MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION
60 Ridge Road, Mahwah, NJ 07430

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Prema C. Moorthy, PhD
President

Benjamin A. Kezmarsky
2nd Vice President

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MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORK SESSION/ACTION MEETING OF THE MAHWAH BOARD OF EDUCATION held on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, in the Administrative Offices, 60 Ridge Rd., Mahwah, New Jersey.

PLEASE NOTE: This meeting of the Mahwah Board of Education is open to members of the public to be physically present. Members of the public that attend will be asked to follow the same procedures as all other visitors to our schools. Those procedures can be found on the agenda page of our website. Additionally, the Board meeting will be live streamed for viewing purposes only. Anyone wishing to view the meeting, may do so via Zoom (https://zoom.us).

CALL TO ORDER

President Dr. Moorthy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mesdames Dr. Moorthy and Ting Jansen
Messrs. DeSilva, Coplin, Huston, Hughes, Kezmarsky and Galow

ABSENT: Mesdames Daveniero

ALSO PRESENT: Michael DeTuro, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Dennis M. Fare, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent
Katherine A. Hiromoto, Business Administrator/ Board Secretary
Lisa Rizzo, Director of Special Services

PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Adequate notice of agenda of this meeting has been provided to *The Ridgewood News and The Record* specifying that the Mahwah Board of Education will meet on October 28, 2026, in the Administrative Offices, 60 Ridge Rd., Mahwah, New Jersey. A copy was filed with the Township Clerk.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

MAHWAH STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Student Representative Valentina Moreno provided updates on activities and events at Mahwah High School. She reported that the Student Government Association (SGA) will be hosting its annual Halloween costume contest. She also highlighted the recent middle school open house, where student clubs, athletic teams, and National Honor Society members welcomed prospective students and families and showcased the various opportunities available at the high school.

Ms. Moreno shared that the National Honor Society and SGA are partnering with Families for Families to provide holiday gifts for a family of seven in need. She also noted that college representatives have been visiting the high school to meet with juniors and seniors and provide information about their institutions. Additionally, she recognized the September Top Soaring Thunderbird award recipients and reported that Mahwah High School recently hosted county chorus auditions and will be hosting its first STEM/STEAM League competition.

MOTION TO RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mr. Hughes to recess to Executive Session under Chapter 231, P.L. (Sunshine Law), which authorizes a public body to discuss personnel, negotiations, student, and/or legal matters.

Motion carried at 7:05 p.m.

MOTION TO RECONVENE TO PUBLIC ACTION MEETING

Motion by Mr. DeSilva and seconded by Mr. Kezmarsky to reconvene the public session.

Motion carried at 7:42 p.m.

MOTION TO OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS

Motion by Mr. Hughes and seconded by Mr. Coplin to open the meeting to the public for comments.

Motion carried at 7:42 p.m.

AGENDA QUESTIONS

There were no questions about the agenda.

MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS

Motion by Mrs. Ting Jansen and seconded by Mr. Galow to close the meeting to the public for comments.

Motion carried at 7:43 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – DR. MICHAEL DETURO

As part of the Superintendent's Report, Ms. Courtney Carrelha, Ms. Jodi Craft, and Mr. James O'Hara presented an overview of the District's student achievement and assessment results, including ACCESS testing, the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (NJGPA), graduation rates, SAT and ACT performance, Advanced Placement (AP) results, and postsecondary outcomes.

Ms. Carrelha reviewed the District's ACCESS testing results, which measure English language proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing for multilingual learners in grades K–12. She reported that 53 students participated in the assessment, a decrease of 16 students from the previous year, with nine students meeting the criteria to exit the program. She noted that the majority of students receiving services are in grades K–3 and highlighted the District's focus on early language development. Ms. Carrelha also discussed the use of individualized language plans, alignment with WIDA standards, targeted interventions in phonics and phonemic awareness, and ongoing collaboration among teachers to support students' academic and language development.

Ms. Craft presented the Spring 2026 NJGPA results for the Class of 2027, reporting that 88% of students demonstrated graduation readiness in English Language Arts, compared to the statewide average of 76%, and 83% demonstrated graduation readiness in mathematics, compared to the statewide average of 39%. She explained that the assessment transitioned to a computer-adaptive format aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, resulting in changes to question formats and the skills being assessed. Due to these changes, the Spring 2026 results will serve as a new baseline for future comparisons.

