

CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Tenakill Middle School

June 26, 2025 - 7:30 PM

Call to order: _____ @ _____ *P.M.*

Roll Call:

Ms. Argenziano	_____
Mr. Choi	_____
Ms. Estrems	_____
Ms. Lee	_____
Ms. Li	_____
Ms. Micera	_____
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

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

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 - M.

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 May 21, 2025, and June 2, 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-2425-23 as reported to the Board in Executive Session at the June 2, 2025, meeting.

C. **APPROVAL - Readoption of all Job Descriptions**

Motion to approve the readoption of all job descriptions currently on file in the Superintendent's Office, based on the original approval without content changes.

D. **APPROVAL - Marshall Equivalency Waiver for 2025-2026 School Year**

Motion to approve the Marshall Equivalency Waiver for the 2025-2026 school year.

E. **APPROVAL - Risk Management Services for SY 2025-2026**

Motion to approve the agreement with Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Consulting Services Inc. to provide risk management consulting services for SY 2025-2026 and shall be compensated pursuant to the current agreement with the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group (NESBIG) fund. The appointment is through the Extraordinary Unspecifiable Service (EUS) N.J.S.A 18A:18A-5a (2).

F. **APPROVAL - Use of Facilities Fees**

Motion to approve the Use of Facilities fee schedule for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Field - \$150/hour, plus the charge of custodial cost

- Gym - \$350 for the first two hours, max of \$500 per use, plus the charge of custodial costs
- Auditorium - \$500 per use, plus the charge of custodial cost and sound & lighting staff if necessary
 - Classrooms - \$100 per room/day, plus a charge of custodial costs
 - Custodians - \$68 per hour (\$90 per hour on Sundays or Holidays)

G. **APPROVAL - Substitute Rates for SY 2025-2026**

Motion to approve the SY 2025-2026 substitute rates as follows:

- Substitute Custodian: \$21 per hour
- Substitute Nurse: \$225 per day
- Substitute Teacher: \$125 per day
- Substitute Paraprofessional: \$105 per day

H. **APPROVAL - NJ School Boards Conference 2025**

Motion to approve the attendance of Gregory Shih at the NJ School Boards Conference in Atlantic City on October 20-23, 2025.

Cost to Board: Included in the Group Registration of \$2,200
 Individual Lodging, Mileage, Meals, and incidentals—a maximum of
 \$831.48 per person per GSA-approved travel regulations.

I. **APPROVAL - Submission and Acceptance of the Funding for Optimal Comprehensive Universal Screeners (FOCUS) Grant**

Motion to retroactively approve the application submission and acceptance of the Funding for Optimal Comprehensive Universal Screeners (FOCUS) Grant (25-TL02-G03) for the grant period of June 1, 2025 - May 31, 2026. The grant allocation for Closter Public Schools of \$4,440 was approved on May 30, 2025.

J. **APPROVAL - Partnership Agreement with Ramapo College of NJ for the 2025-2026 School Year**

Motion to approve the agreement with Ramapo College of NJ - Teacher Education Program in the School of Social Science and Human Services and the Closter Board of Education for the district's participation in the Archway Project - a collaborative teacher residency partnership, for the 2025-2026 school year.

K. **APPROVAL - School District Physician**

Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Dr. Nancy Rothenberg as the School District Physician for the 2025-2026 school year at an annual rate of \$4,000.

