NORTH CALDWELL BOARD OF EDUCATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SESSION
GRANDVIEW SCHOOL CAFETERIA
VIA ZOOM MEETING
https://ncboe.zoom.us/j/92607355409?pwd=EHiUWH1GRpAaud5ASMDbCEoaaYdbfQ.1
GRANDVIEW SCHOOL CAFETERIA
October 13, 2026
7:30 P.M.
AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**
   In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting has been properly advertised in the designated newspaper and the agenda has been posted at the appropriate locations.
4. **ROLL CALL**
5. **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
6. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT (Pursuant to Board Policy 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings) During this opportunity to comment, district residents and staff are invited to discuss any area of public concern that may be in respect to the operation of the schools. Board Policy 0167 requires that individuals state their name and address of residence and asks that all remarks be directed to the Board as a whole and not to individuals. (All Zoom guests are required to turn their camera on if participating in public comment) The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Although the Board may not respond to items raised during the public forum, all public comments will be considered and may be discussed tonight under "new business" at this meeting, or at subsequent meetings under "old business," or during a Board committee meeting, if appropriate. Each speaker's statement will be limited to three (3) minutes in duration.

- **General Resolutions**
  - **G1. Approve second reading of Policies and Regulations**
  - **G2. Approve student observation hours**
  - **G3. Approve 2026-2027 School Nursing Plan**
  - **G4. Approve Facility Use Application for North Caldwell Recreation Basketball**
- **Business Resolutions**
  - **B1. Approve Public and Confidential minutes of September 15, 2026**
  - **B2. Approve Payrolls**
  - **B3. Approve Electronic Check Register**
  - **B4. Approve Bills and Claims**
  - **B5. Approve Transfers for September**
  - **B6. Approve Board Secretary Certification for the month of September 2026**

B7. Approve Board Secretary and Treasurer's Financial reports for September 2026
B8. Approve Change order GC # 04 for Mike Fitzpatrick Contractors Inc.
B9. Approve Change order GC # 05 for Mike Fitzpatrick Contractors Inc.
B10. Approve Comprehensive Maintenance Plan

- **Personnel Resolutions**

P1. Approve listed substitutes
P2. Approve listed staff professional development
P3. Approve school lunch aide
P4. Approve listed Title I tutors
P5. Approve staff member for Home Instruction
P6. Approve teacher for the 2026-2027 school year
P7. Approve rescission of resolution
P8. Approve FMLA for listed staff member
P9. Approve before school vocal instruction
P10. Approve before school instrumental instruction
P11. Approve Part Time Custodian
P12. Approve Full Time Custodian

OLD BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. ADJOURN TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION (IF NECESSARY)

☒ Legal	☐ Attorney-Client Privilege
☐ Personnel-	☒ Negotiations
☐ School Security/Public Safety	☐ Student Matter

The next scheduled public meetings of the Board will be held on:
November 17, 2026, at 7:30PM
Grandview School Cafeteria

Posting: Board Members, Principals, NCPE Co-Presidents, NCEA Co-Presidents, Caldwell Progress Press Member, Board Office, Schools, and Town Hall.

The Board of Education of the Borough of North Caldwell in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in public session on October 13, 2026 in person at the Grandview School Cafeteria as well as via an online Zoom Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator, indicated that in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting had been properly advertised and the agenda had been posted at the appropriate locations.

Roll call by the Business Administrator:

Present: Mr. David Ved, President
Mrs. Sapna Malige, Vice-President
Mr. Eric Finkelstein
Mr. Matthew Whitford

Absent: Mr. Michael DiGirolomo

Also Present: Mr. Chris Checchetto, Superintendent
Mr. Michael Halik, Business Administrator / Board Secretary
Mr. Edwin Gomez, Network and Operations Specialist

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Ved reported that seven (7) people attended the meeting on zoom. Mr. Ved thanked the NCPE for coordinating Parents' Night Out and for their continued dedication to community enhancement and fundraising efforts that benefit the schools and students. He extended special appreciation to Eva Rudman and Stacey O'Keefe for their hard work and commitment. He noted that the school year was off to a great start, with a successful first month and positive feedback from parents regarding the newly expanded building and playground. He concluded by wishing everyone a wonderful school year.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Checchetto also expressed his appreciation to the NCPE for its continued dedication, generosity, and support of the District's schools and students.

He stated that the district has received preliminary NJSLA-A assessment data. Individual student scores for the tested grade levels have been uploaded to the Genesis Parent Portal and will be shared with parents during upcoming parent-teacher conferences. The district's official results will be provided at the November Board of Education meeting. Mr. Chechetto announced the first *Coffee and Conversations* of the 2026–2027 school year will take place on Wednesday, October 28. To accommodate families' schedules, he noted that there will be two sessions: a morning session at 9:00 a.m. and an evening session at 7:00 p.m. These informal meetings will provide an opportunity for parents to

engage in conversation, ask questions, and stay informed about district initiatives and activities.

