

CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Tenakill Middle School

August 27, 2024 - 7:30 PM

Call to order: _____ @ _____ P.M.

Roll Call:

Mr. Choi	_____
Ms. Fanelli	_____
Ms. Kwon	_____
Ms. Li	_____
Ms. Micera	_____
Ms. Wagner	_____
Ms. Yeoh	_____
Ms. Salamea-Cross	_____
Ms. Finkelstein	_____

NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT - Read by the President:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary to the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by having the date, time, and place thereof, posted at each school building within the district, district website, the Board of Education office, the Office of the Borough Clerk, and transmitted to *The Record* and *Northern Valley Suburbanite* newspapers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Presentation: ACCESS for ELLs Assessment Data from 2023-2024

BOARD COMMITTEES

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Moved by _____ , seconded by _____ to open the meeting to the public.

Statements made by individual participants are limited to a duration of three (3) minutes unless otherwise announced at the beginning of the discussion. A maximum of 15 minutes for public input is scheduled as per bylaw 0167. The Board urges large groups to select one person to represent them. The Board reminds those individuals who take the opportunity to speak to please step up, identify themselves by name and address, and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda.

Moved by _____ , seconded by _____ to resume the regular order of business.

BOARD OPERATIONS

Moved by _____ , seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - E.

Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Board of Education Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve the July 23, 2024, and August 5, 2024, Board of Education meeting minutes.

B. **APPROVAL - Independent Educational Evaluations Maximum Costs**

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2021, the Board adopted Policy 2468 governing Independent Educational Evaluations; and

WHEREAS, Policy 2468 requires the Board to annually determine and approve the maximum costs it will pay for such evaluations, with anything above those maximum costs deemed unreasonably excessive;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board hereby adopts the following maximum costs for the assessments listed below when they are conducted as part of an independent educational evaluation, consistent with Policy No. 2468, effective immediately and through June 30, 2025:

- Assistive Technology: \$1,250
- Auditory Processing/Hearing Acuity: \$1,000
- Early Childhood: \$1,350
- Functional or Adaptive Behavior: \$1,000
- Educational: \$1,000
- Neurological: \$1,500
- Neuropsychological: \$2,000
- Neuropsychiatric: \$1,500
- Occupational Therapy: \$750
- Physical Therapy: \$750
- Psychiatric: \$1,250

- Psychological: \$1,000
- Social History: \$750
- Speech/Language: \$1,000
- Visual Acuity: \$1,500

C. **APPROVAL - Acceptance of Donation from the Closter PTO**

Motion to accept, with gratitude, the donation from the Closter PTO in the amount of \$140,000.

D. **APPROVAL - Sidebar Agreement Between the Closter Board of Education and the Closter Education Association**

Motion to approve the sidebar agreement between the Closter Board of Education and the Closter Education Association for the addition of Hillside Helpers to Schedule F.

E. **APPROVAL - Additional Schedule F Position Job Description**

Motion to approve the job description for the Hillside Helpers moderator, as a Schedule F position as per Appendix A.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Wagner; Members: Ms. Salamea-Cross, Ms. Yeoh

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - C.
 Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:
 NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Staff Coursework**

Motion to approve the following courses for the 2024-2025 school year as recommended to the Superintendent by the Principals:

Staff Member: Roy John
 Course No./Title: EDU 7294 Advanced Research Design
 Institution: Northeastern University
 Credits: 3

B. **APPROVAL - Staff Conferences**

Motion to approve the following staff conferences for the 2024-2025 school year:

Staff Member(s): Floro M. Villanueva Jr.
 Conference: Northeast Bergen Joint Insurance Fund Meeting
 Location: Rivervale, NJ
 Date: 9/18/24; 11/13/24; 2/12/25; 5/28/25; and 6/18/25
 Cost to Board: \$16.92 for mileage

Staff Member(s): Floro M. Villanueva Jr.
Conference: Bergen County ASBO Monthly Meeting
Location: Rivervale, NJ
Date: 9/25/24; 10/17/24; 11/20/24; 12/6/24; 1/23/25; 2/27/25; 3/25/25; 4/24/25;
5/22/25; and 6/2025
Cost to Board: \$33.84 for mileage

