Lakewood Public Schools

Lakewood Board of Education

Regular Meeting Agenda

September 23, 2026

Public Session - 7:30 PM

High School Commons

855 Somerset Avenue

Lakewood, NJ 08701

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Moshe Bender- President

Mr. Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President

Mr. Aaron Chase

Mr. Meir Grunhut

Mr. Joel Kleinman

Mr. Samuel Melnik

Mr. Abraham Reich

Mr. Shlomie Stern

Mrs. Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg

SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Dr. Laura A. Winters, Superintendent

Mr. Kevin Campbell, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mr. Joshua Forsman, Esq., In-House Attorney/General Counsel

Mrs. Kristie Sussino, Assistant Business Administrator/Assistant Board Secretary

Ms. Louise Davis, State Monitor

Ms. Patricia Blood, State Monitor

Mr. James Trischitta, Director of Technology, NonPublic Technology & NonPublic Security Grant

Mr. Bryan Powell, Network and Systems Supervisor

Mr. Eric Holmberg, Translator

Mrs. Omaida Segui, Executive Administrative Professional

Mrs. Evelyn Schoenfeld, Executive Administrative Professional

AGENDA

TIME: **7:05pm**

I. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - President, Lakewood Board of Education

II. **STATEMENT BY THE BOARD SECRETARY**

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 231, of the Laws of 1976 (THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT), Mr. Campbell notified the public that notice of the date, time, location and agenda of this meeting, to the extent known, was provided at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of this meeting in the following manner:

1. By posting such notice on the public announcement board of the Lakewood Board of Education Offices, and the Lakewood Township Municipal Building.
2. By e-mailing such notice to the office of the New Jersey Star Ledger, The Lakewood Scoop and The Lakewood Shopper.
3. By filing such notice with the Board Secretary.
4. By mailing such notice to all individuals who requested and paid for a copy of the same.

ROLL CALL:

Moshe Bender-President	Absent
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	P
Aaron Chase	P
Meir Grunhut	P
Joel Kleinman	Absent
Samuel Melnik	P
Abraham Reich	P
Shlomie Stern	P
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	P

III. **EXECUTIVE SESSION - RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, known as the Open Public Meetings Act, provides that a public body may not exclude the public from any meeting to discuss any matter described therein until the public body has first adopted a Resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Township of Lakewood has determined that the following items must be discussed in closed session and that the public must be excluded from said deliberations; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Township of Lakewood has determined that the subject matter of the closed discussion falls within those matters described in subsection 7b of the Open Public Meetings Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, that

A. The Board of Education, in closed session, may discuss one or more of the following subject matter:

1. Confidential under Federal/State Law or rule of Court.
2. That which would impair a right to receive Government Funds.
3. Unwarranted invasion of Pupil's privacy.
4. Collective Bargaining Agreement.
5. Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of real property or investment.
6. Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public.
7. Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation other than as stated in #4.
8. Involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment.
9. Any deliberations occurring after a public hearing.

Which subject matters constitute a subject matter described in the subsection 7b of the Open Public Meetings Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Township of Lakewood, will disclose to the public the subject matter of said closed discussions, as soon as the matters have been resolved and the determination can be disclosed to the public.

Motion to go into Executive Session: 7:09pm

First: Mr. Rodriguez **Second**: Mr. Chase

Voting:

Moshe Bender-President	Absent
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y
Aaron Chase	Y

Meir Grunhut	Y
Joel Kleinman	Absent (Arrived at 7:22pm)
Samuel Melnik	Y
Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Y
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

Motion to go into Public Session: 7:36pm

First: Mr. Rodriguez **Second:** Mr. Chase

Voting:

Moshe Bender-President	Y
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y
Aaron Chase	Y
Meir Grunhut	Y
Joel Kleinman	Y
Samuel Melnik	Y
Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Y
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

IV. RECOGNITION & PRESENTATIONS

A. 5-Year Strategic Plan Presentation

B. Superintendent's Report to the Board

C. State Monitor – Nothing to Report at this Time

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Public Meeting Minutes - August 5, 2026

B. Public Meeting Minutes - September 9, 2026

C. Executive Meeting Minutes - August 5, 2026

Motion to Approve the previous Board Meeting Minutes: 7:58pm

First: Mr. Rodriguez **Second:** Mrs. Westbrook Goldberg

Voting:

Moshe Bender-President	Y
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y

Aaron Chase	Y
Meir Grunhut	Y
Joel Kleinman	Y
Samuel Melnik	Y
Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Y
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

VI. CORRESPONDANCE

A. None at this Meeting

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. None at this Meeting

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT - Agenda Items Only (Limited to 4 minutes as per Board Policy #0167)

Pursuant to Board Policy 0164, Roberts' Rules of Order shall govern the Board of Education in its deliberations and in the conduct of its meetings. As such, all comments from the public and from other members of the Board should be directed to the Board President, who is responsible for presiding over the meeting. Public comments can be made during the public session.

The President shall direct all inquiries or comments to the appropriate Administrator or Board member for response, as appropriate. The law requires a period of public comment at our meetings, not a question or answer session or debate. The board president, at his discretion, may or may not feel it is appropriate to answer questions raised during the public comment period. The board and administration do take all public comments seriously and consider them when conducting business.

The President may interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive or obscene. In addition, Security Personnel may direct any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum, whether the person is at the microphone or at any other place in the meeting room. New Jersey law makes it a crime for any person to intentionally disrupt a public meeting. Law enforcement will be contacted if a person disrupts the meeting and fails to desist after being directed to do so.

Finally, we ask that you silence all electronic devices.

1. Kimberly Carpintero
2. Moises Mendez
3. Anderson Grande

4. Luis Ortiz, Sr.
5. Felipe Montes
6. Adelaida Hernandez
7. Valeria Flores
8. Adalhi Aguirre
9. Julieth Garzón
10. Rosa Umana
11. Luisa Olivera Morales
12. Pilar Morales Corona
13. Margarita Orellana
14. Sara Torres
15. Daniella Betancourt
16. Cole Martinez
17. Regina Johnson
18. Jessica Rivera
19. Joe Strupp- APP
20. Jessica Graterol
21. Margarita Moron
22. Celia Mendez
23. Carla Maldonado
24. Mariela Perez
25. Guadalupe Velazquez

MS. SUSSINO: I am going to apologize ahead of time if I mispronounce any names. We have Kimberly Carpentero (ph).

MS. CARPENTERO: Hi. Good night. My name is Kimberly Carpentero. I am a 17-year-old girl, a senior in Lakewood High School, and I politely ask not to be interrupted while I speak. As I grew up in this town, I've been slowly, slowly seeing schools and land being sold due to our funding and school budgeting. We are currently a million dollars' worth in debt right now. And how is it possible how these students who recently got their bus privileges taken away are now walking all because you guys decided to take our public busing funding away? How is it that we are a million dollars' worth in debt, but we see no changes in our school curriculum or our tools that students could utilize? Now, where -- the million-dollar question is here, where is all of that money going to? Because it sure isn't going to us. People in Lakewood are barely making meets ends and now you've given parents and others another thing to worry about. How are they even able to walk when weather conditions get worse or when the very people of this town don't even listen to our regulations or cooperate with the crosswalk workers? They don't even make sense. They've been so many accidents all over Lakewood. And, God forbid, it occurs to one of my own peers. I'm not asking, but demanding we get our busing back. It's only fair due to these circumstances. We, we now, unfortunately, face – and it's all -- and it's all because like this is just so unfair. And it makes me angry, because although I'm not being affected, other people are. My peers are being affected and I feel for them, because these streets are so dangerous. People are recklessly driving and they don't even care. They don't care. I've seen it firsthand. I walked the crosswalk before and people do not stop. They just keep going. You physically, sometimes, even have to put your hand out for them to stop. You think that's right? I do not

think so, as the people of this town should be following regulations. It is just so unfair. And I, as a student, hope that other students are brave enough to come up here and talk and use their voice. Their voices that are needed in situations like this. As Ms. -- as Ms. Laura Winters pointed out, she wants students to educationally and academically improve. Right? How are people able to do that if, like, you guys said about 200 or something students are being affecting over the busing, right? That affects their transportation to get here. Many people have to walk. Many people have to pay for rides. People don't have enough funds for that. Maybe if they do have to walk, they're not able to, because of the hazardous conditions we would have to go through every day. My house here is about a 30-minute walk. Maybe more, depending on how bad traffic is. So how are they able to have a proper education and if they can't even attend. That will be all.

MR. MENDEZ: Good evening, members of the Board. My name is Moises Mendez. I wanted to address the same thing as my peer. And it is on the agenda since they had the, you know, the presentation. I am a student here at Lakewood High School. I am 17. I am standing before you tonight to address the devastating abrupt elimination of courtesy busing. Have you ever seen the streets of Lakewood? It is a hazard -- hazardous route, busing for -- our busing situation for our children. When the Board voted to revoke the non-mandated transportation citing the budget cuts and legal limitations, it left a massive, chaotic void for parents. I, myself, was affected. I had to learn to drive the day before school started, presenting a danger to not myself, but to my family, to people -- other people driving. The State mandated distance rules, two miles, two miles and/or 2.5 for certain students, mathematically, it would make sense in a town that isn't like Lakewood, because our town does not have -- does not have -- does not have rules that are followed all of the time when driving. It -- a hazardous street doesn't care if it's a child or if it's an adult. Our town is ranked Number 3 in the northeastern part of America in car accidents and hazardous roads that -- may I address the public? Yeah? Do we -- (speaking in Spanish.) As you guys have heard, the people of our town want change. We want the busing back. That is all.

MR. GRANDE: Hello. My name is Anderson Grande, a sophomore here in Lakewood High School. I stand here today to talk about how funding for many buses have been cut. But why? I know the school is in millions of dollars of debt, but why cut transportation for the kids. It's not right. Many kids can't have their parents to and from school. Some parents can't afford private transportation and it's not safe for kids to be walking home. As we know, Lakewood isn't a very safe place to drive or walk. Lakewood has accidents every day. And it's not safe for kids to be walking. Why make the kids walk in rain, snow and heat, why make them do this? It's not fair to the kids. Why? What are guys trying to accomplish? All you guys are doing is making the kids feel unsafe and putting them in danger. That's all I have for today. Thank you for your time.

MR. ORTIZ: Good evening. Good evening. How you guys doing? Can I take this off?

DR. WINTERS: Yes.

MR. ORTIZ: So I'm just going to set the tone right now that my son -- I graduated 2010. My son still attends the school. He is a sophomore right now. He has an IEP. And you guys took that away from him, pretty much, the budget or whatever. But, also, New Jersey -- New Jersey Department of Education State audit records Page 438, that 150 K in tax payer money has been used to stop the take-over, the State take-over. So my question to you all is, I'm talking to you, that what is our budget going to? Where is our budget going to? It seems like every private school is getting the money. If there is 100 private schools, 100 private

school – my Clarke School, elementary, Clarke School that I went to and my son is going to, has been closed down or sold. So those are questions I'm having. The cake of it all is that why. Why is our money going to private schools more than -- you got 100 private schools and all we have is 8. That is the -- that's the juiciness of it all right now. That's the problem we're having. The budget is -- you guys are having a problem with budget. The budget ain't going to us. The budget is going to the private schools. So my son has to suffer. Because he has an IEP -- excuse me -- he has an IEP. Now he doesn't have a teacher to be next to him to even teach him things. I had a guy in school to help me a lot. I am here speaking to the public, speaking to you guys, the Board. You need to answer these questions. Where is our budget going to? We have 165 plus para-professionals laid off, laid off and we also have para-professional's now part-time that is not even getting paid. So this is -- this eight days before school. Eight days before school. Eight days before school we were notified that the buses were getting cut off. Okay? This is stressful. I spoke to News 12 New Jersey. They called you guys and you guys -- all you told them, there was mismanagement. Why? Our kids have to pay for mismanaging monies that we don't -- why we got to pay for that? We got -- why does my kid have to pay for that? Now, he walk 30 minutes -- thank God, I have a car. But he got to walk 30 minutes to school and then also do football. We're getting really tired of this, guys. You need to answer these questions because the budget is low because of what you all are doing, the mismanagement of the money that – you all make the money that you are getting us tax payers, us tax payers that -- we earned these buses. We earn all of this stuff. We pay for this stuff. You're stealing from us. So, I mean, that's the question you need to address to us and answer these questions. Because I'm working behind the scenes with a lot of news anchors. A lot of them people have my back in this. Lakewood school being nothing. Okay? I am going to tell you right now, Lakewood school ain't doing -- there is favoritism of specific -- no. Don't interrupt me. Okay? So Lakewood school ain't nothing, but there's bias when a group of people, a private school group of people, okay -- we know what we are talking about here. We don't have to play stupid, okay? That's all I got to say.

MS. SUSSINO: Filipe Montes. Not sure if that is a T or not.

MR. BENDER: Can you repeat the name one more time?

MS. SUSSINO: Is there a Filipe? He's coming. Okay. He asked if someone could interpret for him. Are you guys able to understand?

MR. BENDER: Herb, can you interpret?

MR. FORSMAN: We have a translator here.

MR. BENDER: Perfect. Interpret for the Board.

MR. STERN: We have a translator?

DR. WINTERS: We have a translator.

MR. MONTES: (Through the Interpreter) good evening. My name is Mr. Montes.

MR. STERN: Can you talk into this mic, please, Translator?

THE INTERPRETER: This is Mr. Montes.

MR. MONTES: I wish everyone listen to what everyone is saying to understand the situations of the buses, how dangerous the roads are with the kids walking, knowing this town how on the roads people don't respect the walkers and the students that are walking to school, to please return the buses that we really need. So, please, listen to us. I think we're all fighting for the same topic. We are going to continue this fight until we get the buses back. Thank you very much.

MR. BENDER: I want to just make sure there is clarity. We called for a special meeting on September 9th, specifically, to address transportation. I mean, I'm hearing a lot of concerns about hazardous busing, about the hazardous roads. I just want to clarify. It is my understanding that the Board of Education continued busing for our public school students, not for the non-public school students. Non-public schools are not getting busing, even hazardous. The non-public school students that have to cross Route 9 are not getting any funding from the Board of Education for the hazardous routes. However, it is my understanding – hold on. We listened to everyone in the public. I'm asking you to respect us when we respond to you. It is our responding that we are providing hazardous busing for the public school students. Is that correct, Kevin?

DR. WINTERS: That is correct.

MR. CAMPBELL: Yes.

MR. BENDER: Dr. Winters, is that correct?

DR. WINTERS: That's correct.

MR. BENDER: Mr. Forsman, General Counsel, is that correct?

MR. FORSMAN: I mean, as you heard from the Superintendent and the B.A.

MR. BENDER: I'm just making sure we have clarity. State Monitor, Ms. Davis, is that correct?

MS. DAVIS: I rely on the Superintendent and the business administrator.

MR. BENDER: That's great. Now, if there are parents or there are students that believe that their children have to walk on hazardous routes, there is a process for them to appeal to the district by saying that even though we are continuing hazardous busing, that their children fall into that category and deserve hazardous buses. Is there a process for that, Mr. Forsman or –

DR. WINTERS: Amy?

MR. BENDER: Let Mr. Forsman go first.

MR. FORSMAN: So we have –

MR. STERN: So we have Amy for the busing.

MR. BENDER: Perfect. I want to let the General Counsel, Mr., Mr. Forsman respond to that. There is a process if a parent believes that their child is having to walk in a hazardous route. Is there a process for them to appeal and say that their child should join the other 1100 that we are continuing under hazardous busing?

MR. FORSMAN: There is.

MR. BENDER: Okay. Could we let the people know how to go about the process?

MR. FORSMAN: I prefer not to give mass legal advice to people who aren't my clients. Right? They're free to retain counsel. But, ultimately, there is a mechanism that they can utilize if they believe that they fall under that category. We have a list of designated routes that are for hazardous routes that are on top of that. So if they fall under one of those routes, obviously, free to contact transportation, as well. We would hope that we wouldn't need them to file an appeal on that. But, yes. In the event they are denied and they believe they are wrongfully denied, there is a basis and a mechanism for them to appeal that.

MR. BENDER: We're here to fulfill our obligation. So if there are parents that believe that their children are having to walk hazardous routes, it is my understanding that they can reach out to transportation department and file some kind of appeal. Isn't that correct? Is that a fair statement?

MR. FORSMAN: In the event that they're denied, right. Transportation.

MR. STERN: Amy. Amy looks like she has an answer. Let's let Amy answer, please.

MS. BEARDEN: So it's very strange coming up here and kneeling.

MR. BENDER: Do we have a chair? Do we have another chair? Do we have that in our budget?

MR. STERN: No, we don't.

MS. SUSSINO: Should I come scooch in?

DR. WINTERS: For those who don't know, Amy BEARDEN is our transportation manager.

MS. BEARDEN: So our hazardous route determinations are 100 percent from the Lakewood Police Department. They're the ones that determine our hazardous routes. They're the ones that determine our hazardous streets. They were revised in '25, I believe. January of '25. And we have a list of streets that are considered hazardous per the Lakewood municipalities. And that is what we go by when determining hazardous busing.

DR. WINTERS: And they were actually reviewed in August of 2026 and it remained the same.

MS. BEARDEN: I wasn't aware of that. But, yes.

MR. BENDER: By the police department.

MR. KLEINMAN: How would a member of the public sitting here tonight get a list of those streets so they can check and double check and make sure that the route that their child has to take from the school to their house is -- doesn't cross one of those streets and they can reach out to you if it does? How could a member of the public get ahold of them?

MS. BEARDEN: They are more than welcome to E-mail bus@LakewoodPiners.org and I will forward that list to them.

MR. KLEINMAN: Okay. So if anybody here in the audience is not getting busing, you can send an E-mail to Amy and you'll get a list of the streets that are called -- that are considered hazardous by the Lakewood Police Department. Now, if the only way for your child to get to school is by walking along one of those routes or crossing one of those roads, then E-mail back to show that. And then I'm sure that once you see that if it's clear that they have to cross a hazardous route, then they'll get a bus. Is that correct?

MS. BEARDEN: If they have to cross a –

MR. KLEINMAN: Okay. Excellent. That's very ...

MR. STERN: How about, how about we do something else? How you about we -- I would like -- actually, I don't know if I'm allowed to do this to -- can't?

MR. FORSMAN: Yeah.

MR. BENDER: Give me a second. Clarity. There is a few different steps of your comments that were made from the public. Number 1, which is hazardous busing, which is very, very clear. The district has continued hazardous busing for all public school students. Let me just clarify that. And if there is some kind of, you know, mistake that a child who has to cross a hazardous road or has a hazardous route there is a process where they can reach out to the district. This is hazardous busing. I think now the Board members and Mr. Stern wants to address general courtesy busing in regards to students that have to walk long distances or cold weather or hot weather. But the Number 1 thing which you have to clarify is that public school students are getting hazardous busing. Now, if you want to clarify -- this is a question for the Superintendent and for the administrator and our General Counsel -- is the district paying any funds, any money for hazardous busing to non-public school students, I'll start with the Superintendent.

DR. WINTERS: No, they are not.

MR. BENDER: Thank you. Mr. Forsman, are you aware of any funding from the district to the non-public school community for hazardous or courtesy busing?

MR. FORSMAN: I'm not aware of any, but I would have to defer to the BA and Superintendent on this.

MR. BENDER: So we'll defer to the administrator, as well. Kevin, are you aware of any?

MR. CAMPBELL: That would be no.

MR. BENDER: That's a no?

MR. CAMPBELL: That's no.

MR. BENDER: Thank you.

MR. STERN: So, first of all, I would like the public to stay, because we're going to be trying something in a couple minutes for the busing. I would also like to just give you guys a breakdown of what is considered hazardous busing at the moment. We're going to try to do something. I tried, but I -- as you saw, Brook Road, Cedar Bridge Avenue, Central Avenue is basically all of Lakewood. Brook Road, Cedar Bridge Avenue, Central, Chestnut Street, Clifton Avenue, County Line Road, which means if you live near any of these or if your son or daughter has to cross over it or pass it to come to school, you're considered hazardous. Cross Street, Forest Avenue, 14th Street, cross Madison, Hillside Street, Hope Chapel Road, James Street, Joe Parker Road, Kennedy Boulevard, East and West Kennedy, Kennedy Boulevard between Twin Oaks, Locust Street, New Hampshire Avenue, Oak Street, Ocean Avenue, Route 88 from Lanes Mill Road until Park Avenue, from 2nd Street to County Line Road, Pine Street, Prospect Street, Ridge Avenue, Brook Road over Lanes Mill, Route 9, Madison, River Avenue. Route 70, Squankum Road, Vermont Avenue south of -- south of 70, Vine Street and Washington Avenue, these are over 30 roads that are considered hazardous. So if your child has to go through this or any of these streets, you are considered hazardous. So if you believe that you're on one of these roads, I mean, I don't like offering other people services, but, Amy, could you clarify?

MS. BEARDEN: I'm under the impression that you are actually allowed to walk along those roads. You're not allowed to cross those roads. That is deemed hazardous. Crossing.

MR. STERN: So I was told the opposite, but –

MR. BENDER: Okay. But now we have clarity. Any child that has to cross any one of these –

MR. STERN: Hold on. Hold on. Josh, is this legally correct?

MR. FORSMAN: I believe so. I would have to double check.

MR. STERN: I remember, we had a discussion. And I think, if I remember correctly, that anybody has to pass any of these roads, it's considered hazardous busing.

MR. BENDER: "Pass" means cross, right?

MR. STERN: That's what I would like to know.

MR. FORSMAN: "Pass" generally means cross.

MS. BEARDEN: If any of these roads were considered hazardous busing, I wouldn't be able to put students that live along those roads at group stops. They would all be house stops. That's not a possibility. If -- as long as they do not have to cross that street, they are okay. They can walk as long as they do not have to cross one of those hazardous roads.

MR. STERN: Okay. So could we have that looked into, please, Josh. Because I want to make sure we're legally doing what we're supposed to do.

MR. BENDER: Okay. Thank you. Is there anything else?

MR. STERN: Under new business – I have to wait for new business.

MR. BENDER: Courtesy busing.

MR. STERN: Do it.

MR. BENDER: Why not? We're not done yet public comment, so we're addressing the comments that were discussed.

MR. STERN: So speaking to the president, I was informed that I was allowed to do this.

MR. BENDER: Yes.

MR. STERN: I would actually like to make a motion, if we could write it in, to bring back courtesy busing for the public school students.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: Second that motion.

MR. STERN: It was first by me. Second by Herb, which would mean that every single public school student would get busing, no matter where they live.

MR. CAMPBELL: Right now, there is a motion on the table to bring back courtesy busing. Mr. Stern has –

MR. BENDER: Only to public school students.

MR. STERN: Only public school students.

MR. CAMPBELL: Public school students. And this motion has been brought forth by Mr. Stern. It's been seconded by –

MR. STERN: Herb. Herb seconded it.

MR. CAMPBELL: Herb. I am going to take a vote on it. Mr. Bender?

MR. BENDER: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Rodriguez?

MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Chase?

MR. CHASE: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Grunhut?

MR. GRUNHUT: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Ms. Goldberg?

MS. GOLDBERG: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Kleinman?

MR. KLEINMAN: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Melnik?

MR. MELNIK: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Reich?

MR. REICH: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Stern.

MR. STERN: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you.

MR. STERN: Motion passed?

MR. CAMPBELL: Passed.

MR. STERN: Just for clarification, this is not for non-public school students. This is for public school students. The non-public school students actually pay. I pay for my kids to go on the bus. I pay over $700 for each kid, in case anybody wants to know. So public school students, as of now, as of this motion, will get busing, as of this motion.

MR. BENDER: Harriett, you wanted to say something? Harriett?

MR. STERN: You wanted to say something?

MS. GOLDBERG: No. I'm -- no. I'm good. Right now, I'm really good. I want everyone to understand, though. What we just voted on is for -- is for public school students to receive transportation.

MR. STERN: No matter where they live.

MS. GOLDBERG: No matter where they live. We're on your side. We want you to know that. We're on your side. We're looking at the best interest of the children. We don't want your children out on these streets either. So we want you to understand that. Okay?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Stand for it.

MS. GOLDBERG: I don't know, but we'll figure it out as we get there, some kind of way. We'll figure it out.

MR. STERN: Same way we're paying for hazardous busing, we will try to find a –

MR. MELNIK: (Addressing the Public in Spanish.)

MR. FORSMAN: We're getting that translated?

MR. BENDER: Sam. Sam, could you just repeat that in English? Could you repeat that quickly in English?

MR. MELNIK: I just translated, basically, what you said.

MR. BENDER: Okay.

MR. STERN: Thank you.

MR. BENDER: Okay. We can move on. Who else is on the list, going down the list for public comment? Public comment.

MR. STERN: Amy, thank you for answering.

MS. SUSSINO: Adelena Hernandez. Not sure if I said that first name right.