Ms. Craft also reviewed the District's instructional strategies and interventions, including the use of benchmark assessments, departmental data team meetings, individualized College and Career Readiness courses, and Tier 2 and Tier 3 academic supports. She emphasized the District's continued focus on strengthening reading comprehension, particularly nonfiction texts and vocabulary, across all subject areas. She also explained that students who do not meet NJGPA proficiency requirements have alternative pathways available to satisfy graduation requirements.

Mr. O'Hara presented graduation and postsecondary data for the Class of 2026. He explained the State and federal graduation rate calculations and noted that the preliminary adjusted cohort graduation rates remain subject to revisions following the State's appeals process. He reported that 48 students satisfied graduation assessment requirements through substitute competency assessments, while four students met alternate requirements through their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

Mr. O'Hara also reviewed five-year trends in SAT and ACT participation and performance, highlighting the District's efforts to increase student awareness of both assessments through Parent Academy programming and free practice testing opportunities offered in partnership with Revolution Prep.

Mr. O'Hara highlighted the District's strong Advanced Placement performance, reporting that students completed 532 AP exams across 23 subject areas. Of those exams, 94% received a score of three or higher, the District's highest percentage in five years, with an overall average score of 4.0. Additionally, 73% of exams received scores of four or five, and 55 students earned AP Scholar with Distinction recognition. He recognized the accomplishments of students and teachers and discussed continued efforts to expand access to AP coursework.

In reviewing postsecondary outcomes, Mr. O'Hara reported that approximately 83% of graduates enrolled in four-year colleges, 10% enrolled in two-year colleges, and approximately 95% pursued four-year colleges, two-year colleges, or career education programs. He noted that graduates attended 90 different colleges across 27 states, reflecting the variety of educational opportunities pursued by Mahwah High School students.

Following the presentation, Board members asked questions regarding changes to the NJGPA, including the removal of extended-response mathematics questions and the continued emphasis on conceptual understanding and problem-solving. Discussion also addressed the relationship between NJGPA results and the District's LinkIt benchmark assessments, with the administration explaining how assessment data is reviewed by departmental teams to identify instructional needs and develop targeted interventions.

Additional discussion focused on strengthening nonfiction reading comprehension and vocabulary across grade levels and subject areas. The administration highlighted collaboration among English Language Arts, social studies, science, and elementary teachers to reinforce reading strategies throughout the curriculum. Board members also discussed mathematics interventions and statewide science assessments. The administration emphasized the District's continued commitment to using assessment data, professional development, and collaborative instructional planning to support student achievement.

Dr. DeTuro provided updates on District initiatives, student achievements, and community engagement. He highlighted the newly updated Mahwah High School Profile, which showcases the District's academic programs, career pathways, Advanced Placement performance, and college acceptances. He also shared the High School's informational materials designed to provide families with a comprehensive overview of

academic offerings, internships, extracurricular activities, and opportunities available to students.

Dr. DeTuro reported on the success of Mahwah High School's recent Open House, noting that the event was held earlier this year and expanded to include all middle school families in grades 6–8. He emphasized the District's continued efforts to increase awareness of the opportunities available at Mahwah High School and assist families in making informed decisions about their children's educational futures.

Dr. DeTuro also recognized Mahwah High School students from the Habitat for Humanity and Leo Clubs for volunteering at the Access for All Halloween Bingo Night, highlighting the District's commitment to community partnerships and student service. He further noted the ongoing college representative visits, which provide students and families with opportunities to explore a variety of postsecondary educational options.

At the elementary level, Dr. DeTuro highlighted fire safety activities at Betsy Ross Elementary School, where students participated in educational programs with members of the local fire department. He also recognized George Washington Elementary School's October Spirit Week assembly, which celebrated students receiving self-awareness awards as part of the District's social-emotional learning initiatives.

In closing, Dr. DeTuro congratulated the Mahwah High School Marching Thunderbirds on their outstanding performance at the West Orange Marching Band Invitational, where they earned first place in Open Class, Best Music, and Best Visual. He commended the students, directors, and staff for their dedication and accomplishments.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT –DR. DENNIS M. FARE

Dr. Fare provided updates on student achievements, extracurricular activities, and upcoming events throughout the District. He highlighted the successful fall athletic season, noting that the Ramapo Ridge Middle School boys' soccer, girls' soccer, and girls' volleyball teams advanced to the playoffs, with the girls' soccer team remaining undefeated. He also recognized the Mahwah High School girls' soccer team's recent victory over River Dell and congratulated student-athlete Mikey Branick on receiving the Super Football Conference Young Man of the Year Award.

