Education: Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Create Three-Dimensional Assessments in Science
Lori Vertucci / MK Emily Rapagnani / Dist. Dominique Brock / MK	Ewing, NJ 1/27/2027	The College of New Jersey: AI With Intention - Helping Students Think, Question and Create
Michele Hudak / MK	Denville, NJ 1/29/2027	AP Round Table at Morris Knolls HS
Lindsay Dunn / MK	Montclair, NJ 3/10/2027	Montclair State University: Theatre Day for Teachers

- Authorized a materials grant valued at $532.44 from Donors Choose to the Morris Hills High School HOPE Club.

- Authorized a materials grant valued at $498.93 from Donors Choose to the Morris Hills High School HOPE Club.

- Authorized a materials grant valued at $631.27 from Donors Choose to the Morris Hills High School HOPE Club.

- Authorized the following donations of gift cards from local businesses to the MHRD Wellness Committee, to be raffled off to staff members in support of the District's Student and Staff Wellness goal initiative:

Business:	Value
The Pasta Shop, Denville	$25.00
The Exchange, Rockaway	(2) $50.00 ea
Diamond Spring Brewing Co., Denville	1 month Circle Club membership ($20.00)
Thatcher McGhee's, Denville	$25.00

- Authorized accepting, with regret, the resignation of the following personnel for the purpose of retirement:

Name	Position	Loc.	Eff. Date
Vergara, Gilberto	Custodian - Night Supervisor	MK	12/31/26
Gorman, William	Custodian	MK	12/31/26
Yuen, Jack Non	Custodian	MK	12/31/26

- Authorized accepting the resignation of the following personnel:

Name	Position	Loc.	Eff. Date
Dunn, Lindsay	Assistant Golf Coach	MK	10/27/26

- Authorized rescinding the contract and appointment of staff and payment of salary of the following non-certified positions for the 2026-2027 school year:

Name	Position	Loc.	Eff. Date
Alexander, Christina	National English Honor Society Advisor	MK	01/01/27- 06/30/27

- Authorized a leave of absence or revision for the 2026-2027 school year:

Name	Position	Loc.	Effective Dates *(all dates are on or about)*			
			Sick and/or Personal	FMLA / NJFLA	Unpaid	Return to Work
Alexander, Christina	Teacher of English	MK		08/24/26 - 11/13/26	**Change From:** 11/16/26 - 01/01/27 **To:** 11/16/26 - 02/26/27	**Change From:** 01/04/27 **To:** 03/01/27
DiStasio, Marissa	Teacher of Math	MK		10/05/26 - 11/13/26		11/16/26
O'Shea, Mary	LDT-C	MK	01/05/26 - 04/06/26	04/07/26 - 09/03/26	**Change From:** 09/04/26 - 01/01/27 **To:** 09/04/26 - 06/10/27	**Change From:** 01/04/27 **To:** Start of 2027-2028 School Year
Palanker, Tori	School Counselor	MK	01/12/27 - 01/30/27	02/01/27 - 04/30/27		05/03/27
Escobar, Alina	Staff Assistant	MK		10/06/26 - 11/30/26		12/01/26
De Prospo, Anthony	Bus Driver - Full Run	Dist.	09/23/26 - 09/24/26	09/25/26 - 11/02/26		11/03/26

- Authorized for the 2026-2027 school year the appointment of staff and/or revision of dates and payment for the following 1/6 stipend positions:

Name	Position	Loc.	Effective Dates *(all dates are on or about)*
Moreno, Allyson	Teacher of Science	MH	10/26/26 - 04/30/27
Pollison, Haley	Teacher of Science	MK	10/26/26 - 04/30/27