MS. HERNANDEZ: (Through the Interpreter) hello. Good evening. My name is Adeleno Hernandez. I am one of the moms affected by the children affected by the buses. Excuse me. I feel like crying. I'm speaking for everyone. I wanted to invite the police department and the lady for the bus department and the people here in front, to take a walk with me with the six little girls that I volunteer with, to help the moms of the girls to take them from the corner of the street by where Clarke is to Clifton, to give -- it effects a lot to walk that distance with the girls, to cross -- talking about these roads, crossing from Clarke to Clifton four and five are very dangerous.

THE INTERPRETER: She wants to invite you to walk with her those routes. Whoever wants to join her. Here you will see how dangerous these roads are.

MS. HERNANDEZ: The rainy days, and what these kids are going to do when both the parents work and they have to leave early in the morning. Please touch your heart, feel in your heart. I know it's possible. This problem happened in past years. I -- my son that graduate 21 in 2020 from Clifton. I have to leave from work at 1:45. Takes me one hour to go to pick my girls up. These are public girls that she helps. I have to return to work, return to work at 2:45 to go to Clifton School. One hour driving. Please, in the

name of everyone and all of the parents here present, for us, it is a lot of -- lot of stress. And I'm speaking for everyone here. Please. Please, look at these kids. A lot of kids. I see kids, special kids. Special education kids. Not just -- I believe our kids have the same rights as all of the kids here. Thank you very much.

MR. BENDER: Thank you.

MS. SUSSINO: Vilaria Flores.

MR. FORSMAN: Going to need that translated.

THE INTERPRETER: There is a different situation she want to talk about.

MS. FLORES: A situation that happened with my kids, they were walking. In front there is other kids from this community. The other community. They were rushing, because they helped me pick up another girl from Clifton. A man came out from this community, the neighboring community and kind of -- and detained him -- kind of, like, yelled at him. Thank you. Reprimanded. Thank you. I told them why he is, is he following going after the kids, the neighbors of the neighboring community. It is half-hour from the middle school to Clifton. The snow days, who is responsible for the neighbors cleaning the roads for the kids, the sidewalks, to clean up for the kids that are walking? Many don't clean. Clean. And the kids have to walk and then they have to walk in the streets. There is a great danger who is going to be responsible that the community cleans the sidewalks. Who is going to be responsible? The streets have been approved and the streets have been approved. There is no -- there isn't this Hispanic community.

MS. SUSSINO: Thank you.

(Mr. Rodriguez speaking in Spanish.)

MR. FORSMAN: We are going to need the conversation translated.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: I am going to translate in a minute.

THE INTERPRETER: I'll wait for the bus on Clifton.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: She wants to –

MR. STERN: So what's going to go on tonight, we're going to put it on the agenda. There is going to be a read-in on the agenda to put back courtesy busing, which would mean –

MR. BENDER: We passed it.

MR. STERN: But it is going to be read-in by Kevin. I believe it had to be read in by Kevin. Once it gets read in and then we vote on the entire agenda, it should go back. Unless something happens, it should start right after the vote. Well, everyone knows how I feel about para-professionals. That's for sure. I've said it many times. If you asked me, they should hire every single one of them. So it's not up to me, obviously, because I keep putting it up for vote. So I could do that again. It won't get us anywhere. I could do it again, but ... right? Okay. Continue. Next.

MS. SUSSINO: Okay. Next we have Adali Aquera (ph). I think it's Aquera. Should we say something about -- I thought they were going ...

MS. AQUERA: (Through the Interpreter) This is a joke that you are doing to us. One week into school, you're telling us there was no buses. It is sad to see the streets, the kids walking the streets without any crosswalks. My son is a walker and the school -- from the school to my house, there is no crosswalks. Why are you joking with us that now there are buses? Last week, two days the crosswalk -- the crossing guard, okay -- so at 7:00, the crossing guard wasn't there. And there's still kids walking. Stop joking with us. We want the buses now.

MS. SUSSINO: Julia Scarzone (ph).

MS. SCARZONE: (Through the Interpreter). Good evening. My name is Julia Scarzone. I want, I want -- I want that you guys are going to study and look at this. We want a date. We want a date for parents walking the kids. We need a date. Two, when they're going to return the buses. Want kids to stop walking. The streets are dangerous because the police say are classified as dangerous. In Lakewood, the majority of the roads are dangerous. What we want you to tell us dangerous. Give us a map. Give the parents information about the roads, when they're going to return the buses for the kids so they don't have to walk. Not in December or January. Not by next year. The kids -- our kids will be walking two, three, four months before you decide to support us. The parents through listening, so the bus -- the kids have a concrete date, the date they're going to tell us that the -- that the buses are going to be returned.

MS. SUSSINO: I don't think they would block that one.

THE INTERPRETER: Thank you.

MS. SUSSINO: Rosa Omana. Is Rosa Omana still here? Thank you. Can't see through Kevin.

MS. OMANA: Good evening. As I was translating beforehand was when -- when you are going put the transportation. Winter is coming. And dangerous for the kids to be walking in the snow. Nothing else. Thank you.

MS. SUSSINO: Luisa Alevera Morales.

MS. MORALES: Good evening. My name is Luisa Alevara Morales. I'm sorry if I'm repeating the same question. But I just want to know how are -- there is -- anyway -- how are you guys planning to bring back courtesy busing?

MR. STERN: Excellent question.

MR. KLEINMAN: We just voted to bring it back.

MR. STERN: We just voted to bring it back. You want to know how to pay for it? Is that what you're asking?

MS. MORALES: Yeah. That too.

MR. STERN: Well, the public school students is our responsibility. So we're going to try to make sure we can get the money for it however we have to do it. The same way we are borrowing money for the State to pay for mandatory busing for the hazardous busing. We would ask for a loan for those 300 kids or 294 kids. So if, let's say, it's a million dollars. We are going to ask for another million dollars. Whether they give it to us or not, we don't know.

MR. CAMPBELL: Mr. Stern?

MR. STERN: Yes.

MR. CAMPBELL: It was already in the budget.

MR. STERN: Okay. So there you go. It's in the budget. Oh. You mean the hazardous?

MS. SUSSINO: It was already in the budget.

MR. CAMPBELL: Putting it back.

MR. KLEINMAN: So the busing is coming back?

MR. STERN: Agreed upon.

MR. CAMPBELL: That's right.

MR. KLEINMAN: Busing is coming back.

MS. MORALES: Is there a reason it was taken away?

MR. STERN: Yes. We explained it the last meeting. If I get this correctly, the -- usually, we get the money from the Township. This year we did not, because the State cut money to the Township, a lot of money. So, therefore, they were doing us a favor by giving us the money for it. And we were relying on that. Once we found out from the State, which was probably about a half-hour before the meeting, then we had to pull it, because we didn't have the funds for that. But now that we're hearing how many people it's affecting, we would like to do our duty, which -- what we feel is our duty to do the public school students so that is why we're bringing it back.

MS. MORALES: All right. Thank you so much. That's all I needed to know. Thank you.

MR. STERN: Thank you.

MS. SUSSINO: Pilar Morales Corona.

MS. CORONA: (Through the Interpreter). Hello. Good evening. My name is Pilar Morales. I come from my worries as a mother. I have two kids that just started in middle school. Now, thank God, that has a

bus, transportation. My worry is what could happen in the future. But right now, there is no -- there is no budget for busing. What is going to happen in the future, what is going to happen in the future if you take it back? And the streets are dangerous. The dangerous, big streets and people don't respect the traffic lines. I see people driving on cones. I see people don't stop at stop signs. They don't yield for pedestrians. How do you think the kids are going to continue walking if the drivers of Lakewood don't respect the signs and laws. This is my worry. Thank you.

MR. MELNIK: (Speaking Spanish to the audience.)

MR. FORSMAN: Need that translated. I would like to remind the Board that we have to speak English. We have a translator for people that speak in Spanish. But we should not be addressing them in a different language. Okay?

MR. GRUNHUT: Make it easier. That's all.

MR. KLEINMAN: As long as Patty doesn't get us in trouble for governance, it will be okay.

MR. MELNIK: They basically want to know what the State has to do with this whole thing. And, you know, the entire, like, long price. They're very confused about that.

MR. STERN: What? The State?

MR. FORSMAN: I'd also say, we have Roberts Rule we do need to adhere to in order -- so if somebody is coming up to speak, we can address it at that time. We can't, we can't do it this way, guys.

MS. SUSSINO: Next, we have Sarah Torres.

MR. FORSMAN: We're going to be here all night.

MS. TORRES: (Through the Interpreter) My name is Sarah Torres. Also (interpreter audible) our kids don't have buses. Our kids have the same rights as your kids. We're all human beings. Enough with robbing. Enough with the -- for our kids. We ask for respect and that's all.

MR. KLEINMAN: I want to respond to what you had to say. Mr. Melnik, maybe you'll translate for me.

MR. STERN: Harriett, speak into your mic.

MR. KLEINMAN: We absolutely agree that there should not be discrimination. Right now, right now, public school children have busing when they live close to school and they have to cross dangerous streets. Private school children do not have busing, even when they have to cross dangerous streets.

MR. FORSMAN: Mr. Kleinman, have the translator do the translations instead of having the Board member do the translations.

MR. STERN: Hold on. Hold on. Hold on. The translator, please, come to the podium. Thank you.

MR. FORSMAN: Thank you. You can -- yeah. Okay.

MR. STERN: We're not going to have a back and forth. We are just going to make a statement. Public school students have busing as of now. Not -- public school students are paid. I am paying for my son who lives within two miles. And so is everybody else on this Board. So that is just a statement that Mr. Kleinman is making. Okay? Public school students have free busing as of now. Non-public school students do not. And we're not allowed to public, unless you are at the podium.

MS. SUSSINO: I'll announce the next name.

MR. STERN: Yes.

MS. SUSSINO: Next we have Daniella Betancort (ph).

MR. STERN: Hold on, Harriett. Did you want to say something?

MS. GOLDBERG: I think everybody should understand something. Public school students get free busing. Non-public school students, they pay for transportation. They pay for it. What the problem appears to be is that Lakewood has been in the hole for many, many years in regards to finances. This just didn't start yesterday, or from my understanding. And so, guys, I think you should be a little bit more patient, because you know what? We've been fighting for you guys. Yeah. No. We been fighting for you guys. But you must keep in mind that we're under State leadership. Our hands are basically tied. Even if we vote for your support, even if we vote on your side -- why? Well, I'll not address directly you, but I will say, we're fighting for you guys, believe it or not. We want -- we fought for the paras.

MR. STERN: I agree. Fight for the paras. I agree.

MR. KLEINMAN: We have voted multiple times to reinstate the paras. The problem is that we do not control what goes on in the town. It looks like we do, but we don't. And the reason we don't is because the State of New Jersey has a monitor. The reason has a monitor is because the State doesn't give us enough money, so we don't have some enough money. So the way it works is that when you don't have enough money, you get a monitor. And the monitor gets to make all of the decisions. We have no power to manage the money. We couldn't mismanage it if we wanted to, because the Monitor would not allow it. No. The State gave us a loan, because we don't get enough funding from the State to pay for all of the things that we must legally pay for. Whether we want to or not.

MR. BENDER: Breakdown.

MR. KLEINMAN: There is a law about what we have to pay for. We are following the law and paying for it. And we don't have to pay for and we don't have enough money to pay for the things we have to pay for.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Then why are we here now?

MR. KLEINMAN: That is the story.

MR. FORSMAN: We need some order.

MS. SUSSINO: Should we move on?

MR. BENDER: Okay. We're going to move on. Please, continue.

MS. SUSSINO: I called a name and I don't know if she did appear, or if maybe she left. Daniella?

MR. STERN: She's here.

MS. SUSSINO: Okay.

MR. BENDER: Thank you. Thank you.

MS. MARTINEZ: Cole Martinez. Hi, everybody. I wanted talk to you guys.

MR. BENDER: Use the mic, please.

MR. MARTINEZ: Sorry about that. Hello, everybody. I wanted to speak to you guys about current busing that you guys -- now you have, allegedly, correct?

MR. BENDER: What was the question?

MR. MARTINEZ: You have busing that's going to public schools now, right?

MR. STERN: Public school, yes.

MR. MARTINEZ: About the busing, there are various buses that go to different areas that are way overcrowded. Since you guys have that busing, is there any way that you can make it safer for the kids that are riding Lakewood buses at the moment?

MR. STERN: I would love to. That's Amy's -- Amy could you respond to that, please. Amy, they're saying buses are crowded?

MS. BEARDEN: To be honest, I don't entirely understand the question.

MR. MARTINEZ: I'm sorry. Kids now. At least -- I graduated 2026. I graduated last year. My bus that I had, it was so overcrowded, there were people standing in the back where people slid halfway out their seats. They're not in the position for driving. If there is an accident, it could hurt one of the kids immensely or it could kill somebody.

MS. BEARDEN: Okay. I 100 percent agree with that. You were in high school or middle school when you were having this issue?

MR. MARTINEZ: Yes. I was in elementary, middle school and high school. Sorry for cutting you off.

MS. BEARDEN: In our high school and middle school routes, get -- beginning of every year we have an issue with them jumping on the wrong buses and we have high school kids riding on middle school buses and middle school kids riding on high school buses. It is something that does take us time to sort out. When an issue is brought to my attention, I address it immediately.

MR. MARTINEZ: The thing is, this has been going on for years. There are parents worried. Obviously, busing was an issue. You guys will, hopefully, get that figured out as multiple as you guys have said. Hopefully, you guys make sure that kids are getting here safely. Obviously, there's been multiple accidents. Kids have gotten hurt with accidents directly from buses. There has been people that have died. Hopefully, you guys could get more buses that aren't going to the private schools into this system.

MS. BEARDEN: Okay. That –

MR. MARTINEZ: Hopefully.

MS. BEARDEN: The Township of Lakewood has an intricate transportation system. Our system, it has to be designed to bring what we're legally required to, which is approximately 60,000 students within and outside of this town to school in Lakewood. We cannot take buses from one and give to another and vice versa. You can't take buses from non-public and give them to public students. We have to follow law. We have to get everybody where they need to be. And my Number 1 priority at all times is the safety of our students during transportation. Adding to the problem of our streets being overcrowded with just the volume of traffic alone by adding more buses doesn't solve anything.

MR. MARTINEZ: You just -- all right. I'm sorry. You just stated the issue with transportation is overcrowded. People can't -- obviously, there is a lot of traffic, right? Lot of cars. I'm glad you guys fixed that issue. But there's so many people here today that came because they are worried about their kids while being -- you just said that. You admitted that there is a problem with traffic laws, yadah, yadah, yadah. These parents were scared about their kids being in the traffic, walking in it and all of that.

MS. BEARDEN: I speak of traffic in regards to time of arrivals to and from schools and bus stops. Not as far as walking considerations go.

MR. MARTINEZ: Walking considerations. The kids who live far from the school, but they're right at the 2.5 or 2 mile radius. Are they supposed to wake up earlier. Are they supposed to be sleep deprived? Are they supposed to scurry to school to come here? Like, you can answer.

MS. SUSSINO: 30 seconds, okay?

MR. MARTINEZ: That's what I'm curious about.

MR. BENDER: If I understood correctly, we voted on -- tonight we voted on tonight to reinstate courtesy busing. But we mentioned before, I think you had mentioned, if I understood correctly, a different issue that, perhaps, the buses are overcrowded.

MR. MARTINEZ: Yeah. Definitely.

MR. BENDER: Okay. If that's an issue. I believe that parents could reach out to the transportation department, as Amy said before. And beginning of the year, very often there is a lot of mix-up that students going on the wrong bus. And that could take time to hash out. However, if it is something that is persistent throughout the year, it's something that Amy, you know, addresses. Takes it very serious. Not just this issue, but any safety issue. And it should be reported. I believe that Amy does not put any more students on the bus than what the bus is able to handle. Correct?

MS. BEARDEN: Correct. Which is 54.

MR. BENDER: Which is 54. And she is very -- she oversees that. But if she doesn't know about it, then she doesn't know what to fix. If there is such an issue, it is a safety issue and it should be reported and Amy jumps on it right away. She is very good at what she does. And she makes sure to resolve the issue right away. So if the issue does persist, it should be reported to the transportation department.

MR. STERN: I believe there is an E-mail, by the way, that you can E-mail.

MR. MARTINEZ: I mean, I got it. Bus dot -- I mean, bus at –

MR. STERN: It is probably easier than calling, because it's probably like thousands of calls coming in. So E-mails, hopefully, she'll get to. I believe there is more manpower during the time, the first few weeks or months. But if it is a continuous issue, if an E-mail goes to Amy, I'm sure she is going to read it and respond and take it seriously. So there should not be any overcrowding on any buses.

MR. MARTINEZ: Appreciate that.

MR. FORSMAN: And if you do have any specific issues, please, bring them to our attention and we will try to address them as immediately and efficiently as possible.

MR. MARTINEZ: Can I get that to you guys after this?

MR. FORSMAN: Of course.

MR. MARTINEZ: All right. Thank you so much, guys.

MS. SUSSINO: Regina Johnson. Is Regina still here? Jessica Rivera. Is Jessica here?

MR. STERN: Yes. There is somebody walking up. Yes. MS. RIVERA: (Through the Interpreter) good evening, my name is Jessica.

MR. STERN: Can you get closer to the mic, Translator, because I can't really hear.

MS. RIVERA: For my kids, they got the bus ticket. And when we, before school started, they got the letter that they didn't have a bus anymore. And when did you make this decision? One week beforehand? My, my son has a 504. He has a disability. My question is, you don't make an evaluation before making a decision? Besides the miles, whether it be 2 to 2.5 miles, you don't -- you don't do an evaluation of the kids, which ones are taking the buses away? I'm here for everyone, besides my son with a disability. I also

have another son in middle school that he wants to solve for one end to the other. Obviously, we're all affected by this situation. It really hurts me to see how the kids walk alone, because the parents can't accompany them. Thank you. Have a good night.

MS. SUSSINO: Joe Strupp. Joe Strupp. You're up.

MR. STRUPP: Hi. Joe Strupp, Asbury Park Press. I have a bunch of questions; some that were E-mailed today and they weren't responded to. So I have to ask here, you just reinstated courtesy busing. Can I ask how many students that affects –

MR. STERN: It's about –

MR. STRUPP: -- what the cost will be and where the money is going to come from?

MR. STERN: Okay. How much, I don't know, but it's about 294 students. Kevin would have to answer how much that costs. I don't know.

DR. WINTERS: It's actually 302 students.

MR. STERN: Oh.

MR. BENDER: 302 students. And, Kevin, I think it's somewhere in the ballpark of 1.5, 1.6 million. Is that correct?

MR. CAMPBELL: That's not just for courtesy.

MR. STERN: Okay. So how much is it?

MR. CAMPBELL: I don't have the information for courtesy.

MR. STERN: Okay.

MR. STRUPP: You don't have the information?

MR. STERN: He does the business office.

MR. STRUPP: I can't hear you.

MR. STERN: Not at this time.

MR. BENDER: Not at this time.

MR. STRUPP: So you just approved something you don't know what it is going to cost or where it is going to come from?

MR. BENDER: We have to approve. We feel it necessary and our obligation, so we approved it.

MR. STRUPP: Okay.

MR. CAMPBELL: That total cost was already in the budget, when it was adopted back then. Then they removed it and brought it back.

MR. STERN: How about this? Can you E-mail him tomorrow with the, with the information, please? Is that allowed?

MS. BEARDEN: I know it.

MR. STERN: Oh. Amy knows it. Amy, what's the amount?

MS. BEARDEN: Just for courtesy?

MR. STERN: Just courtesy.

MR. BENDER: Just courtesy. 300 and –

MS. BEARDEN: Just courtesy is about $245,000.

MR. BENDER: $245,000.

MR. STRUPP: For 320 students?

MR. STERN: Yes. 302.

MR. STRUPP: Okay. The other question was: What is -- you had approved hazardous busing at the last meeting and the Monitor put it under advisement. What is the status of that? Is it still under advisement? Is it approved? Is it declined?

MR. STERN: She sent us a denial this afternoon.

MR. STRUPP: Oh. Could we get a copy of that letter? I would think so, without OPRA'ing. OPRA'ing takes weeks sometimes.

MR. STERN: That is a question for the attorney. Not for me, but ...

MR. FORSMAN: Joe, that is the process. I'm sorry.

MR. STRUPP: Okay. Well, okay. But it was denied?

MR. FORSMAN: Yes.

MR. STRUPP: Okay.

MR. BENDER: Just want to clarify. You're referring to non-public, right? Public is still –

MR. STRUPP: The hazardous busing that the Board approved at the last meeting was taken under advisement.

MR. BENDER: For non-public. For non-public.

MR. STERN: Yes.

MR. STRUPP: Okay. Also, I see on the agenda, an item, or two separate items that will add up to $370,000 for special education legal defense. Can I ask why that's being brought up and why that's needed at this time.

MR. STERN: That was actually going to be my question when we got up to the agenda. So thank you for asking.

MR. FORSMAN: We'll address it.

MR. STERN: I'm sure we are going to address it, because I'm going to ask it when we get to agenda items.

MR. STRUPP: Also, what is the status of the State takeover? There is a hearing set for –

MR. BENDER: Joe, just to clarify on the last question –

MR. STRUPP: Yes, sir.

MR. BENDER: Are you referring to on Page 10, Item 4 and 6? Is that what you're referring to?

MR. STRUPP: Yes, sir.

MR. BENDER: Okay. Yeah. Us Board members, we have wanted to talk about that as well. Thank you. Continue.

MR. STRUPP: We haven't heard much about the state takeover. I just have a question. Is there a hearing set for the motion to dismiss that was argued several weeks ago? And, also, is there a hearing scheduled for the original State takeover attempt that the District has opposed? We haven't heard anything about State takeover in either of those. Is there any more hearings or things set for that?

MR. FORSMAN: We don't comment on pending current litigation. But insofar as this current status, the motion has not been decided yet. But other than that, we are not going to comment on pending litigation.

MR. STRUPP: Not even if there's hearings scheduled or not?

MS. SUSSINO: 30 seconds.

MR. FORSMAN: There are no dates currently scheduled for a hearing.

MR. STRUPP: Uh-huh. Also, the ballot measure that was put forth to reduce the Board from 9 members to 7 members, is that still going to be on the ballot and how will that work? I know questions were raised. If you're approving a measure to reduce the number of Board members and you still have seats that will be up for election, how is that set to work or has that changed?

MR. BENDER: Do you have any questions, Joe? Do you want me to –

MR. STRUPP: I think that that's just it. How that ballot measure is going to work and if it's still going to be on and if it's still going to be on.

MR. BENDER: As far as I'm concerned, as that ballot measure is still in motion, things could always change at any time. We have time until the election. But as of now, that ballot measure is still in place.

MR. STRUPP: And how will it be –

MS. SUSSINO: That's time.

MR. STRUPP: How will it work if you are approving a ballot measure to reduce the Board, but then you have three seats that will be voted on?

MR. BENDER: So that I would refer to

DR. WINTERS: It's on the ballot. The person with the highest votes would be the person that gets on the Board, one person who we would need still. So the person with the highest votes, which is included on the ballot.

MR. STRUPP: Is that all going to be explained in the ballot measure question?

DR. WINTERS: Yes. Yes.

MR. STRUPP: And then -- and when is the balloting going to be made public; do you know? I keep looking for it.

MR. BENDER: That's the Department of Elections. That's the -- that's not us.

MR. STRUPP: I know. But do you know when they're –

MR. BENDER: Not as of the moment.

MR. STRUPP: Can we explain on the ballot the measure, how the outcome –

MR. BENDER: I would hope so.

MR. STRUPP: I would hope so, too, but it's not the case. Thank you, all.

MR. BENDER: Harriett? Harriett, this is it.

MS. SUSSINO: Next?

MS. GOLDBERG: It's on the County Clerk's website.

MR. STRUPP: That's the ballot, yes.

MS. GOLDBERG: Ocean County. Yes. It has a list of candidates.

MR. STRUPP: I know.

MS. GOLDBERG: Yeah.

MR. BENDER: Next.

MS. SUSSINO: Next, Jessica -- I'm not sure of the last name. It starts with a G. Jessica G, 235 8th Street. No? Okay.

MR. RODRIGUEZ: Next.

MS. SUSSINO: Margarita Moran.

MS. MORAN: (Through the Interpreter) good evening, everyone. I just -- I had my license. I'm very happy to have it. I see that many people don't follow the traffic laws. They don't see it as a privilege. But when we read the book, it's a privilege. Maybe they don't see it that way. Maybe they see it as a joke. Why? They get to the stop sign and it appears they don't see the stop sign. They don't stop. The book says you have to stop. They brake, but don't stop. They don't stop correctly. So it is a joke. But they do many, many -- this community, that community, everyone. Many, many don't respect the rules. And it's also -- this worries me. It affects my daughter that she lost her transportation. The, the man said we don't have the money. When, when are we going to have the buses? When we have the accident? One kid or a parent loses their life is when you're going to say -- that's what you're going to say now, when the, when the -- we have the accident? Why wait until there is an accident? Why not now? Who can tell me when?