Dr. Fare also highlighted Mahwah High School's Automotive Club, where students are gaining hands-on experience in automotive maintenance and mechanics under the guidance of club advisor Mr. Wagman. He shared information regarding upcoming District events, including a Parent Academy presentation focused on the Nurtured Heart Approach and Responsive Classroom strategies, as well as the High School's Summer Internship Showcase, which will highlight student internship experiences and recognize community mentors and participating organizations.

Additionally, Dr. Fare announced that Mahwah High School will host its first STEM League competition in the T3 building, welcoming students from several neighboring school districts. The event will provide opportunities for students to collaborate, apply engineering and problem-solving skills, develop prototypes, and present their work to a panel of judges.

In closing, Dr. Fare recognized the upcoming retirement of Jacqueline Pepe, an instructional paraprofessional who has dedicated 30 years of service to the District. He acknowledged her contributions to Mahwah High School, George Washington Elementary School, and Lenape Meadows School, including her involvement in creating the Lenape Meadows cafeteria mural, and extended his appreciation and best wishes for her retirement.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT – MS. KATHERINE A. HIROMOTO

Ms. Hiromoto provided an update on the District's ongoing referendum projects. She reported that demolition has begun for the Building 5 Life Skills Room project and that the District continues to work with Pal-Pro Builders and LAN Associates on permits, construction progress, and upcoming project milestones. The District is also obtaining furniture quotes and has moved forward with purchasing the boilers for the project. She noted that the project remains on schedule.

Ms. Hiromoto also reported on the upcoming bid openings for the Betsy Ross Elementary School Electrical Upgrades and HVAC and Boiler Upgrades, scheduled for November 4 and December 9, respectively. Both projects are anticipated to begin in Summer 2027, with bidding taking place in advance to allow sufficient time for equipment and material procurement.

Ms. Hiromoto then provided an update on the District's 2027 medical benefits renewal and the proposed transition from Horizon to the Metropolitan Health Insurance Fund (Metro HIF), effective January 1, 2027. She explained that the District, in consultation with its benefits consultant, IMAC, reviewed available coverage options and renewal costs. Metro HIF proposed a 22.23% increase compared to Horizon's negotiated 27.5% increase. She highlighted Metro HIF's historical renewal trends, administrative support, and resources available to assist the District and its employees. Pending Board approval, the District will begin coordinating the transition and open enrollment process with IMAC, including employee informational meetings and additional resources to support a smooth transition.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Moorthy provided an update on the Bergen County School Boards Association meeting hosted by Mahwah Township Public Schools in September. She expressed her appreciation to Dr. DeTuro, the administrative team, staff, students, and Pomptonian Food Service for their contributions to the event. She highlighted the outstanding participation of Mahwah High School students, including the Interact Club, String Ensemble, and Chamber Choir, as well as the efforts of the District's technology and custodial staff. Dr. Moorthy shared that the event received overwhelmingly positive feedback from board members across Bergen County, who praised the District's students, facilities, hospitality, and overall organization.

Dr. Moorthy also reflected on the recent New Jersey School Boards Association Workshop, noting the positive recognition Mahwah received from representatives of other school districts. She highlighted the District's proactive approach to educational initiatives, including artificial intelligence, as well as the strong collaboration and positive working relationships among Board members and District leadership. She expressed pride in the District's accomplishments and thanked everyone for their continued dedication and commitment to the Mahwah school community.

In closing, Dr. Moorthy extended her best wishes to those celebrating Diwali and announced the upcoming annual Diwali lighting ceremony at the Senior Center. She also wished fellow Board member Ms. Daveniero a happy birthday.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Instructional & Curriculum/Special Education – P. Moorthy (Chair), T. Daveniero, M. Galow, B. Coplin, J. Ting Jansen (Alt.)
Finance & Facilities – M. Galow (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky, J. Ting Jansen, P. Moorthy (Alt.)
Policy – J. Ting Jansen (Chair), C. Hughes, S. Huston, R. DeSilva
Community Relations – B. Coplin (Chair), T. Daveniero, S. Huston, C. Hughes, M. Galow (Alt.)