Name	Position	Loc.	Effective Dates *(all dates are on or about)*
Weissensee, Monika	Teacher of Science (2) 1/6 positions	MH	10/26/26 - 04/30/27
Niemoczynski, Stefana	Teacher of Science	MH	10/26/26 - 04/30/27
Quinones, Jacqueline	Teacher of Spanish	MH	10/01/26 - 11/30/26
Perez, Kerby	Teacher of Spanish	MH	10/01/26 - 11/30/26
Dalton, Maria	Teacher of Spanish	MH	10/01/26 - 11/30/26
Bailey, Laura	Teacher of Spanish	MH	10/01/26 - 11/30/26
Henriques, Lindsay	Teacher of Spanish	MH	10/01/26 - 11/30/26
Shubert, Joseph	Teacher of Math	MK	10/05/26 - 11/13/26
Hobson, Christina	Teacher of Math	MK	10/05/26 - 11/13/26
Berkheiser, Melissa	Teacher of Math	MK	10/05/26 - 11/13/26
Hudak, Michele	Teacher of Math	MK	10/05/26 - 11/13/26
Taddeo, Nicole	Teacher of Math	MK	10/05/26 - 11/13/26
McMahon, Bryan	Teacher of Science	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/30/26 - 10/21/26 **To:** 09/30/26 - 10/28/26
Fudrini, Vanessa	Teacher of Science	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/30/26 - 10/21/26 **To:** 09/30/26 - 10/28/26
Fisher, Maryanne	Teacher of Science	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/30/26 - 10/21/26 **To:** 09/30/26 - 10/28/26
Mindrebo, Eric	Teacher of Science	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/30/26 - 10/21/26 **To:** 09/30/26 - 10/28/26
Orenstein, Amanda	Teacher of Science	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/30/26 - 10/21/26 **To:** 09/30/26 - 10/28/26
Falconi-Shubert, Nicole	Teacher of Special Education	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/28/26 - 11/04/26 **To:** 09/28/26 - 12/23/26
Sills, Elizabeth	Teacher of Special Education	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/28/26 - 11/04/26 **To:** 09/28/26 - 12/23/26
Kaufman, Reid	Teacher of Special Education	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/28/26 - 11/04/26 **To:** 09/28/26 - 12/23/26
Lestrange, Kelly	Teacher of Special Education	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/28/26 - 11/04/26 **To:** 09/28/26 - 12/23/26
Di Paolo, Nicholas	Teacher of Special Education	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/28/26 - 11/04/26 **To:** 09/28/26 - 12/23/26
Miniter, Craig	Teacher of Special Education	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/28/26 - 11/04/26 **To:** 09/28/26 - 12/23/26
Obra, Rusty	Teacher of Family & Consumer Sciences	MK	**Change** **From:** 08/25/26 - 11/15/26 **To:** 08/25/26 - 12/15/26
Sabo, Melissa	Teacher of Family & Consumer Sciences (2) 1/6 positions	MH	**Change** **From:** 08/25/26 - 11/15/26 **To:** 08/25/26 - 12/15/26
Simpson, Debbian	Teacher of Family & Consumer Sciences (2) 1/6 positions	MH	**Change** **From:** 08/25/26 - 11/15/26 **To:** 08/25/26 - 12/15/26
Maclay, Andrew	Teacher of Family & Consumer Sciences	MH	**Change** **From:** 08/25/26 - 11/15/26 **To:** 08/25/26 - 12/15/26

- Authorized for the 2026-2027 school year the appointment of staff and/or revision of dates and payment for the following 2/6 stipend positions:

Name	Position	Loc.	Effective Dates *(all dates are on or about)*
Callanan, Maria	Learning Disability Teacher Consultant	MK	**Change** **From:** 08/24/26 - 12/23/26 **To:** 08/24/26 - 06/10/27
DiFulco, Bianca	Learning Disability Teacher Consultant	MK	**Change** **From:** 08/24/26 - 12/23/26 **To:** 08/24/26 - 06/10/27
McMally, Debra	Learning Disability Teacher Consultant	MK	**Change** **From:** 08/24/26 - 12/23/26 **To:** 08/24/26 - 06/10/27
Vetter, Robyn	Learning Disability Teacher Consultant	MK	**Change** **From:** 08/24/26 - 12/23/26 **To:** 08/24/26 - 06/10/27
Ossa, Jovanna	Learning Disability Teacher Consultant	MK	**Change** **From:** 08/24/26 - 12/23/26 **To:** 08/24/26 - 06/10/27

- Authorized for the 2026-2027 school year a change of assignment and payment of salary of the following staff members:

Name	Position	Loc.	Effective Dates *(all dates are on or about)*
Escobar, Alina	Unified Sports Coach Soccer **Change** **From:** Full position **To:** .5 position	MK	**Change:** **From:** 09/01/26 - 11/30/26 **To:** 09/01/26 - 10/05/26

- Authorized for the 2026-2027 school year the revision of staff and payment of salary of the following certified positions, subject to appropriate New Jersey Department of Education certification and required documentation:

