

**MENDHAM TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BROOKSIDE, NEW JERSEY  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY  
REGULAR SESSION MEETING AGENDA  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2025, 7:30 PM**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Flag Salute**

**III. Roll Call of the Board of Education**

Mrs. Joan Mody	President
Dr. Rekha Mandel	Vice President
Mrs. Elisabeth Carrino-Tamasi	
Mrs. Natasha Crossan	
Mr. Peter Dumovic	
Mr. Thomas Keeling	
Mrs. Diana Orban Brown	

**IV. Sunshine Law**

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

**V. Superintendent's Report**

- District Updates, News, and Events
- Special Education Training - Dr. Robert Koroski, Ms. Nathanya Simon of Scarinci Hollenbeck

**VI. Board Secretary's Report**

**VII. Assistant Superintendent's Report**

**VIII. Board President's Report**

**IX. Correspondence - None**

**X. Committee Reports**

## **XI. Consent Items**

### **Approval of Minutes**

Regular Session Minutes: January 28, 2025

### **Curriculum and School Programs**

1. **Biannual Statement of Assurance Paraprofessional Staff**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the submission of the Biannual Statement of Assurance for the 2024-2025 Use of Paraprofessional Staff to the New Jersey Department of Education.

2. **MTMS Research Study** *(Attachment)*

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the collaboration between the Middle School and Kean University to investigate the use of generated AI in personalized student learning.

3. **WMMHS Work-Based Learning Internship**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves WMMHS senior student Josh Acheampong to intern in the District's Technology Department for the remainder of his senior year.

4. **Elementary School Field Trips** *(Attachment)*

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached field trips for the 2024-2025 school year.

5. **Middle School Field Trip** *(Attachment)*

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached field trip for the 2024-2025 school year.

6. **Revised - Mendham Township School District Calendar 2025-2026**  
*(Attachment)*

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the revised Mendham Township School District Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year.

### **Operations and Finance**

1. **Certification Reports**

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

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9, N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8, and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(B), after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial reports for January 2025 that no major accounts and fund balances in the 2024/2025 budget have been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

2. **Board Secretary's Report**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the January 2025 Board Secretary's Reports.

3. **Treasurer's Report**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the January 2025 Treasurer's Reports.

4. **January 2025 Transfer Reports**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the January 2025 transfer report.

5. **February 2025 Bills List**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the February Bills List. This includes payroll checks N5605 through N5607 and N5608 through N5610.

Fund 10 - Treasurer Account	\$ 64,453.02
Fund 11 - Treasurer Account	\$2,072,356.32
Fund 20 - Grant Account	\$ 19,848.77
Fund 30 - Referendum Account	\$ 481,403.79
Fund 40 - Bonds	\$ 244,918.75
Fund 60 - Cafeteria Account	\$ 68,016.57
Fund 80 - Unemployment Account	<u>\$ 7,918.40</u>
Total:	<u>\$ 2,958,915.62</u>

6. **District Travel** *(Attachment)*

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

7. **Use of District Facilities** *(Attachment)*

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached use of facility applications for the 2024-2025 school year with the right to cancel based on school events and needs.

8. **Waiver of Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program 2025-2026** *(Attachment)*

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2025-2026 budget year, and

**WHEREAS**, the Mendham Township Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid-eligible classified students OR participation in SEMI would not provide a cost-benefit to the district based on the projection of the district's available SEMI reimbursement for the 2025-2026 budget year, and

**WHEREAS**, the waiver request is based on the 2024-2025 Revenue report received from the NJ DOE, the free and reduced lunch count for special education students and the 2024-2025 Revenue Projection report from the NJDOE and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Morris an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2025-2026 school year.

9. **Architecture Firm Services - Di Cara Rubino** *(Attachment)*

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the attached proposal from Architects Di Cara Rubino.

**Personnel and Human Resources**

1. **Leave of Absence - Susie Lebron Vega**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education hereby approves Susie Lebron Vega, Bus Driver, for a leave of absence, commencing March 27, 2025, while utilizing 24.5 accumulated sick days, and 1.5 Personal days, under the Federal Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education hereby approves Susie Lebron Vega to return to work at a later date, pending re-evaluation and certification from a physician.

2. **Leave of Absence - Peter Ricci**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education hereby approves Peter Ricci, Lead Technician, for a leave of absence commencing on March 24, 2025, utilizing 14 sick days and 15 vacation days under the Federal Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and NJ Family Leave Act (NJFLA) ending on May 2, 2025.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves Peter Ricci with an anticipated return to work date of May 5, 2025.

3. **New Hire - Nelson Villalta, Full-Time Transportation Driver**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the appointment of Nelson Villalta, pending completion of paperwork, as a Full Time Transportation Driver, at an hourly rate of \$32.00, effective March 3, 2025, for the 2024-2025 school year.

4. **Leave Replacement - Deanna Pugliese, Elementary School Special Education Teacher (LLD) (Attachment)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the appointment of Deanna Pugliese, pending completion of paperwork, as a Full Time Leave Replacement Elementary School Special Education Teacher (LLD) effective April 7, 2025, through June 30, 2025, at a prorated salary of \$62,765.00, MA/BA+45, Step 3.