Executive/Planning Committee – P. Moorthy (Chair), R. DeSilva, B. Kezmarsky Transportation Committee – B. Coplin (Chair) T. Daveniero, C. Hughes, M. Galow Negotiations – J. Ting Jansen (Chair), M. Galow, B. Kezmarsky, P. Moorthy
Bergen County School Boards Liaison – M. Galow, P. Moorthy (Alt.)
New Jersey School Boards Legislative Liaison – P. Moorthy
Mahwah Schools Foundation Liaison – B. Kezmarsky, B. Coplin (Alt.)
Mahwah Access for All Liaison – S. Huston, M. Galow (Alt.)
Board of Education Liaison to Town Council - B. Kezmarsky, R. DeSilva, (Alt.)

On behalf of the Transportation Committee, Mr. Coplin welcomed Ms. Spindler back from maternity leave and thanked her for her continued efforts in overseeing the District's transportation operations. He reported that minor adjustments were made to several bus routes to improve scheduling and operational efficiency. He also shared that student ridership remains consistent with the previous year, averaging approximately 40% in the morning and 36% in the afternoon. Mr. Coplin noted that aid-in-lieu payments are anticipated to be distributed in January following verification of December attendance. He also highlighted the proposed hiring of a part-time bus driver, which will provide additional flexibility for substitute coverage and athletic transportation while reducing the workload on existing staff. Mr. Coplin thanked Ms. Spindler, Ms. Hiromoto, and Dr. DeTuro for their support and reported that the Committee will meet again in February.

On behalf of the Instructional & Curriculum/Special Education Committee, Dr. Moorthy highlighted several items on the Board agenda, including curriculum updates involving a program name change and the SOAR program. She also noted the proposed use of the Student Assistance Program (SAP) as a Tier 3 intervention to provide additional student support on an as-needed basis.

BOARD MEMBER REMARKS/ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON REPORTS OR OTHER NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Coplin congratulated the K–3 Home and School Organizations (HSOs) on the success of their recent walkathons. He highlighted the excellent turnout and favorable weather and commended the HSOs for their efforts in organizing these successful events.

Mr. Hughes echoed Dr. Moorthy's remarks regarding the positive feedback received from board members throughout Bergen County following the recent school boards association meeting hosted by the District. He noted that attendees were particularly impressed with Mahwah's facilities and expressed his appreciation for the District's resources and accomplishments. Mr. Hughes also inquired about the District's civics curriculum, specifically whether students receive instruction on state, county, and local government and elections in addition to federal government. He requested additional information regarding how these topics are addressed within the curriculum.

In response to Mr. Hughes, Dr. Fare explained that the District's curriculum addresses state, county, and local government and elections. He also highlighted the Thunderbird Partnership Program, through which local election candidates have visited Project Citizen and middle school social studies classes to discuss the election process and provide students with real-world learning experiences. Dr. Fare noted that these opportunities help students make meaningful connections between classroom instruction and civic engagement.

Dr. DeTuro further explained that instruction on federal, state, county, and local government and elections is incorporated throughout the District's K–12 curriculum. He also highlighted the District's partnership with the League of Women Voters, coordinated by Social Studies Supervisor Ms. Van Ess, which provides

high school students with opportunities to receive training and serve as election poll workers. Dr. DeTuro emphasized the District's continued commitment to promoting civic responsibility and providing students with meaningful opportunities to participate in the democratic process.

Dr. Moorthy added that student participation in election poll worker programs continues to grow, with significant involvement from high school students across the region. She recognized Mahwah High School students for their participation and acknowledged Mr. Galow's earlier efforts in encouraging the initiative. She noted that the program provides students with valuable hands-on civic experience while also offering paid opportunities to participate in the election process.

17. OLD BUSINESS

Resolution 17a-17b were moved by Mr. Galow and seconded by Mr. Coplin.

a. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the October 07, 2026, Public Work Session/Action Meeting.

b. Minutes

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the minutes of the October 07, 2026, Executive Session.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 17a-17b.
Motion 17a-17b carried 6 ayes, 0 nays, with Dr. Moorthy and Mrs. Ting Jansen abstaining.

18. NEW BUSINESS- OTHER

Resolutions 18a-18q were moved by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mr. Hughes.

a. Financial Report

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the payment of bills for the period of 10/08/2026 to 10/28/2026; and 07/01/2026 to 10/28/2026 for Payroll.