- L. **APPROVAL - Use of Facilities by Closter Recreation Department - Summer Program**
Motion to approve the Closter Recreation Department's use of Tenakill Middle School for their Summer Recreation Camp from June 23, 2025, to August 1, 2025.
- M. **APPROVAL - Use of Facilities by Closter Recreation Department - SY 25-26**
Motion to approve Closter Recreation Department to use Hillside Elementary School and Tenakill Middle School gymnasiums for the 2025-2026 school year for men's basketball, youth basketball, and volleyball camp.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Finkelstein; Members: Ms. Argenziano, Ms. Lee

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: Allison Bachmann
Course No./Title: 1) EDUC 711C: Effective Character Education
2) EDUC 714Q: Student Learning and the Brain
Institution: University of LaVerne
Credits: 6 (3 credits each)

Staff Member: Margaret Tahtabrounian
Course No./Title: 1) EDUC 710C: The Multicultural Classroom
2) EDUC 712N: Teaching the Latino Student
Institution: University of LaVerne
Credits: 6 (3 credits each)

Staff Member: Megan Pleus
Course No./Title: 1) EDUC 719P: Social Emotional Learning & Character Development
2) EDUC 719X: Implementing Playful Learning in PreK-2 Classroom
Institution: University of LaVerne
Credits: 6 (3 credits each)

Staff Member: Wendy Manning
Course No./Title: EDUC 719X: Implementing Playful Learning in PreK-2 Classroom
Institution: University of LaVerne
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Kathy Lee
Course No./Title: 1) EDUC 710C: The Multicultural Classroom
2) EDUC 711X: Creating a Mindful Classroom
3) EDUC 713J: Motivating Kids Who Don't Care
Institution: University of LaVerne
Credits: 9 (3 credits each)

Staff Member: Catherine Ricca
Course No./Title: 1) EDUC 712Z: Understanding Autism
2) EDUC 713K: The Differentiated Classroom
Institution: University of LaVerne
Credits: 6 (3 credits each)

Staff Member: Maci DeCarlo
Course No./Title: Pre-Doctoral Internship
Institution: Fairleigh Dickinson University
Credits: 6 (3 credits per semester)

Staff Member: Eileen Kennedy
Course No./Title: 18:820:525 Prevention & Intervention in Tiered Systems
Institution: Rutgers University
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Katherine Dunn
Course No./Title: EDUC 6813 Structured Literacy: Students with Reading Difficulties 1
Institution: Fairleigh Dickinson University
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Sofia Capparelli
Course No./Title: 1) EDUC-711C Effective Character Education
2) EDUC-713J Motivating Students Who Don't Care
3) EDUC-713O Building Classroom Discipline
Institution: University of LaVerne
Credits: 3 (9 credits total)

B. APPROVAL - Staff Conferences

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

Staff Member(s): Kristen Zanin
Conference: LinkIt Summer Institute (DFSI)
Location: Paramus, NJ
Date: 8/5/25 - 8/6/25
Cost to Board: \$366.17 (Registration and mileage)

Staff Member(s): Kristen Zanin
Conference: BCCC Summer Science Institute
Location: Lyndhurst, NJ
Date: 7/9/25
Cost to Board: \$21.06 (Mileage)

C. APPROVAL - New Jersey Child Assault Prevention (NJ CAP) Grants

Motion to approve the following applications for the New Jersey Child Assault Prevention (NJ CAP) Grants for the 2025-2026 school year:

K-8 CAP's Bullying Prevention Program:

1. Hillside School
2. Tenakill School (Elementary, Teen, and Neurodivergent Learners CAP Application)

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mr. Choi; Members: Ms. Estrems, Ms. Finkelstein

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

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 A attached:

- a. Board Secretary and School Treasurer Financial Reports for May 2025.
- b. Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account /Fund status for May 2025.
- c. Transfer of funds for May 2025.

B. APPROVAL - Payment of Bills

Motion to approve payment of bills from May 20, 2025, to May 31, 2025, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$777,871.13
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Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 3,206.50
Enterprise (Milk – Fund 60)	\$ 625.00
NJ Dept of Labor & Workforce Development	\$ 16,441.18
Total	\$798,143.81

C. **APPROVAL - Payment of Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from June 1, 2025, to June 17, 2025, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$2,242,756.38
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 47,139.65
Capital Projects (Fund 30)	\$ 96,425.00
Enterprise (Milk – Fund 60)	\$ 2,299.55
Total	\$2,388,620.58

