MENDHAM TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BROOKSIDE, NEW JERSEY
MIDDLE SCHOOL MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2026, 7:30 PM

I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

II. Flag Salute - Mrs. Carrino-Tamasi led the flag salute.

III. Roll Call of the Board of Education

Mrs. Elisabeth Carrino-Tamasi	President	Present
Dr. Rekha Mandel	Vice President	Present - arrived @ 7:38 PM
Mrs. Cynthia Brusco		Present
Mrs. Natasha Crossan		Present
Mr. Peter Dumovic		Present
Mr. Thomas Keeling		Present
Dr. Christina Klausner		Present

Zero (0) members of the public were in the audience.

IV. Sunshine Law – Mrs. Carrino-Tamasi read the following statement
The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Mendham Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the Mendham Township Board of Education Office, sent to the Clerk of Mendham Township, and the Observer Tribune and the Daily Record. This is an official meeting.

V. Superintendent's Report
- District Updates, News, and Events

VI. Assistant Superintendent's Report

I am happy to share that we enjoyed a wonderful start to the school year, with continued attention to staffing, student programming, and individual needs as students and staff settle into the year. In the area of Special Services, we continue to focus on the implementation of IEPs and student programs. Our CST members have been meeting with teachers to support

the implementation of accommodations and modifications in their classrooms and to promote student growth and learning.

There has also been a focus, as we start the year, on two important areas of professional development. First, in the area of **Co-Teaching**, our professional development work is underway, with our first rounds of support and coaching beginning later this month. Today, I also held our first **Mentoring Program** meeting as we continue to support new staff as they transition into the district and their respective roles.

Overall, we have had a very positive start to the school year. As we move forward, our focus will remain on supporting our staff, strengthening our programs, and ensuring that we continue to meet the individual needs of all of our students. I look forward to sharing updates on this work with the Board throughout the year.

VII. Board President's Report - None.

VIII. Correspondence - None

IX. Committee Reports

- **Curriculum and School Programs** - Mr. Keeling delivered the report.
- **DEIB** - Dr. Mandel delivered the report.
- **Operations and Finance** - Mrs. Crossan delivered the report.
- **Personnel and Human Resources** - Mr. Dumovic delivered the report.
- **Policy** - Mrs. Brusco delivered the report.
- **Ad Hoc - Referendum/ROD Grant** - Mr. Keeling delivered the report.

X. Consent Items

Approval of Minutes

Regular Session Minutes:	August 18, 2026
Executive Session Minutes:	August 18, 2026
Work Session Minutes:	August 25, 2026
Executive Session Minutes:	August 25, 2026

Curriculum and School Programs

1. **Paraprofessional Staff 2026-2027** *(Attachment)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the submission of the Paraprofessional Staff Statement of Assurance for the 2026-2027 school year.

2. **Mendham Township School District Calendar 2027-2028** *(Attachment)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the Mendham Township School District Calendar for the 2027-2028 school year.

3. **Middle School Building Goals** *(Attachment)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education adopts the Middle School Building Goals for the 2026-2027 school year.

4. **Week of Respect, School Violence Awareness Week, and Red Ribbon Week for the 2026-2027 school year** *(Attachments)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached activities to be held at the Mendham Township Middle School in observance of the Week of Respect, School Violence Awareness Week, and Red Ribbon Week for the 2026-2027 school year.

5. **Field Trips** *(Attachments)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached field trips for the 2026-2027 school year.

6. **Contracts with Anne Hunkler**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 16035759) as per the IEP for 3 hours per week for a total of 108 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $8,640.00.

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 16058583) as per the IEP for 3 hours per week for a total of 108 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $8,640.00.

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 16149916) as per the IEP for 3 hours per week for a total of 108 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $8,640.00.

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 16568830) as per the IEP for 3 hours per week for a total of 108 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $8,640.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 15659735) as per the IEP for 2.5 hours per week for a total of 90 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $7,200.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 14489107) as per the IEP for 2 hours per week for a total of 72 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $5,760.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 14738813) as per the IEP for 2 hours per week for a total of 72 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $5,760.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 15531086) as per the IEP for 2 hours per week for a total of 72 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $5,760.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 15759120) as per the IEP for 2 hours per week for a total of 72 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $5,760.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 16185412) as per the IEP for 2 hours per week for a total of 72 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $5,760.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 16246068) as per the IEP for 2 hours per week for a total of 72 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $5,760.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 15729264) as per the IEP for 1.5 hours per week for a total of 54 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $4,320.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 13426451) as per the IEP for 1 hour per week for a total of 36 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $2,880.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 14430010) as per the IEP for 1 hour per week for a total of 36 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $2,880.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 15360987) as per the IEP for 1 hour per week for a total of 36 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $2,880.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 13292301) as per the IEP for .5 hours per week for a total of 18 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $1,440.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for one (1) student (ID# 14532735) as per the IEP for .5 hours per week for a total of 18 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $1,440.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Anne Hunker Karanikas for contracted Behavioral Consultation within the school from 08/31/26 to 06/15/27 for 504/I&RS students for a total of 8 hours per month for a total of 12 hours @ $80/hr. not to exceed a total of $960.00.