MR. STERN: When it is going to start, the busing? It was two questions. Right? Something about the stop signs. That's like a police department thing, so I can't answer for the police. But we can ask Amy, if you would like, when the busing will start, because she's in charge of that.

MS. BEARDEN: It takes a couple days.

MR. STERN: So it takes a couple days. It takes a couple days for them to get it started.

MS. MORAN: I know. I know the problem. I know it's not all you all's problem.

MR. STERN: I can't hear him.

MS. MORAN: Majority of that is the police. Some. I don't talk generally of everyone. I see them and people don't see anything. It doesn't apply to everyone. And it is a joke, even for the police that – because they don't -- they don't respect them either. And it is a joke to the uniform.

MS. SUSSINO: 30 seconds.

MR. STERN: So I think your question with the traffic law is not us. We don't make the laws. You can go to the township council for that. But for the busing, it should be starting in the next few days.

MR. BENDER: Next.

MS. SUSSINO: Celia Mendez? Is Celia Mendez still here?

MR. BENDER: Is someone coming up?

MS. SUSSINO: Nope. And Carla Maldonado? No. Morella Perez, I think? Is there a Morella Perez?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: She's coming.

MS. SUSSINO: Perfect. Thank you.

MS. SANCHEZ: (Through the Interpreter) hello, good evening. My name is Maria Para Sanchez. Thank you for everyone coming together tonight. I'm worried about the kids -- excuse me -- taking the buses away from all of the school kids. All of the streets here are dangerous. For me, the transportation is very important, because I need to be, to be -- I need to be sure that my son can return, can return, return home safely. Here, there is a lot of accidents and a lot of people don't respect the stop signs. Thank you. Have a good night.

MS. SUSSINO: Gauda Lupo Valesquez (ph).

MS. VALESQUEZ: (Through the Interpreter.) Good evening, everyone. Gauda Lupo Valesquez. I am voice of all of the parents here. They are worried about their kids. It is not that the school bus is very important for us. All of the streets in this (interpreter inaudible). The police is just saying that. I ask again. That's for the buses for the kids. It is very important. It is very important for our kids to arrive punctual to school. You know, personally have a sick daughter. That's -- it took me a lot this, lot the first days with the help. Every day, on top of it this. I have to fight, fight that I don't have the school buses. I take a position for all of the parents to restore it as soon as possible, the buses for our kids. That is all. Thank you.

MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you, everyone. That concludes the public comment on agenda items only.

IX. REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

A. FINANCE

1. Approve the attached budgetary line item transfers as of **July 31, 2026 and August 31, 2026**.

2. Acceptance of the Treasurer and Board Secretary Reports as of **July 31, 2026 and August 31, 2026**.

3. **Certification of No Over Expenditures**:
   Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10, I Kevin Campbell Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certify that as of **July 31, 2026 and August 31, 2026** no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments 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, and that the District financial accounts have been reconciled and are in balance.

   Kevin Campbell — **September 23, 2026**
   Business Administrator/Board Secretary — Date

4. Approve the **Bills List** for the **Warrant Account** for **September 23, 2026** in the amount of **$15,960,207.96**.

5. Approve the **Bills List** for the **Cafeteria Account** for **September 23, 2026** in the amount of **$91,340.80**.

6. Approval of Payroll and Board Share of Fica/Medi and DCRP for:

   - **August 30, 2026** in the amount of **$1,207,934.22**
   - **September 15, 2026** in the amount of **$2,489,930.02**

7. Approval of payment of New Jersey State Health Benefits for **July, 2026** in the amount of: **$1,968,355.74**.

8. Approval of payment of district dental benefits to Delta Dental of New Jersey for **October, 2026** in the amount of: **$99,191.25**.

9. Approve the Teacher's Pension and Annuity Fund reimbursement payment for the 2025-26 school year to the State of NJ per NJSA 18A:66-90, in the amount of $1,367,408.39 due on October 1, 2026, paid for by Federal programs.

10. Move to approve the amendment to the 2026-2027 School Based Budget to reflect the redistribution of funds between the General Fund and Special Revenue Fund as detailed below. This change is due to the Title I, Part A School Wide Blended Allocation as it is reflected in the FY 27 ESEA Application. The overall budget change is a net zero impact. It will be sent to the Ocean County Superintendent of Schools/ Business Administrator and is subject to the approval of the State Monitor.

School	Original School Budget	Revised School Budget
Lakewood High School	$ 14,338,162	$ 14,055,549
Lakewood Middle School	$ 11,509,564	$ 11,443,243
Clifton Ave Grade School	$ 12,616,361	$ 12,529,645
Spruce Street Elementary School	$ 926,834	$ 1,042,813
Oak Street Elementary School	$ 13,631,158	$ 13,571,800
Total	**$ 53,022,079**	**$ 52,643,050**

School	Original Title I A	Revised Title I A
Lakewood High School	$ 200,000	$ 482,613
Lakewood Middle School	$ 200,000	$ 266,321
Clifton Ave Grade School	$ 200,000	$ 286,716
Spruce Street Elementary School	$ 200,000	$ 84,021
Oak Street Elementary School	$ 200,000	$ 259,358
Total	**$ 1,000,000**	**$ 1,379,029**

School	Total Original Budget	Total Revised Budget
Lakewood High School	$ 14,538,162	$ 14,538,162
Lakewood Middle School	$ 11,709,564	$ 11,709,564
Clifton Ave Grade School	$ 12.816,361	$ 12,816,361
Spruce Street Elementary School	$ 1,126,834	$ 1,126,834
Oak Street Elementary School	$ 13,831,158	$ 13,831,158
Total	**$ 54,022,079**	**$54,022,079**

11. Approve the amendment to the district's 2026/2027 Preschool budget approved by the State of NJ after the adoption of the Public Hearing Budget on April 29, 2026 as follows:

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION BUDGET 26-27				
		ADOPTED BUDGET	AMENDED	CHANGE (+/-)
Program				
GF Contribution - Regular:		$ 1,416,562.00	$ 1,367,992.00	$ (48,570.00)
Current Year PEA:		$ 5,337,298.00	$ 5,337,298.00	$ -

Total Revenues :		**$ 6,753,860.00**	**$ 6,705,290.00**	**$ (48,570.00)**
Description	**Account Number**			
State Projects: Instruction - Preschool Education Aid				
Salaries of Teachers	20-218-100-101	$ 1,102,348.00	$ 1,102,348.00	$ -
Other Salaries for Instruction	20-218-100-106	$ 668,401.00	$ 668,401.00	$ -
General Supplies	20-218-100-600	$ 212,364.00	$ 206,002.00	$ (6,362.00)
Other Objects	20-218-100-800	$ 10,000.00	$ 10,000.00	$ -
TOTAL INSTRUCTION		**$ 1 ,993,113.00**	**$ 1,986,751.00**	**$ (6,362.00)**
	20-218-200-102	$ 93,248.00	$ 93,248.00	$ -
Salaries of Program Directors	20-218-200-103	$ 199,400.00	$ 199,400.00	$ -
Salaries of Other Professional Staff	20-218-200-104	$ 101,396.00	$ 101,396.00	$ -
Salaries of Community Parent Involvement Specialists	20-218-200-173	$ 97,865.00	$ 97,865.00	$ -
Salaries of Master Teachers	20-218-200-176	$ 351,711.00	$ 351,711.00	$ -
Personal Services Employee Benefits	20-218-200-200	$ 1,935,779.00	$ 1,935,779.00	$ -
Purchased Educational Services - Contracted Pre-K	20-218-200-321	$ 1,545,028.00	$ 1,617,820.00	$ 72,792.00
Other Personal Professional-Educational Services	20-218-200-329	$ 100,000.00	$ 100,000.00	$ -
Other Purchased Professional Services	20-218-200-330	$ 125,000.00	$ 10,000.00	$ (115,000.00)
Supplies and Materials	20-218-200-600	$ 31,320.00	$ 31,320.00	$ -
Other Objects	20-218-200-800	$ 30,000.00	$ 30,000.00	$ -
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES		**$ 4,610,747.00**	**$ 4,568,539.00**	**$ (42,208.00)**
Instructional Equipment	20-218-400-731	$ 150,000.00	$ 150,000.00	$ -
TOTAL FACILITIES ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES		$ 150,000.00	$ 150,000.00	$ -
TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET		**$ 6,753,860.00**	**$ 6,705,290.00**	**$ (48,570.00)**

12. Approve and Authorize Business Administrator to make payments on the 2025-26 grant purchase orders as it pertains to the closing of the grant liquidation period. These bills are required to be paid by September 30, 2026 and taken credit on the Nonpublic Completion Report. Payment of these bills will be ratified at the next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting.

13. **READ-IN-** Kevin Campbell, Business Administrator/Board Secretary - Motion to approve to request an additional $14,879,634 in State Aid loan advance to pay for Nonpublic hazardous bussing.

State Monitor, Louise Davis- Under Advisement

On October 27, 2026, State Monitor, Louise Davis wrote a letter stating that she is exercising her statutory authority to deny this resolution in the best interest of the District's fiscal health and in accordance with her statutory obligation to ensure the responsible use of public funds.

14. **READ-IN-** Kevin Campbell, Business Administrator/Board Secretary - Motion to approve to request an additional $5 (five) million dollars in State Aid load advance to pay to reinstate full-time paraprofessionals.

    State Monitor, Louise Davis- Under Advisement

    On October 27, 2026, State Monitor, Louise Davis wrote a letter stating that she is exercising her statutory authority to deny this resolution in the best interest of the District's fiscal health and in accordance with her statutory obligation to ensure the responsible use of public funds.

B. **PROCUREMENT/CONTRACTS**

1. Approve the release of the September, 2026 payment to the LSTA not to exceed 1/10th of the total amount of the awarded contract approved on 8/5/2026 in the amount of $31,041,021.00 which is **$3,104,102.10**. (11-000-270-511-00-NPUB)

2. Move to renew Xtract One Technologies Inc. to provide support services for two (2) devices supplied for the Smart Detection Concealed Weapons Systems at the following costs for 2026/2027. (11-000-266-300-00-0000)

    - Maintenance (2 systems) $47,200
    - Subscription (1 year) $21,107
      Total Amount $68,307 for 2026/2027

    In addition, move to approve the past due payment to Xtract One Technologies, Inc. in the following amounts:

    - Due March 2026 $26,898
    - Due October 2025 (1 system retained by the district) $21,107
    - Restocking Fee (3 systems) $15,000
      Total Past Due Amount $68,307 for 2025/2026
      Total past Due and Current amount $131,312.

3. WHEREAS, **Bid 03-2627** for Substitute Staffing Services was Board approved on May 27, 2026 and awarded to ESS Northeast; and

WHEREAS, on August 5, 2026 the Board approved the Second and Third lowest bidders, Kelly Services Inc. and Edustaff, LLC for Substitute Staffing Services in addition to ESS Northeast to insure the provision of a 100% fill rate for Paraprofessionals; and

WHEREAS, the Second and Third lowest bidders will not enter into a contract with the District to provide such services as they expected to be the sole provider of such services; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the lowest bidder is unable to guarantee a 100% fill rate on a daily basis for Paraprofessionals; and

WHEREAS, the District must provide Paraprofessionals to be in compliance with students' Individual Education Plans(IEP); and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7 permits an emergency contract to be awarded without public advertising for bids or bidding, notwithstanding that the total cost exceeds the district's bid threshold, provided that the contracting agent is satisfied that an emergency exists; and

WHEREAS, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, acting as the authorized Purchasing Agent for the Board of Education, immediately authorized an emergency contract to alleviate said condition; and

WHEREAS The Board notes that in accordance with New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 5:34-6.1 or N.J.A.C. 6A guidelines), all mandatory documentation—including a copy of the emergency contract/agreement and the written requisition—has been or will be filed with the Executive County Superintendent of Schools within three (3) days of the award; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board award **50 Stars Staffing** to recruit, screen, credential and provide qualified educational, behavioral health, allied health and related professionals to the District on an as needed basis at the following costs:

- Special Education Paraprofessionals $32 per hour
- Registered Behavior Technicians(RBTs) $35 per hour
- Other educational professionals as requested

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Payment to the vendor is contingent upon the submission of a valid New Jersey Business Registration Certificate (BRC) and required Affirmative Action evidence (Certificate of Employee Information Report) prior to the disbursement of public funds, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44(k) and

N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.9.

Total amount not to exceed $1,000,000 (15-190-100-320-xx-xxxx and 11-190-100-320-00-0000)

4. Be it Resolved that the Board of Education hereby approves Scarinci Hollenbeck, LLC to provide Special Education Legal Services at the rates of $250.00 per hour for Partners, $200.00 per hour for Associates, $100.00 per hour for work conducted by a law clerk or paralegal, for an additional amount not to exceed $220,000.00 for the 2026/2027 school year. (11-000-230-331-00-0001)

5. Move to approve the purchase of the 2017 Ford Box Truck (VIN# 1FDUF4GY9HCD21001) from the Lakewood Board of Education Food Service Enterprise Fund to the Nonpublic Nursing and Nonpublic Technology Grants. The purchase price has been estimated at fair market value of $20,000. This purchase will be used for the delivery of items purchased through Nonpublic Nursing and Nonpublic Technology Grants and delivery to the Nonpublic Schools in Lakewood. Budget account (20-509-400-732-29-2520-ADM/20-510-400-732-29-2520-ADM)

6. Approve Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri, Jacobs, Lagana, LLC to provide Special Education Legal Services to the Lakewood School District, for the 2026-2027 school year, as assigned at a cost of $205 per hour for all Attorneys and $95 for paralegals and law clerks, not to exceed $150,000 (11-000-230-331-00-0001)

7. **Resolved**, that the Lakewood Board of Education hereby approves the advertisement and solicitation of qualified legal counsel to provide special education legal services to the District, in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procurement requirements.

8. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby approves Hoagland, Longo, Moran, Dunst & Doukas LLP to provide legal services to Dr. Laura A. Winters, Superintendent, in connection with the matter entitled Vega, A. v. Lakewood Board of Education & Laura A. Winters (personally), bearing Docket No. OCN-L-1637-23, and any other matters that may arise, at the rates of $350.00 per hour for Partners, $250.00 per hour for Associates, and $150.00 per hour for Paralegals, for a total additional amount not to exceed $20,000;

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such services shall be provided in accordance with applicable law and Board policy, and only to the extent that the acts giving rise to the representation occurred within the scope of Dr. Winters' employment and authority; to be paid through budget account #11-000-230-331-00-0001.

9. **WHEREAS, Bid 03-2627** for Substitute Staffing Services was Board-approved on May 27, 2026, and awarded to ESS Northeast; and

   WHEREAS, on August 5, 2026 the Board approved the Second and Third lowest bidders, Kelly Services Inc. and Edustaff, LLC for Substitute Staffing Services in addition to ESS Northeast to insure the provision of a 100% fill rate for Paraprofessionals; and

   WHEREAS, the Second and Third lowest bidders will not enter into a contract with the District to provide such services as they expected to be the sole provider of such services; and

   WHEREAS, it has been determined that the lowest bidder is unable to guarantee a 100% fill rate on a daily basis for Paraprofessionals; and

   WHEREAS, the District must provide Paraprofessionals to be in compliance with students' Individual Education Plans(IEP); and

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board award Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission to recruit, screen, credential and provide qualified educational paraprofessional services to the District on an as needed basis at the following cost:

   - Part-Time Paraprofessionals $34 per hour

   Total amount not to exceed $1,000,000 (15-190-100-320-xx-xxxx and 11-190-100-320-00-0000).

10. Move to Record and Award CC 07-2627 for **NJ High Impact Tutoring Grant Services**. Seven (7) responses were received on 9/4/2026 @ 10:00 a.m. and reviewed by an Evaluation Committee as follows:

    The Seven (7) responses were received by the following vendors:

    1. Braintrust Tutors, Inc.
       100 Vandam St
       Suite 5A
       New York, NY 10013

    2. Tutored by Teachers
       2093 Philadelphia Pike #7265
       Claymont, DE 19703

3. Imagine Learning, LLC
   100S Mill Ave #1700
   Tempe AZ 85281

4. TOKLA
   Tree of Knowledge Learning Academy
   428 Clifton Ave.
   Lakewood, NJ 08701

5. NJ Tutoring Corps. Inc.
   96 Clinton Ave PMB 330
   Newark NJ 07714

6. Little Scholars LLC
   1512 Willow Lawn Dr.
   Richmond, VA 23230

7. Catapult Learning
   150 Rouse Blvd. suite 210
   Philadelphia, PA 19112

		TECHNICAL	MANAGEMENT
		MAX 30 PTS	MAX 40 PTS
SCORER #1	Braintrust Tutors, Inc.	30	40
	Tutored by Teachers	28	17
	Imagine Learning, LLC	26	30
	TOKLA Tree of Knowledge Learning Academy	30	40
	NJ Tutoring Corps. Inc.	24	28
	Little Scholars LLC	16	26
	Catapult Learning	30	40
SCORER #2	Braintrust Tutors	30	40
	Tutored by Teachers	29	20
	Imagine Learning	26	30
	TOKLA	29	40
	NJ Tutoring	26	31
	Little Scholars	18	26
	Catapult Learning	30	38

SCORER #3	Braintrust Tutors	30	40
	Tutored by Teachers	29	17
	Imagine Learning	26	32
	TOKLA	30	40
	NJ Tutoring	25	34
	Little Scholars	16	26
	Catapult Learning	30	40

AVERAGE SCORES		
	TECH	**MANAGEMENT**
Braintrust Tutors	30	40
Tutored by Teachers	28.67	18
Imagine Learning	26	30.67
TOKLA	29.67	40
NJ Tutoring	25	27.67
Little Scholars	16.67	26
Catapult Learning	30	39.33

The District requested a Cost Per Day and a Cost Per Hour on the proposal page. The following costs were presented: **The Maximum Cost points is 30.**

Based on a maximum **30 points for cost** the following are the scores for this component per vendor eliminating NJ Tutoring Corp as their proposal was not compliant in the cost area.

	Braintrust Tutors	**Tutored by Teachers**	**Imagine Learning**	**Tree of Knowledge**	**NJ Tutoring Corp**	**Little Scholars, LLC**	**Catapult LEARNING**
COST PER DAY	$720.00	$720.00	$450.00	$690.00	Unclear/Presented different scenarios which was not requested by the district. RFP rejected, could not accurately score the cost component	$810.00	$636.00

Points Received	18.75	18.75	30	19.56	n/a	16.67	21.23
COST PER HOUR	$120.00	$120.00	$75.00	$115.00	$66.88	$135.00	$106.00
Points Received	18.75	18.75	30	19.56	n/a	16.67	21.26
Total Average of both cost components	18.75	18.75	30	19.56	n/a	16.67	21.26

Total points for all 3 components for all vendors based on the average per category for all evaluators.

TOTAL AVERAGE SCORES					
	TECH	**MANAGEMENT**	**COST**	**TOTAL SCORE**	**RANKING**
Braintrust Tutors	30	40	18.75	88.75	3
Tutored by Teachers	28.67	18	18.73	65.4	Rejected below 75 pts
Imagine Learning	26	30.67	30	86.67	4
TOKLA	29.67	40	19.57	89.24	2
NJ Tutoring	25	27.67	n/a	52.67	Rejected below 75 pts and inaccurate cost component
Little Scholars	16.67	26	16.67	59.34	Rejected below 75 pts
Catapult Learning	30	39.33	21.23	90.56	1

***Full Committee Report can be viewed on the District Website.**

Recommend the award for CC 07-2627 for NJ High Impact Tutoring to Catapult Learning as they presented a responsive and responsible proposal and received the highest overall score of 90.56 points for these services, price and other factors considered. These services will be funded 100% by the NJ High Impact Tutoring Grant allocation not to exceed $199,280.00.

Award is pending advertisement of the full Committee Report on the District website for 48 hours prior to contract award as required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.5.

11. Approve Lenox Law Firm to provide Special Education Legal Services to the Lakewood School District, for the 2026-2027 school year, as assigned at a cost of $250 per hour for all Partners and $185 for Associates, not to exceed $100,000 (11-000-230-331-00-0001)

C. **FACILITIES USAGE**- NONE AT THIS MEETING

D. **OPERATIONS**:

1. **Transportation**:

a. Approval to award a Parental contract to the parents of Lakewood public school students in the amount of the per diem rate multiplied by the total number of days, for significant medical issues, to transport their child(ren) to and from approved schools located in NJ in accordance with NJAC 6A:27-1.5 and NJAC 6A:27-7.7. This assignment has been made in collaboration with the child's CST, District Physician, and Transportation department. Approval will allow the district to remain consistent with applicable federal requirements, student safety and welfare considerations, and the District's obligation to exercise appropriate fiscal responsibility.

Total award to parents: $509,514.90

ROUTE#	NOTES	DAYS	TOTAL	ACCOUNT
SCHICK- 945346	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIBS- 936320	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIGK- 938974	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHILR- 912512	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIRA- 927382 & 922855	$96.19	210	$20,199.90	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIRM- 946202	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000

SCHIAB- 948072	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIAP- 948767	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHICS- 920939	$58.22	210	$12,226.20	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIDC- 941147	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIDS- 944501	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIFD- 918521	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHILY- 921114	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIMF- 923405	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIMG- 946542	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIMS- 925452	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHINM- 924244	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIRB- 905583	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIRJ- 910484	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIRN- 943232	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIRZ- 932139	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHISA- 923912	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHISB- 916253	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHISK- 947367	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHISN- 948688	$79.20	157	$12,434.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHITA- 927388	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHITH- 908014	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIYG- 930021	$79.20	210	$16,632.00	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIYH- 920962	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SCHIZY- 913355	$83.84	210	$17,606.40	11-000-270-511-00-0000

b. Due to a change in the drop□off times from what was originally bid under T03□2627 contractor J&M was no longer able to accommodate SC1 and SC4. The next lowest bidders, Seman□Tov & Jays, were also unable to accommodate these changes. SC4 has been reassigned to Klarr, and SC1 is able to be accommodated by DAG. Below are the updated results with corresponding notes.