D. **APPROVAL - Staff Remuneration**

Motion to approve remuneration to staff members as follows:

Staff Member: Catherine Ricca
Course: ABCs of Effective Mainstreaming & Inclusion
College/University: University of LaVerne
Remuneration: \$160.00

Staff Member: Laura Abbey
Course: Excel: The Ultimate Tool
College/University: Fresno Pacific University
Remuneration: \$110.00

Staff Member: Sofia Capparelli
Course: Curriculum Design
College/University: University of West Alabama
Remuneration: \$1,000.00

Staff Member: Gila Rachlin
 Course: Childhood Apraxia of Speech
 College/University: Colorado State University-Pueblo
 Remuneration: \$429.00

E. **APPROVAL – Special Education Placements**

Motion to approve the following 2025-2026 Special Education Out of District placements for Closter Students:

NJ SMART ID	TUITION	GRADE	PLACEMENT
8583886300	\$92,358.00	GR7	BCSS-HIP HIGHLAND
4780672334	\$13,600.00	TOD GR3	BCSS-TOD
7946671740	\$6,800.00	K	BCSS-TOD
9597653741	\$104,648.00	GR6	CTC-Oakland
1595602128	\$104,648.00	GR6	CTC-Oakland
8949793385	\$42,304.50	GR8	The Craig School
5437501562	\$94,000.00	PreK	IEA New Milford
4521677259	\$65,179.00	GR5	NVRHS-TIP
6416941621	\$65,179.00	GR7	NVRHS-TIP
5220678010	\$65,179.00	GR1	NVRHS-TIP
5536231421	\$90,478.00	K	NVRHS - Valley Program
5323815997	\$90,478.00	GR8	NVRHS - Valley Program
5400823973	\$90,478.00	GR2	NVRHS - Valley Program
9237735305	\$90,478.00	GR1	NVRHS - Valley Program
3310955231	\$90,478.00	PreK	NVRHS - Valley Program
1543457212	\$90,478.00	GR3	NVRHS - Valley Program
7029692770	\$90,478.00	PreK	NVRHS - Valley Program
4452885313	\$83,055.50	GR8	Cresskill
1916299791	\$1,500.00	GR6	REG III-ESY only
9075768399	\$1,500.00	GR2	REG III-ESY only
7635116860	\$1,500.00	GR3	REG III-ESY only
2287020694	\$1,500.00	GR4	REG III-ESY only
6130568377	\$1,500.00	GR6	REG III-ESY only
8310099361	\$1,500.00	GR6	REG III-ESY only

NJ SMART ID	TUITION	GRADE	PLACEMENT
2288495473	\$1,500.00	GR1	REG III-ESY only
3242024283	\$1,500.00	GR5	REG III-ESY only

F. **APPROVAL - Migration and Redesign of the Closter Public Schools Website**

Motion to approve the mandatory migration and redesign of the Closter Public Schools website to a new platform through School Webmasters at a total cost of \$10,140, to ensure ongoing compliance with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessibility requirements.

G. **APPROVAL - Purchase of ¡Así se dice! Level 1 © 2024 (2 Years)**

Motion to approve the purchase of ¡Así se dice! Level 1 © 2024 student print and digital bundle with McGraw-Hill LLC in the amount of \$18,189.01. The two-year subscription results in a total savings of \$3,129.30. This is a renewal of the textbook currently in use.

H. **APPROVAL - Contract with Murray Paving and Concrete LLC for the HES Milling and Paving Project**

Motion to approve the contract with Murray Paving and Concrete LLC for the milling and paving of various areas in Hillside Elementary School in the amount of \$105,867.56 through the Educational Services Commission of NJ State Approved Coop #65MCESCCP, Contract 23/24-06 Job Order Contract Paving - Region 2, and is funded using Capital Reserve as included in the SY 25-26 budget.