Operations and Finance

1. **Certification Reports**

   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education certify, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(a), that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation and

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9, N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8, and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(B), after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly

financial reports for August 2026 that no major accounts and fund balances in the 2026/2027 budget have been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

2. **Board Secretary's Report**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the August 2026 Board Secretary's Reports.

3. **Treasurer's Report**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the August 2026 Treasurer's Reports.

4. **August 2026 Transfer Reports**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the August 2026 transfer report.

5. **September 2026 Bills List**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the September 2026 Bills List. This includes payroll checks N5638 through N5640.

Fund 10 - Treasurer Account	$
Fund 11 - Treasurer Account	$
Fund 12 - Treasurer Account	$
Fund 20 - Special Revenue/Grants	$
Fund 30 - Referendum Account	$
Fund 60 - Cafeteria Account	$
Fund 95 - Athletic Account	$
Total:	$

6. **Use of District Facilities** *(Attachment)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached use of facility applications for the 2026-2027 school year, with the right to cancel based on school events and needs.

7. **District Travel** *(Attachment)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Board of Education approves the attached travel events in agreement with Chapter 53, Public Law 2007, NJSA 18A:11-12, NJAC 6A:23A-1. All mileage will be reimbursed at the maximum NJ Circular 08-19-OMB rate (currently $0.47 per mile).

Personnel and Human Resources

1. **Leave of Absence - Jeffrey Herring**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves Jeffrey Herring, Elementary School Teacher, for a leave of absence commencing October 12, 2026, under the Federal Family Medical Leave (FMLA) & the NJ Family Leave Act (NJFLA).

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves Jeffrey Herring with a return-to-work date of November 2, 2026.

2. **Leave of Absence – Amy Bond**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves Amy Bond, Bus Driver, for a leave of absence commencing on November 9, 2026, utilizing 27 sick days under the Federal Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves Amy Bond with a return-to-work date of December 21, 2026, pending re-evaluation and certification from a physician.

3. **Revised Middle School Schedule C Stipend Positions for 2026-2027**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the revised 2026-2027 Co-Curricular Stipend positions for Middle School:

CO-CURRICULAR Activities (Schedule C)

Activities	2026-2027 Salary	Staff Member
Girls Field Hockey JV (1/2 Stipend)	$2,875.00	Amanda Porter
Girls Lacrosse	$5,750.00	Carol Hueston

4. **Elizabeth Haversang, Elementary School Nurse - Summer Hours**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves payment to Elizabeth Haversang, Elementary School Nurse, for summer hours, not to exceed 20 hours, at the rate of $39.96 per hour.

5. **Abigail Cogott, WGU Student and Substitute Teacher**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Abigail Cogott, WGU Student, to complete the clinical observation requirement with Eugenia Mastrogiannakos, Elementary School teacher.

6. **Chaperones for the 2026-2027 School Year** *(Attachment)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached chaperone list for the 2026-2027 school year.

7. **New - Substitute Teacher**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Elizabeth Miseo, pending completion of paperwork, as a substitute teacher for the 2026-2027 school year at the current rate of $125.00 per full day and $62.50 per half day.

8. **Merit Goals – Superintendent of Schools** *(Attachments)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached Merit Goals for Dr. Salvatore M. Constantino for the school year 2026-2027.

9. **Merit Goals – Assistant Superintendent** *(Attachment)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached Merit Goals for Dr. Robert Koroski for the school year 2026-2027.

10. **Merit Goals – Business Administrator** *(Attachment)*
    BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached Merit Goals for Donna Mosner for the school year 2026-2027.

11. **Merit Goals – Elementary School Principal** *(Attachment)*
    BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached Merit Goals for Dr. Julianne Kotcho for the school year 2026-2027.

12. **Merit Goals – Middle School Principal** *(Attachment)*
    BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached Merit Goals for Dr. Patrick Ciccone for the school year 2026-2027.