Dag= $60,120.00
Klarr= $55,440.00

	DAG							
ROUTE NUMBER	ROUTE COST	PER DIEM/PER	INC/ DEC	TOTAL PER DIEM ROUTE COST	DAYS	TOTAL	AWARD	ACCOUNT

		AIDE/NURSE COST						
ROUTE								
SC1*	$289.00	$ 45.00	$ 0.01	$ 334.00	180	$60,120.00	AWARD	11-000-270-511-00-0000
SC4*	$319.00	$ 45.00	$ 0.01	$ 364.00	180	$65,520.00		
	KLARR							
ROUTE NUMBER	ROUTE COST	PER DIEM/PER AIDE/NURSE COST	INC/DEC	TOTAL PER DIEM ROUTE COST	DAYS	TOTAL	AWARD	ACCOUNT
ROUTE								
SC1*	$335.00	$ 50.00	$ 0.01	$ 385.00	180	$69,300.00		
SC4*	$258.00	$ 50.00	$ 0.01	$ 308.00	180	$55,440.00	AWARD	11-000-270-514-00-0000
	J&M							
ROUTE NUMBER	ROUTE COST	PER DIEM/PER AIDE/NURSE COST	INC/DEC	TOTAL PER DIEM ROUTE COST	DAYS	TOTAL	AWARD	ACCOUNT
ROUTE								
SC1*	$160.00	$ 28.00	$ 0.01	$ 188.00	180	$33,840.00	Time Change unable to accommodate	
SC4*	$160.00	$ 28.00	$ 0.01	$ 188.00	180	$33,840.00	Time Change unable to accommodate	
	JAY'S							
ROUTE NUMBER	ROUTE COST	PER DIEM/PER AIDE/NURSE COST	INC/DEC	TOTAL PER DIEM ROUTE COST	DAYS	TOTAL	AWARD	ACCOUNT
ROUTE								
SC1*	$210.00	$ 50.00	$ 0.01	$ 260.00	180	$46,800.00	not able to accommodate as the next lowest bidder	
SC4*	$210.00	$ 50.00	$ 0.01	$ 260.00	180	$46,800.00	not able to accommodate as the next lowest bidder	
	SEMAN TOV							
ROUTE NUMBER	ROUTE COST	PER DIEM/PER AIDE/NURSE COST	INC/DEC	TOTAL PER DIEM ROUTE COST	DAYS	TOTAL	AWARD	ACCOUNT
ROUTE								

SC1*	$180.00	$ 50.00	$ 0.01	$ 230.00	180	$41,400.00	not able to accommodate as the next lowest bidder
SC4*	$180.00	$ 50.00	$ 0.01	$ 230.00	180	$41,400.00	not able to accommodate as the next lowest bidder

c. **SOMERSET COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION**
991 Route 22 West, Suite 301 • Bridgewater, NJ 08807

2026-2027 School Year

Resolution/Agreement for Participation in Coordinated Transportation Services

WHEREAS Lakewood Township School District ("Board") desires to transport special education, public and vocational school students to specific destinations; and

WHEREAS, the Somerset County Educational Services Commission ("SCESC") offers coordinated transportation services; and

WHEREAS, the SCESC will organize, provide and schedule routes to achieve the maximum cost effectiveness;

NOW THEREFORE, it is agreed the Board will pay prorated contract costs, plus an administration fee of 5.5%, as presented to the Board as calculated by the billing formula adopted by the SCESC. The total amount to be charged to the Board will be adjusted based on actual costs. Payments will be due within 30 days of receipt by the district and deemed late after 60 days with an additional 1% fee for late payments. At the discretion of the SCESC, late fee charges may be waived for extenuating circumstances.

i. The SCESC will provide the following services for Special Education Transportation:

Routes coordinated with other districts when possible to achieve a maximum cost reduction while maintaining a realistic capacity and travel time;

1. Monthly billing and invoices;
2. Student lists for all routes coordinated by SCESC;

3. All information necessary for the accurate submission of the District Report of Transported Resident Students;
4. All necessary interaction and communication between the sending district, receiving school, and the respective transportation contractors;
5. Constant/timely review and revision of routes;
6. Transportation as soon as possible after receipt of the formal written request;
7. Timely submission of contracts, contract renewals or contract addenda to the county office for approval.

ii. The SCESC will provide the following services for Nonpublic Transportation:

Routes coordinated with other districts when possible to achieve a maximum cost reduction while maintaining a realistic capacity and travel time;

1. Monthly billing of all district nonpublic students within State allocated funding;
2. Student lists for all routes coordinated by SCESC;
3. All information necessary for the accurate submission of the District Report of Transported Resident Students;
4. All necessary interaction and communication between the sending district, receiving school, and the respective transportation contractors;
5. Transportation provided within five days or sooner during school year after receipt of the formal, signed, written request and B6T form;
6. Timely submission of contracts, contract renewals or contract addenda to the

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board will provide the SCESC with the following:

Copies of district policies as they relate to ride time or other specific transportation parameters;

1. Request for transportation on forms or software provided by the SCESC, completed in full and signed by authorized district personnel;

2. Forms will contain all necessary and relevant information, medical or otherwise, regarding individual student's condition and transportation needs;
3. Withdrawal or long term suspension (over 5 school days) for any special education transportation communicated in writing by authorized district personnel; no billing adjustments will be made if not submitted in writing in advance;
4. Strict adherence to the established payment schedule.

iii. Additional Cost:

1. All additional costs generated by unique requests, including but not limited to mid-day runs or early dismissals, will be borne by the district making such requests. It is understood that any change in the number of students being transported on each route, or changes in mileage during the course of the year may necessitate a reapportionment and adjustment of costs. If an athletic or field trip charter cancellation occurs after the bus departs from the terminal, a cancellation fee of the first 2 hours of the scheduled trip contracted amount will be charged.
2. The SCESC accepts no responsibility for assuring a pupil's use of arranged transportation or attendance on an established route. Once assigned to a route, the monthly billings for the pupil's reserved seat will continue until the SCESC is otherwise notified, in writing, to delete the pupil from the assigned route.
3. The SCESC will contract transportation each day while school or classes attended are in session unless the Board's district is closed due to weather conditions (snow, ice, flooding, etc.). The SCESC accepts no responsibility for defaults by transportation contractors; however, the SCESC will make every effort to re-establish transportation expediently.
4. Other Services: The SCESC also provides safety training, and other related transportation services for an additional fee as a shared services program, the Board may participate at any time.
5. Length of Agreement: This agreement and obligations and requirements therein shall be in effect between September 1, 2025 and August 31, 2026.
6. Entire Agreement: This agreement constitutes the entire and only agreement between the parties and may be

amended by an instrument in writing over authorized signature.

7. It is understood and agreed by the parties hereto that this agreement shall be without force and effect until it shall have been approved by the Executive County Superintendent of the County of Somerset.

d. Move to approve payment to the SCESC for displaced Special Education Student ID#933024 for an amount not to exceed $59,818.50 for the 26/27 SY. To be paid through budget acct# 11-000-270-514-00-0000.

e. Move to approve at no additional cost to the district and in accordance with N.J.A.C. (6A: 27-1.6, 9.3, & 9.15) the subcontracting of routes between Jays Bus Service, DAG Transport, & Seman-Tov for routes HS10, SO2, SO5, S5, S17.

f. Move to **record and award Bid T12-2627** received on 9/10/26 @ 10am for two routes for the Center for Education's 6:30pm dismissal as follows:

Total award Seman-tov: $67,200.00

VENDOR- DAG								
Route	**Rt Cost**	**Aide**	**Inc/Dec**	**Total Rt Cost**	**Days**	**Total**	**Award**	**Acct#**
OWTCC25P*	$ 269.00	$ 50.00	$ 0.01	$319.00	160	$51,040.00		
OWTCC25P*	$ 289.00	$ 50.00	$ 0.01	$339.00	160	$54,240.00		
VENDOR- SEMANTOV								
Route	**Rt Cost**	**Aide**	**Inc/Dec**	**Total Rt Cost**	**Days**	**Total**	**Award**	**Acct#**
OWTCC25P*	$ 150.00	$ 60.00	$ 0.01	$210.00	160	$33,600.00	Award	11-000-270-514-00-0000
OWTCC25P*	$ 150.00	$ 60.00	$ 0.01	$210.00	160	$33,600.00	Award	11-000270-514-00-0000

g. Move to record and award **RFQ-T02-2627** as follows for the specialized transportation of Student ID#944899 to and from Ocean Academy Charter School:

Total award to J&M Transit=$16,851.00

							AWARD	ACCOUNT
Contractor: A2Z								
Route	**Per Diem**	**Aide**	**Inc/Dec**	**Total Per Diem**	**Days**	**Total**		
SOACS	$ 100.00	$ 40.00	$ 1.00	$ 140.00	123	$17,220.00		
Contractor: HARTNETT TRANSIT								
Route	Per Diem	Aide	Inc/Dec	Total Per Diem	Days	Total		
SOACS	$ 120.00	$ 48.00	$ 2.00	$ 168.00	123	$20,664.00		
Contractor: J&M TRANSIT								
Route	Per Diem	Aide	Inc/Dec	Total Per Diem	Days	Total		
SOACS	$ 115.00	$ 22.00	$ 0.01	$ 137.00	123	$16,851.00	AWARD	11-000-270-511-00-0000
Contractor: PRESIDENTIAL								
Route	Per Diem	Aide	Inc/Dec	Total Per Diem	Days	Total		
SOACS	$ 499.00	$ 100.00	$ 0.01	$ 599.00	123	$73,677.00		
Contractor: ST MARK SCHOOL BUS								
Route	Per Diem	Aide	Inc/Dec	Total Per Diem	Days	Total		
SOACS	$ 250.00	$ 80.00	$ 2.00	$ 330.00	123	$40,590.00		

h. Move to record and award **Trip quote #1-#7** as follows:

			AWARD	ACCOUNT
CONTRACTOR: ST MARK				
TRIP #	**COST PER BUS**	**TOTAL**		
Trip #1	NQ			
Trip #2	$ 355.00	$ 355.00	AWARD	15-000-270-512-03-0003
Trip #3	$ 177.00	$ 177.00	AWARD	15-000-270-512-03-0003
Trip #4	$ 220.00	$ 220.00	AWARD	15-000-270-512-03-0003
Trip #5	$ 287.00	$ 287.00		
Trip #6	$ 287.00	$ 287.00		
Trip #7	NQ			
CONTRACTOR: HAPPY LIME				
TRIP #	**COST PER BUS**	**TOTAL**		
Trip #1	$ 610.00	$ 610.00	AWARD	SGA CLUB FUNDS
Trip #2	$ 540.00	$ 540.00		
Trip #3	$ 510.00	$ 510.00		
Trip #4	$ 540.00	$ 540.00		

Trip #5	$ 580.00	$ 580.00		
Trip #6	$ 580.00	$ 580.00		
Trip #7	$ 580.00	$ 580.00	AWARD	15-000-270-512-03-0003
CONTRACTOR: J&M TRANSIT				
TRIP #	COST PER BUS	TOTAL		
Trip #1	NQ			
Trip #2	NQ			
Trip #3	NQ			
Trip #4	NQ			
Trip #5	$ 660.00	$ 660.00		
Trip #6	$ 660.00	$ 660.00		
Trip #7	$ 660.00	$ 660.00		
CONTRACTOR: HARTNETT TRANSIT				
TRIP #	COST PER BUS	TOTAL		
Trip #1	$ 692.00	$ 692.00		
Trip #2	$ 440.00	$ 440.00		
Trip #3	$ 274.00	$ 274.00		
Trip #4	$ 440.00	$ 440.00		
Trip #5	$ 184.00	$ 184.00	AWARD	15-000-270-512-03-0003
Trip #6	$ 184.00	$ 184.00	AWARD	15-000-270-512-03-0003
Trip #7	$ 692.00	$ 692.00		
CONTRACTOR: PRESIDENTIAL				
TRIP #	COST PER BUS	TOTAL		
Trip #1	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,200.00		
Trip #2	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,200.00		
Trip #3	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,200.00		
Trip #4	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,200.00		
Trip #5	$ 1,500.00	$ 1,500.00		
Trip #6	$ 1,500.00	$ 1,500.00		
Trip #7	$ 1,500.00	$ 1,500.00		

i. **READ-IN-** Kevin Campbell, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mr. Stern put a motion for the following:

Approve the reinstatement of courtesy bussing to all public school students.

Motion to reinstate courtesy bussing for Public school students:

First: Mr. Stern **Second**: Mr. Rodriguez

Moshe Bender-President	Y
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y
Aaron Chase	Y
Meir Grunhut	Y
Joel Kleinman	Y
Samuel Melnik	Y
Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Y
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

j. **READ-IN**- Kevin Campbell, Business Administrator/Board Secretary:

Mr. Stern put a motion for the following:

Motion to provide hazardous-route transportation for eligible nonpublic-school students:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Lakewood Board of Education hereby authorizes payment to the Lakewood Student Transportation Authority (LSTA) to fund hazardous-route transportation for eligible nonpublic-school students, consistent with the District's continued funding of hazardous-route transportation for public-school students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that payment shall be based on the District Report of Transported Resident Students (DRTRS) for up to **12,642 students**, at an amount not to exceed **$1,177 per student**, for a total amount not to exceed **$14,879,634**, subject to verification of student eligibility, supporting documentation.

Motion to provide hazardous-route transportation for eligible nonpublic-school students:

First: Mr. Grunhut **Second**: Mrs. Westbrook Goldberg

Moshe Bender-President	Abstain
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y
Aaron Chase	Y
Meir Grunhut	Y
Joel Kleinman	Abstain
Samuel Melnik	Y

Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Abstain
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

State Monitor, Louise Davis- Under Advisement

On October 27, 2026, State Monitor, Louise Davis wrote a letter stating that she is exercising her statutory authority to deny this resolution in the best interest of the District's fiscal health and in accordance with her statutory obligation to ensure the responsible use of public funds.

2. **Food Service**

    a. None at this Meeting

3. **Maintenance**

    a. Approve Hutchins HVAC Inc., an MOESC approved contract vendor. **Bid # MOESC 26-14** to perform preventative maintenance as per manufacturer's specifications for the district's 13 boilers, to meet state boiler inspection requirements at a cost of $48,375.00. (11-000-261-420-15-0721).

Motion to Approve the Business Administrator Agenda: 11:32pm

First: Mr. Rodriguez **Second**: Mr. Reich

Voting:

Moshe Bender-President	Y
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y
Aaron Chase	Y
Meir Grunhut	Y
Joel Kleinman	Absent
Samuel Melnik	Y
Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Y
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

X. AND APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. PERSONNEL

1. Retirements

Name	Title/Role	Effective
STURMAN, JANET	6TH GRADE LLD SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER- LMS	JANUARY 1, 2027
CORREIA, CHERYL	ESL TEACHER- CAGS	JANUARY , 2027

2. Resignations

Name	Title/Role	Effective
DEVICO, SANDRA	PART-TIME PARAPROFESSIONAL- SPRUCE	AUGUST 26, 2026
PINTER, HENNY	SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER/TOD- SPRUCE	AUGUST 26, 2026
FLINT, TYLER	MUSIC TEACHER- LHS	OCTOBER 24, 2026 OR SOONER
KELLY, KATHLEEN	SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST- CST- LHS	OCTOBER 27, 2026
SCHORR, LEAH	SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST- CST	OCTOBER 28, 2026
DEMARINIS, JENNA	PARAPROFESSIONAL- SPRUCE	AUGUST 28, 2026
PETRALIA, JACLYN	PARAPROFESSIONAL- LMS	SEPTEMBER 24, 2026
BRANDL, CHRISTINA	SPECIAL EDUCATION ABA PRESCHOOL TEACHER- SPRUCE	JULY 19, 2026
WALKER, STEPHANIE	INTERVENTION TEACHER- OAK	JUNE 30, 2026

CHIRICHELLO, LINDSEY	PRESCHOOL TEACHER- OAK	NOVEMBER 16, 2026 OR SOONER

3. Appointments: *(New employees must provide all new hire documentation prior to three (3) Business days before their scheduled start date. Should documentation not be provided, the new employee may not start as scheduled until all documentation has been received.)*

a) Certificated

Name	Title/Role	Salary	Effective	Account #
SANDIN, KATELYN	HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER- LMS	STEP 4, BA- SALARY- $62,696.00 (PENDING LEA NEGOTIATIONS)	SEPTEMBER 2, 2026* (*AMENDMENT TO THE AUGUST 26, 2026)	15-130-100-101-04-0004 (REPLACEMENT FOR G. COVIELLO- RESIGNED)
DONSKY, SAMUEL	BAND TEACHER- LMS	STEP 7, MA- SALARY- $66,596.00 (PENDING LEA NEGOTIATIONS)	OCTOBER 5, 2026	15-130-100-101-04-0004 (REPLACEMENT FOR Z. GRUN- TRANSFERRED)

b) Non-Certificated

Name	Title/Role	Salary	Effective	Account #

c) Unaffiliated

Name	Title/Role	Salary	Effective	Account #

*Appointment subject to approval of Criminal History background check by State Department of Education, as per NJSA 18A:6-7-1, et. seq., NJSA 18A:39-17 et. seq., or NJSA 18A:6-4.13 et seq., as applicable.

**As required by law and code, this Emergent Employee Resolution, upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, it was RESOLVED that this person be employed by the Board of Education of the Lakewood Public School District in the County of Ocean on an emergent basis.

*** This position does not include the following:

Medical Coverage	Personal Days
Dental Coverage	Professional Days
Prescriptions	Vacation Days
Optical Coverage	Sick Days
Reimbursement for Credits	

Payment will not be made by the Board of Education Business Office until a contract is fully executed by the Board and prior to work commencing, reviewed and initiated by General Counsel.

4. Leave of Absences- **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the following leave(s) of absence in accordance with Board policy, collective bargaining agreements, and applicable state and federal laws.

New Certified			
Name	**Position**	**Type of Leave**	**Start-End/Return**
Ding, Cecelia	Teacher - Clifton	Paid - Family Leave - Intermittent (9/23/26–6/30/27)	9/23/26–6/30/27
Herriger, Candy	Teacher - LHS	Paid - Family Leave - Intermittent (9/2/26–9/28/26)	9/2/26–9/28/26
Kaufman, Carolyn	Teacher - OSS	Paid - Family Leave - Intermittent (9/7/26–9/18/26) Unpaid - Family Leave - Intermittent (9/21/26–10/16/26)	9/7/26–10/16/26
Palmieri, Heather	Teacher - Clifton	Paid - Family Leave - Intermittent (9/1/26–6/1/27)	9/1/26–6/2/26

Parlow, Kathleen	Teacher - LMS	Unpaid - Family Leave (9/8/26–3/8/27) Unpaid - Contractual (3/9/26–6/30/27)	9/8/26–6/30/27
Stead, Thomas	Athletic Director - LHS	Paid - Family Leave (9/3/26–9/17/26)	9/3/26–9/18/26
Sturman, Janet	Teacher - LMS	Paid - Family Leave (9/1/26–10/1/26)	9/1/26–10/2/26
Revised- Non Certified			
Name	**Position**	**Revised Type of Leave To:**	**Revised Type of Leave from:**
Garcia, Lisette	Admin/Sec. - Clifton	Paid - Family Leave (8/24/26–11/23/26) Returning: 11/24/26	Correction from 8/23: *Paid - Medical (8/24/26–11/20/26) *Paid Minus Sub - Medical (11/23/26-11/24/26) Returning: 11/24/26

5. Transfers

Name	From	To	Effective	Rationale/Account #
BETHEA, ADAM	PARAPROFESSIONAL-SPRUCE	PARAPROFESSIONAL - LMS	SEPTEMBER 2, 2026	15-212-100-106-04-0004
GRUN, ZACHARY	MUSIC TEACHER- LMS	MUSIC TEACHER-LHS	SEPTEMBER 2, 2026	15-140-100-101-03-0003 (REPLACEMENT FOR T. FLINT- RESIGNED)
FLINT, TYLER	MUSIC TEACHER- LHS	MUSIC TEACHER-LMS	SEPTEMBER 2, 2026	15-130-100-101-04-0004 (REPLACEMENT FOR Z. GRUN- TRANSFERRED)

CABLE, KIMBERLY	SOCIAL WORKER, CST-SPRUCE	SOCIAL WORKER, CST- PRESCHOOL INTAKE	SEPTEMBER 24, 2026	11-000-219-104-13-0013
WEHRENBERG, KRISTINA	SOCIAL WORKER, CST-SPRUCE	SOCIAL WORKER, CST- PRESCHOOL INTAKE	SEPTEMBER 24, 202	11-000-219-104-13-0013
TEJADA, EVELYN	SOCIAL WORKER, CST-PRESCHOOL INTAKE	SOCIAL WORKER, CST- SPRUCE	SEPTEMBER 24, 2026	11-000-219-104-13-0013
WIECZERZAK, HEIDI	SOCIAL WORKER, CST-PRESCHOOL INTAKE	SOCIAL WORKER, CST- LHS	SEPTEMBER 24, 2026	11-000-219-104-13-0013
MCNEILL, MARIA	SOCIAL WORKER, CST- OAK	SOCIAL WORKER, CST- SPRUCE	SEPTEMBER 24, 2026	11-000-219-104-13-0013
BRUNO, SALLY	SOCIAL WORKER-COUNSELING- OAK-	SOCIAL WORKER, CST- OAK	SEPTEMBER 24, 2026	11-000-219-104-13-0013

6. Salary Adjustments

Name	From Step/Salary	To Step/Salary	Effective	Account #

7. Stipends

a. Child Study Team Member
Summer Employment Per LEA Contract Article VI
To be paid as part of the yearly salary
Effective: July 1, 2026
Terminating: June 30, 2027
* At current step and salary pending LEA negotiations

Last Name	First Name	Stipend
MENACHE	EVELYN	$9,849.60* (CORRECTION FROM THE 4/29/26 AGENDA)

8. Tuition Reimbursement

Approve the following teachers to be reimbursed for the cost of the class listed. Reimbursement to be given upon proof of completion, as per the LEA contract.

Name	Credits	School/Class	Cost	Account #
Laura Choffey	3	SPED 6210 Introduction to the Exceptional Child	$576.00	11-000-291-280-00-0000
		Total	**$576.00**	

9. Professional Development

Name	Date	Title/Company	Cost	Account
MALKA STEIN	OCTOBER 28, 2026 OCTOBER 29, 2026	STEAM SHOWCASE EDISON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT	$0	N/A
KRISTIN FOGARTY	OCTOBER 28, 2026 OCTOBER 29, 2026	STEAM SHOWCASE EDISON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT	$0	N/A
JACQUELYN BURKE	SEPTEMBER 30, 2026	ETHICS & AI- SRI & ETTC ONLINE WORKSHOP	$58.00	20-270-200-500-29-2520-000
JESSICA CERCHIO	OCTOBER 3, 2026 NOVEMBER 21, 2026 JANUARY 9, 2027 FEBRUARY 20, 2027 MARCH 13, 2027 APRIL 17, 2027 MAY 8, 2027	CIACC TRAINING AND REPORTING CHILD ABUSE-OCEAN COUNTY PROSECUTORS OFFICE-119 HOOPER AVENUE TOMS RIVER, NJ 08753	$0.00	N/A
KATHERINE BONELLI	SEPTEMBER 18, 2026 OCTOBER 16, 2026 NOVEMBER 13, 2026 DECEMBER 11, 2026 JANUARY 22, 2027 FEBRUARY 19, 2027 MARCH 4-5, 2027 MARCH 19, 2027 APRIL 16, 2027 MAY 21, 2027	OCEAN COUNTY REGION OF STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELORS	$0.00	N/A

JESSICA RING (MTSS COORDINATOR) STEVE BUKOWINSKI (I&RS COORDINATOR) KRISTIN FOGARTY (DATA COORDINATOR)	OCTOBER 2, 2026	"504 ACCOMMODATION PLANS: UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS, IMPLEMENTATION AND MEASURING EFFECTIVENESS" ALIGNED WITH PSEL STANDARDS 3, 4, AND 6."	NOT TO EXCEED $425	TITLE II FUNDS ACCOUNT: 20-270-200-500-29-2520-000
TOMORROW'S TEACHERS CLASS AT LHS AND JESSICA KALISA (TEACHER)	NOVEMBER 13, 2026	TOMORROW'S TEACHERS FALL CONFERENCE AT KEAN UNIVERSITY	N/A	15-000-270-512-03-0003 TRANSPORTATION COSTS
KRISTEN REX	OCTOBER 5, 2026	GUIDED PLAY, GROUNDED LEARNING: MAXIMIZING GROWTH THROUGH PLAY-BASED INSTRUCTION" TRAINING AT FEA IN MONROE TWP	$95 REGISTRATION FEE	TITLE III, ACCOUNT NUMBER 20-241-200-500-29-2520-000
MARJORIE FLECK	MARCH 4 & MARCH 5, 2027	OCEAN COUNTY REGION OF STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELORS "ASAP" NJ (ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT PROFESSIONALS)	$0.00	N/A
PHYLICE BEVERETTE	JANUARY 8, 2027 FEBRUARY 5, 2027 MARCH 12, 2027 APRIL 23, 2027 MAY 14, 2027	CIACC	$0.00	N/A
JESSICA BLISS	JANUARY 8, 2027 FEBRUARY 5, 2027 MARCH 12, 2027 APRIL 23, 2027 MAY 14, 2027	CIACC	$0.00	N/A
KELLY HOWLETT	JANUARY 8, 2027 FEBRUARY 5, 2027 MARCH 12, 2027 APRIL 23, 2027 MAY 14, 2027	CIACC	$0.00	N/A

MARJORIE FLECK	JANUARY 8, 2027 FEBRUARY 5, 2027 MARCH 12, 2027 APRIL 23, 2027 MAY 14, 2027	CIACC	$0.00	N/A
TARA NAPOLITANO	OCTOBER 23, 2026 NOVEMBER 20, 2026 JANUARY 8, 2027 FEBRUARY 5, 2027 MARCH 12, 2027 APRIL 23, 2027 MAY 14, 2027	CIACC TRAINING OCEAN COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE 119 HOOPER AVENUE, TOMS RIVER, NJ 08753	$0.00	N/A
SHAINY SCHLOSS	OCTOBER 22, 2026	COACHING FOR CHANGE IN PEA CLASSROOMS: DATA-DRIVEN PRACTICES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING SUCCESS; PART 2	N/A	N/A
TARA DEFALCO	OCTOBER 22, 2026	COACHING FOR CHANGE IN PEA CLASSROOMS: DATA-DRIVEN PRACTICES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING SUCCESS; PART 2	N/A	N/A
HENI MOZES	MAY 6, 2027	NJPSA EC SERIES: GROWING VOICES 7 MINDS:BUILDING LITERACY & CONFIDENCE IN P-3 CLASSROOMS	$95.00	11-000-223-500-00-0000
TOVA FEIFER	MAY 6, 2027	NJPSA EC SERIES: GROWING VOICES 7 MINDS:BUILDING LITERACY & CONFIDENCE IN P-3 CLASSROOMS	$95.00	11-000-223-500-00-0000
ROCHEL LAZEWNIK	MAY 6, 2027	NJPSA EC SERIES: GROWING VOICES 7 MINDS:BUILDING LITERACY & CONFIDENCE IN P-3 CLASSROOMS	$95.00	11-000-223-500-00-0000
DEIDRE KROK	OCTOBER 23, 2026	CIACC HOMELESS YOUTH & DCF	N/A	N/A
SHARON SOLAR	OCTOBER 22-23, 2026	44TH ANNUAL AUTISM CONFERENCE	N/A	N/A

CHRISTINA ASLIN	OCTOBER 14, 2026	HESSA COUNSELOR SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOP IN-PERSON — STOCKTON UNIVERSITY	N/A	N/A
AMBER PATTERSON / MARGARET BOGAN	OCTOBER 2, 2026	HESSA COUNSELOR SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOP IN-PERSON — GEORGIAN COURT UNIVERSITY	N/A	N/A
GLORIA VARELA / MARGARET BOGAN / STEPHANIE TAVARES	OCTOBER 23, 2026	HESSA COUNSELOR SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOP-VIRTUAL	N/A	N/A
CORRINE HOFFMAN	OCTOBER 28, 2026	HESSA COUNSELOR SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOP IN-PERSON — THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY	N/A	N/A
HAILE DONAHOE	SEPTEMBER 28, 2026	SHORE CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP RWJB ARENA TOMS RIVER NORTH	N/A	N/A

B. NONPERSONNEL

1. Policy Adoptions/Revisions

   a)

2. Job Descriptions-

   a)

3. Out of District Placements-

   a) Approve the 2026-2027 tuition costs for the following out-of-district placements to be paid through budget account #11-000-100-566-00-0000 and #11-000-100-566-00-0001.