I. **APPROVAL - Eastern Data Comm Inc. Contract for 2025-2026 School Year**

Motion to approve the contract with Eastern DataComm Inc. for Shoretel, Path View Cloud Maintenance, and LENS security system annual maintenance for the 2025-2026 school year at a total cost of \$20,229.

J. **APPROVAL - Snow Removal - Contract Extension**

WHEREAS, the Closter Board of Education ("Board") advertised for bids for Snow Removal Services for the 2025-2026 school year (hereinafter referred to as the "Snow Removal Services"); and

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2023, the Board received one bid in response to the advertisement; and

WHEREAS, Green Meadows Landscaping, Inc. submitted a bid that complies with the specifications in all material respects, making it the lowest responsible bidder, and the Board awarded the snow removal services contract to Green Meadows Landscaping, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the bid included a renewal clause allowing for an extension of up to two additional school years, with the 2025-2026 school year (SY 25-26) being the last allowable extension under the bid; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to approve the extension of the contract for SY 25-26, and based on the submitted documents, the rates will remain the same as those for SY 24-25, with all rates and details on file in the Business Office with the rest of the bid documents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

The Board approves extending the snow removal services contract with Green Meadows Landscaping, Inc. for the 2025-2026 school year under the same rates as SY 24-25. This award is conditional upon the contractor furnishing the requisite insurance certificate and proof of equipment as required in the specifications, together with an executed contract, within ten days of the date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized to execute such contract and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

K. **APPROVAL – Contract with Bergen County Special Services**

WHEREAS, the Bergen County Special Services School District (BCSSSD) is a corporate body organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:46-29.

WHEREAS, the LEA is required by law to provide remedial and auxiliary services to eligible students attending non-public schools within the public school district pursuant to P.L. 1977, Chapters 192-193 from BCSSSD.

WHEREAS, the LEA and BCSSSD hereby agree to provide remedial and auxiliary services in accordance with the applicable New Jersey statutes, the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and the policies of the BCSSSD Board of Education.

WHEREAS, the auxiliary and remedial services to be provided are limited to P.L. 192 Compensatory Education, English as a Second Language, and Home Instruction. P.L. 193 Supplementary Instruction, Speech Correction, and Examination and Classification for eligible pupils.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Closter Board of Education hereby approves the agreement to contract with Bergen County Special Services for SY 2025-2026.

L. **APPROVAL – Report of Awarded Contracts**

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to PL 2015, Chapter 47, the Closter Board of Education intends to renew, award, or permit to expire the following contracts previously awarded by the Board of Education. These contracts are, have been, and will continue to be in full compliance with all state and federal statutes and regulations; in particular, New Jersey Title 18A:18. et.seq, NJAC Chapter 6A:23A, and Federal Procurement Regulations 2CFR Part 200.317 et. seq. per Appendix B.

M. **APPROVAL – Educational Data Services Awarded Contract**

Motion to confirm the purchases for the 2025-2026 school year through the annual bidding conducted by Educational Data Services Inc. The amount awarded represents Closter's share of the total award amount for all of the districts participating in the cooperative bidding.

Adorama	\$175.70
Blick Art Materials LLC	\$869.45
BSN Sports	\$2,025.56
Carolina Biological Supply	\$384.28
Cascade School Supplies	\$905.68
DEMCO	\$742.66
EAI Education dba Eric Armin	\$16.68
Henry Schein, Inc.	\$3,266.91
Kurtz Bros, Inc	\$43.29
Lakeshore Learning Inc	\$53.98
Music in Motion	\$200.00
Music & Arts	\$53.68
Nasco Education LLC	\$1,166.85
National Art & School Supplies	\$238.04
Performance Health dba Medco	\$140.89
Really Good Stuff	\$95.97
S.A.N.E.	\$281.53
S&S Worldwide	\$115.62
School Health Corporation	\$2,870.96
School Specialty LLC	\$24,373.33
Shar Products Company dba Shar Music	\$126.40
Sportsman's dba George L. Heider	\$100.50
Staples Contract	\$1,553.36
Super Duper Publications	\$410.53

