

CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Tenakill Middle School

January 7, 2026 - 7:30 PM

Call to order: _____ @ _____ P.M.

Roll Call:

Ms. Argenziano	_____
Mr. Choi	_____
Ms. Estrems	_____
Ms. Lee	_____
Ms. Micera	_____
Ms. Ravid	_____
Mr. Shih	_____
Mr. Paldi	_____
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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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 - C.

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 December 10, 2025, Board of Education meeting minutes.

B. APPROVAL - Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying (HIB)

Motion to affirm the decision of the Superintendent of Schools regarding Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying (HIB) incident TMS-2526-09 as reported to the Board in Executive Session at the December 10, 2025, meeting.

C. APPROVAL - Pre-School Tuition Rates

Motion to approve the following tuition rates for the 2026-2027 school year:

Preschool Full Day Program	\$12,730.00
PSD Voluntary Half-Day Extension	\$ 9,570.00

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Members:

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 2025-2026 school year as recommended to the Superintendent by the Principals:

Staff Member:	Songhee (Joy) Lee
Course No./Title:	EDUC 7644 82 SL4: Structured Literacy: Students with Reading Difficulties
Institution:	Fairleigh Dickinson University
Credits:	3
Staff Member:	Kaitlyn Yu
Course No./Title:	EDUC 7644 82 SL4: Structured Literacy: Students with Reading Difficulties
Institution:	Fairleigh Dickinson University
Credits:	3
Staff Member:	Megan Weis
Course No./Title:	EDUC 7644 82 SL4: Structured Literacy: Students with Reading Difficulties
Institution:	Fairleigh Dickinson University
Credits:	3
Staff Member:	Gila Rachlin
Course No./Title:	EDUC 501-5408: All Eyes on the IEP Documenting and Goal Setting for Related Service Providers
Institution:	Colorado State University-Pueblo (Teacher Education Program)
Credits:	3

B. APPROVAL - Staff Conferences

Motion to approve the following staff conferences for the 2025-2026 school year:

Staff Member(s):	Joseph Calabria
Conference:	Bergen County Consortium for Teachers of the Gifted
Location:	Wandell School, Saddle River, NJ
Date:	1/26/26
Cost to Board:	\$8.84 (Transportation)

Staff Member(s):	Joseph Calabria
Conference:	Bergen County Consortium for Teachers of the Gifted
Location:	New Milford High School, New Milford, NJ
Date:	3/16/26
Cost to Board:	\$4.98 (Transportation)

Staff Member(s):	Joseph Calabria
Conference:	Bergen County Consortium for Teachers of the Gifted
Location:	West Brook Middle School, Paramus, NJ
Date:	6/5/26
Cost to Board:	\$7.99 (Transportation)

C. **APPROVAL - Field Trips**

Motion to approve the following field trips for the 2025-2026 school year:

School: Hillside Elementary School
Group: Kindergarten
Month: May 2026
Destination: Health Barn USA
Location: Ridgewood, NJ

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Members:

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

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

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Payment of Bills**

Motion to approve the payment of bills from December 11, 2025, to December 31, 2025, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$1,724,437.79
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 4,218.01
Enterprise (Milk – Fund 60)	\$ 673.08
NJ Dept. of Labor	\$ 4,286.88
Total	\$1,733,615.76

B. **APPROVAL - Payment of Bills**

Motion to approve the payment of bills from January 1, 2026, to January 5, 2026, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$55,322.79
Total	\$55,322.79

C. **APPROVAL - Staff Remuneration**

Motion to approve remuneration to staff members as follows:

Staff Member: Brittany Travisano
Course: MAT 924 Virtual Manipulatives
MAT 932 Using Rich Math Tasks in the Classroom
MAT 935 Art-Enhanced Math
College/University: Fresno Pacific University
Remuneration: \$1,000.00

D. **APPROVAL – Special Education Placement 1:1 Paraprofessional**

Motion to approve the following 2025-2026 Special Education 1:1 Paraprofessional for Closter Student:

<u>NJSMA#</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Placement</u>
5536231421	\$38,228.27	K	Valley Program

E. **APPROVAL - Purchase of mCLASS DIBELS Licenses**

Motion to approve the purchase of a three-year license for mCLASS DIBELS for Grades 2 and 3, including a half-day of professional development, in the total amount of \$14,762.50 from Amplify. Amplify is the sole source provider of the proprietary and patented mCLASS System, a hosted solution used for the administration and reporting of observation-based assessments.

F. **ACCEPTANCE - Fiscal Year 2025 (SY 24-25) Annual Comprehensive Financial Report**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Closter Board of Education accepts the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and Auditor's Management Report (AMR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, as audited by Lerch, Vinci & Bliss, LLP. The district received an unmodified opinion, indicating that the audited financial statements were free from material misstatements, errors, or discrepancies.

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Member:

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

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

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Amanda Cummings as Mentor for the 2025-2026 School Year**

Motion to approve the appointment of Amanda Cummings as a mentor to provisionally licensed teacher, Paul Donevan, for 11 weeks of mentoring (1/5/26-3/31/26).

B. **APPROVAL - Rescindment of Appointment - Debra Pohl Monesmith as Paraprofessional for the 2025-2026 School Year**

Motion to rescind the appointment of Debra Pohl Monesmith as a paraprofessional for the 2025-2026 school year.

C. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Kaitlin Lange to provide Home Instruction for Student #5220678010**

Motion to retroactively approve the appointment of Kaitlin Lange to provide home instruction for Student #5220678010, at a rate of \$50 per hour, for ten hours per week, effective December 16, 2025. Home instruction will be provided until the District secures an appropriate out-of-district placement.

D. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Anthony Scrazati as Long-Term Leave Replacement Custodian**

Motion to approve the appointment of Anthony Scrazati as Long-Term Leave Replacement - Custodian - from January 8, 2026, through June 30, 2026. Salary will be \$46,340 plus \$100 for Black Seal License, pro-rated.

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

Motion to approve the following substitute teachers/paraprofessionals/custodians for the 2025-2026 school Year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification</u>
Anthony Scrazati	Black Seal Low-Pressure Boiler License
Alina Zankevich	Substitute Teaching Certification
Ann Suttora	Substitute Custodian

F. **APPROVAL - Leave of Absence for Brittany Travisano, Tenakill Middle School Special Education Teacher**

Motion to approve Brittany Travisano, TMS Special Education Teacher, for a leave of absence, as follows:

- Paid sick leave starting on or about April 29, 2026, through the end of the 2025-26 school year; and
- An FMLA and NJFLA child bonding leave from September 1, 2026, through November 21, 2026, with an anticipated return to work on November 23, 2026.

G. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Tenakill Middle School Paraprofessional Shailaja Suva**

Motion to accept the resignation of Shailaja Suva, TMS Paraprofessional, effective January 16, 2026.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Member:

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 / Regulations**

Motion to approve first reading of the following policies and regulations, as per Appendix A:

- P 2530 Resource Materials
- P 2535 Library Material
- P 9130 Public Complaints

- R 2530 Resource Materials
- R 2535 Library Material
- R 9130 Public Complaints

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:

**HIB
Legal Matters**

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.