ID#	Placement	Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Aide Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Billable Days/ Months	Student Program	Total Tuition Cost	Start Date

907989	Collier (EPEC)	$350.00/Day	N/A	210	ERI	$73,500.00	07/06/2026 - 06/30/2027
913134	New Road School*	$245.70/Day	N/A	180	MD	$44,226.00	09/03/2026 - 06/30/2027
910083	New Road School*	$452.59/Day	N/A	30	MD	$13,577.70	07/06/2026 - 08/31/2026
910083	New Road School*	$302.40/Day	N/A	180	MD	$54,432.00	09/03/2026 - 06/30/2027
944209	SCHI*	$830.59/Day	$225.00/Day	210	MD	$221,673.90	07/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
933402	SCHI*	$830.59/Day	$225.00/Day	210	MD	$221,673.90	07/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
941147	SCHI*	$830.59/Day	$225.00/Day	210	MD	$221,673.90	07/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
945345	SCHI*	$830.59/Day	$225.00/Day	210	MD	$221,673.90	07/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
	TOTAL					**$1,072,431.30**	

*Correction from June 24, 2026 Agenda

b) Approve the 2026-2027 tuition costs for the following out-of-district placements to be paid through budget account #11-000-100-565-00-0000 and #11-000-100-565-00-0001.

ID#	Placement	Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Aide Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Billable Days/ Months	Student Program	Total Tuition Cost	Start Date
920683	Bayshore Jointure Commission*	$10,000.00/ Month	$5,450.00/ Month	10 Months	AUT	$154,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
940689	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027

946574	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	N/A	10 Months	MD	$80,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
941991	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
909533	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	N/A	10 Months	MD	$80,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
930977	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
939489	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
941664	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
939390	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
940498	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
937456	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
926655	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
942132	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
934914	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
932115	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00 /Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
941235	Manchester Regional Day	$8,050.00/ Month	$5,500.00/ Month	10 Months	MD	$135,500.00	09/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
946574*	Manchester Regional Day	$8,500.00/ 6 Weeks	N/A	6 Weeks	MD	$8,500.00	07/01/2026 - 08/12/2026

909635	Neptune Township	$375.00/Day	N/A	204 Days	MD	$76,500.00	07/06/2026 - 06/30/2027
926412	Neptune Township	$375.00/Day	N/A	204 Days	MD	$76,500.00	07/06/2026 - 06/30/2027
	TOTAL					**$2,238,500.00**	

*Correction from June 24, 2026 Agenda -
**Correction from August 26, 2026 Agenda

c) Approve the 2026-2027 tuition costs for the following out-of-district placements to be paid through budget account #11-000-100-561-00-0000 and #11-000-100-561-00-0001.

ID#	Placement	Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Aide Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Billable Days/ Months	Student Program	Total Tuition Cost	Start Date
951670	Neptune Township	$105.56/Day	N/A	180	MKV	$19,000.80	09/03/2026 - 06/30/2027
951671	Neptune Township	$105.56/Day	N/A	180	MKV	$19,000.80	09/03/2026 - 06/30/2027
	TOTAL					**$38,001.60**	

d) Approve the 2026-2027 tuition costs for the following out-of-district placements to be paid through budget account #11-000-100-567-00-0000.

ID#	Placement	Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Aide Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Billable Days/ Months	Student Program	Total Tuition Cost	Start Date
919858	Boston Higashi School	$897.10/Day	N/A	365 Days	AUT	$327,441.50	07/01/2026 - 06/30/2027
	TOTAL					**$327,441.50**	

e) Approve the 2026-2027 tuition costs for the following out-of-district placements to be paid through budget account #11-000-100-569-00-0000.

ID#	Placement	Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Aide Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Billable Days/ Months	Student Program	Total Tuition Cost	Start Date
942245	Marie H. Katzenbach School	$4,410.00/ Month	N/A	1 Month	MD	$4,410.00	07/06/2026 - 07/30/2026
	TOTAL					**$4,410.00**	

f) Approve the 2024-2025 tuition costs for the following out-of-district placements to be paid through budget account #11-000-100-561-00-0000 and #11-000-100-561-00-0001.

ID#	Placement	Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Aide Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Billable Days/ Months	Student Program	Total Tuition Cost	Start Date
951498	Tinton Falls School District	$1929.10/ Month	$1,336.00/ Month	10 Months	MKV	$32,651.00	09/04/2024 - 06/23/2025
	TOTAL						**$32,651.00**

g) Approve the 2025-2026 tuition costs for the following out-of-district placements to be paid through budget account #11-000-100-561-00-0000 and #11-000-100-561-00-0001.

ID#	Placement	Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Aide Per Diem/ Monthly Rate	Billable Days/ Months	Student Program	Total Tuition Cost	Start Date
951498	Tinton Falls School District	$2,120.60/ Month	$1,349.81/ Month	10 Months	MKV	$34,704.10	09/04/2025 - 06/26/2026
	TOTAL						**$34,704.10**

4. Programs- None at this Meeting

5. School Security Drills- None at this Meeting

6. HIB Report- None at this Meeting

C. OTHER

1. **Approval of Full-Time Paraprofessional Positions – Spruce Street School Preschool Program 2026–2027 School Year**

   WHEREAS, the Lakewood Board of Education is committed to providing appropriate educational services and supports for preschool students in accordance with federal and state law; and

   WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education has approved the District's 2026–2027 Preschool Education Aid (PEA) Grant, which includes funding for twenty-two (22) full-time paraprofessional positions assigned to the District's preschool program; and

   THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lakewood Board of Education hereby approves twenty-two (22) full-time paraprofessional positions, with applicable salary and benefits pursuant to the terms and conditions of employment, to be assigned to the Spruce Street School Preschool Program for the 2026–2027 school year.

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon the resignation, retirement, or other permanent separation of any of these full-time paraprofessionals, the resulting vacancy shall not be filled as a full-time position. Instead, the vacancy shall be filled with a part-time paraprofessional position, subject to Board approval, available funding, and the staffing needs of the District, provided such action remains consistent with all applicable federal and state laws, regulations, collective bargaining obligations, and New Jersey Department of Education Preschool Education Aid requirements.

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to implement this resolution and take all administrative actions necessary to effectuate its intent.

   Full Time Paraprofessionals by Seniority:

Paraprofessional	Salary for 26-27 pending LEA Negotiations

Maureen Cusick - 90 credits (Replacement for E. Emporelli)	Step 18- $29,674.00
Abdellatif Nakhli - 90 credits (Replacement for L. Gavan)	Step 17- $28,449.00

2. Approve Krista Smith and Stephanie Santiago for the Adult High Teacher positions, at a rate of $55.00 per hour (pending LEA negotiations), up to 4 hours per week per teacher, from September 28, 2026 through June 22, 2027, total cost not to exceed $16,720, to be paid through budget account #15-140-100-101-03-0003.

3. Approve the following Part-Time Paraprofessionals:
   Effective: See Date Below
   Terminating: June 30, 2027
   (Not to exceed 29.5 hours per week)
   (Account #15-212-100-106-04-0004)
   (Account #11-216-100-106-15-0015)
   (Account #15-190-100-106-03-0003)
   (Account #15-190-100-106-06-0006)

   - Jaclyn Petralia $21.88 per hour LMS- (9/2/2026)
   - Rebecca Vennettilli $26.00 per hour SPRUCE- 9/9/2026)
   - Yaquelin Crump $20.20 per hour LHS (9/8/2026)
   - Ida DeMarco $21.46 per hour LHS (10/5/2026)
   - Melissa Sorrentino $23.33 per hour CAGS (10/5/2026)
   - Julea Sorrentino $21.63 per hour CAGS (10/5/2026)

4. Approve Nicole Mackow, in partnership with Lighthouse Christian Academy, to teach STEM classes to nonpublic students at an hourly rate of $84.66, and a maximum of 228 hours of teaching not to exceed $19,302.48, paid by the FY 2027 STEM grant budget account #20-481-100-101-30-1019-35J.

5. Approve Marsha Pepper, in partnership with Bais Reuven Kaminetz, to teach STEM classes to nonpublic students at an hourly rate of $93.80, and a maximum of 442.32 hours of teaching not to exceed $41,489.62, paid by the FY 2027 STEM grant budget account #20-481-100-101-30-0957-79I.

6. Approve Kristen Elias, in partnership with Hillel Yeshiva of the South Shore, to teach STEM classes to nonpublic students at an hourly rate of $76.05, and a maximum of 220.80 hours of teaching not to exceed $16,791.84, paid by the FY 2027 STEM grant budget account #20-481-100-101-30-0791-27H.

7. Approve SY6 Emergency Training and Equipment Sales to provide CPR training to 31 district therapists at a cost not to exceed $1,710.00; to be paid through budget account #11-000-216-320-00-0000. (Correction from 8/5/26 agenda, item 9)

8. Approve the following teachers as Mentors for the 2026-2027 school year. Those mentoring a CE holder will be paid a rate of $1,000.00 over the 30 weeks of mentoring and those mentoring a CEAS holder will be paid a rate of $550.00 over the 30 weeks of mentoring, at no cost to the district, as the mentees fund the payment.

    - McCarthy, Jennifer- SSS
    - Mikhail, Maryan- LHS

9. Approve the termination of Employee #8629 due to job abandonment.

10. Approve the administrative leave of Employee #6693 pending investigation.

11. Approve the following Oak Street School Morning Bus Duty Stipend. Teacher Stipend $1,800.00 per year for the 2026-2027 School Year (This Stipend is Pensionable), to be paid through budget account #11-000-270-107-00-2001. (8 Morning Duty Staff at a cost not to exceed $14,400- Effective September 21, 2026)

    - Maryellen McLaughlin
    - Chelsea Kiley
    - Lauren Thomas

12. Approve the purchase of 125 PSATs and 50 SATs for students at Lakewood High School, at a total cost not to exceed $3,000.00; to be paid through budget account #15-190-100-610-03-0003.

13. Approve dual enrollment credits through Kean University for students in the Tomorrow's Teachers class at Lakewood High School, at a total cost not to exceed $2250; to be paid through Title IV budget account #20-280-100-500-29-2520-000.

14. Approve Celenia Hernandez and Ana Tsapatsaris to participate in a Latino Family Literacy Project webinar on September 30th at 6pm in order to become certified program presenters. The total cost, not to exceed $600 (correction form $450) for registration fees, will be paid using Title III

funds, budget account #20-241-200-500-29-2520-000. (Revision from August 27 board agenda (item # 30).

15. Approve Tomorrow's Teachers students from Lakewood High School to complete their field experiences at Spruce, Oak, and Clifton Avenue Schools on October 14 and October 28. Transportation costs to be paid through budget account #15-000-270-512-03-0003.

16. Approve the following staff to advise the indicated co-curricular positions for the 2026- 2027 school year for Lakewood High School. Attendance must be taken each day using the district created attendance spreadsheets. Stipends will not be paid without a copy of the club's attendance spreadsheet and Principal signature. All clubs must have 10+ students. All clubs must be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and/or Thursday. Clubs may not be held on Monday or Friday. As per Board Policy, Fundraisers must be approved by the Superintendent and Board of Education. Funds collected must be deposited within two working days. All staff members must review the 2026-2027 Student Activities Handbook. Account Number: 15-140-100-101-03-0003*. Stipends Pending Contract Negotiations. (Correction to the 8/26/2026 agenda)

Position	Teacher Name	Dates:	Days Per Week	Time	Stipend
Art Show (After Contractual Hours)	Matthew Varacalli	----	----	----	$1,523.00
Art Show (After Contractual Hours)	Audre Mckelvey	----	----	----	$1,523.00
Art Show (After Contractual Hours)	Dan Jensen	----	----	----	$1,523.00
Winter/Spring Concert	Kathleen Hall*	----	----	----	$1,796.00
Winter/Spring Concert.	Thomas Wilson	----	----	----	$1,796.00

17. Approve Elsa Mena as part-time K-5 ML Instructional coach to be paid a stipend of $12,000 through Title III, account #20-241-200-100-29-2520-000 (included in Title III plan which was board approved on July 15).

18. Approve Jessica Kalisa as part-time 6-12 ML Instructional coach to be paid a stipend of $8,500 through Title III, account #20-241-200-100-29-2520-000 (included in Title III plan which was board approved on July 15)

19. Approve the following co-curricular positions for the Lakewood Middle School for the 2026-2027 School Year as per the LEA Contract (pending negotiations), Schedule G, to be paid through account #15-401-100-100-04-0004.

Name	Position	Stipend
Renee Putelo	Art Show	$1,523.00
Ariel Williams	Art Show	$1,523.00
Rachel Resignato	Winter/Spring Concert	$1,796.00
David Greenberg	Winter/Spring Concert	$1,796.00

20. Approve the following Co-Curriculum Stipend Positions for Lakewood Middle School for the 2026-2027 school year as per the LEA Contract (pending negotiations) Schedule F - teacher stipends to be paid through budget account #15-401-100-100-04-0004.

Position	Staff Member	Dates	Days Per Week	Stipend
8th Grade Class Advisor	Phylice Beverette	September 3, 2026 - May 30, 2027	Monday - Friday	$2,017

21. Approve the program We're Not Buying it 2.0 for the Lakewood Middle School, an evidence based substance use prevention program and a media literacy program designed for 6th grade students that focuses on the dangers of alcohol, marijuana, prescription and over the counter medication, cyber bullying, and the influence that the media has on attitudes toward these topics. This program is conducted over 6 sessions that are around 40-45 minutes each during the school day for 6 weeks with one session per week or 3 weeks with 2 sessions per week, at no cost to the district.

22. Approve the Ocean County Public Library YA Team to conduct various STEM Activities during Periods 2-8 at the Lakewood Middle School on the following dates at no cost to the district.

- October 20, 2026
- November 20, 2026
- December 18, 2026
- January 29, 2027
- February 26, 2027
- March 19, 2027
- April 16, 2027
- May 28, 2027

23. Approve the following LMS employees for morning duty for the 2026-2027 school year Mondays through Fridays, at a stipend rate of $3,600 for certificated staff; to be paid through budget account #11-000-270-107-00-2001 (30 minutes prior to the start of school) (Originally approved on: August 26, 2026) (Effective Monday, September 21, 2026- Total Cost not to exceed $28,800- 8 Staff Members total)

Staff Member	Morning Duty Location
Jon Wudzki	Outside Buses
LJ Clark	Auditorium
Brian Quinlan	Auditorium
Susan Myers	Cafeteria
Julie Bruno	Cafeteria
Nicole Mackow	4 Corners Hallway
Valerie Truisi	Outside Buses
Marjorie Fleck	Outside Buses

24. Approve Clifton Avenue Grade School Morning Duty Stipend: Teachers- $1,800.00/year (15 minutes early) for the 2026-2027 School Year (This Stipend Is Pensionable) (prorated if the start date is after September 1, 2026) beginning September 21, 2026, to be paid through budget account #11-000-270-107-00-2001.

Name	Assignment	Position	Stipend
John Revell	Morning Duty	Teacher	$1800.00
Kevin Popek	Morning Duty	Teacher	$1800.00

Dawn Palazzo	Morning Duty	Teacher	$1800.00

25. Approve Clifton Avenue Grade School Morning Duty Substitutes $13.75 per day (15 minutes early) for the 2026-2027 School Year. At no time will there be more than (8) eight paid morning duty teachers, to be paid through budget account #11-000-270-107-00-2001. Beginning September 21, 2026.

Name	Assignment	Position
Stacey Cloonan replacing Dawn Palazzo	Morning Duty Substitute	Teacher
Todd Pizzella replacing Kevin Popek	Morning Duty Substitute	Teacher

26. Approve the following placements for the 2026-2027 school year for student teaching (subject to approval of Criminal History background check):

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	BUILDING/ STAFF	DATES FOR PLACEMENT
Burleson	Darren	Georgian Court Univ.	LHS John Bernaski	9/8/2026 – 12/22/2026 75 hours Observation
Jackson	Bryannah	Georgian Court Univ.	CAGS Zoe Cofransisco & Jaqueline Quinn	100 Hours 9/8/2026 to 12/22/2026 FULL TIME STUDENT TEACHING 1/19/2027 to 5/8/2027
Lowe	Cameron	Kean University	LMS Tara Moore Phys/Ed	25 Hours Observation

27. Approve the following student interns from Kean University, from the Sophomore Field Experience Program to complete 10 observation hours.

    Professor Joanna Abramo (P-3 only) & Patricia McDermitt, Course Instructor will supervise the interns, at no cost to the District.

P-3/TSD	P-3/TSD	K-6/TSD	K-6/TSD	MS/HS English
Erin Araujo	Lee Ann Romero	Madison Bernardo	Alexia O'Donnel	John Belch

Anna Bado	Olivia Sansone	Alexandria Bloodgood	Lillianna Patton	
Gianna Browner	Emma Seyfried	Emma Colwell	Madison Rhinehardt	
Samantha Chersevari	Kayla Toback	Rebecca Crick	Olivia Riccardelli	
Jayla Devino	Julia Sargent	Julia Digiantomasso	Sarah Ruggiero	
Anna Dlugosz		Isabella Georgiano	Emily Schott	
Gabriella Giglio		Rylie Hopkins	Devin Scully	
Ashley Howell		Hannah Jones	Abigail Shroyer	
Abigail Madariaga		Ariana Julius	Madison Tress	
Fiorella Marroquin		Amanda Klass	Sofia Triano	
Shelby Morris		Meghan Knox	Jessica Pedre	
Erin Muirhead		Mya Kucharski	Emma Hamilton	K-6
Kelly Parks		Alexa Lapuzz		
Ashley Reedy		Lillian Lau		
		Alyssa Maisano		

28. Approve the following school trips for the 2026-2027 school year.

Date/Trip #	School	Where to Purpose	# Students	# Staff / Adults	Admission $ Acct#	Transportation $ Acct#
10/6/26	LHS Brenda Douglas	NJASC Leadership Conference TCNJ	15	1	$450.00	$610.00 (Happy Time) ***Club Funds***
11/16/26	LHS Brenda Douglas	NJASC State Officer Meeting-Burlington City High School	1	1	N/A	$355.00 15-000-270-512-03-0003

12/15/26 (Rain Date 12/17/26)	LHS Brenda Douglas	NJASC State Officer Meeting- Howell High School	1	1	N/A	$177.00 15-000-270-512-03-0003
2/9/27	LHS Brenda Douglas	NJASC State Officer Meeting- Melvin Kreps Middle School	1	1	N/A	$220.00 15-000-270-512-03-0003
10/14/26	LHS Tracy Paolantonio	Tomorrow's Teachers LHS to OSS to LHS	8	1	N/A	$184.00 15-000-270-512-03-0003
10/28/26	LHS Tracy Paolantonio	Tomorrow's Teachers LHS to CAGS to LHS	8	1	N/A	$184.00 15-000-270-512-03-0003
11/13/26	LHS Tracy Paolantonio	Tomorrow's Teachers LHS to Kean University (Union Campus) to LHS	8	1	N/A	$580.00 15-000-270-512-03-0003

29. Approve the Ocean County Public Library YA Team to conduct STEM activities at Lakewood High School. The STEM lessons will provide students with engaging, hands-on learning opportunities that build problem-solving, critical thinking, real world job and collaboration skills. Dates: October 2, December 4, January 8, February 5, March 5, April 9, May 7, and June 4. At no cost to the school district.

30. Approve FAFSA night at Lakewood High School. The events are hosted by the Guidance Department in order to provide the parents of current seniors with information and instructions on how to complete FAFSA. Currently, completion of FAFSA is a graduation requirement for high school seniors in the State of New Jersey. The event features free English and Spanish-speaking presenters from Ocean County College. Counselors to be paid the contractual rate of $55 per hour (Pending Contract Negotiations) to attend the event. Account Number: 15-000-218-104-03-0003.

FAFSA night 1: 10/27/2026 from 5:00pm to 7:00 pm

- Christina Aslin
- Stephanie Tavares
- Margaret Bogan
- John Barton

FAFSA night 2: 2/25/2027 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm

- Corrine Hoffman
- Guilmari Brooks
- Gloria Varela
- Amber Patterson

31. Approve the following staff to advise the indicated co-curricular positions for the 2026- 2027 school year for Lakewood High School. Attendance must be taken each day using the district created attendance spreadsheets. Stipends will not be paid without a copy of the club's attendance spreadsheet and Principal signature. All clubs must have 10+ students. All clubs must be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and/or Thursday. Clubs may not be held on Monday or Friday. As per Board Policy, Fundraisers must be approved by the Superintendent and Board of Education. Funds collected must be deposited within two working days. All staff members must review the 2026-2027 Student Activities Handbook. Account Number: 15-401-100-100-03-0003. Stipends Pending Contract Negotiations

Position	Teacher Name	Day Per Week	Time	Stipend
Horticulture Club	Brian Surgent	2 Days (TBD)	1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	$1,877.00
Gospel Choir	Tracey Kearney	2 Days (TBD)	1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	$2,741.00
Game Club	David Lansing/ Michael Dorsi (Split)	2 Days (TBD)	1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	$1,877.00
Band/Orchestra/Choir/Marching Band:	Zachary Grun Replacing Tyler Flint -Resigned	September 8, 2026 - June 30, 2027	5 Days	$6,600.00

Winter/Spring Concert	Zachary Grun Replacing Tyler Flint -Resigned	-	-	$1,796.00

32. Approve the Lakewood High School after school tutoring program for students in grades 9 to 12, Tuesdays, Wednesday, Thursdays afterschool from 1:30pm-3:00pm. October 1, 2026-May 31,2027 The after school tutoring program will focus on academic improvement by assisting students who struggle with specific subjects or concepts, providing extra practice, clarifying difficult topics, and offering homework help. Teacher costs not to exceed $28,957.50, to be paid through budget account #15-421-100-101-03- 0003 Transportation costs which includes 7 large buses shared with the Lakewood Middle School Account # 11-000-270-511-00-0000 not to exceed $90,041. 2 special education buses shared with Lakewood Middle School Account #11-000-270-514-00-0000 not to exceed $59,253.60 Stipends Pending Contract Negotiations.

Position	**Teacher Name**	**Dates:**	**Days Per Week**	**Time**	**Stipend**	**Not to Exceed Amount**
Social Studies Tutoring	Michael Dorsi	October 1, 2026-May 31, 2027	2 Days (TBD)	1:30-3:00 p.m.	$55.00 an hour 1.5 hours a day	$4,455.00
English Tutoring	Stephen Peacock	October 1, 2026-May 31, 2027	2 Days (TBD)	1:30-3:00 p.m.	$55.00 an hour 1.5 hours a day	$4,455.00
Social Studies Tutoring	Gina Silinonte	October 1, 2026-May 31, 2027	1 Day (TBD)	1:30-3:00 p.m.	$55.00 an hour 1.5 hours a day	$2,227.50
Science Tutoring	Valerie Hutchinson Daniluk	October 1, 2026-May 31, 2027	2 Days (TBD)	1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	$55.00 an hour 1.5 hours a day	$4,455.00
Science Tutoring	Estefani Torres	October 1, 2026-May 31, 2027	1 Day (TBD)	1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	$55.00 an hour 1.5 hours a day	$2,227.50
Bilingual Tutoring	Javier Canchon Vergara/Krista Girgis	October 1, 2026-May 31, 2027	Tuesdays Wednesdays Thursdays		$55.00 an hour 1.5 hours a day	$6,682.5

Math Tutoring	Ayman Aziz	October 1, 2026-May 31, 2027	2 Days (TBD)	1:30 – 3:00 p.m.	$55.00 an hour 1.5 hours a day	$4,455.00

33. Approve the following Lakewood High School Staff to monitor detention (rotating basis) at a rate of $55 per hour up to 1.5 hours per day for the 2026-2027 school year. Stipend Pending Contract Negotiations. (budget account #15-140-100-101-03-1012)

    - Kelly Jeranek

34. Approve Lakewood High School- Morning Duty Stipend: Teachers- $3,600 (30 minutes before schools starts) for the 2026-2027 School Year (This Stipend Is Pensionable) (8 staff members- beginning September 21, 2026) (budget account #11-000-270-107-00-2001).