The Library Store	\$92.53
United Supply Corp	\$3,243.14
VWR Funding dba Wards Science	\$16.08
W.B. Mason Co., Inc	\$277.79
TOTAL:	\$43,841.39

N. **APPROVAL – Application for Dual Use of Facilities**

WHEREAS, an annual application for the dual use of classrooms is required to be filed with the Executive County Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, in planning for the 2025-2026 school year, the district will need the dual use of several classrooms at Hillside Elementary School due to a shortage of available space;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Closter Board of Education approves the filing for the renewal of Application(s) for Dual Use of Educational Space for rooms B101, C108, M01, M02, M03, and M04 in Hillside Elementary School; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent and the Business Administrator are authorized to complete and submit the required documents to the Executive County Superintendent for approval.

O. **APPROVAL – Renewal Application for Multiple Temporary Instructional Spaces**

WHEREAS, Subchapter 8 of the New Jersey Administrative Code (6A:26-8.1) outlines standards for temporary school facilities, and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to 6A:26-8.1, it is required that the Executive County Superintendent shall annually monitor the temporary facilities of school districts for criteria set forth in this code,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Closter Board of Education submits the renewal application for multiple temporary instructional spaces for SY 2025-2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Closter Board of Education hereby acknowledges and affirms its commitment to compliance with Subchapter 8: Temporary School Facilities of the New Jersey Administrative Code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent and the Business Administrator are authorized to complete and submit the required documents to the Executive County Superintendent for approval.

P. **APPROVAL – Procedures for the Close of Fiscal Year**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator to pay supplementary bill lists and payroll, which shall become due on or before June 30, 2025, including all year-end payables; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Administrator be authorized to proceed with all necessary adjustments and transfers to close the books for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, as well as any and all entries and actions for the opening of the 2025-2026 fiscal year, including but not limited to the issuance and or cancellation of purchase orders, payment of bills, cancellation of stale dated checks, transfers between line items, award of contracts in compliance with the Public Contracts Laws; and other such actions as may be required by statute, code and Board Policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes the Superintendent and Business Administrator to process and issue the payment of bills and claims between Board meetings during the months of June, July, and August of 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all aforementioned actions shall be presented to the Board at its next meeting for ratification and/or approval.

Q. **APPROVAL - Transfer of Funds as Excess Surplus, 2% Cap**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education hereby approves retaining as year-end fund balance as of June 30, 2025, an amount not to exceed the state-mandated cap of 2%, plus \$650,000.00 designated as excess surplus for use in the 2025-2026 budget, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any funds over the state-mandated cap shall be transferred into the district's maintenance reserve account and district's capital reserve account in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:21-2 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.1 and 14.3.

R. **APPROVAL – Annual Deposit to Capital Reserve Account**

WHEREAS, NJSA 18A:21-2, NJSA 18A:7G-31, and NJSA 18A:7F-41 permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year-end; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a Board of Education to transfer unanticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Closter Board of Education wishes to transfer unanticipated current year revenue and/or unexpended appropriations from the general fund into the District's Capital Reserve account at year-end; and

WHEREAS, the Closter Board of Education has determined an amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 is available for such purpose of transfer;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Closter Board of Education hereby authorizes the district's School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

S. **APPROVAL – Annual Deposit to Maintenance Reserve Account**

WHEREAS, NJSA 6A:23A-14.4 et seq permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year-end, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Closter Board of Education wishes to transfer the unanticipated current year surplus into a Maintenance Reserve account at year-end, and

WHEREAS, the Closter Board of Education has determined that an amount not to exceed \$500,000 is available for such purpose of transfer;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Closter Board of Education hereby authorizes the district's School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

T. **APPROVAL – Transfer of Interest Earnings**

Motion to approve the transfer of accumulated interest earnings from the Capital Projects Fund (Fund 30) to the district's General Fund Account (Fund 10), including interest earnings on June 30, 2025.