On October 12, professional development sessions were held at both schools to introduce staff to the district's new teacher evaluation platform, SchoolFi. The district has transitioned from Frontline to SchoolFi, which yielded significant savings in technology costs.

Mr. Checchetto shared that at the recent North Caldwell Partnership for Education (NCPE) meeting, Damion Maciocci from West Essex along with Board President Mary Wojtowicz presented information regarding the upcoming November bond referendum vote for West Essex Regional School District. At that meeting, Mr. Checchetto also provided clarification regarding the Grandview School area street ordinance, to ensure that community members have an accurate understanding of the process.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

G1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following Bylaws, Policies and Regulations, at second reading:

BYLAW	**0162**	**Notice of All Board Meetings**
BYLAW	**0162.01**	**Legal Notices**
POLICY	**1230**	**Superintendent Duties**
POLICY	**1643**	**Family Leave**
POLICY	**2200**	**Curriculum Content**
POLICY	**2260**	**Equity in School and Classroom Practices**
POLICY	**2411**	**Career Education and Academic Counseling**
POLICY	**5561**	**Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities**
POLICY	**6112**	**Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures**
POLICY	**6115.02**	**Federal Awards Internal Controls-Mandatory Disclosures**
POLICY	**6311**	**Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants**
POLICY	**5516**	**Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices**
POLICY	**8660**	**Transportation by Private Vehicles To and From School-Related Activities**
REGULATION	**5516**	**Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices**
REGULATION	**6115.01**	**Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Allowability of Costs**

Moved:	Mr. Finkelstein	Seconded:	Mrs. Malige
Yes:	4	No:	0

G2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **Ava Ciccone**, Caldwell University student, to complete 60 hours of classroom observation effective September 30, 2026.

Moved: Mr. Finkelstein Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 4 No: 0

G3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the 2026-2027 North Caldwell School Nursing Services Plan.

Moved: Mr. Finkelstein Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 4 No: 0

G4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following facilities use application as per North Caldwell Board of Education Policy 7510:

Organization:	**North Caldwell Recreation Department**
User Class:	**Class 2**
Activity:	**Recreation Basketball Practice and Games**
Facility:	**Grandview and Gould Gymnasium**
Dates:	**11-30-26 through 3-5-27**
Time:	**5:00pm – 9:00pm**
Fee:	**$200.00**

Moved: Mr. Finkelstein Seconded: Mrs. Malige

Yes: 4 No: 0

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

B1. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the **Public and Confidential Minutes of September 15, 2026.**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B2. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Payrolls:**

Payroll Date:	Payroll #	Amount:
September 30, 2026	**89**	**$435,664.06**
October 15, 2026	**90**	**$463,264.92**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B3. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Electronic Check Register(s):**

Date	Starting check #	Ending Check #	Total Amount
September 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026	**E04116**	**E04123**	**$61,437.79**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B4. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following **Bills and Claims:**

Date	Starting check #	Ending Check #	Total Amount
September 24, 2026	**004486**	**004492**	**$539,923.70**
October 13, 2026	**004493**	**004560**	**$302,582.50**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve attached **Transfers for September 2026**:

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

l:

B6. **WHEREAS** pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that as of **September 2026**, no budgetary line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 4, the Board of Education does certify that as of **September 2026**, the revised Board Secretary Monthly Financial Report, did not reflect an over expenditure in any Major Account or Fund, and based on the Appropriation Balances reflected on this report and on the advice of District Officials, that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

B7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the attached Board Secretary's and Treasurer's **Monthly Financial Reports** for **September 2026**.

Moved:	Mrs. Malige	Seconded:	Mr. Finkelstein
Yes:	4	No:	0

B8. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following change order:

WHEREAS, Mike Fitzpatrick Contractors Inc. was awarded the bid for the Access Road at Grandview School; and

WHEREAS, Mike Fitzpatrick contractors Inc. has submitted the following change order proposal which has been approved by the architect:

Change Order Proposal – **GC #04**
The cost of labor and materials to relocate existing underground electrical conduit and pullbox in the amount of $4,922.66.

The Total Contract value will not change; Total Contract sum $2,114,637.67

AND WHEREAS, DiCara Rubino Architects has verified that these changes are necessary based upon the need to rectify unforeseen conditions uncovered during construction pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-4.9;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves this change order and the contract amount is revised to reflect this change.

Moved:	Mrs. Malige	Seconded:	Mr. Finkelstein
Yes:	4	No:	0

B9. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the following change order:

WHEREAS, Mike Fitzpatrick Contractors Inc. was awarded the bid for the Access Road at Grandview School; and

WHEREAS, Mike Fitzpatrick contractors Inc. has submitted the following change order proposal which has been approved by the architect:

Change Order Proposal – **GC #05**

The costs of materials dimmers (CO-10) in the amount of $1,703.63.