    - Donahoe Haile
    - Hadley Michael
    - Heilman Eileen
    - Fildardo, Michael
    - Hammel, Kelly
    - Dorsi, Michael
    - Francese, Joanna
    - Nielsen, Stephanie

35. Approve Lakewood High School to utilize Title IV PBSIS funds to purchase shirts and incentives from Display Graphics not to exceed $4,000 from budget account 20-280-200-600-29-2520-003.

36. Approve Lakewood High School to host its Homecoming dance on Thursday October 15, 2026 from 5:00 - 8:00 PM.

37. Approve Lakewood High School Homecoming dance chaperones on October 15, 2026 from 5:00-8:00pm to be held in the high school cafeteria. Staff members are to be paid the contractual rate of $55.00 for the night pending contract negotiations. Budget account # 15-140-100-101-03-1017.

    - Spina Bridget
    - Wilson Thomas
    - Mauriello Cassandra
    - Parisi John
    - Leach Cara

- Brooks Guilmari
- Silinonte Gina

38. Approve the following Lakewood High School Activities, at no cost to the district:

Club / Organization	Fundraiser / Activity	Date(s)
Class of 2027	Snack sale	October 6, 2026
Class of 2027	Snack sale	October 22, 2026
Class of 2027	Snack sale	November 12, 2026
Class of 2027	Snack sale	November 24, 2026
Class of 2027	Snack sale	December 8, 2026
Class of 2027	Snack sale	December 17, 2026
Class of 2027	Snack sale	January 12, 2027
Class of 2027	Snack sale	January 21, 2027
Class of 2027	Snack sale	February 9, 2027
Class of 2027	Snack sale	February 18, 2027
Class of 2027	Snack sale	March 16, 2027
Class of 2027	Snack sale	March 25, 2027
Class of 2027	Snack sale	April 6, 2027
Class of 2027	Snack sale	April 22, 2027
Class of 2027	Snack sale	May 4, 2027
Class of 2027	Snack sale	May 20, 2027
Class of 2028	Bake sale	September 23, 2026
Class of 2028	Bake sale	October 14, 2026
Class of 2028	Bake sale	October. 28, 2026
Class of 2028	Bake sale	November 18, 2026

Class of 2028	Bake sale	December 9, 2026
Class of 2029	Sell chocolate-covered pretzels after school	October 30, 2026
Engineering Club	Lollipops for a Cure	September 30–October 1, 2026
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	October 8, 2026
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	November 12, 2026
Engineering Club	Lollipops for a Cure	November 19–20, 2026
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	December 3, 2026
Engineering Club	Sell candy canes	December 16–18, 2026
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	December 22, 2026
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	January 14, 2027
Engineering Club	Lollipops for a Cure	January 20–21, 2027
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	January 28, 2027
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	February 11, 2027
Engineering Club	Lollipops for a Cure	February 17-18, 2027
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	February 15, 2027
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	March 11, 2027
Engineering Club	Kisses for the Cure	March 22–25, 2027
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	April 1, 2027
Engineering Club	Lollipops for a Cure	April 7–8, 2027
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	April 15, 2027
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	May 6, 2027
Engineering Club	Sell snacks after school	May 20, 2027
Engineering Club	Lollipops for a Cure	May 25–27, 2027
HOSA Club	Sell snacks after school	November 19, 2026
HOSA Club	Sell snacks after school	December 10, 2026

HOSA Club	Sell snacks after school	January 20, 2027
HOSA Club	Sell snacks after school	March 10, 2027
HOSA Club	Sell snacks after school	April 7, 2027
HOSA Club	Sell snacks after school	May 19, 2027
HOSA Club	Kiss a Senior Goodbye – chocolate grahams	June 1–14, 2027
HOSA Club	Valentines pretzel grahams	February 1–11, 2027
HOSA Club	Halloween snack sale	October 29, 2026
Lakewood High School	Holiday Shop during lunches	November 30–December 22, 2026
LHS Drama Club	Sell snacks after school	October 7, 2026
Student Government	Sell World's Finest Chocolates	October 13–30, 2026
Student Government	Sell World's Finest Chocolates	January 14–29, 2027
Student Government	Sell World's Finest Chocolates	May 18–June 4, 2027

39. Approve the following retirement payouts (11-000-291-299-00-0000):

Payout Type	Name	Hired-Retired	Location/Pos	Salary	Working Days	Total Days Per Contract	Per Diem	Accrued Value
Retired	Climer, Donna	3/3/2003 - 9/1/2026	SW-PPS	$102,900.60	183	20.25	$562.30	$11,386.58
Retired	Cucuro, Yvette	11/22/2005 - 8/1/2026	Asst Prn - LMS	$190,814.00	240	7.25	$795.06	$5,764.19
Retired	Esmart, Awilda	2/14/1995 - 9/1/2026	Secretary-CST	$43,962.00	220	15.75	$199.83	$3,147.32
Retired	Zarro, Deborah	7/24/2019 - 9/1/2026	Executive Admin Sec-BOE	$91,350.55	240	35.75	$380.63	$13,607.52

40. Approve the following Lakewood School District Fall Assistant Coaches for the 2026-2027 school year, to be paid through budget account #11-402-

100-100-15-0000:

Last Name	First Name	Sport	Position	Step	Stipend
Sandin	Katelyn	Field Hockey	Asst. Coach (MS)	1	$3,052.00
Kirby	Kathleen	Cross Country	Asst. Coach (MS)	4	$3,348.50

41. Approve the following Athletic Event Staff for the 2026 -2027 School Year (as needed) to be paid through budget account #11-402-100-100-15- 0000.

Position	Salary	Single Event	Salary	Multiple Events	Required Personnel
Announcer	$60.00	Varsity	$100.00	Varsity & Sub-Varsity	One Per Event
Announcer	$45.00	Sub-Varsity	$90.00	Two Sub-Varsity	One Per Event
Site Director	$90.00	Varsity	$180.00	Varsity & Sub-Varsity	One Per Event
Fluids	$45.00	Varsity	$75.00	Varsity & Sub-Varsity	One Per Event 2 Per Event
Crowd Control	$50.00	Varsity	$100.00	Varsity & Sub-Varsity	(1 – 10)
Timer	$45.00	MS Basketball/ Wrestling/ Volleyball	$67.50	MS Basketball/ Wrestling/ Volleyball A & B Game	One Per Event
Timer	$50.00	Spring Track Events	$75.00	Spring Track TriMeets/Double Dual Events	(4 – 8) Per Event
Timer	$60.00	Varsity Games	$105.00	Varsity & Sub-Varsity	One Per Event
Timer	$45.00	Sub-Varsity Games			One Per Event
Timer Multi-Team	$50.00	Per Match/Round			(1 – 6) Per Event
Pitch Counter	$50.00	Per Varsity Game			One Per Event
Tickets	$75.00	Basketball V/JV & Volleyball V/JV			(1-2) Per Event
Tickets	$75.00	Football & Wrestling Varsity			(1-2) Per Event

GAME WORKERS POSITION FOR VARIOUS SPORTS:

FALL SPORTS

Football	Girls Volleyball

WINTER SPORTS

Boys & Girls Basketball	Boys & Girls Wrestling

SPRING SPORTS

Boys & Girls Track and Field	Boys Volleyball
Baseball (pitch count)	

Site Director as needed for all Athletic activities.
*The Athletic Director will assign Event Workers, on an as-needed basis, based on the projected number of spectators (may not exceed allocated funds)

Event Worker	
Reddan, Timothy	

42. Approve Michael Filardo, Jon Wudzki and the Girls Tennis team to attend the Ocean County Girls Tennis Tournament on Friday, September 25, 2026 at Bey Lea Tennis Courts, Toms River, New Jersey, at a cost of $150.00 for entry fee, to be paid through student athletic activities account #11-402-100-800-15-0000.

43. Approve the following Medical/Administrative/Supplemental Homebound Instruction for the following students by the following agency/consultant. (Budget Account #11-150-100-320-00-0000).

Number	Agency/Consultant	Date	Hours (not to exceed)	Hourly Rate	Total (not to exceed)
918983	UCESC/Trinitas Hospital	9/8/2026 - 10/8/2026	10 hours/ weekly	$80.00	$6,400.00
908936	Kathy Bower	9/1/2026 - 9/29/2026	up to 10 hours weekly	$55.00	$4,400.00
938848	Malka Golovenvitz	9/8/2026 - 11/7/2026	10 hours/weekly	$125.00	$11,250.00

44. Approve the following Medical/Administrative/Supplemental Homebound Instruction for the following students by the following agency/consultant. (Budget Account #11-150-100-101-00-0000).

Number	Agency/Consultant	Date	Hours (not to exceed)	Hourly Rate	Total (not to exceed)
920754	Stephanie Nielsen	7/22/26 - 11/13/26	up to 10 hours weekly	$55.00	$9,900.00
919400	Gissela Malgeri	8/21/26 - 10/21/26	10 hours/weekly	$55.00	$4,500.00
937085	Jason Storch	9/8/26 - 10/6/26	10 hours/weekly	$55.00	$2,200.00
913013	Javier Canchon Vergara	9/8/26 - 6/22/27	5 hours/weekly	$55.00	$9,900.00
952208	Jessica DeSantis	9/10/26 - 11/18/26	5 hours/weekly	$55.00	$2,750.00
924571	Michael Hadley	9/14/26 - 11/10/26	10 hours/weekly	$55.00	$4,500.00
930278	Eric Holmberg	9/14/26 - 11/14/26	10 hours/weekly	$55.00	$4,500.00

45. Approve the following Child Study Team members to work on an hourly 'as needed basis' to maintain compliance at the rate of $300.00 per evaluation, not to exceed fifteen evaluations. This is based on departmental needs and must be approved prior by the Supervisor of the Child Study Team to meet state mandated requirements during the 2026-2027 school year; not to exceed a collective total of $7,500.00; to be paid through budget account #11-000-219-104-13-0013.

    - Kimberly Cable
    - Kristina Wehrenberg

46. Approve the following Bus Duty Teachers at Spruce Street School for early morning arrival, 15 minutes prior to school opening for a stipend of $1800 paid through budget account #11-000-270-107-00-2001. (8 Morning Duty Staff at a total cost of $14,400- Effective September 21, 2026)

Staff	Role
Lisa Pierce	Teacher
Marie Trapkin	Teacher
Jill Deguilio-Decarlo	Teacher

47. Approve Reina Patricia Flores as Parent Liaison at Spruce Street School for the 2026-2027 school year, for a contractual stipend amount of $3650.00 (pending LEA Negotiations); to be paid through budget account #11-000-211-173-15-015.

48. Approve OHI to administer flu vaccines on October 29, 2026 from 9:00am-1:00pm to Spruce Street School students and staff, at no cost to the district.

49. The following schools have existing Security Services with the vendors provided. Please approve the following purchases:

SCHOOL	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	COST	ACCOUNT
CHEDER TORAS ZEV 0987 07J	DATALINK SYSTEMS	FIBER CABLES FOR EXISTING SECURITY SYSTEM Q 4614B	$ 8,260.00	20-511-266-610-30-0987-07J
CHEDER TORAS ZEV 0987 07J	DATALINK SYSTEMS	SERVICE FOR EXISTING ACCESS CONTROL DOORS Q 4615B	$ 8,000.00	20-511-266-300-30-0987-07J
CHEDER TORAS ZEV 0987 07J	DATALINK SYSTEMS	CABLE RUN AND SET UP FOR EXISTING SECURITY EQUIPMENT Q 4613B	$ 10,000.00 $ 10,000.00	20-511-266-610-30-0987-07J 20-511-266-300-30-0987-07J
CHEDER TORAS ZEV 0987 07J	DATALINK SYSTEMS	SERVICE CONTRACT OF EXISTING VIDEO SURVEILLANCE Q4612B	$ 38,000.00	20-511-266-300-30-0987-07J

50. Approve the following additional *textbooks* to be used in non-public schools. The complete list of approved nonpublic textbooks for the 2026-2027 school year is maintained by the Grant Office.

Book Title	ISBN #	Publisher
My time to Shine	9780328039340	Scott Foresman
New Beginnings	9780328039333	Scott Foresman
Milim Utzlilim Level 1 A	9781733098502	Safah Lane'emanim
World of Literacy Mini Series - Level 7	9781948241793	Achievements Educational Services
Witness to History	9780982494905	Project Witness
Mosdos Press Literature Opal student	9780985807832	Mosdos press
Fundamentals of Algebra	9780821583371	Sadlier
Foundations of algebra	9780821583388	Sadlier
To Vanquish the Dragon	0873065700	Feldheim Publishers

Dibs In Search of Self	9780345339256	The Random House Publishing Group
Wordly Wise 3000 Book 10	9780838877104	EPS Learning
A Portrait of Two Families	9781680257557	Feldheim Publishers
Spots Math First Grade New - 2 Vol. Set + Facts	9781737161318	Spots Resources
Ticket To Read	9781636490540	TeacherSmart
Literacy Level D	9781955773676	Lighthouse Curriculum
United States History: Civil War to the Present Student Edition	9780544669017	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

51. Approve the following items are *workbooks* to be used in nonpublic schools.

Book Title	ISBN#	Publisher
Lighthouse Math D	9781955773034	Lighthouse Curriculum
Lighthouse Math E	9781955773041	Lighthouse Curriculum
Level 1A Kid in the Middle with Phonetic Stories-	9781967602391	ReadBright
Letters and numbers for me	9798885664929	Learning Without tears
This Month In History 3	9781955773270	Lighthouse Curriculum
The iCount Method® Level Gold Math Book	9781957527970	iCount Method
The iCount Method® Level Purple Math Book	9781957527277	iCount Method
Handwriting 2020 Grade 1 Student Edition	9781453119280	zaner-bloser
Kal U'vahir Beginner's Handwriting Book	9780615218618	Brighter Education
Foundations of Algebra practice book	9780821582282	Sadlier
Vocabulary Workshop Level C	9780821571088	Sadlier Oxford
Language Fundamentals Grade 2	9781596731622	BP Print Group
Language Fundamentals Grade 3	9781596731639	BP Print Group
Kriah With Ease - Level Four	9781953254030	SCHOLASTIC SUCCESS INC.
Phonics	9780821579008	Sadlier
The WRITE Way: ABC Handwriting Adventures	9798995367208	Happy Handwriters 613Y
1, 2, 3 Go!	9798988892472	Happy Handwriters 613
Workbook Shar Haklalim - Orange	9781941856369	Martin Blau
My Handwriting	9780929908370	Ohr Halimud
Vocabulary Workshops- Level Purple	9781421716428	Sadlier
Fundamentals of Life Science Workbook and Lab	9781733053105	Jewish Center for Science

Middle Grades Math Course 1 Practice Workbook	9780134354194	Prentice Hall
Middle Grades Math Tools For Success Course	9780134354200	Prentice Hall
Writing For Learning-Gr 1-Manuscript Enrichment	9781934732588	Universal Publishing
ReadWise Vol. 3	9781938428708	LEi Literacy
.ReadMaster Vol. 4	9781938428715	LEI Literacy
LitCraft Vol 5	9781938428739	LEI Literacy
World of Literacy-Red	9781963536201	Achievements Educational Services

52. Approve the updated 2026-2027 Payroll Schedule.

53. Approve the following staff to have a portion of their salary charged to grants due to the connection of their work done with the grant department.

Adm. Costs for NP Nursing Program: Inventory is sent to Central Warehouse, then delivered to the Non Public Schools:

50% Non-Public Nursing Acct# 20-509-200-100-29-2520-ADM	**Salary**	**FICA/HB Estimate**
Alfred Starling	$ 23,256.32	$11,779.11
Kenneth Short	$ 23,400.00	$ 2,840.10
Michael Lawler	$ 23,400.00	$ 11,790.10
Peter Zitniak	$ 23,400.00	$ 2,840.10
Ralph Laboy	$ 42,317.10	$ 4,287.26
Tricia Mc Dermott	$ 31,513.76	$ 25,910.80
	$ 167,287.18	$ 59,447.47

Adm. Costs for NP Technology Program: Inventory & Asset Management, review NP technology requests

10% Non-Public Technology Acct# 20-510-200-100-29-2520-ADM	**Salary**	**FICA/HB Estimate**
James Trischitta	$ 20,178.23	$ 1,643.63

54. Approve the renewal of DocuSign Ensign subscription for the 2026-2027 school year from CDW at a total cost of $20,510.00 to be billed to account #11-000-251-340-00-0000.

55. Approve the renewal of Freshdesk Pro from Freshdesk for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost of $3,673.92 to be paid through budget account #11-000-252-500-00-0000.

56. Approve the renewal of Vector Solutions from Scenario Learning for the 2026-2027 school year at a cost of $12,540.00 to be paid through budget account 11-000-223-320-00-0000.

57. Approve the Chronic Absenteeism Plans for the 2026-2027 School Year for:

    - Lakewood High School
    - Lakewood Middle School
    - Clifton Avenue Grade School
    - Oak Street School
    - Spruce Street School

58. Approve the Biannual Statement of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff.

59. Approve the District's Emergency Response Procedure for staff-students outside a school building.

60. **WHEREAS**, the District has been unable to recruit and retain a sufficient number of part-time paraprofessionals, and third-party staffing vendors have been unable to consistently fill paraprofessional vacancies in special education classrooms; and

    WHEREAS, consistent paraprofessional staffing is necessary to support student safety, implement Individualized Education Programs, and ensure the delivery of mandated special education services; and

    WHEREAS, sufficient funding is available within the District's approved budget, including an open balance of approximately $1.9 million in account 11-190-100-320-00-0000, where funding was budgeted to replace full-time paraprofessionals with substitute staffing; and

    WHEREAS, the estimated maximum annual salary cost for twenty full-time paraprofessionals is approximately $700,000, based on an estimated

salary of $35,000 per employee, and sufficient additional funding is available to cover applicable benefits; and

WHEREAS, as negotiated with the Lakewood Education Association ("LEA"), eligible paraprofessionals shall be recalled in accordance with the established paraprofessional seniority list;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lakewood Board of Education hereby approves the recall and hiring of up to twenty full-time paraprofessionals, in accordance with the paraprofessional seniority list and subject to all applicable hiring requirements, to provide consistent staffing and support in special education classrooms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that sufficient funding is available to support these positions, as reflected in the attached budget reports, and that the Business Administrator is authorized to make any necessary budget transfers and accounting adjustments, subject to all applicable requirements and approvals.

61. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Lakewood Board of Education approves the use of Home Health Aides provided by Towne Nursing at a rate of $40.00 per hour, for no more than 29.5 hours per aide per week, as needed to support students.

    BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each aide must complete the NJDOE criminal background check and fingerprinting requirements and receive the required clearance before providing services in the District.

62. Approve Martha Mroz and Maryan Mikhail as the LHS/OCC Dual Enrollment Coordinators for the 2026-27 school year, at a rate of $400 monthly per person, from September 24, 2026 through June 30, 2027, to be paid through Title IV budget account #20-280-200-100-29-2520-000.

Motion to Approve the Business Superintendent's Agenda: 9:48pm

First: Mr. Bender **Second**: Mr. Rodriguez

Voting:

Moshe Bender-President	Y
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y
Aaron Chase	Y
Meir Grunhut	Y

Joel Kleinman	Y
Samuel Melnik	Y
Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Y
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

XI. OLD BUSINESS

XII. NEW BUSINESS

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT - (Limited to 4 minutes as per Board Policy #0167)

1. Moshe Raitzik
2. Ebony Rivera- Principal, CAGS
3. Kimberlee Shaw- President, Lakewood Education Association
4. Lisa Mitchell- ESPAN
5. Adelaida Hernandez
6. Mike Mannion- NJEA
7. Michael Babb
8. Maureen Gallant
9. Aaron Hirsch

MR. CAMPBELL: Seeing none, we're going to go to the public comment section now.

MR. KLEINMAN: One sec. One second.

MR. CAMPBELL: We're going to call people up. Now, I just want to remind everybody, four minutes per Board policy.

MS. SUSSINO: All right. First, we have Mr. Moshe Raitzik.

MR. RAITZIK: Good evening, several issues came up this evening. Step 1, I wanted to address, there is no current safety compliance officer for the district; is that correct? For the busing, specifically, in the sense that we used to have Mr. Cherboni (ph) and somebody took over after -- I believe, the district does not have someone currently on staff. I have a child who attends the Spruce School in his third year in the district. And the first couple of days of school buses weren't showing up. I tried calling to the district. I couldn't get through. When, finally, we were called back later on in the day, they said the bus came and which was incorrect because we were there. I called Mr. Cherboni who is the only guy I knew who knows the ins of the district in this avenue, and he found out for me that the bus missed the stop. And he's not working for the district now. But maybe he should be. I believe -- I mean, Amy, you tell me if I'm wrong, but would you not be helped if you had another person working with you at your side, an additional person, administering the busing? Would you -- not saying you're overwhelmed. Is it possible that this child who earlier this evening who said his bus is swamped. You would know that if you had a compliance officer. You wouldn't have to hear it tonight for the first time and be surprised.

MR. BENDER: So, Mr. Raitzik, just to interject and make sure there's clarity to your question, I want to make sure the Board members understand your question. If you were correctly responded to that student earlier that there are many buses. And if nobody brings anything to the attention of the busing coordinator, then it is hard for, even if you're having, you know, a safety officer, it's hard for them to be seeing 150 buses every single morning. And we do appreciate and we want that parents should reach out or students should reach out to the busing department or to the guidance counselors or to the principals and then address it to the busing department if there is a safety issue. That is a very serious issue. As Amy said, she would never put -- allocate more than 54 students on a bus, because of that issue. With regard to your question about having the compliance and safety officer, I defer to the Superintendent. That was your question that you currently have someone in that position?

MR. RAITZIK: Several steps. That there is no one in that position. My understanding and, perhaps, Amy needs somebody in administration –

MR. BENDER: So let's just clarify with the Superintendent? Do we currently have someone in that role, in that position?

DR. WINTERS: No, we do not.

MR. BENDER: Are we looking to hire someone for that? Do we want to hire someone from that?

DR. WINTERS: We are not looking to hire that position at this time?

MR. RAITZIK: Why not? It was very successful in the past year. What was the reason that you feel that it's not needed? We had even non-public schools that were able to call up and give complaints. There were files given -- I had a child who used to attend a school and got picked up in the midday for special services and the bus had nowhere to pick him up. They didn't come into the parking lot again. Mr. Cherboni helped with that, as well. No one in the district currently is able to cover the volume of concerns and needs that are going on. And I strongly recommend that more help be brought on into the district. I want to address another point tonight. We -- somebody, people in the audience, were wondering why do we have to go through this whole back and forth –

MS. SUSSINO: 30 seconds.

MR. RAITZIK: -- of saying that the district did not have courtesy busing and then find out we did have it and then add on now the hazardous busing. I think it is to prove the point that there is a difference between hazardous and courtesy. The points that you brought up in your rejection letter, basically, address that point, that they're referring to courtesy busing. Not referring to hazardous. Mr. Kleinman spoke very well and said the State has set down law that hazardous busing, once established by the district, is being recognized as hazardous. It is across the board. It's hazardous for everyone. It cannot be rejected based on the school that you attend. One last point: I brought two of my children here tonight who have been hit by cars in crosswalks. It happens to everybody. And it's a wrong thing. When people are saying to you it's hazardous for you, it's not hazardous, the children cannot go -- Cross Street does not have sidewalks. If you're taking accountability, a five year old child cannot walk on that street safely and get to school. And another thing that I was bothered by -- and it's happened

previously, as well – the question that you were supposed to answer in the rejection letter or approval letter, when you took it under advisement when there should be the hazardous busing –

MS. SUSSINO: Mr. Raitzik, you're over the four minutes.

MR. RAITZIK: Just one thought. You're calling out the Board members for saying should they be debating it, should they not be debating it. It has nothing to do with the issue. Many, many times you berate the Board members. They're doing their hardest. And you, as a State representative keep rejecting them and make them into nothing. People say what would be the difference if the State took over anyway. It's effectively the same thing. It's a shame. But I believe these Board members deserve a lot more respect than they're getting.

MS. DAVIS: Kevin, Kevin.

MR. STERN: Hold on now. After – so with what Mr. Raitzik said, just before you speak, Amy, do you feel you need more help?

MR. RODRIGUEZ: Be honest.

MS. BEARDEN: In the office, no.

MR. STERN: So I -- I am hearing -- sorry. I don't know, for sure. I'm hearing a lot of people and they don't get answers and they just hang up after it rings thousands of times. Is there –

MS. BEARDEN: That's –

MR. STERN: That's not true?

MS. BEARDEN: No. That's the reality.

MR. STERN: That's the reality.

MS. BEARDEN: The call volume is such –

MR. STERN: So do we need more manpower to help? Because I'm sure a lot of parents need answers to their questions.

MS. BEARDEN: It's not a matter of manpower, unless we get 100 more people there and 100 more lines, we can answer all the questions.

MR. BENDER: What Amy is saying that during the first few days of the school year, the nature of the first few days of the school year in any district, is that there's an enormous amount of calls coming in because the -- because the buses, practically speaking, are running late. The bus drivers are learning new routes. They're learning new roads. They have to figure out where they're going. So, by definition, a lot of parents are calling in. So during the first few days, first few weeks, obviously, time goes on, it neutralizes. However, the nature of the first few weeks, first few days, certainly, of the

school year, there are an enormous amount of calls. There isn't any real way of training 100 people just to work for a week. We try to –

MR. STERN: Right.