Staff Member(s): Vincent McHale
Conference: BCASA Monthly Meeting
Location: Paramus, NJ
Date: 9/12/24; 10/17/24; 11/14/24; 12/12/24; 2/13/25; 3/13/25; 4/10/25;
5/08/25; and June 2025 date to be determined
Cost to Board: \$91.37 for mileage

Staff Member(s): Vincent Salvati
Conference: I.T. Monthly Offsite Meetings
Location: TBD (various locations)
Date: 10/1/24; 11/12/24; 12/3/24; 1/7/25; 1/29/25; 2/4/25; 3/4/25; 4/1/25; 5/6/25;
and 6/3/25
Cost to Board: \$400.00 total estimated for mileage, based on TBD locations

Staff Member(s): Christine Cipollini and Dianne Smith
Conference: NVPA Monthly Meeting
Location: Demarest, NJ
Date: 9/20/24; 10/11/24; 11/15/24; 12/13/24; 1/17/25; 2/14/25; 3/14/25; 4/25/25;
5/16/25; and 6/6/25
Cost to Board: \$41.36 total (\$20.68 for mileage per principal)

Staff Member(s): Lori Cohen
Conference: NJSEAA County Meetings
Location: Washington Township, NJ
Date: 9/25/24; 10/30/24; 11/20/24; 12/18/24; 1/29/25; 2/26/25; 3/26/25; 4/30/25
and 5/28/25
Cost to Board: \$58.41 for mileage

Staff Member(s): Lori Cohen
Conference: Region 3 Director of Special Services Meetings
Location: Demarest, NJ
Date: 9/19/24; 10/18/24; 11/14/24; 12/13/24; 1/23/25; 2/13/25; 3/13/25; 4/10/25;
5/15/25 and 6/13/25
Cost to Board: \$21.60 for mileage

Staff Member(s): Keith McElroy and Kristen Zanin
Conference: NVCC Monthly Meetings
Location: Demarest, NJ
Date: 9/25/24, 10/16/24, 11/20/24, 12/13/24, 1/21/25, 2/14/25, 3/18/25, 4/30/25,
and 5/16/25
Cost to Board: \$41.36 total (\$20.68 for mileage per principal)

Staff Member(s): Kristen Zanin and Vincent McHale
Conference: BCCC Monthly Meetings
Location: Paramus, NJ
Date: 9/27/24; 11/15/24; 12/6/24; 3/21/25; and 6/6/25
Cost to Board: \$20.50 total (\$10.25 for mileage per administrator)

Staff Member(s): Eileen Kennedy
Conference: NJALC Fall Symposium-Order & Law - New Assessments for Legally
Defensible IEPs
Location: East Windsor, NJ
Date: 10/25/24
Cost to Board: \$227.32 (\$165.00 registration fee and \$62.32 for mileage)

Staff Member(s): Shireen Moidu
Conference: Center for Astro Physics
Location: Virtual
Date: Asynchronous
Cost to Board: \$0

C. **APPROVAL - Field Trips**

Motion to approve the following field trips for the 2024-2025 school year:

School: Tenakill Middle School
Group: Grade 8
Month: October 2024
Destination: NVRHS-D
Location: Demarest, NJ

School: Tenakill Middle School
Group: Grade 7
Month: May 2025
Destination: Boston, MA

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Yeoh; Members: Mr. Choi, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Kwon

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - M.

Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. APPROVAL - Monthly Financials and Certification

Motion to approve the following items as required, pursuant to NJSA 18A:17-9 and NJAC 6:20-2.13, as per Appendix B attached:

- a. Final Board Secretary and School Treasurer Financial Reports for June 2024.
- b. Final Board of Education’s Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account /Fund status for June 2024.
- c. Final Transfer of funds for June 2024.

B. APPROVAL - Monthly Financials and Certification

Motion to approve the following items as required, pursuant to NJSA 18A:17-9 and NJAC 6:20-2.13, as per Appendix C attached:

- a. Board Secretary and School Treasurer Financial Reports for July 2024.
- b. Board of Education’s Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account /Fund status for July 2024.
- c. Transfer of funds for July 2024.

C. APPROVAL - Payment of Bills

Motion to approve payment of bills from July 24, 2024 to July 31, 2024, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$ 598,673.77
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 21,500.00
Capital Projects (Fund 30)	\$ 19,231.96
Debt Service (Fund 40)	\$ 346,845.00
Total	\$ 986,250.73

D. **APPROVAL - Payment of Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from August 1, 2024 to August 27, 2024, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$
Capital Projects (Fund 30)	\$
Enterprise (Milk – Fund 60)	\$
Total	\$

E. **APPROVAL – Approval of Fund 40 Budget Transfer**

Motion to approve the transfer of \$157,845 between Debt Service Principal and Debt Service Interest budget line items (F40). This transfer is for recording purposes only but has no budgetary implications.