U. **APPROVAL - Strauss Esmay Contract for 2025-2026 School Year**

Motion to approve the \$5,015.00 contract with Strauss Esmay for policy management, alerts, and support for the 2025-2026 school year.

V. **APPROVAL - Amendment to Capital Reserve Withdrawal – Hillside Playground**

Motion to authorize the addition of a capital project to the previously approved Capital Reserve Withdrawal for the 2025-2026 school year budget, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.1 and the original board resolution authorizing said withdrawal.

As two previously approved capital projects came under budget, sufficient funds remain available within the total amount withdrawn. The Board hereby approves the allocation of an

additional \$20,000.00 to cover the remaining costs associated with the replacement and installation of the new playground at Hillside Elementary School.

- W. **APPROVAL - Purchase and Installation of HES Playground from Ben Shaffer Recreation**
Motion to approve the purchase and installation of playground equipment at Hillside Elementary School from Ben Shaffer Recreation in the amount of \$97,987.31 through the Bergen County Bid (BC-BID-24-34), Cooperative #11-BECCP. Of the total cost, \$78,000 will be funded through the Local Recreational Improvement Grant. The remaining balance will be covered through the withdrawal of capital reserve, as identified in item V above.

- X. **APPROVAL – Contract with Asbury Park IT for SY 2025-2026**
Motion to approve the annual contract for the 2025-2026 school year with the Asbury Park Information Technology Center’s Payroll and Budgetary Services as noted below, with additional fees for printing, mailing, and adjustments as required:

Budgetary Accounting System	\$11,898.00
Payroll/Personnel System	\$ 9,027.00

- Y. **APPROVAL - 1:1 Nursing Services Contract**
BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education approves the 1:1 nursing service contracts for students 9597653741 and 1595602128, identified as “medically fragile students” pursuant to their Individual Educational Plan (IEP) and N.J.S.A. 18A:40-3.3 for the period starting July 1, 2025, through the end of the 2025-2026 school year, at an estimated cost of \$156,000.00. Bayada Nursing is currently the sole confirmed provider at a rate of \$68.00 per hour; however, the use of other approved nursing companies may be required as needed.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5 (a) (1), the Board of Education hereby states the following reason for the award of this professional services contract: The Board of Education requires the service of a qualified nurse to provide services to students who have been identified as a “medically fragile student” pursuant to their Individual Educational Plan (IEP) and N.J.S.A. 18A:40-3.3.

- Z. **APPROVAL - Substitute Nursing Contracts**
Motion to approve the following substitute nursing contracts for the 2025-2026 school year:
- Bayada Home Healthcare
 - Starlight Homecare Agency, Inc. d/b/a Star Pediatric Home Care Agency
 - Aveanna Healthcare
 - Best Choice Nursing

AA. **APPROVAL - Insurance Assessments through Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group (NESBIG) for SY 2025-2026.**

Motion to approve the payment of the following assessments through the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group (NESBIG) for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Workers' Compensation Assessment in the amount of \$91,287.00, less a Surplus Return of \$36,596.00.
- Insured Assessment for School Board Legal Liability, Cyber Liability, Umbrella Policy, Environmental Liability, and Excess Liability in the amount of \$308,057.84.

Funds are to be charged to the appropriate insurance accounts within the 2025-2026 budget.