General Current Expense	Fund 11	$2,636,290.28
Capital Projects Funds	Fund 30	$171,963.21
Region 1	Fund 52	$6,987.20
Region I-Contracted Trans.	Fund 53	$890,734.10
Cafeteria	Fund 60	$63,680.89
Payroll	Fund 70	$7,368,213.91
Total of All Checks		$11,137,869.59

b. Approval of Medical Insurance Carrier Change and Membership in the Metropolitan Health Insurance Fund (Metro HIF)

WHEREAS, a number of public entities in the State of New Jersey have joined together to form the METROPOLITAN HEALTH INSURANCE FUND, hereafter referred to as "FUND", as permitted by N.J.S.A. 11:15-3, 17:1- 8.1, and 40A:10-36 et seq., and;

WHEREAS, the FUND was approved to become operational by the Departments of Insurance and Community Affairs and has been operational since that date, and;

WHEREAS, the statutes and regulations governing the creation and operation of a joint insurance fund contain certain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a FUND;

WHEREAS, the governing body of Mahwah Township Public Schools, hereinafter referred to as "LOCAL UNIT" has determined that membership in the FUND is in the best interest of the LOCAL UNIT.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the LOCAL UNIT hereby agrees as follows:

i. Become a member of the FUND for the period outlined in the LOCAL UNIT's Indemnity and Trust Agreements.
ii. Will participate in the following type (s) of coverage (s): a) Health Insurance as defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17B:17-4, the FUND's Bylaws, and Plan of Risk Management.
iii. Adopts and approves the FUND's Bylaws.
iv. Execute an application for membership and any accompanying certifications.
v. Commit to the four principles of the FUND which are:
    a) A long term philosophy on rates.
    b) A willingness to work with bargaining units to achieve plan design changes.
    c) Professional management with stability and commitment.
    d) Rating structure based on actuarial numbers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the LOCAL UNIT is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the FUND as required by the FUND's Bylaws, and to deliver these documents to the FUND's Executive Director with the express reservation that these documents shall become effective only upon:

i. Approval of the LOCAL UNIT by the FUND.
ii. Receipt from the LOCAL UNIT of a Resolution accepting assessment.
iii. Approval by the New Jersey Department of Insurance and Department of Community Affairs.

c. Cooperative Contract Bid Award – Referendum Ramapo Ridge Middle School IT Room HVAC Project

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and whereas the Mahwah Board of Education is authorized to utilize the Morris County Educational Services Commission (MOESC) Cooperative Purchasing Program, which has publicly bid contracts that satisfy the requirements of the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., and whereas Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc. (WTI) submitted a proposal to the Board based upon pricing established under MOESC Roofing Repair and Maintenance Cooperative Bid 24-25/25-26, Contract #25-13, Co-op #289MOESC, now therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Mahwah Board of Education awards a contract to Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc. (WTI) in the amount of $3,731.17 for the Ramapo Ridge Middle School IT Room HVAC Project pursuant to MOESC Roofing Repair and Maintenance Cooperative Bid 24-25/25-26, Contract #25-13, Co-op #289MOESC, provided the submitted proposal meets all project requirements and is subject to the terms and conditions of the applicable cooperative contract; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Board authorizes the Board President and/or the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute the appropriate documents and take all actions necessary to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

d. Cooperative Contract Bid Award – Betsy Ross HVAC Project – New Boiler Room Circulator Pumps

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and whereas the Mahwah Board of Education is authorized to utilize the North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Pricing System, which has publicly bid contracts that satisfy the requirements of the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., and whereas DMR Services, LLC submitted a proposal to the Board based upon pricing established under North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Pricing System Contract #B505-10, now therefore,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Mahwah Board of Education awards a contract to DMR Services, LLC in the amount of $36,684.00 for the Betsy Ross HVAC Project – New Boiler Room Circulator Pumps pursuant to North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Pricing System Contract #B505-10, provided the submitted proposal meets all project requirements and is subject to the terms and conditions of the applicable cooperative contract; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Board authorizes the Board President and/or the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute the appropriate documents and take all actions necessary to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

e. Region 1- Transportation Contract

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the transfer of Region 1 transportation contract AKA52124 containing route E1564 from AKA School Transportation to Bestway Invalid Coach Service LLC, effective November 1, 2026, for the remainder of the 2026-2027 school year.

f. Conferences/Workshops

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves attendance at the following conferences/workshops that are deemed to be educationally appropriate and for the benefit of the school district including conference/workshop fees and necessary travel expenses. The conference/workshop amount shall align with the staff member's annual contractual allowance.