F. **APPROVAL – Purchase and Price of Milk**

Motion to approve the purchase of milk from Swede Farms with headquarters in Teaneck, NJ and that the price of milk shall be \$0.35/half-pint for the 2024-2025 school year.

G. **APPROVAL - Staff Remuneration**

Motion to approve remuneration to staff members as follows:

Staff Member: Katharine Meyers
Course: 1) Building Classroom Discipline
2) Behavior Modification for Yourself and Others
College/University: University of LaVerne
Remuneration: \$810.00

Staff Member: Catherine Ricca
Course: 1) Building Classroom Discipline
2) Effective Classroom Management Strategies for the 21st Century Classroom
College/University: University of LaVerne
Remuneration: \$840.00

Staff Member: Silvia Jost
Course: 1) Mindful Teachers, Mindful Students
2) ADD/ADHD: Strategies and Interventions
College/University: University of LaVerne
Remuneration: \$840.00

Staff Member: Allison Bachmann
 Course: 1) ELLs' Struggles: Signs of Difficulty or Disability
 2) How the Brain Learns to Read
 College/University: University of LaVerne
 Remuneration: \$840.00

H. **APPROVAL - Amendment to the 2024-2025 Budget**

Motion to approve an amendment to the 2024-25 Budget, appropriating Fiscal Year 2024 Extraordinary Aid and Non-Public Transportation Aid as follows:

Revenue

10-3131-000	Extraordinary Aid	\$596,391
10-3121-001	Non-Public Transportation Aid	\$ 14,083
<i>Total Increase in State Aid</i>		<i>\$610,474</i>

Appropriation

11-000-100-566	Other LEAs (Spec. Ed Tuition)	\$250,000
11-000-219-320	Behavioral Professional Services	\$ 66,000
11-000-261-420	Maintenance Services	\$ 70,000
11-000-262-100	Custodial Salaries	\$ 29,000
11-130-100-101	Grades 6-8 Salaries	\$ 85,000
11-190-100-600	Tech Hardware & Supplies	\$ 90,000
11-190-100-600	Classroom Supplies	\$ 20,474
<i>Total Increase in Appropriations</i>		<i>\$610,474</i>

I. **APPROVAL - Acceptance of Additional High Impact Tutoring Grant Funding**

Motion to approve the acceptance of an 8% increase in the High Impact Tutoring Grant, raising the original award from \$67,680 to \$73,094, and extending the grant term through June 30, 2025.

J. **APPROVAL - Contract with Centered Solutions**

Motion to approve the contract with Centered Solutions to provide BCBA support for six hours per week for the 2024-25 school year at a rate of \$150 per hour.

K. **APPROVAL - Settlement Agreement**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Closter Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") that the terms, stipulations and conditions as established in the Settlement Agreement and Release (hereinafter referred to as "Agreement") between the Board and the Parents of a student whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office, and which Agreement is located in the student's file, are hereby adopted and approved by the Board. The Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release, and any other documents necessary to effectuate the settlement.

- L. **APPROVAL - Disposal of Items from Tenakill and Hillside Schools**
 Motion to approve the disposal of computer networking items on the fixed assets inventory from Tenakill Middle School and Hillside Elementary School, tag #10139, #10134, #10135, #10141, #10133, #10136, #10140, #10154, #10155, #10157, #10152, #10151, #10156, #10159, #10158, #10153.

- M. **APPROVAL - Purchase of JAMF Pro Licenses**
 Motion to approve the purchase of JAMF Pro Licenses - device management platform for Apple devices in the district (sole source) in the amount of \$7,578.00, from JAMF Software LLC.

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Salamea-Cross; Members: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Micera

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - J.

Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

- A. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Tenakill School Paraprofessionals**
 Motion to approve the appointment of the following Tenakill School Paraprofessionals for the 2024-2025 school year, 5.75 hours per day, at a rate of \$20.89 per hour, pending criminal history background checks, starting September 1, 2024:
 - Charles Connell
 - Bruce Goldsmith
 - Sophia Lanava
 - Hayden Moses

- B. **APPROVAL - Title I Salary**
 Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the payment of a portion of the salary for Ellen Monaghan, BSI Teacher at Tenakill Middle school, from Title I funds as follows:

20-231-100-100-060-00-0	\$ 63,140 (54.31%)
11-230-100-101-060-01-0	\$ 53,108 (45.69%)

- C. **APPROVAL - SY 2024-2025 Paraprofessionals' Hours and Building Assignment**
 Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Paraprofessionals for the 2024-2025 School Year, attached hereto as Appendix D.

- D. **APPROVAL - CPI Training for Staff Members**
 Motion to approve CPI Training for the following staff members on August 28, 2024, at Hillside School:
Administrators
 - Christine Cipollini
 - Keith McElroy

- Dianne Smith
- Kristen Zanin

Paraprofessionals*

- Mayuli Copeland
- Cheryl Friedrich
- Dawn Lazzari
- Laura O’Gorman
- Maria Pavlou
- Janet Rota
- Alice Velella

**Paraprofessionals will be paid for the six hours of training at their hourly rate*

E. **APPROVAL - Ramapo College Clinical Intern Placements for the 2024-2025 School Year**

Motion to approve the the following Ramapo College Clinical Placement Requests from Ramapo College for the following interns for the 2024-25 school year:

- Julissa Agramonte - Catherine Ricca’s classroom
- Joseph Moskowitz - Kate Gibney’s classroom

F. **APPROVAL - Leave of Absence for Ellen Monaghan, Basic Skills Teacher**

Motion to approve Ellen Monaghan, Tenakill Middle School’s Basic Skills Teacher, for a leave of absence from September 20, 2024, with an anticipated return-to-work date of November 4, 2024.

G. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Philomena Viole, Paraprofessional**

Motion to accept the resignation of Philomena Viole, Paraprofessional, effective August 16, 2024.

H. **APPROVAL - Hillside Elementary School Loop Duty Staff**

Motion to approve the following staff for loop duty at Hillside Elementary School at a rate of \$23.07 per session:

- Allison Esposito
- Charlene Gerbig
- Alyssa Levy
- Claire Pidi
- Kristin Talty

Substitutes

- Judy Eller
- Diane Ferraro
- Brielle Tacconi

I. **APPROVAL - Tenakill Middle School Harrington Avenue Supervision Staff**

Motion to approve the following staff for Harrington Avenue Supervision at Tenakill Middle School at a rate of \$23.07 per session:

- Jennifer Annese
- Michelle Durocher
- Brianna McSweeney
- Olivia Nikol
- Jeffrey Roem
- Brittany Steele
- Michael Wowkun

J. **APPROVAL - Substitute Teachers/Paraprofessionals/Custodians**

Motion to approve the following substitute positions for the 2024-2025 school Year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification/Position</u>
Eugene Moriello	Teacher Certification
Christine Rim	Substitute Certification
Wendy Luz Ruiz Hernandez	Substitute Certification
Alexis Kastrinos	Substitute Certification
Alfredo Munoz	Substitute Custodian
Kelin Perdomo	Substitute Custodian

POLICY COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Fanelli; Members: Ms. Li, Ms. Micera

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motion A.

Motion was _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - First Reading of Policies and Regulations**

Motion to approve the first reading of the following Policies and Regulations, as per Appendix E:

- P 0141 Board Member and Term
- P 2200 Curriculum Content
- P 3160 Physical Examination
- P 4160 Physical Examination
- P 5337 Service Animals
- P 5350 Student Suicide Prevention
- P 8420 Emergency and Crisis Situations
- P 8467 Firearms and Weapons
- P 9181 Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants

- R 3160 Physical Examination
- R 4160 Physical Examination
- R 5200 Attendance
- R 8467 Firearms and Weapons

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Moved by _____ , seconded by _____ to open the meeting for public comments.

Moved by _____ , seconded by _____ to close the meeting to public comments.

CLOSED SESSION MOTION (If required)

Moved by _____ , seconded by _____ to approve the following Closed Session Motion.

Motion was _____ by a voice vote of the Board:

YEAS:

NAYS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education will adjourn to a Closed Session to discuss the following:

(If required)

The matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public.

The Board went into Closed Session at _____ PM.

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at _____ PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by _____ , seconded by _____ to adjourn the meeting at _____ PM.