Name	Position	Loc.	Effective Dates *(all dates are on or about)*
Assadourian, Nicole	Teacher of English (Lv. Repl.)	MK	**Change** **From:** 08/24/26 - 12/23/26 **To:** 08/24/26 - 02/26/27

- Authorized for the 2026-2027 school year the appointment of staff and payment of salary of the following non-certified positions, subject to receipt of required documentation:

Name	Position	Loc.	Effective Dates *(all dates are on or about)*
Lakatos, Sara	National English Honor Society Advisor	MK	**Change** **From:** 09/01/26 - 12-31-26 **To:** 09/01/26 - 06/30/26
Gabel, Doug	Unified Sports Coach - Soccer (.5 position)	MK	10/06/26 - 11/30/26
Cleffi, Kyle	Girls Winter Track Assistant Coach	MK	12/01/26 - 03/15/27
Landshof, Michael	Girls Spring Track & Field Assistant Coach	MK	03/16/27 - 06/30/27

- Authorized for the 2026-2027 school year the appointments of staff and payments of fees for the Revised and New Staff Development Workshops.

- Authorized for the 2026-2027 school year the appointment of the following Substitute employees:

Name	Substitute Position	Period	Certificate
Harris, Andrea	Substitute Teacher	10/27/26-6/10/27	County Certificate

- Authorized for the 2026 - 2027 School Year the appointment of staff and rate of pay for the following positions:

Name	Position	Period *(all dates are on or about)*	Add'l Info.
Rama, Victoria	Homebound Instructor	10/27/26 - 06/30/27	As needed
Frangipane, Christopher	Homebound Instructor	10/27/26 - 06/30/27	As needed
Ninivaggi, Eileen	Homebound Instructor	10/27/26 - 06/30/27	As needed
Adessa, Jodie	APA Audition Panel	12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Dunn, Lindsay	APA Audition Panel	12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Izsa, Brett	APA Audition Panel	12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Markowski, Kristen	APA Audition Panel	12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Peluso, Lisa	APA Audition Panel	12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Schwartz, Daniel	APA Audition Panel	12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Shaffer, Ryan	APA Auditions Check-In	12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Beck, Krystal	APA Auditions Check-In	12/06/25 (snow date 12/13/25)	As needed
Hartsuiker, Michelle	APA Auditions Check-In	12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Schweizer, Shannon	Magnet & School Choice Testing Check-In	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Castaneda, Ingrid	Magnet & School Choice Testing Check-In	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Acquaviva, April	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Avagliano, Joseph	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Conti, Constance	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Dennis, Kadeem	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Di Paolo, Nicholas	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Doltz, Tiffany	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Fundora, Martha	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Giovine, Robert	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Lindstrom, Haley	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
McGhee, Samara	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Pelosi, Nicholas	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Perry, Colleen	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Roman, Christopher	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed
Santucci, Lora	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26	As needed
Studer-O'Neill, Deirdre	Homebound Instructor	10/27/26 - 06/30/27	As needed
Trollinger, Adam	Magnet & School Choice Testing Proctor	11/21/26 & 12/05/26 (snow date 12/12/26)	As needed

- Authorized for the 2026-2027 school year the appointment of volunteers, subject to receipt of required documentation:

Name	Position	School
DiStasio, Daniel	Powder Puff Chaperone	MK

Name	Position	School
Fischer, Thomas	Powder Puff Chaperone	MK
Ross, Michael	Volunteer Wrestling Coach	MH

- Authorized for the 2026-2027 school year the appointment of staff and payment of salary of the following non-certified positions, subject to receipt of required documentation:

Name	Position	Loc.	Effective Dates (all dates are on or about)
Lucero, David	Bus Technician	DIST	**Change** **From:** 10/01/26 - 06/30/27 **To:** 10/21/26 - 06/30/27

- Authorized for the first reading the following Policy and Regulation:

	Number	Title	New or Revised
a.	Policy 7510	Use of School Facilities (Original Version)	Revised
b.	Policy 7510	Use of School Facilities (Revised Version)	Revised
c.	Regulation 7510	Use of School Facilities (Original Version)	Revised
d.	Regulation 7510	Use of School Facilities (Revised Version)	Revised

- Authorized for the second reading the following Policy:

	Number	Title	New or Revised
a.	Policy 8561	Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs	Revised