First	Last	Conference/Workshop	Date	Amount
Caitlin	Francis	BLS (Basic Life Support) Training for School Nurses	10/12/2026	$75.00

First	Last	Conference/Workshop	Date	Amount
Catherine	Schwartz	AP Roundtable	10/12/2026	N/A
Kate	Storms	Basic Life Support Training for School Nurses	10/12/2026	$75.00
Emilie	Brinson	BLS Training for School Nurses	10/12/2026	$75.00
Kirsteen	Diaz-Pinto	BLS CPR Recertification Class	10/12/2026	$75.00
Jennifer	Blackford	BLS for School Nurses	10/12/2026	$75.00
Christine	Hartigan Miller	Pequannock EdSummit	10/12/2026	N/A
Dennis	Fare	Mastering Negotiations	10/23/2026	$300.00
Andrew	Beutel	National Association for Multicultural Education	11/19 - 11/20/2026	$1,400.67
Julianne	Correa	2026 Bergen County Chorus	11/20/2026	N/A
Dennis	Jarvis	Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Create Three-Dimensional (3D) Assessments in Science	1/13/2027	$160.00
Dennis	Jarvis	Providing Quality Feedback and Other Tougher Conversations for Educational Supervisors	2/24/2027	$100.00
Jodie	Craft	Providing Quality Feedback and Other Tougher Conversations for Educational Supervisors	2/24/2027	$100.00
Caroline	Krueger	Providing Quality Feedback and Other Tougher Conversations for Educational Super	2/24/2027	$100.00
Dennis	Fare	Providing Quality Feedback and Oher Tougher Conversations for Educational Supervisors	2/24/2027	$100.00
Ofeer	Kearns	Providing Quality Feedback and Other Tougher Conversations for Educational Supervisors	2/24/2027	$100.00
Dawn	Savastano	Providing Quality Feedback and Other Tougher Conversations for Educational leaders	2/24/2027	$100.00

g. Field Trips

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following field trips:

Group/Destination	Date(s)	School	# of Students
G&T (8) to Mahwah High School, Mahwah, NJ	11/4/26	RR	12
TSA Club (11-12) to TCNJ, Ewing Twp., NJ	11/24/26	MHS	8
Athletics (9-12) to Big North Sportsmanship Summit Hackensack, H.S., Hackensack, NJ	12/1/26	MHS	7
English Honors (Grade 11) to Medieval Times, Lyndhurst, NJ	12/11/26	MHS	31
Athletics (9-12) to Big North Sportsmanship Summit, Fair Lawn H.S., Fair Lawn, NJ	3/2/27	MHS	7

Group/Destination	Date(s)	School	# of Students
Chorus (6-8) to Lyndhurst Middle School, Lyndhurst, NJ	3/5/27	RR	90
G&T (6-12) to Thomas Grove Middle School, West Windsor, NJ	3/13/27	RR & MHS	80
World Language (10-12) to Bronx Zoo, Bronx, NY	4/20/27	MHS	115
Science (K) to Van Saun Park, Paramus, NJ	5/5/27	BR	39
Grade 6 to Frost Valley, Claryville, NY	5/5-5/7/27	RR	150
Grade 2 to Sterling Mine, Ogdensburg, NJ	5/13/27	BR	53
Grade 7 to Sea Grant Consortium, Sandy Hook, NJ	5/19/27	RR	170
Kindergarten to Van Saun Park, Paramus, NJ	5/19/27	LM	51
Grade 8, to Various locations, Boston, MA	6/3-6/4/27	RR	180
FPS (6-12) to Indiana University, Bloomington, IN	6/9-6/13/27	RR & MHS	32

h. First Reading

P0144 Board Member Orientation and Training
P &R 1613 Disclosure and Review of Applicant's Employment History
R2415 Title I Services
P2431.3 Heat Participation Policy for Student-Athlete
R2481 Home or Out of School Instruction for a General Education Student for Reasons Other Than a Temporary or Chronic Health Condition
P3211 Code of Ethics
R3310 Academic Freedom in the Classroom
P&R3425.1 Modified Duty Early Return to Work Program – Support Staff Members
P3437 Military Leave
P3439 Jury Duty

i. Curriculum Program

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the alignment and the updated names of our Multilingual Leaner curriculum courses in Rubicon Atlas to align with the WIDA English Language Development Standards Framework.

j. Curriculum Program

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the SOAR Curriculum in Rubicon Atlas to align with the district Gifted and Talented mission and program goals.

k. Hospital-Based Instruction Vendor

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education hereby approves Rutger's Health University Behavioral Health Care located in Piscataway,

NJ be appointed to provide Acute Inpatient Services. The cost for this service is $75.00 per hour.

l. Hospital-Based Instruction

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education hereby approves student with local identification number 39898 be placed on beside Instruction provided by Rutger's Health University Behavioral Health Care at a rate of $75.00 per hour for 10 hours per week

m. Change of Column on the Salary Guide

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a change of column on the MEA Teachers' Salay Guide for the following certified staff who completed graduate/in-service credits, retroactive to August 25, 2026.