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mr. Paldi; Members: Ms. Finkelstein, Mr. Shih

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

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

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL – Employment Agreement for Non-Union Staff**

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Closter Board of Education hereby ratifies and approves the reappointment of the following staff members for the 2025-2026 School Year, in accordance with the terms of the Employment Agreement between the parties, which is on file in the Closter Board of Education office:

- Dianne Smith, Principal – Hillside Elementary School
- Christine Cipollini, Principal - Tenakill Middle School
- Lori Cohen, Director of Special Services
- Keith McElroy, Assistant Principal – Tenakill Middle School
- Kristen Zanin, Assistant Principal - Hillside Elementary School
- Joseph Scaglione, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds
- Vincenzo Salvati, Network Engineer/Computer Technician
- Karen Volpitto, Secretary to the Superintendent of Schools
- Doreen Scarpelli, Assistant to the Business Administrator
- Anna Suttora, Payroll and Benefits Specialist
- Andrew Enrique, Board Office Assistant

B. **APPROVAL - SY 2025-2026 Personnel**

Motion to approve, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following personnel for SY 2025-2026, attached hereto as Appendix C - F.

Certificated Staff - Appendix C
Paraprofessionals - Appendix D

- C. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Donna Borland, Paraprofessional, Hillside Elementary School**
Motion to accept the resignation of Donna Borland as HES Paraprofessional effective June 30, 2025.
- D. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Monica Chae, Special Education Teacher, Hillside Elementary School**
Motion to accept the resignation of Monica Chae as HES Special Education Teacher effective June 30, 2025.
- E. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Jack Schnall, Paraprofessional, Tenakill Middle School**
Motion to accept the resignation of Jack Schnall as TMS Paraprofessional effective June 30, 2025.
- F. **APPROVAL - Retirement of Cheryl Boehm, School Secretary, Hillside Elementary School**
Motion to accept the retirement of Cheryl Boehm, HES School Secretary, effective October 1, 2025.
- G. **APPROVAL - Elizabeth Klink, Hillside Elementary School Library/Media Specialist - Paid Leave of Absence**
Motion to approve Elizabeth Klink, HES Library/Media Specialist, for a paid leave of absence from September 1, 2025, through approximately October 20, 2025.
- H. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Kathy Wellencamp-Keller as Hillside Elementary School Library/Media Specialist Leave Replacement**
Motion to approve the appointment of Kathy Wellencamp-Keller as HES leave replacement teacher for Library/Media Specialist, starting September 1, 2025. Salary will be \$200 per day on days 1 through 10; then beginning on day 11, BA Step 0, \$56,500 pro-rated, ending on or around October 20, 2025. A criminal history background check is on file.
- I. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Hannah Kang as Tenakill Middle School Art Teacher**
Motion to approve the appointment of Hannah Kang as full-time, tenure-track TMS Art Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year, at a salary of \$72,223, MA, Step 3, starting on September 1, 2025, pending a criminal history background check.
- J. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Lisa Posner as Hillside Elementary School Special Education Teacher**
Motion to approve the appointment of Lisa Posner as full-time, tenure-track HES Special Education Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year, at a salary of \$95,120.00, MA +30, Step 10, starting on September 1, 2025. A criminal history background check is already on file.

- K. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Lori Cohen as Mentor for Cara Kupersmith**
Motion to approve Lori Cohen to continue as a mentor to Cara Kupersmith as she completes 75 intern hours for William Paterson University's Educational Leadership Program.
- L. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Erika Dunn as Mentor for the 2025-2026 School Year**
Motion to approve the appointment of Erika Dunn as mentor to provisionally licensed teacher, Megan McCafferty, for 30 weeks of mentoring.
- M. **APPROVAL – Appointment of HES Academic Support Program Staff**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for Hillside Elementary School Academic Support Program, July 7-31, 2025, for 16 sessions, 3.5 hours per session, at a rate of \$50.00/hour per teacher:
- Allison Esposito
 - Deborah Gonzalez
 - Catherine Ricca
 - Cassandra San-Emeterio
- Substitutes: Patricia Brett, Katherine Dunn, Lauren Finan, Charlene Gerbig, Sarah Hodulik, Kaitlin Lange, Alyssa Levy, Kerry Sidrow, Kristin Talty, Kaitlyn Yu
- N. **APPROVAL – Appointment of Staff for HES Summer Transition Program for New-to-District Students**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for the HES Summer Transition Program for New-to-District Students for the Summer of 2025, up to five (5) hours at \$50.00/hour per teacher:
- Jodi Belnick
 - Patricia Brett
 - Catherine Gibney
 - Sarah Hodulik
 - Alyssa Levy
 - Cassandra San-Emeterio
 - Dara Weiss
- Substitutes: Charlene Gerbig, Josephine Hunt
- O. **APPROVAL – Appointment of HES Kindergarten Kickstart Program Staff**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for the Kindergarten Kickstart Program for the Summer of 2025, up to four (4) hours at \$50.00/hour per teacher:
- Sarah Hodulik
 - Songhee (Joy) Lee
 - Megan Weis
 - Dara Weiss
 - Kaitlyn Yu
- Substitutes: Charlene Gerbig, Josephine Hunt, Alyssa Levy, Katharine Meyers