MR. BENDER: We're trying to retain our para-professionals and don't have the funds to be able to handle the calls for the first week of the year. So with regard to that, I don't know of any real practical issue, other than doing our best and trying to, to hope that it neutralizes as soon as possible.

MR. STERN: Okay. Let's walk through a scenario. Mr. Raitzik's kids don't get picked up and he calls Amy's office and he finds out that the bus never came. Are we still paying that bus?

DR. WINTERS: Yes.

MR. STERN: Are we paying that bus for not doing what they're supposed to be doing?

MR. BENDER: That might be a legal question.

MS. BEARDEN: I give a grace period in September. Trying to get operations up and running for 60,000 students in the town is not an easy feat for the contractors, for the LSTA or myself.

MR. STERN: Okay.

MS. BEARDEN: There are things that need to be hashed out. There are things that look good on paper that don't work out in reality. Contractors need time to make adjustments and make things run smoothly.

MR. BENDER: Ask a legal question. Amy does the best at capacity of running the department that she runs.

MR. STERN: I know.

MR. BENDER: I think that some of these questions are outside of the parameters of really what her responsibilities are, of what is possible for her to do within her office. I think that question may be a legal question. And I think what Amy is saying, within the confines of what she's able to do is that during the first few weeks of the school year, the nature is that there are bus routes that are hard for bus drivers to be able to figure out. And the nature is in any district that they miss some routes during the first few weeks. And I think that your question was more to address what the last speaker was saying, that if there is an issue, so what is the protocol, I guess, during the first week, first month? Month Number 4 and Number 2. What is the protocol? And what should be the process if the parent does have a question or an issue. But I do think it does differentiate very much the first two weeks of the year versus a month or two into the school year. So I think it is really two different scenarios, correct, Amy?

MS. BEARDEN: Correct. I do find permanent stops. As of October 1st, I start following. If you're still not doing your job, still don't have it figured out by October 1st, I start imposing fines on some –

MR. STERN: Good. So that was my question. That's what I wanted to know. Thank you.

MR. BENDER: We're in the same boat. I didn't appreciate -- this week I drove my daughter every single day for the same reason. It was very frustrating, but that's just the nature of the first week or two of the school year.

DR. WINTERS: Just keep in mind, today was the 11th day of school for public school children. So we're still getting in a rhythm.

MR. STERN: Right. That's fair. Okay. Let's let her talk.

DR. WINTERS: Ms. Rivera.

MR. STERN: Ms. Rivera.

MS. RIVERA: All right. Good evening. I'm Ebony Rivera, the principal of Clifton Avenue school, the school of champions. And before my four minutes start, I just want to say -- I just wanted to say that I personally work very closely with Amy and we always have been able to resolve issues. And there are going to be kinks, especially when we have new circumstances and new situations. And I can only speak for myself as a principal. Parents generally call me and then I work with Amy and we work in collaboration, because we are one team with one dream, that our kids get to school and get home safely. So you just want to put that out there. But in the lines of safety, I just want to address Dr. Winters, the Board of Education and State Monitors. I just want to begin by thanking Dr. Winters for all of her support. And I know that where we are is beyond her scope of control. But she has tried to be as supportive and intentional with giving us what is available. And the question and the problem is what's available, right? I stood here before each of you last year and I pleaded with you not to remove our para-professionals who are the back bone of our learning institution. And so what we have, essentially, done is because we made cuts at one level, we created what is the Jenga effect. If any of you have ever played Jenga, you remove everything from one level, the whole structure is compromised and it collapses. And that is what is happening in our schools every day. And it's not for the effort of our teachers who are amazing, right? Our staff is amazing. But you cannot operate without the proper supports, right? So we have made cuts, but at what cost, right? Our teachers are exhausted. They're overworked. Our teachers are being physically harmed because kids are triggered by inconsistency. We have sub paras coming in, but they're not skilled. They're not trained. They don't know how to de-escalate. They don't have connection. So we have warm bodies, but they're not effective in the classroom setting, right? So I am running, literally, from room to room because these para-professionals don't even know how to deescalate. They're not handle with care trained. So, literally, I carried a kid out from a fire drill, because we had to do it within the first 15 days. She was in a major escalated behavior, because OT had to get pushed back. But these are things you can't factor. And if you don't have support to mitigate these situations, the whole system is compromised, right? So staff is drained. And what is happening is going to cost us our highly qualified staff. We are putting in substitutes that are not effective and our highly qualified staff are overtaxed and they are saying on the 11th day of school, enough. Right? And so when we lose them, what do we have then? What do we have? And so I understand that numbers cuts have to happen somewhere. But when it comes to the safety of our staff, of our students and the viability of us as an institution of learning --

because I can speak for my building. And you guys know, I share data and I have high standards for my learning community. But right now we are prioritizing safety. Learning is on the back burner. And I'm just standing her, frankly, in front of my Superintendent, who is my boss, but I have to keep kids safe. And from every day, we have different subs show up. Different subs not showing up. Most of our subs from Delta T are from Woodbridge, Edison, Newark. They're driving. Some can't get here until 9:30, 9:45. My day starts at 7:45. So how are we covering classrooms? But that is what is available to us. It's not viable. It's not sustaining a system. And you guys are talking about lawsuits. You are going to get it from the staff and the students, because people are going to get hurt. This cannot last.

MR. BENDER: Thank you.

MR. STERN: Thank you.

MS. SUSSINO: Kim Shaw.

MS. SHAW: Thank you. I'm also going to -- sorry. I'm also going to preface that I learned some things that are in my speech today that, as Mr. Stern wanted to know what is actually happening. I am going to read my speech that was happening before this Board meeting. So good evening. Kimberly Shaw, President of the Lakewood Education Association. Over the past year, I spoke at many Board meetings strongly opposing the RIFing of 165 para-professionals. I knew then that it would not benefit the para-professionals or the students they served every day. Sadly, my predictions have become tragically very true. The RIFs have had a devastating effect. First, not only did additional staff leave because they saw how their colleagues were treated here, but many left because they knew they could not work without the para-professionals they desperately need to do their job to support students. And they are right. Since the beginning of the school year, staff have repeatedly reached out for help. Their message has been consistent throughout the three elementary schools. The current workload is not sustainable. Staff are expected to do double the work with no relief or end in site. Even a para-professional from one of the outside companies expressed the same sentiment and frustration saying he would never come back to Lakewood, because he has never worked so hard with so little support. By the ninth day of school, I had already been contacted by numerous staff members who expressed that these working conditions are negatively affecting their health, leaving them anxious and mentally and physically exhausted. Many have also expressed that they have no choice but to start looking for another job as the situation the district has placed them in is not sustainable. On Friday, I spent time in one of the elementary schools. I repeatedly heard the following statements. This building is not safe. We are barely surviving. We are down 10 to 15 staff members and that is without any staff members calling out. Training is not sufficient for the situations we're being asked to work in. I had not been able to take a lunch or a prep since the first day of school. Busing is atrocious. I have one para and I'm supposed to have two, which can also be a serious violation of a students' IEP. I just described a portion of what has been going on in the district since the start of the school year and it is only September 23rd. And just the other day, some of our members were informed that from Friday, September 25th through Friday, October 2nd, they will be required to combine classrooms, gen ed and special ed, to make up for the fact that the district will not have enough staff due to religious obligation. I could go on and on. But I hope you get the picture. In addition to all of these concerns, I have learned that 43 school paras are being left alone with students, which has never been allowed before, and puts my members in a difficult, inappropriate and potentially unsafe situation. And just when I thought that things couldn't get worse, on September 15th the association was notified that the part-time para-

professionals were not paid like every other employee in the district. These are the same people who do the same job they did in June but no longer have health insurance. Even though they work the same school hours they worked last year. Instead, they received an E-mail on the day they expected to be paid telling them they needed to complete a voucher and that they would now receive voucher pay. Because these para-professionals were paid as voucher employees on September 30th, they will be paid only for September 1st through September 15th. I do not think I can be any clear about the level of frustration we have of the situation. These are the same staff members who agreed to come back to part-time jobs, when many refused to. They also went for two months in the summer without a paycheck and now must go for a whole month to get paid for part of the month –

MS. SUSSINO: 30 seconds.

MS. SHAW: Thank you. This is unacceptable on so many levels. Even more troubling is the fact that these same part-time para-professionals did not learn the terms and conditions of their employment until September 9th, even though many E-mailed the district requesting that information. And while we have been trying to find out how this district believes it is acceptable not to pay 16 part-time para-professionals, we learned that the payroll department sent a check to an employee who is no longer employed by the district and told another employee who is leaving the district that they need to pay back $2,950 before the end of next week. At this point I'm not interested in hearing a debate about who was to blame, because that will not help our staff and it especially not help the unpaid part-time para-professionals. What I want to hear tonight is what the district is going to do to correct these problems before we lose even more dedicated staff members. Thank you.

MR. STERN: Thank you. So I know sometimes I make mistakes in life. I do. I'm not perfect. I want to say this as we respectful as I can. I'm going to try very hard. Ms. Davis, is it possible that we made a mistake. I'm saying, "we," instead of -- I'm trying very hard. Because I'm sure she's trying her best, as well. Maybe we made a mistake by firing all of them, even though you blamed us for firing them, which is not true. You told us to fire them. So that's just what it is. Maybe we made a mistake. And we can own up to a mistake. I make mistakes all of the time. Sometimes I punish my kids when they didn't do anything wrong and I thought they did. And I made a mistake and I say, you know what? I'm sorry. I made a mistake. So maybe we made a mistake. And, I mean, I don't walk through the hallways, so I don't know. But I plan on within the next coming weeks, days, actually, of walking through the hallways. I'm sure you walk through the hallways sometimes and I don't think anyone is lying. It seems like it is a disaster in there. And maybe we made a mistake. And maybe we could just say, you know what, we made a mistake. Let's hire them back on or at least try to figure out how to get more than 20, because I'm sure the 20 that we're going to get are not close to enough. We're giving Dr. Winters almost nothing to work with. We're giving the teachers nothing to work with, again, with the safety of the children. So maybe we made a mistake. And it's okay to make mistakes. We learn from our mistakes. At least, I do. And I'm sure you do, as well. Maybe we can say to ourselves, we made a mistake. And I would like to make a motion to hire them back, which I know you're going to override anyways. But at least I can go to sleep knowing that I am trying my best for the students that elected me. And I work for the public school students. That's who I was elected for.

MS. GOLDBERG: And I second that motion.

MR. STERN: I don't think anyone here is saying we want the para-professionals to go to non-public. We want them to go to the public students, which is who we're obligated to give a T and E. And I really don't think we're giving them a T and E. I probably just incriminated myself. Sorry. But I don't think we're giving a – I don't think Ms. Shaw is lying. I don't think all of these teachers came out here where they're not getting paid to come out here to tell us that we made a mistake, which is okay if we did. And I think it would be commendable for you to say you know what, yes. I made a mistake. I thought I was saving money and it happens. Not everyone is perfect. I'm for sure not. So can we possibly, before this override comes within 30 seconds, think about it? No. I'm trying to do this very respectfully. I really, really am, because I don't think she means harm. I really don't. She's trying to save us money. So I really don't think she means harm.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Take it out of her salary.

MR. STERN: Yes. That's not – we can't really ask that. Maybe we can meet somewhere in the middle. Maybe we don't need 160. I don't know. But we definitely need more than 20.

MS. DAVIS: My sincere suggestion to you is to allow your Superintendent to make that recommendation and attach it with the financial support and what her needs are. That's my recommendation to you at this moment in time.

MR. BENDER: If I recall correctly, the Superintendent all along felt that we have –

MR. STERN: Yes.

MR. BENDER: -- all of the para-professionals stand there, please. And she felt it was usual to keep them as we're hearing, sure enough, what's transpiring over the last 11 days. So I think from Day 1, she really felt that the para-professionals should stay put. The question is right now, in the predicament we're in right now, what can we do to try to fix it. I think that's what Mr. Stern is trying to –

MR. STERN: Because we're going to ask Dr. Winters to do all of this work when it's 99.9 percent going to get overrided anyways, because you're trying to save us money, which is amazing. But at what expense? Because, like I said last time, I don't want to be scraping kids off the floor of transportation either. Right? And I have no idea how hard it is for these teachers, because I'm not a teacher in the public school. So I don't know. But I can just imagine a little five year old boy who has an IEP and a teacher is trying to explain to him something, and they don't have a para to help. And there's five other kids and seven other kids in the classroom.

MR. REICH: Can I just interject for a second here? I used to be a teacher in New York City public school.

MR. STERN: Talk into the mic.

MR. REICH: I used to be a teacher in the New York City Public School, both in middle school and high school. And I can tell you that there were classrooms that were in dire need of a para that were really totally dysfunctional. And classrooms that had the paras there, the classrooms worked like a charm. And the classrooms that I taught in, I had paras in some of my classes. And, believe me, it was a breeze

to teach there. And the times when I had no paras in the classroom and I needed it, it was a total disaster. And I could tell you this from actual teaching in New York City Public Schools -- and I was there for quite a number of years. As a matter of fact, I taught for almost 23 years in schools, in public school. So I could tell you the need of a para. And it's desperately needed.

MR. STERN: And just to end off, just to end off, a lot of times people tell me don't go where you don't know anything about. Not that you don't know anything about education. But Dr. Winters has a doctorate in education. Everyone has their pros and cons and everyone has their expertise. We followed Dr. Winters, because she actually knows what she's doing. I don't know if you have education background or not, but you don't have to be a pro to know that they're suffering every single day and we're not going to have any teachers. So, again, you're telling us that we should have Dr. Winters come up with this whole plan and all of that. We're going to have her do hours and hours and hours and hours of work. Are you even going to consider it or it's just going to be overrided anyways? If not, there is no point. Right? Because we made motions and it was overrided, then we wait three months for an answer. It is like a game we play. But, again, I'm trying to be respectful, but -- I am. I really am. It's not easy, but I'm trying.

DR. WINTERS: I think, what Ms. Davis was saying, that if I want to bring back 100 – at this point, we won't need 165. We probably would need 130. I think. And I don't want to put words in your mouth, you're basically saying if I want to hire them back, what am I cutting to make up for the –

MS. DAVIS: Thank you.

MR. STERN: Okay. So take from Peter to pay Paul we don't have, for the safety of the children? Just maybe we made a mistake. That's all I'm thinking. Like, I don't know. You were very quick to give hazardous busing to the public school students when it was 1.5 million dollars. Very quick. We just borrow it from the State. So, again, I'm trying to be respectful. It's not easy, because I see suffering people out here. I do, so –

MS. DAVIS: I'm really not sure what your question is.

MR. STERN: My question is, if she does all of this work, are you going to override it anyways, which you have a track record of doing. Or are you going to give two rats to what – see it gets my blood boiling when I don't understand there -- they all understand what I'm asking. Everybody understands.

MS. DAVIS: I certainly can't answer something that isn't –

MR. STERN: We all know what's going to happen. Like, seriously.

MS. DAVIS: That's not true.

MR. STERN: Really?

MS. DAVIS: It's not true.

MR. STERN: It's not true?

MS. DAVIS: No.

MR. STERN: Anybody want to bet? A lot.

MR. BENDER: The first time a Board member will make some money.

MR. FORSMAN: I would advise against taking formal betting.

MS. DAVIS: This is getting ridiculous.

MR. STERN: All right. So I'm making a motion, okay?

MR. BENDER: Mr. Stern, the bet is under advisement.

MR. STERN: There is no bet.

MR. BENDER: Okay. Go ahead.

MR. STERN: We'll never make money from being on the Board and never did and never will. I am making a motion, so I could go to sleep tonight, and everyone else on the Board, which is going to get overridden anyways. However –

MS. GOLDBERG: Stay positive.

MR. KLEINMAN: Make a motion to create -- to further take -- make a motion that allows -- make a motion to override our own budget. Then it creates a situation where the State has more ammunition for the take-over. Unfortunately, it drops our QSAC scores, I think, maybe, they're called.

DR. WINTERS: QSAC

MR. KLEINMAN: QSAC scores, which allows -- which gives -- makes our case weaker and the State take-over isn't going to help anybody. Because if the State comes in, it is going to get even worse.

MR. STERN: So we have a way to avoid that. We're not going to make a motion, because I was turned down. We are going to ask Dr. Winters to, please, do all of that work for nothing. So that at least so we can do our best. I really am trying to do this nicely. I really am. If you can put together some kind of packet to send to Ms. Davis and to all of us so we can look through it what why we need -- I mean, it's pretty clear why we need them -- of why we need 130 paras.

DR. WINTERS: I don't think that's the question. The question is: So Kevin was able to find me enough money for the 20 full-time paras with benefits.

MR. STERN: Okay. So, Kevin, find more money.

DR. WINTERS: The question at this point is find money in order to do it. What are we going to cut and literally there is -- we're at the lowest we've ever been in staff. There's nothing.

MR. STERN: Aren't we obligated to give a T and E. I'm very confused here. We're obligated to give a through and efficient education, right?

DR. WINTERS: Yes.

MR. STERN: And we're not. I mean, maybe, we are. I didn't go see them. But from watching, I don't know -- so it just seems I'm the only one that cares about this.

DR. WINTERS: There is no -- I've been writing –

MR. STERN: I know. You've been writing.

DR. WINTERS: I have written.

MR. BENDER: I think the issue is that we heard very loud and clear the position either from the State, through the State Monitor, but we all –

MR. STERN: I didn't hear from the State. I don't know who it is from. All I know, it is very frustrating. And I -- I'm sure she cares. I'm sure she does, because she has kids of her own. I'm sure she cares.

MR. BENDER: I think, the –

MR. STERN: Why is safety – whenever we're talking about safety, it's never -- it's never important. I don't know. I just -- it is just weird. Kids are going to get hit in the street, who cares. Kids are going to, you know, be in school and fall down, who cares. Like, seriously. Maybe we made a mistake. And I'm saying, "we". I'm not sure why. As long as I -- that is on tape that I said that, that's all that matters to me.

MR. BENDER: Kevin, I would like to have two write-in motions right now.

MR. CHASE: This is -- the first one I would like –

MR. CAMPBELL: Hold on. Mr. Stern put a motion forward and it was seconded.

MR. STERN: I'm -- I'm withdrawing that motion.

MR. CAMPBELL: Okay. So it is withdrawn. I just wanted to make sure.

MR. KLEINMAN: Ms. Blood, is this going to be a problem for a QSAC score if he puts a motion to fund para-professionals?

MS. BLOOD: I can't really –

MR. KLEINMAN: You're the governance. Both, no?

MS. BLOOD: Yes.

MR. KLEINMAN: They pay you the big bucks, right?

MS. BLOOD: Already kind of on the border of the meeting –

MR. KLEINMAN: You're saying we're cooked from a governance perspective anyways? Are you going to tell on us to the governor?

MS. BLOOD: You really need to move the agenda, vote on what you need to vote on. And, then, if you want to bring things up under new business or if you wish to go into Executive, discuss what you wanted to discuss, and then come back and vote those items that you pulled until after executive.

MR. KLEINMAN: Okay. So you don't like the sequencing here. We're all backwards.

MS. BLOOD: It is not a matter of not liking it. It is a case of following what your Board policy –

MR. FORSMAN: We're governed by Roberts rules, so there is a procedure that we have to –

MR. KLEINMAN: Okay.

MR. BENDER: Is this new business then?

MR. KLEINMAN: My question is, Dr. Winters, if we vote to bring back para-professionals, are we going to run into an issue on our QSAC scores or no? Or is that only because we voted against the budget, against our own budget? Does anybody –

DR. WINTERS: Actually, you didn't vote for the budget.

MR. STERN: That's what I'm saying. Correct.

DR. WINTERS: We got points taken away because the Board did not vote for –

MR. KLEINMAN: Did not approve the budget, right? Right?

DR. WINTERS: Right.

MR. KLEINMAN: Could I make a separate motion tonight to bring back the paras. And with the motion, that will ask the State for more money from the loan, would that hurt our scores, or, no, we can do that without hurting our scores.

MR. FORSMAN: I would wait for the new business section.

MR. KLEINMAN: Wait for the new business section.

MR. BENDER: Didn't we pass the new business?

MR. KLEINMAN: To keep happy. Okay?

MR. BENDER: Do this as new business.

MR. KLEINMAN: Let's wait for new business. We're in new business. We're in new business.

MR. CAMPBELL: We actually passed that when we got into the public comments section.

MR. BENDER: We're still in public comment. We past new business.

MR. KLEINMAN: So we can't have any more -- we're done with new business? Can we do new business?

MS. BLOOD: It is my understanding you were going to move to Executive and come back to the –

MR. KLEINMAN: We can do this. We don't need Executive for this one. We know what we want to do. It is not complicated.

MR. STERN: Actually, I think we decided not to go into Executive for that and we voted on it already.

MR. BENDER: We did not. We did not vote on the –

MR. KLEINMAN: So we missed new business, but now we're going to finish up new business. So, Mr. Chase, you can make the motion.

MR. FORSMAN: We did not vote on one of the agendas already. We were going to go to Executive Session. So one of the agendas has not been voted on yet.

MR. KLEINMAN: So we can finish up our new business, right?

MR. CAMPBELL: So why don't we just discuss that in Executive Session, whatever you're going to come up with.

MR. BENDER: Okay. I think Kevin is recommending that, Mr. Chase, whatever, to put on is an add on, so Executive Session.

MR. KLEINMAN: Okay. Off to Executive we go.

MR. BENDER: We still have Public comment. The night is young. We still have public comment.

MR. STERN: We're not going into Executive Session while the public is still sitting here and –

MS. SUSSINO: Okay.

MR. KLEINMAN: We have to do it to finish the meeting.

MR. CAMPBELL: I want the public to –

MR. BENDER: Yes. That's what we are doing is moving on to public comment. Next speaker.

MS. SUSSINO: Okay. Next we have Lisa Mitchell.

MS. MITCHELL: If you can let me know when I'm at two minutes. I am go to yield my two minutes to the Vice President of the NJEA.

MR. BENDER: I think it's four minutes, right?

MS. MITCHELL: My name is Lisa Mitchell and I'm here representing ESPAN as a captain for Ocean County. I've spoken several times before you and demonstrated how ESPAN captains and members from all over the State came together to advocate for our ESP members. Those para-professionals that were not paid on the 15th came to work on September 1st had three days of professional development and not once were they ever notified of the change to their pay. So on September 15th, they were told about the voucher system and, you know, they still came to work even though they weren't getting paid. That's what paras do. But imagine the shock when there was no payment. They couldn't pay their rent. Maybe not pay a car payment, their mortgage. It really is despicable. All you had to do was communicate and tell them. Maybe they wouldn't have taken those part-time jobs if that was going to happen. So we really need to lean on the parents right now. The staff is really struggling and parents need to know that, because their child is going to be suffering. So we need them to advocate for their children and, in turn, that will be advocating for the paras. They need to say it is out of the Board's hands and it is in the State's hands. They need to be the voice right now to bring back the para-professionals. If you are not able to do it.

MS. SUSSINO: There's two and a half minutes left.

MS. ROBINSON: Thank you. Good evening. My name is Petal Robinson. I am the Vice President of the New Jersey Education Association. And I'm here tonight to support the Lakewood Education Association, but especially the 16 part-time para-professionals who are still waiting to be paid for the services they provided to the students and this district since September 1. This has spread all throughout the State. Everyone has heard that Lakewood has not paid its para-professionals. So on Page 9 of your agenda, when you talk about a substitute staffing services, I can save you time and money and say you would have para-professionals if you paid them. If people find out that you will pay your para-professionals on the 1st and 15th like professionals deserve to be paid. I want to remind this room. That gas is over $4, milk is $4.50 and eggs cost $4 at Shop Rite. So if you want people to be here, you have to make sure that they can afford to live. And that means not waiting until the end of the month for 14 days' pay. That doesn't happen anywhere. Nowhere in New Jersey have I heard that happening to the para-professionals. And they are just that. Professionals. And so, yes, you should absolutely do a walk-through. But you don't need a walk-through to tell you that there is no successful district that operates in the absence of strong education support professionals and strong education -- strong education support professionals

do not flock to a district that demonstrates that they do not have respect for them. So the fact that this district failed to notify these para-professionals about a voucher system until it was time for them to get paid does not denote respect for them. And as I heard you mention, you are on the community side. The community needs para-professionals. The community needs para-professionals that want to stay. And this is not about the State issue. This is something that you can do beyond worrying about State control. This is the decision that you all can make right here, right now.

MS. SUSSINO: 30 seconds.

MS. ROBINSON: You can end this meeting with the decision that you will pay your para-professionals immediately and on the 1st and 15th, like every professional educator in New Jersey. Thank you.

MR. STERN: So, Kevin, can you – can you tell us what happened, Kevin, with this whole -- because we're very confused.

MR. CAMPBELL: First of all, all of the para-professionals were paid today.