First Name	Last Name	From Column	To Column
Bora	Xhidra	D – MA	E – MA+15

n. Donation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education gratefully accepts the donation of a lending library from Girl Scout Troop 98669 that consists of students from Lenape Meadows and Betsy Ross schools. The lending library will be displayed in front of Lenape Meadows School for students and families to enjoy.

o. Renewal – One Call Now Notification System

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education renew its agreement with OnSolve to send district and community communication via telephone, text, and email; for the 2026 – 2027 school year; at a total cost of $5,901.06.

p. Professional Services Agreement Contract – Kreyco, Inc.

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the contract with Kreyco, Inc, at a cost of $46,000, for the period of November 1, 2026 – March 27, 2027.

q. Program Approval - Suspension Alternative Program (SAP)

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the Suspension Alternative Program (SAP) conducted by the Bergen County Special Services School District and the Bergen County Technical School District in collaboration with the Bergen County Division of Family Guidance to be used on an as-needed basis to serve as a Tier 3 resource for identified students at Mahwah High School; for the 2026-2027 school year; annual cost to be $950 for five weeks and $195 per additional week.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 18a-18q.
Motion 18a-18q carried 8 ayes, 0 nays, with Mr. Kezmarsky abstaining from check 125438 and check 125491 and Mr. Galow abstaining from check 125483.

19. NEW BUSINESS- PERSONNEL

Resolutions 19a was moved by Mrs. Ting Jansen and seconded by Mr. Galow.
Resolutions 19b-19v were moved by Mr. Huston and seconded by MrS. Ting Jansen.

a. Retirement

RESOLVE; that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the retirement of Jacqueline Pepe, instructional paraprofessional, at Mahwah High School, for the purpose of retirement; with a final date of employment January 1, 2027.

FURTHER RESOLVED; that the Mahwah Board of Education expresses its sincere appreciation for her 30 years and 4 months of dedication and service to the Mahwah Public Schools.

b. Resignation

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education accepts the resignation of Angela Hogue, paraprofessional, at George Washington School, effective November 4, 2026.

c. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Kristin DeMarino Calamia, as instructional paraprofessional, 2.5 hours per day, at Betsy Ross School, effective retroactive to October 13, 2026 - June 30, 2027; salary to be Step 1, $9,820.80, prorated; pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

d. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Yaritza Hernandez Osorio, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Lenape Meadows School, effective November 2, 2026 - June 30, 2027; salary to be Step 1, $21,605.76, prorated; pending fingerprinting and employment verification.

e. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Jodi Costa, as instructional paraprofessional, 5.5 hours per day, at Mahwah High School, effective November 2, 2026 - June 30, 2027; salary to be Step 1, $21,605.76, prorated; pending employment verification.

f. Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of Stephen Manahan, as a substitute and athletic bus driver, effective October 29, 2026 – June 30, 2027; salary to be $36.79 per hour, to be paid via a submitted voucher for hours worked; pending employment verification.

g. Appointment – Middle School Basketball Head Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment Alexander Hufford as basketball head coach, at Ramapo Ridge Middle School for the 2026 – 2027 season; stipend to be $5,335.

h. Appointment – Assistant Wrestling Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment Zackary Marck as assistant wrestling coach, at Mahwah High School, for the 2026 – 2027 season; stipend to be $10,341.

i. Appointment – Assistant Basketball Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment Matthew Domville as assistant basketball coach, at Mahwah High School, for the 2026 – 2027 season; stipend to be $10,341.

j. Change in Position and Appointment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the change in position and appointment for Caitlin Francis; from non-certificated school nurse, for Mahwah Township Public Schools, to the position of certificated school nurse for George Washington School; salary to be Column C, Step 10, $74,466, pro-rated; effective December 14, 2026 – June 30, 2027; pending certification.