5. **Termination of Employment**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education has informed employee (No.4711) of their termination of employment dated and effective February 5, 2025.

6. **Mentor for New Teacher**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves payment to the following to mentor the new teacher in their first year with Mendham Township Schools.

Mentor	New Teacher	Compensation
Stacey Bray	Jennifer Slater	\$550.00

7. **Chaperones (Attachment)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves payment at the contractual rate for chaperones following the end of the contractual day.

8. **Substitute Teachers**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the following substitute teachers, pending completion of paperwork, at the current rate of \$125.00 per day for the 2024-2025 school year.

Lauren Mosner, Steven Suskin

**Policy and Planning**

1. **First Reading** (*Attachments*)

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the First reading of the following policies and regulations:

P 2551	Musical Instruments
P 2560	Live Animals in School
R 2560	Live Animals in School
P 2624	Grading System
R 2624	Grading System
P 2631	New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC)
P 3112	Abolishing Positions
P 3125.4	Substitute Teachers
P 3130	Assignment and Transfers
P 3142	Nonrenewal of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member
P 3143	Dismissal
P 3144.3	Suspension Upon Certification of Tenure Charge
P 3144.12	Certification of Tenure Charges - Inefficiency (M)
P 3146	Conduct of Reduction in Force
R 3146	Conduct of Reduction in Force
P 3150	Discipline
P 3152	Withholding an Increment
P 3211.3	Consulting Outside the District
R 3211.3	Consulting Outside the District
P 3214	Conflict of Interest
R 3230	Outside Activities
P 3232	Tutoring Services
R 3232	Tutoring Services
R 3233	Political Activities

2. **Second Reading** (*Attachments*)

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves the Second reading and adoption of the following policies and regulations:

P 5512	Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (M)
P 5533	Student Smoking (M)

R 5533	Student Smoking (M)
P 7441	Electronic Surveillance In School Buildings On School Grounds (M)
R 7441	Electronic Surveillance In School Buildings and On School Grounds (M)
P 9320	Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M)
R 9320	Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M)
P 5516	Use of Electronic Communication Devices
R 5516	Use of Electronic Communication Devices
P 5701	Academic Integrity
P 5710	Student Grievance
P 8500	Food Services (M)
P 9163	Spectator Code of Conduct for Interscholastic Events (M)
P 2312	Class Size
P 2330	Homework
R 2330	Homework
P 2361	Acceptable Use of Computer Networks/Computers and Resources (M)
R 2361	Acceptable Use of Computer Networks/Computers and Resources
P 2415.01	Academic Standards, Academic Assessments, and Accountability (M) - ABOLISHED
P 2415.03	Highly Qualified Teachers (M) - ABOLISHED
R 2415	Title I Services (M)
P 2415.04	Title I - District-Wide Parental Involvement (M)
P 2416	Programs for Pregnant Pupils (M)
P 2425.01	HIV Education
R 2425.01	HIV Prevention/Education
P 2428.1	Standards-Based Instructional Priorities
P 2340	Field Trips
P 2440	Summer Session
R 2440	Summer Session
P 2360	Use of Technology
R 2464	Gifted and Talented Pupils (M)
P 2466	Needless Pupil Labeling of Pupils with Disabilities (M)
P 2468	Independent Educational Evaluations
P 2510	Adoption of Textbooks
R 2510	Adoption of Textbooks
P 2530	Resource Materials
P 2531	Use of Copyrighted Materials
R 2531	Use of Copyrighted Materials

## **XII. ACTION ITEMS**

### **Curriculum and School Programs**

#### **1. Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying Report**

**WHEREAS**, the Mendham Township Board of Education has received the Superintendent's report of the incident(s) of Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying ("HIB") within the District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has had the opportunity to review the Superintendent's recommendations with respect to the incident(s) of HIB.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board will *accept, reject, or modify* the Superintendent's recommendations for:

Incident #286280\_MTMS\_ (*accepts, rejects, modifies*)

### **Personnel and Human Resources**

#### **1. Leave of Absence - Aletha Consales**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board hereby approves Aletha Consales, Assistant to the Superintendent for Human Resources, for a leave of absence commencing on February 20, 2025, utilizing 17 sick days under the Federal Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and NJ Family Leave Act (NJFLA) ending on March 14, 2025.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board approves Aletha Consales with an anticipated return to work date of March 17, 2025.

#### **2. Chaperones (Attachment)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mendham Township Board of Education approves payment at the contractual rate for chaperones following the end of the contractual day.

### **XVI. Discussion**

### **XVII. Verbal Communications from the Public**

The Board President, or Presiding Officer, will direct members of the public to speak in turn and shall have the right to limit the speaking time of individuals wishing to provide comment to the board as necessary. Board of Education members provide public comment as a time to listen to the comments from attendees of the Board of Education meeting. Public comment shall not be a time for open dialogue with the speaker. Public comment shall not be a time for board members to answer questions posed to them from a speaker or comment on a speaker's concerns. Speakers shall provide their name, address, and direct their comments to the board and not to district staff or other audience members. Speakers shall not expect board members to answer questions during public comment. Questions shall be referred to the Superintendent or his/her designee



for review, study, and response. If appropriate, the board may request the issue be a discussion item at a future Board of Education meeting.

#### **XVIII. Adjournment**