MR. STERN: Today? What's today?

MR. CAMPBELL: We had voucher –

MR. STERN: Today is the 23rd. When were they supposed to get paid?

MR. CAMPBELL: So what happens is the para-professionals just like in the ESY program, which we had 32 para-professionals which submitted 64 vouchers, because it was two pay periods. They all got paid on voucher pay.

MR. STERN: Why did they get paid voucher? Just walk me through it.

MR. CAMPBELL: What happens with a voucher is, they have to record the number of hours that they worked. So in that payroll period, they have to record the hours that they worked and they get paid in the subsequent period, because we don't have the information. When it comes to salaried individuals, we know what their salary is. We can pay them on the 15th and 30th, but we don't have the information to pay them, because we don't know the hours that they've actually worked. So they have to work the hours, submit their time, get it approved by the individual that approves their hours, depending on who they're working for. Then it gets submitted to the payroll department. The payroll department processes the checks with everything else that's paid on the 30th, so ...

MR. STERN: So what's the turn-around time from when they fill out the voucher to when they get paid?

MR. CAMPBELL: Generally, about two weeks.

MR. STERN: Two weeks.

MR. CAMPBELL: Two weeks. It is the next payroll run that goes through the payroll department. Okay? And inside their –

MR. STERN: So they have to wait two weeks to get paid?

MR. CAMPBELL: Right. Their employment contract.

MR. STERN: They're getting paid pittance and they got to wait two weeks to get paid.

MS. SUSSINO: Every two weeks they get paid.

MR. STERN: Every two weeks they get paid? So they should be catching up. That means—

MS. SUSSINO: Yes. It is just the first one is delayed.

MR. CAMPBELL: Delayed. And then after the school closes, they get the pay period after that –

MS. SUSSINO: They'll get an extra one than the teachers.

MR. CAMPBELL: We don't have the ability to determine how many hours everybody works until we get those documents. And by the time the payroll system closes, it gets signed off and gets brought to the –

MR. STERN: So as of today, they're all caught up?

MR. CAMPBELL: Yes. There was 20 paychecks that were issued today. That is all the vouchers that we had. Two of them were live checks and regular were direct deposits.

MR. STERN: So they're all caught up?

MR. CAMPBELL: Yes.

MR. STERN: Is that true? I mean, I don't know.

MS. SUSSINO: The next check will be the 15th.

MR. CAMPBELL: That's right. They're all paid on the 30th, because they're paid early. And that, that adheres to the payroll cycle that the district has had in place for all part-time employees for years. And it's published. It is on the website. It's been on the website. It's under staff HR payroll information. The payroll schedule is listed there and I do have a copy, if you would like to see it.

MR. STERN: I would like to see that.

MR. BENDER: Thank you for bringing that here. So, Kevin, just to better understand, on the -- I think what you're saying is for years the district had this system in place for part-time employees that are being paid on voucher. Hold on one second. Hold on one second. Let's get some clarity here. One at a time. My understanding is, what you're saying is that part-time employees that are paid via voucher, there is a two-week lapse, because it takes two weeks for the system to catch up and verify how many hours, get it signed by a supervisor and put it in the system. So the first two weeks they do not receive anything, but after that, they consistently, every two weeks -- and, then, at the end of the school year, after the school year is over, they will receive two weeks later another paycheck?

MR. CAMPBELL: That is correct.

MS. SUSSINO: It's still 20 paychecks.

MR. BENDER: Still 20 paychecks. And if I understand correctly –

MR. CAMPBELL: I can't pay them earlier, because I don't know what they've worked.

MR. BENDER: Okay. I just want to make sure that when they are hired, they understood that this was going to be the –

AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

MR. CAMPBELL: The union was made aware that extra pay would be in order for the para-professionals going forward. It was done for ESY. It was seamless. There was no issues with ESY, which I had new para-professionals on vouchers with 64 vouchers that were submitted. There was no issues. It also says in their employment contract that the employees shall accurately record all hours worked for the department designated time keeping procedures.

MR. BENDER: So if I understand correctly, you're saying the union was aware of before the school year started?

MR. CAMPBELL: Yes, they were. They were aware of it.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

MR. BENDER: So if I -- slow down – I hear you, we're going to address this one at a time. If I understand correctly, there are members from the staff that are saying otherwise. If that's the case, I would like to kindly request that everybody who knows otherwise to, please, send an E-mail to the Superintendent and we'll try to verify where there was some kind of overlap in the facts. Kevin is saying that the union were informed. Members from the staff are saying otherwise. So there is no reason why we have to have a whole public argument when we can verify the facts. Somewhere along the chain on an E-mail either the information was corresponded or it wasn't. Maybe there was a misunderstanding. But either way, for those that are saying otherwise, there is no reason for us to have an argument about it. I'm asking you, kindly, whoever it is, whether it is the President of the LEA, whoever it may be, a President, kindly submit the information other

than what we're hearing from the Business Administrator. Let's verify it. And if there was a mistake and we have to apologize and learn for the future, then we will learn for the future. Right now, I don't think there is any reason to have an argument about it. It's documented. It is sent over via E-mail or hard paper. I'm asking kindly, whoever it may be, to send the information to the Superintendent or to our general counsel and get down to the bottom of it. There is no reason to have an argument about it while we're here.

MR. STERN: Is there something that needs to be rectified now.

MR. BENDER: We're waiting to hear. We're waiting to hear either from the LEA attorney or from the President and to, please, communicate that information to the Superintendent and/or our general counsel.

MR. STERN: Kevin, is there a way to recommend that they should get paid?

MR. CAMPBELL: I cannot pay them in advance.

MR. STERN: No. That's for sure. How about every two weeks?

MR. CAMPBELL: There are two weeks and they get paid in the next payroll cycle. Once I get the information on how many hours –

MR. STERN: So they're like therapists. They get paid the month after?

MR. BENDER: Two weeks. If I understand correctly.

MR. STERN: Two weeks.

MR. CAMPBELL: Two weeks, the 30th.

MR. BENDER: At the end of the two week pay period. That is the first.

MR. STERN: Right.

MR. BENDER: Then being it's on a voucher, that being unfortunate, the reality is that after the two weeks, they submit the hours of what they worked during the first two weeks. They submit those hours and gets approved by a supervisor. The next time there is a payroll, by the end of the two-week cycle, that's when they get their next paycheck. Hold it one sec. Every two weeks after that they consistently get a paycheck. And it's a two-week lapse. If, if we want to work to change something for the future, I don't know if it is possible legally how to do it. We can discuss it.

MR. STERN: So only in September is when this problem happens?

MR. BENDER: That's what we're understanding. Again, if there are staff members that are telling us that there is something different than what we're hearing, we're asking kindly to, please, reach

out to the president or the lawyer, whatever the chain of command is, and please forward that information to our attorney or the Superintendent. Thank you. Next speaker, please.

MS. SUSSINO: Mike Mannion. I'm sorry. Adaleda Hernandez. Sorry, Mike. I think this person left already. I think we called her on the last list. That's why I skipped it. Is Adaleda here? Okay, Mike.

MR. MANNION: Hi, everyone. I am Mike Mannion. I am the NJEA field representative for the Lakewood Education Association. I'm here to talk about the voucher issue and the part-time para-professionals. It is well documented that the district eliminated 165 para-professional positions. And Dr. Winters, your power point slide shows that there was a lot of fallout as a result of that. But there were para-professionals, para-professionals who came back and accepted a part-time position and the terms of that was that they were not going to receive health benefits. They were going to work part-time, essentially, do the same work, no health benefits. Why the hell would anyone come back? I don't know. But they did. And if you're looking at the people that did come back, you may say, well, they probably didn't have health insurance. But let me ask you this question. How many of them do you think had health insurance last year and came back part-time to work without health insurance? The answer is almost all of them. Out of all of the para-professionals that came back in a part-time position, only two didn't have health benefits last year. That's the dedication that you're seeing from these people. They came back. And for that loyalty, here is what happens to them. When the school year began, these para-professionals, they reported to work like everyone else. They worked two weeks. And then September 15th rolled around. Payday. On payday everybody expects to get paid, right? Well, these people didn't. They showed up to work. They weren't paid. Everybody else was, but they weren't paid. It wasn't until they started -- I'm sorry. Yes. Oh, by the way. Thank you. I have to correct you on that. Where it was said that the employees were told about this voucher system, they didn't get their employment contracts until September 9th. They were already working. So for everyone up here to say or for someone to say they should have known about this, false. September was when they got their employment contracts. So they showed up to work and this is when they started asking about their contracts, they learned about this voucher system. Fortunately, this morning, they were all paid. And I'm glad the district is taking the steps to correct the mispayments, but correcting that eight days after they should have been paid, you need to do better than that, so -- because these para-professionals are still being directed to submit vouchers two weeks, this isn't just something that, oh, they've done this for ESY. ESY is ESY. And what you're asking these para-professionals to do, these part-time paras who are not getting health benefits, they're asked to fill out paperwork to chase down approvals and to wait for manual processing to verify information that the district already has. You hired these people. You give them a schedule. You know how long they're working. Why do they have to fill out a voucher to give you the information you already know? And for the paras who are part-time, who are working full-time last year, they didn't have to fill out these vouchers, but there are requirements that they have and the para-professionals that are full-time do not have these requirements. So there are really two problems here. The first is that the employees work for two weeks and they weren't paid when they were supposed to. You paid them now. Congratulations. But you have to do better. Second, going forward, they're being required to navigate a payroll process that their colleagues are not being required to navigate and that distinction matters. They're among the lowest paid employees in your schools. Many of them work second or third jobs. Their last pay check was on June 30th until they were paid today. They made it through the summer expecting to be paid on September 15th.

Instead the money they were counting on wasn't there. A missed paycheck isn't a minor inconvenience. It is rent. It's groceries. It's gas. It's deciding which bill gets paid and which bills you have to wait on. These employees have already sacrificed.

MR. MANNION: (Continuing) their full-time positions to remain –

MS. SUSSINO: Seconds.

MR. MANNION: -- to remain in Lakewood. What have they received in return? First, they had to chase down a paycheck for work they had already performed and now they're being required to complete paperwork every two weeks for a paycheck that their co-workers receive automatically. That's the issue. The people who sacrifice the most. If you have a part-time para-professional here, these are the people who sacrifice the most to remain in Lakewood. They're now being asked to do more, to wait longer –

MS. SUSSINO: Mr. Mannion, you're at your four minutes.

MR. MANNION: -- and accept less. They deserve to be paid the same way and with the same respect as every other district employee. Thank you.

MS. SUSSINO: I believe, Mr. Strupp left. Mr. Strupp is not there, right? We have Regina Johnson. Are you still here? Okay. Jessica Rivera?

MR. MELNIK: Can I ask just one question?

MR. BENDER: Sure.

MR. MELNIK: Instead of vouchers, why aren't their clock-ins and clock-outs?

MS. SUSSINO: We don't have that system.

MR. MELNIK: That way, they get paid immediately and –

MR. STERN: Didn't you just say they clock in? Did they just say they clock in and clock out?

DR. WINTERS: No.

MR. MELNIK: No.

MS. SUSSINO: It's the same kind of system.

MR. STERN: They can't clock in and clock out? I know I'm sounding very stupid. But if they clock in –

MS. SUSSINO: We have a system that allows them to swipe into the building, but it does not do, like, a swipe out. It doesn't, like, record -- yeah. Right. It's not a time tracking system.

MR. STERN: We don't have a clock-in, clock-out thing?

DR. WINTERS: Mr. Stern, that would also have to be negotiated with the union. We do not clock in and clock out.

MR. STERN: Okay. Okay. So I'm keeping quiet then, because I'm on the –

MR. SUSSINO: I was trying to -- okay. I don't know if I said Jessica Rivera. Jessica starts with a G.

DR. WINTERS: Sorry. No problem. I wasn't yelling at him.

MR. CAMPBELL: She's here.

MS. SUSSINO: Sorry. Oh, okay.

MS. GALANT: I'm not Jessica, but I really need to say something. Part-time paras –

MR. CAMPBELL: Can you –

MS. SUSSINO: I just need to get your name.

MS. GALANT: Maureen Galant.

MS. SUSSINO: Okay.

MS. GALANT: I am a part-time para. What's happening is, we're working the same hours we did last year, 8:30 to 3:00. I'm staying for buses. I care about my kids. I want to -- especially the ones with an IEP. They need to get on the van safely. So I am putting on my voucher 3:15 I leave. I'm not getting paid for my lunch. Now, when you do the math and you work 8:30 to 3:00, the hours come to 27.5. Not the 29.5 as promised.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: We got paid for breaks.

MS. GALANT: We don't get paid for our breaks. We get one hour. Some of the girls take a half an hour and two 15s. And, by law – maybe the lawyer would know this. The two 15s should be being paid and our half-hour not, which would bring us then to 25.5. But, currently, if you work 8:30 to 3:00, with the hour lunch, we're not getting paid for the hour, which brings us down to 27.5. And on my behalf I left 34 days in my sick bank, because I don't take off. And I – I feel like I earned that. It wasn't given to me. And that was taken away from me. And I would like to build my days because my mom and dad are very old. In the event that they need me, I would be there for them, because I earned my days. That was stripped from me. And I don't think that's fair, because I earned it and it was taken away. And I'm sure there are other girls, too, that had to have days in their bank and they're gone. It's enough that I gave up my benefits. But I love my job so much and I love these kids so much that I was willing to come back. But I just think that we should be given what we're due, the little bit that we are getting now. Just let us have it. Give us the 29.5 straight across the

board. We can get rid of the vouchers. We can swipe in. I'm still working the same 8:30 to 3:00. In the beginning of the year, the buses were crazy. I left one day at 20 to 4:00. And I am going back to back to school tomorrow night, because I know that my kids go home and they talk about me. And I want the parents to see the face. And guess what? I'm putting it on my voucher. And I'm there because I love the kids, not because of the money. God knows. Thank you for letting me speak.

MR. BENDER: Thank you.

DR. WINTERS: Thank you.

MS. SUSSINO: I think this next name is Juliette.

MR. STERN: Hold on. Again, I keep sounding stupid. We're not paying them for what they're supposed to get paid, 29 and a half hours?

MR. CAMPBELL: Depends what they work.

MR. BENDER: All right.

MR. STERN: Let's do the math.

MR. CAMPBELL: No. When the vouchers come in, they say exactly the times they worked.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: You're not paying us right.

MR. STERN: So they worked 27 hours instead of 29 hours. Is that what you're saying?

MR. CAMPBELL: Somebody could take a day off and not make the 29 hours, too. How would I -- how would the payroll department know that?

MR. STERN: She just said she worked from 8:30 to 3:00. How many hours does that come out to? And then you put that on your voucher. So why wouldn't it come out to 29 and a half?

MR. CAMPBELL: It depends on the school and the arrangement they have with the principal. Depending on the hours they work. Every school is probably a little different.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

MR. BENDER: So I'm not familiar exactly with how the contracts are arranged. And I'm not sure what the arrangement is with the union. I would highly recommend, once again, please, reach out to the field representative who is here. And it should be presented to the Superintendent and to our legal counsel to figure out, Number 1, is everything being up kept from whatever was originally arranged. That's Number 1. That's our obligation. If that's the case, you have a field representative. He knows who our general counsel is. He knows. Reach out to him and it could be addressed, Number 1. Number 2, if there is something beyond that, you mean, if -- and I believe

that our administration is up keeping with where everything originated. If based on what I'm hearing, there is legitimate inquiry from staff members, perhaps, many staff members, we just heard it from one. But, perhaps, there's on behalf of some other friend, as well, if there is a question to try to modify things to work out better for everybody, that should also similarly be communicated through a field representative. I don't think much is going to come out of having a public debate here. When there may be many different rules and regulations that already set forth in their additional agreement. So, once again, my recommendation is, you have a field representative. We have legal counsel that represents us. We have a superintendent. And communicate that with us. If you communicate and you reach out and there's a dead tone, that is a different story. You can say you reached out and no one ever responded to you. I don't think that is the case. Mr. Forsman always responds. So does the Superintendent. So my best recommendation would be to, please, as a group, reach out to your field representative. Have them prepare whatever it is they want to discuss and bring it to the general counsel and/or the superintendent.

MR. STERN: Does that help you or you want to make a meeting?

DR. WINTERS: Well, we do have a negotiations meeting next week. I think this can –

MR. STERN: Next week?

DR. WINTERS: -- be discussed.

MR. BENDER: From my mouth.

MR. STERN: These people need to buy milk.

DR. WINTERS: I can't talk about negotiations. We have a meeting next week.

MR. BENDER: That also should be – once again, I'm asking kindly. I'm not a lawyer and I can make problems, if I could, and start discussing what she deserves and doesn't deserve. I -- personally, I feel for her if she lost those lost days. However, it is not my place to start going ahead and determining what the legal ramifications are, because I'm not the lawyer. I didn't draft that contract, but I would highly recommend that she reach out to the field representative and have that addressed in a negotiations meeting. I think, that's a very reasonable suggestion.

MR. STERN: And I think you should get the back pay, if they deserve that.

MR. BENDER: I would not be happy if I had days in my bank that I lost.

MR. STERN: Right. How do we rectify those days that they lost? We can't discuss that because it's union. Can't talk about anything.

MR. BENDER: Next speaker, please.

MS. SUSSINO: Is there still a Juliette here? Okay. Michael Babb (ph).

MR. BABB: Good news. I'm like towards the bottom of the list, so we're almost done.

MR. BENDER: The night is still young.

MS. SUSSINO: Famous last words.

MR. BABB: As far as your earlier discussion about how to do these routes, if memory serves me, couple years ago when we had a transportation problem, the hazardous routes were being determined as to if there are roads, non-residential roads over 25 miles an hour speed limit, above that. And the students have to enter the roadway, not just cross the street, but enter the roadway. So like Brook Road was on there. Because it was, like a 35, 40 mile an hour speed limit. No sidewalks. No curbs. You have to walk in the roadway. So I think that's how they were determining that stuff. We should have the list put up on, like, you know, the Board – Lakewood Piners website, maybe.

MR. BENDER: I believe it is. Dr. Winters?

DR. WINTERS: We have a list. It is not on the website. It is under information on the website. Go to P for policy and a list of hazardous routes are –

MR. STERN: Can we make it more visible?

MR. BABB: That sounds buried.

MR. STERN: Can we make it more visible on the website, I guess?

DR. WINTERS: It's under transportation policy. Just look for transportation policy and you will -- you'll find it. It says hazardous.

MR. BENDER: You can search hazardous, as well.

DR. WINTERS: It's very easy.

MR. BABB: As far as like the dangerous road in town, which everyone knows, people need to show up. That's the Township Council that does that work. They're the ones responsible for the roads. They're the ones enforcing the laws. We need to show up at that meeting and demand that the laws be enforced.

MR. STERN: Thank you.

MR. BABB: And he's left now. But I would like to say -- but I didn't hear anybody say thank you for Assemblyman Shaw for showing up tonight. All of our problems are with the State funding, State mandates and we haven't been getting the advocacy in Trenton that we should be getting. It was good to see somebody finally show up, because these guys in the past haven't shown up. My thing -- my question tonight is transportation. And for Amy, you guys put out the packet at the

start of the year, told me to get the app. I got the new bus app and it doesn't do anything. I just want to know, like, when that's going to be, like, fully working? Because it is like doing nothing. It doesn't track anything. It doesn't even list the afternoon routes. I'm like, what's up?

MR. BENDER: All right. Amy is going to address us.

MS. BEARDEN: What is the question?

MR. BENDER: You thought you were done tonight.

MS. BEARDEN: So the tracking app, we are still in the process of getting up and running. We were delayed a little bit with a lot that hit our department and -- MR. BENDER: Amy, can you move the mic a little closer to your mouth.

MS. BEARDEN: Sorry. We worked really hard with a lot of changes in August and I wasn't able to dedicate enough time to getting it up and running. I do hope to have it done by the end of next week. And our main contractors, 90 percent of our routes and students will be able to be tracked when I get this up and running.

MR. BABB: Cool. Thanks.

MS. BEARDEN: Did that answer your question?

MR. BABB: Yes. Yes. Yeah. Thank you. I was hoping you didn't have to wait until the end to do it, but, yeah.

MR. BENDER: Thank you. This is just the beginning. The night is starting.

DR. WINTERS: Says you.

MS. SUSSINO: Lourdis -- no. Yes. No. Maybe so. Okay. I am not 100 percent sure on this name. Starts with an A l b. 700 Clifton.

MR. CAMPBELL: Address.

MS. SUSSINO: Okay. Almadelia – is that Jiminez. I can't -- maybe. Okay. Erica Rojas. Mayla Perez. Haley Ramirez? And, lastly, Mr. Hirsch.

MR. HIRSCH: Good evening. My name is Aaron Hirsch. I am a Lakewood resident. I currently pay 675 for each of my non-mandated children, because they have to cross roads this district has designated as hazardous. For instance, Chestnut Street is one of them. But that designation, as stated at the September 9th meeting, rests on the Lakewood Police Department's assessment. A hazardous road doesn't become safer because of which school a child walks to. Tonight this Board voted twice on busing for nonpublic school students. I'm glad for those families. And voted again for hazardous busing for non-public school students, this time without the funding availability language. The monitors later emphasized the Monitor over that vote. So, Ms. Davis, three

questions for the record. First, are you overriding tonight's courtesy busing resolution for public students? Second, your letter says non-mandated transportation for both public and non-public school students was eliminated for the lack of funding and was not in the budget. If you allow the public resolution, where is that money coming from and why can't it be applied to non-public children crossing the same hazardous roads? Third, on what basis did you override tonight's vote given that the funding language you emphasized was removed, ask that you issue tonight's override in writing with a statutory basis and that it may be made public. I also ask the Board direct Counsel to review four things. 1, whether overriding safety busing for one group of children while permitting courtesy busing for another on the same roads is arbitrary and capricious. 2, this Board's own hazardous route policy, which Counsel said on September 9th does not distinguish public from non-public school students. 3, with appeal to 2 0 2 3 Chapter 326 actually governs the LSTA and whether a district-run hazardous service outside the consortium would void it. 4, whether the 2006 Bacon decision the Monitor's letter relies on still controls giving the Supreme Court's Religious Liberty decision since then. They pursue, then pursue every available remedy. Children are walking those hazardous roads every day. Thank you. And if the Monitor won't answer, then I ask that the minutes reflect the questions were asked and not answered.

MR. CAMPBELL: That concludes the public comment.

XIV. GOOD & WELFARE

XV. SECOND EXECUTIVE SESSION – <u>RESOLUTION</u>- 10:55pm

WHEREAS, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, known as the Open Public Meetings Act, provides that a public body may not exclude the public from any meeting to discuss any matter described therein until the public body has first adopted a Resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Township of Lakewood has determined that the following items must be discussed in closed session and that the public must be excluded from said deliberations; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Township of Lakewood has determined that the subject matter of the closed discussion falls within those matters described in subsection 7b of the Open Public Meetings Act;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Township of Lakewood, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, that

A. The Board of Education, in closed session, may discuss one or more of the following subject matter:

    1. Any pending or anticipated litigation.

Which subject matters constitute a subject matter described in the subsection 7b of the Open Public Meetings Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Township of Lakewood, will disclose to the public the subject matter of said closed discussions, as soon as the matters have been resolved and the determination can be disclosed to the public.

Motion to go into Executive Session: 10:57pm

First: Mr. Chase **Second**: Mrs. Westbrook Goldberg

Voting:

Moshe Bender-President	Y
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y
Aaron Chase	Y
Meir Grunhut	Y
Joel Kleinman	Absent
Samuel Melnik	Y
Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Y
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

Motion to go into Public Session: 11:30pm

First: Mr. Rodriguez **Second**: Mr. Bender

Voting:

Moshe Bender-President	Y
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y
Aaron Chase	Y
Meir Grunhut	Y
Joel Kleinman	Absent
Samuel Melnik	Y
Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Y
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

Motion to Approve the Business Administrator Agenda: 11:32pm

First: Mr. Rodriguez **Second**: Mr. Reich

Voting:

Moshe Bender-President	Y
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y
Aaron Chase	Y
Meir Grunhut	Y
Joel Kleinman	Absent
Samuel Melnik	Y
Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Y
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

*Motion and Voting for the Business agenda is also referenced at the end of the Business Administrator's Agenda items on page 27.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn the meeting: 11:35pm

First: Mr. Rodriguez **Second**: Mr. Bender

Voting:

Moshe Bender-President	Y
Heriberto Rodriguez- Vice President	Y
Aaron Chase	Y
Meir Grunhut	Y
Joel Kleinman	Absent
Samuel Melnik	Y
Abraham Reich	Y
Shlomie Stern	Y
Harriet Westbrook-Goldberg	Y

Meeting was adjourned at 11:35pm

I, Kevin Campbell, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, of the Lakewood Board of Education, hereby certify this to be a true copy of the REVISED Minutes for the In-Person Public Meeting held on September 23, 2026, that were originally approved and signed on October 28, 2026.

Kevin Campbell, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

November 18, 2026