k. Temporary Change in Assignment

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the temporary change in assignment for Angela Kelly, from 5.5 instructional paraprofessional, at Mahwah High School, to leave replacement for Employee #4430; effective retroactive to October 14, 2026 – November 17, 2026; salary to be $50,541, pro-rated, for time of service in this position.

l. FMLA Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence for Employee #5116, effective retroactive on October 19, 2026 – November 4, 2026, using 13 sick days and FMLA concurrently, from October 19, 2026 – November 4, 2026.

m. FMLA Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence for Employee #4263, effective retroactive on October 12, 2026 – October 16, 2026, using 1 personal day, 4 sick days, and FMLA concurrently, from October 12, 2026 – October 16, 2026.

n. FMLA Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence for Employee #1974, effective on December 7, 2026 – January 8, 2027, using 18 sick days and FMLA concurrently, from December 7, 2026 – January 8, 2027.

o. NJFLA Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence for Employee #5295, effective retroactive on September 22, 2026 – October 6, 2026, using 5 personal days, 6 sick days, and NJFLA concurrently, from September 22, 2026 – October 6, 2026.

p. NJFLA Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence for Employee #4430, effective retroactive on October 12, 2026 – November 13, 2026, using 2 sick days, 2 vacation days and NJFLA concurrently, from October 12, 2026 – October 15, 2026, and taking NJFLA from October 16, 2026 – November 17, 2026.

q. NJFLA Leave of Absence

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves a leave of absence for Employee #7280, effective on November 2, 2026 – November 20, 2026, using 15 vacation days and NJFLA concurrently, from November 2, 2026 – November 20, 2026.

r. Technical Support

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following staff members to provide technical support for Saturday SAT administrations at Mahwah High School during the 2026-2027 school year on an as needed basis; stipend to be $500 per day, to be paid via a submitted voucher.

First Name	Last Name	First Name	Last Name
Fabian	Bonilla	Richard	Ferrara
Harrison	Fenners	Victor	Martinez

s. AV Booth Support

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment of the following students to provide AV support at Mahwah High School during the 2026-2027 school year on an as needed basis; at an hourly rate of $15.92, to be paid via a submitted voucher for hours worked.

First Name	Last Name	First Name	Last Name
Zachary	Pierson	Luke	Hoffman
Reese	Sklar	Margaret	Sariti
Daniel	Fernandez		

t. Volunteer – Assistant Wrestling Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment Joseph Sogabe as volunteer assistant wrestling coach, at Mahwah High School, for the 2026 – 2027 season, at no cost to the district; pending employment verification.

u. Volunteer – Assistant Wrestling Coach

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the appointment Kayla Cundari as volunteer assistant wrestling coach, at Mahwah High School, for the 2026 – 2027 season, at no cost to the district; pending employment verification.

v. Parent Volunteers

RESOLVED: that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Mahwah Board of Education approves the following individuals, as volunteers at Mahwah Township Public Schools for 2026-2027 school year:

Lenape Meadows School

First Name	Last Name	First Name	Last Name
Aprile	Savarese	Chanel	Villanueva
Kelly	Burton	Karthy	Dhore
Minkyung	Kim	Anna	Miller
Kristin	Prentice	Moneka	Bowens
Jessica	Diaz	Melissa	DeFreese

George Washington School

First Name	Last Name	First Name	Last Name
Kristen	Acosta	Elena	Christie

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 19a.
Motion 19a carried 8 ayes, 0 nays.

ROLL CALL VOTE on resolution 19b-19v.
Motion 19b-19v carried 8 ayes, 0 nays.

PUBLIC QUESTION OR COMMENT

Public participation at Board meetings is in accordance with Bylaw 0167.

At this time, members of the public may ask questions or make a comment on educational issues or school matters of community interest. As a matter of fairness, you are asked to limit your questions to no more than one, and your remarks to no longer than three minutes. If you are here representing a group, please identify yourself, the group, and your position in the group. If you are here as an individual, please give us your name and address.

Note: This section of public participation will be limited to fifteen minutes.

MOTION TO OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Motion by Mr. DeSilva and seconded by Mr. Hughes, to open the meeting to the public.

There were no public questions or comments.

Motion carried at 8:48 p.m.

MOTION TO CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Motion by Mr. Kezmarsky and seconded by Mr. Ting Jansen to close the meeting to the public.

Motion carried at 8:49 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion by Mr. Coplin and seconded by Mr. Kezmarsky to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried at 8:49 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine A. Hiromoto
Business Administrator/Board Secretary