The Total Contract value will not change; Total Contract sum $2,114,637.67

AND WHEREAS, DiCara Rubino Architects has verified that these changes are necessary based upon the need to rectify unforeseen conditions uncovered during construction pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-4.9;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approves this change order and the contract amount is revised to reflect this change.

Moved:	Mrs. Malige	Seconded:	Mr. Finkelstein
Yes:	4	No:	0

B10. RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the attached School Facilities Annual Maintenance Budget worksheet for 2027-2028 (Form M-1) together with the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan.

Moved:	Mrs. Malige	Seconded:	Mr. Finkelstein
Yes:	4	No:	0

PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

P1. RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following as substitute teachers/nurses for the 2026-2027 school year:

Condit, Shannon	Substitute Nurse Certification	$ 300.00/day
Sibilia, Lynne	Substitute Teacher	$ 145.00/day

Moved:	Mrs. Malige	Seconded:	Mr. Finkelstein
Yes:	4	No:	0

P2. RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Professional Development Workshops/Conferences costs for the following staff:

Name	Date	Workshop	Cost Not to Exceed
Keating, Tamara	12/14/2026	The Birth Order Blues	$ 110.00
Keating, Tamara	10/27/2026	The Ethics of Social Work	$ 60.00
Norton, Loren	11/19/2026	Library Centers/Maker Spaces	$ 295.00
Approvato, Nicole	10/19/2026, 12/14/2026, 2/10/2027	Conquer Math	$ 630.00
Schecter, Cheryl	10/16/2026	NJIDA Fall Conference	$ 300.00

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

P3. RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following as a Grandview lunch aide effective October 14, 2026, to June 17, 2027.

Name	Rate of Hourly Pay	Not to exceed
Thomas, Ashley	$16.00/hour	3 hours/day

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

P4. RESOLVED that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following teachers for Title I Tutoring to be paid through The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Grant at a rate of $75.00 per hour effective for the 2026-2027 school year:

Name	**Position**	**AM Rate**	**PM Rate**
Approvato, Nicole	Before/After School Tutor	$50.00	$75.00
Arena, Toni	Before/After School Tutor	$50.00	$75.00
Geraci, Anna	Before/After School Tutor	$50.00	$75.00
Gray, Christine	Before/After School Tutor	$50.00	$75.00
Kappock, Susan	Before/After School Tutor	$50.00	$75.00
Schaffert, Gabrielle	Before/After School Tutor	$50.00	$75.00
Schlachter, Melissa	Before/After School Tutor	$50.00	$75.00
Smurla, Tara	Before/After School Tutor	$50.00	$75.00

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

P5. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following teacher for Home Instruction effective October 13, 2026 to June 17, 2027 for **Student #8006405**

Name	Maximum # of Hours Per Day	Rate per Hour	Not to Exceed
DeMartino, Arianna	**2**	**$75.00**	**10 hours/week**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

P6. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following as a special education teacher effective October 26, 2026 to June 30, 2027:

Name	Position	Salary	Step
Giampapa, Andrew	**Gould School Special Education Teacher**	**$60,002.00**	**BA 1-2**

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

P7. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescind resolution **P12** from the September 15, 2026 Board agenda.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

P8. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the revision of Family Medical Leave for **Olivia Roessner** effective October 6, 2026, to January 12, 2027.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

P9. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve **Kim Williams** for before school chorus instruction at her per diem hourly rate for the 2026-2027 school year.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

P10. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve **James Brady** for before school instrumental instruction at his per diem hourly for the 2026-2027 school year.

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

P11. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following new hire pending favorable criminal history review and health clearance:

Name	**Location**	**Position**	**Salary**	**Term of employment on or About**
Audrey Barron	District	Part Time Custodian	$22.50 per hour	October 14, 2026, to June 30, 2027

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

P12. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following new hire pending favorable criminal history review and health clearance:

Name	**Location**	**Position**	**Salary**	**Step**	**Term of employment on or About**
Robert Bosques	Grandview	Full Time Custodian	$52,900.00	Custodian Step 2	November 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027

Moved: Mrs. Malige Seconded: Mr. Finkelstein

Yes: 4 No: 0

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Checchetto discussed the proposed 2027-2028 school year calendar which will be voted on during the November 17th Board meeting.

The following resolution was called at approximately 7:36 pm.

> **RESOLVED** that in accordance with section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, the Board has the authority to adjourn to closed session to discuss matters pertaining to: Legal and Negotiations. Said matters will be made public upon their disposition.
>
> | | | | |
> |---|---|---|---|
> | Moved: | Mrs. Malige | Seconded: | Mr. Finkelstein |
> | Yes: | 4 | No: | 0 |

As there was no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Halik

Michael Halik
Business Administrator / Board Secretary