13. **Merit Goals – Elementary School Assistant Principal** *(Attachment)*
    BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached Merit Goals for Mrs. Alyssa Ridente for the school year 2026-2027.

14. **Merit Goals – Middle School Assistant Principal** *(Attachment)*
    BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached Merit Goals for Mr. Scott Byers for the school year 2026-2027.

Policy and Planning

1. **First Reading** *(Attachments)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the first reading of the following policies and regulations:

P 2415.30	Title 1 - Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care (M)
P 2418	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - Students (M)
R 2418	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - Students (M)
R 2460	Special Education (M)
R 2460.9	Special Education - Transition from Early Intervention Programs To Preschool Programs (M)

2. **Second Reading** *(Attachments)*
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the second reading and adoption of the following policies and regulations:

P 1240	Evaluation of Superintendent (M)
R 1240	Evaluation of Superintendent (M)
P 1510	Americans with Disabilities Act (M)
R 1510	Americans with Disabilities Act (M)

XII. ACTION ITEMS

Personnel and Human Resources

1. **Leave of Absence – Susie Lebron Vega**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves Susie Lebron Vega, Bus Driver, for a leave of absence commencing on August 27, 2026, utilizing 6 Sick days under the Federal Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves Susie Lebron Vega with a return-to-work date of September 8, 2026, pending re-evaluation and certification from a physician.

2. **Leave of Absence – Deborah Templin**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves Deborah Templin, Bus Driver, for a leave of absence commencing on August 31, 2026, utilizing 12 sick days under the Federal Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves Deborah Templin with a return-to-work date of September 17, 2026.

3. **Leave of Absence – Yvonne Zarnitz**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby approves Yvonne Zarnitz, Bus Driver, for a leave of absence commencing on September 8, 2026, utilizing 5 sick days. The remainder will be unpaid.

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board approves Yvonne Zarnitz with a return to work date of October 9, 2026.

4. **Elementary & Middle School Extra Instructional Periods for 2026-2027**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the following Elementary and Middle School staff members to teach extra periods of instruction during the 2026-2027 school year at a prorated stipend based on $8,500/year for an additional period five (5) times a week for a full year, and independent of placement on the salary guide.

Extra Instructional Periods

Multi-Sensory Reading Program Zero Period	5 period/wk	Dawn Cullinan	$8,500.00
Multi-Sensory Reading Program Zero Period	4 period/wk	Jennifer Vazquez	$6,800.00
Multi-Sensory Reading Program Zero Period	3 period/wk	Carol Hueston	$5,100.00

5. **Summer Classroom Relocation**
   BE IT RESOLVED that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the following staff members, at the contractual rate of $400.00 each, for packing up and moving their classroom location:

   MTES - Teresa Folan, Deanna Pugliese, Rebecca Scanlan, Gina Sodora
   MTMS - Briana Ocampo, Amanda Porter

Mrs. Klausner moved to approve the Action Item for September 15, 2026; Personnel and Human Resources Items 1-5, seconded by Mr. Keeling, and the motion was CARRIED in a roll call vote: Mrs. Brusco; yes, Mrs. Crossan; yes, Mr. Dumovic; yes, Mr. Keeling; yes, Dr. Klausner; yes, Dr. Mandel; yes, and Mrs. Carrino-Tamasi; yes – motions carry.

XIII. Adjourn to Closed EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975, also known as the Sunshine Law, authorizes a public body to meet in executive session under certain limited circumstances; and

WHEREAS, said law requires the board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting before it can meet in such an executive or private session.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Mendham Township that it does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in executive session at this time to discuss personnel matters. The matters discussed will be made public if and when confidentiality is no longer required, and action pursuant to said discussion shall take place only at a public meeting.

Moved by Mr. Keeling, seconded by Dr. Mandel, to move to Closed Executive Session.
The Board adjourned to Closed Executive Session at 8:16 pm.

XIV. Reconvene Open Work Session Meeting

Moved by Mrs. Klausner, seconded by Mrs. Brusco, to reconvene the Work Session Meeting at 8:28 pm., unanimously carried in a voice vote.

XV. Discussion

Mr. Dumovic mentioned that the Morris County SBA County Association Meeting is next Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at Montville Township High School, and that the BOE will receive the Carole E. Larsen Master Board Certification from Mr. Paul Pineiro. This is a very select distinction, and it would be wonderful for everyone to attend.

XVI. Verbal Communications from the Public - None.

XVI. Adjournment

Moved by Mrs. Klausner, seconded by Mrs. Crossan, to adjourn the Work Session Meeting of September 15, 2026. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Mosner
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary