Magnolia School District
Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Minutes
October 27, 2026
6:30 P.M.

Mr. Nick D'Amico opened the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m., leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Roll Call

Mrs. Rebecca Ammen	**Present**
Mr. Richard Cruz	**Absent**
Mr. Nick D'Amico	**Present**
Mr. Mark Godfrey	**Present**
Mrs. Jennifer Jackson	**Present**
Mr. Dale Martin	**Present**
Mrs. Karen Sorbello	**Absent**

Other Attendees

Mrs. Karen Macpherson, Superintendent
Mr. Greg Gontowski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Frank Cavallo, Solicitor

Mission Statement

Mission Statement was read by Mr. Nick D'Amico

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Session Board of Education meeting held on September 15, 2026.

Motioned by Dale Martin, Seconded by Mark Godfrey

Vote: To approve Minutes
Voice Vote. All in favor.

Motion Approved

Open Audience Participation I

Open Audience Participation I – <u>AGENDA ITEMS ONLY</u>

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Seconded by Rebecca Ammen

Vote: To approve opening of Audience Participation I
Voice Vote. All in favor

None

Close Audience Participation I

Close Audience Participation I

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Mark Godfrey

Vote: To approve closing of Audience Participation I
Voice vote. All in favor

BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Nick D'Amico commented on next years convention

State and Local

Nick D'Amico - county meeting topic was about naming rights

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent's Report

Presentation

Presentation

1. Jamie DeVecchis, School Counselor, and Paul Sorrentino, Principal, will present HIB trends, school safety and culture, and the 2025-2026 HIB Grades Report.

Informational Items

A. Informational Items

1. The Camden County Office of Education will conduct the district's on-site QSAC review on May 5, 2027.

Curriculum/ Programs

B. Curriculum/Programs
(No items at this time)

Interdistrict

C. Interdistrict
(No items at this time)

Public Relations

D. Public Relations/Liaison
(No items at this time)

Student/Parental Issues and Concerns

E. Student/Parental Issues and Concerns
(No items at this time)

Buildings and Grounds

F. Buildings and Grounds

1. A fire drill was held on September 11, 2026.

2. A lockdown drill was held on September 15, 2026.

Negotiations

G. Negotiations/Contractual *(Executive Session)*
Be it resolved that the Board of Education will now convene into Executive Session. The discussion conducted in Executive Session shall be disclosed to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the Executive Session and may take action at that time.

Harassment, Intimidation, or

H. Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (HIB)

Bullying (HIB)

(No items at this time)

Miscellaneous

I. Miscellaneous
(No items at this time)

Principals Report

J. Principal's Report

1. Principal's Report - September 2026
2. Nursing Report - September 2026

Items for Board Approval

Motion to approve, on the Recommendation of the Superintendent, Personnel Items I through 14

A. Personnel

To approve revised maternity start date EE#734

1. Approval to revise the start date of a maternity leave of absence for employee #734, retroactive to October 8, 2026 through February 12, 2027, returning to work on February 16, 2027.

To approve RU students – Literacy Pedagogy

2. Approval of Lily Molnar and Bryanna Snell, students at Rowan University, to complete their 8 week, 1 day a week, Literacy Pedagogy II with Olivia Heyser, 1st grade teacher, retroactive to September 25, 2026 through November 20, 2026.

To approve SJU student – clinical experience

3. Approval of Aneesu Nellikala, a student at St. Joseph's University, to complete her clinical experience with Elizabeth Kummer, Physical Therapist, retroactive to September 28, 2026, through December 18, 2026.

To approve RU students to complete their 5 week clinical

4. Approval of the following students at Rowan University to complete their 5 week Clinical Experience 1 with the following staff members on Wednesdays, retroactive to September 30, 2026, through October 28, 2026:

Student Name	Teacher Name
Burkhardt, Kathryn	Singleton, Tricia
Cicala, Renata	Attanansi, Haley
Cipparone, Taylor	Attanansi, Haley
Espinal, Stephany	Rutherford, Linda
Garcia, Earl	Rutherford, Linda
Leporati, Abigail	Rutherford, Linda
Powers, Jenna	Borgese, Nicolas

Rendino, Logan	Borgese, Nicolas
Ross, Jaylah	Borgese, Nicolas

5. Approval to revise the 2026-2027 salary of the following nontenured teaching staff member: (Attachment A1)

To approve salary revision – Susan Ortiz

Fourth Year Teacher (Tenure - 2027-2028)	FTE
Ortiz, Susan	1.00

To approve federal grant for staff

6. Approval of the following staff to be charged to Federal Grants for the 2026-2027 school year:
   Title I - Ashton Whitaker - Teacher - $38,291.00 - 50.26%
   IDEA PS - Kelly Neckonchuk - Teacher Assistant - $7,747.00 - 28.51%

To approve Marlys as nurse for ext. activities

7. Approval of Sandy Marlys to serve as the nurse on duty for extracurricular activities for up to 28 hours, compensated at her per diem hourly rate.

To approve parental LOA for EE#659.

8. Approval of a parental leave of absence for employee #659, effective January 4, 2027, through March 25, 2027, returning to work April 5, 2027.

To approve maternal LOA for EE#732.

9. Approval of a maternity leave of absence for employee #732, effective January 21, 2027, through May 27, 2027, returning to work May 28, 2027.

To approve D. Carson for curriculum maps to be paid from general funds.

10. Approval of the following employee for curriculum maps to be paid from general funds:

Last Name	First Name	Rate	Hours	Not to Exceed	Curriculum
Carson	Daniel	$40.00	Up to 30	$1200.00	Social Studies Grades 7-8

To approve staff members to attend Cheryl Fricchione's Math Professional Development.

11. Approval of the following staff members to attend Cheryl Fricchione's Math Professional Development: *The 5 Practices for Classroom Discussions*, on October 19, 2026, in Cherry Hill at a cost of $479.00 to be paid from Title II (200-500):

Last Name	First Name
Capie	Isabella
Cohen	Jacqueline
Gilley	Allison

To approve E. Hobbs to attend safety-care

12. Approval of Erin Hobbs to attend Safety-Care (v7) Recertification Training on January 11, 2027, at a cost of $999.00 to be paid from the general fund.\

To approve S. Dobleman & P. Healy to attend

13. Approval for Stacey Dobleman and Patrick Healy, Preschool Teachers, to attend the NAEYC Annual Conference on December 5-8, 2026. The PEA Grant (200-580) will fund admission,

NAEYC Conf.

hotel, mileage, and miscellaneous expenses.

To approve S. Dobleman to attend CCESC workshops.

14. Approval of Stacey Dobleman to attend the following CCESC workshops at a cost of $250.00 per workshop for a total of $750.00 to be paid through the PEA Grant (200-580):

Workshop	Date
Setting Up the Preschool Learning Environment	11/12/2026
Implementing Studies	01/27/2027
Celebrating MLL	03/10/2027

Motioned by Dale Martin Second by Mark Godfrey.

Vote: To approve Personnel Items 1 through 14.
Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Martin, and Mr. D'Amico (5-0-0)

Motion Approved

Students

B. Students
(No items at this time)

Motion to approve, on the Recommendation of the Superintendent, Program Items 1 through 6 and Trip Items 1 and 2.

Programs

C. Programs

NJQSAC

1. Approval of the NJ Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) District Performance Review (DPR) for the 2026-2027 school year. (Attachment C1)

ABR

2. Approval of the 2025-2026 School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (ABR).

Additional Preschool class

3. Approval of the addition of a fifth Preschool class for the 2027–2028 school year.

Early childhood LEA – contact

4. Approval of the Early Childhood LEA Contact Information for the 2027-2028 Three-Year Preschool Program Plan and Annual Update.

Three-year preschool program plan

5. Approval of the 2027-2028 Three-Year Preschool Program Plan and Annual Update.

MOU

6. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Wellbrook Health/My Wellbrook and the Magnolia Public School District to coordinate services that address the mental health, social, and supportive needs of the district's students. This MOU is effective for one year at no cost to the district. (Attachment C2)

Trips

D. Trips

We Rock the Spectrum

1. Approval for the Multiply Disabled classes to participate in a field trip to We Rock the Spectrum in Pitman on January 29, 2027, with transportation costs covered by the Board of Education in the amount of $280.00.

Please Touch Museum

2. Approval of the Preschool trip to the Please Touch Museum on February 11, 2027. Museum fees and busing will be paid through PEA Grant (100-500 & 200-516).

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Second by Dale Martin.

Vote: To approve Program Items 1 through 6 and Trip Items 1 and 2.
Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Martin, and Mr. D'Amico (5-0-0)

Motion Approved

Plans

E. Plans
(No items at this time)

Job Descriptions

F. Job Descriptions
(No items at this time)

Facilities

G. Facilities
(No items at this time)

Policies

H. Policies
(No items at this time)

Board Secretary Report

BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Informational Items

Informational Items:

-School Boards Convention – October 19 – 22, 2026

-October BOE Meeting Date has been rescheduled for October 27, 2026

Board Actions

Board Actions:

Motion to approve items A through D

Monthly Reports

A Monthly Reports
The Budget Summary and Revenue Summary for the month of August 2026. **(Attachment A1 through A2)**

Transfers

B Transfer of Funds
The attached transfer list, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, for the month of August 2026. **(Attachment B1)**

Financial Reports

C Financial Reports

1. Board Secretary's Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of August 2026. The Board Secretary certifies that no line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A – 16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. **(Attachment C1)**
2. Treasurer's Report in accordance with 18A:17-36 and 18A:17-9 for the month of August 2026. The Treasurer's Report and Board Secretary's report are in agreement for the month of August 2026. **(Attachment C2)**
3. Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources.
4. Board of Education Certification – pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (c) 4 We certify that after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Bill List

D Warrants

The attached bill lists:

- Warrants **(Attachment D1)**
- Payroll **(Attachment D2)**

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Second by Rebecca Ammen.

Vote: To approve Board Action Items A through D.
Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Martin, and **Mr. D'Amico. (4-0-1) ** Nick D'Amico – Abstained from payments to ESS

Motion Approved

Motion to approve items F through H.

Tuition – GCSSSD

F Tuition – GCSSSD

To approve a tuition contract with Gloucester County Special Services School District for student #5368036857 in the amount of $68,360.00 for tuition, $4,870.00 for ESY tuition, and $3,460.00 for out of county surcharge for the 2026-2027 school year.

Comprehensive Maintenance Plan

G Comprehensive Maintenance Plan

To approve the 2027-2028 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for submission to the county. **(Attachment E1)**

Form M-1

H Form M-1

To approve the 2027-2028 Form M-1 for submission to the county. **(Attachment F1)**

Motioned by Mark Godfrey, Second by Rebecca Ammen.

Vote: To approve Board Action Items F through H.
Roll Call Vote. All in favor: Mrs. Ammen, Mr. Godfrey, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Martin, and Mr. D'Amico (5-0-0)

Motion Approved

Audience Participation II

X. Open Audience Participation II – <u>Public Comment</u>

None

Executive Session

XI. RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION at approximately 6:49 p.m.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Magnolia Borough School District has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of this Board of Education will reconvene at the conclusion of closed session, at approximately <u>7:00</u> p.m. this evening.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Magnolia Borough School District will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body (Specify contract: **MSEA**);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

Motioned by Dale Martin, Seconded Mark Godfrey

Vote: To Enter Executive Session
Voice Vote. All in favor (5-0-0)

Action will not be taken after Executive Session

Resumption to Public Portion of the Meeting

XII. RESUMPTION OF PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING 6:58 p.m.

Motioned by Rebecca Ammen, Seconded by Dale Martin

Vote: To approve Resumption of Public Portion of the Meeting
Voice vote. All in favor

Motion Approved

Adjournment

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:58 pm by Mark Godfrey Seconded by Dale Martin
Vote: To Adjourn meeting
Voice Vote. All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Gontowski
Board Secretary