P. **APPROVAL – Appointment of TMS Academic Support Program Staff**

Motion to approve the following teachers for the Tenakill Middle School Academic Support Program, July 7-31, 2025, for 16 sessions, 3.5 hours per session, at a rate of \$50.00/hour per teacher:

- Mary Auriti
- Erika Dunn
- Kevin Hernandez
- Christopher Rota

Substitutes: Paul Aguirre, Angela Banta, Ornit Katzin, Shannon SanGeorge, Chelsea Smith, Charisse Stabile, Phyllis Viole

Q. **APPROVAL – Appointment of Multisensory Reading Program Staff**

Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of Jennifer Annese to serve in the MSR Program from July 7 to August 1, 2025, for up to 20 hours at a rate of \$50.00 per hour.

R. **APPROVAL – ESL Staff Summer Work**

Motion to approve summer hours for the following ESL teachers to conduct language proficiency testing for newly enrolled students, for \$50.00 per hour:

- Margaret Churchill - 12 hours
- Kathy Lee - 4 hours

S. **APPROVAL – Appointment of HES - SELF Class ESY Program Staff**

Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for the ERI-SELF Class Extended School Year Program, July 7 - August 1, 2025, for 20 sessions, 4 hours per session, at a rate of \$50.00/hour per teacher:

- Catherine Gibney
- Substitute: Kerry Vogel, Sonali Shah

T. **APPROVAL – Appointment of HES SELF Class ESY Program Paraprofessionals**

Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following paraprofessionals for Hillside Elementary School ERI-SELF Class ESY Program, July 7 - August 1, 2025, for 20 sessions, 3.50 hours/day at a rate of \$23.77 per hour.

- Alice Vellella
- Substitute: Pinerose Dominique, Victoria Foley, Bhavna Patel, Farha Saad

U. **APPROVAL – Appointment of HES Pre-K Summer Program Teachers**

Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for Hillside Elementary School Pre-K Summer Program, July 7 - August 1, 2025, for 4 hours/day at a rate of \$50.00/hour per teacher:

- Josephine Hunt (10 days)
 - Brielle Tacconi (10 days)
- Substitute: Kerry Vogel, Sonali Shah

- V. **APPROVAL – Appointment of HES Pre-K Summer Program Paraprofessionals**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following paraprofessionals for Hillside Elementary School Pre-K Summer Program, July 7 - August 1, 2025, 3.5 hours/day per paraprofessional at their rate for the 25-26 school year:
- Cheryl Friedrich - \$23.77 per hour
 - Jennifer Gismondi - \$22.59 per hour
- Substitute: Pinerose Dominique, Victoria Foley, Bhavna Patel, Farha Saad
- W. **APPROVAL – Appointment of 1:1 Support Staff for Valley Summer Program**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following 1:1 paraprofessionals for the ESY Program (20 days), from July 1 - August 1, 2025, at a rate as scheduled below:
- 9075768399 - Maria Costa, 3.5 hours per day at a rate of \$21.89 per hour
 - 2287020694 - Dawn Lazzari, 3.5 hours per day at a rate of \$23.77 per hour
 - 8310099361 - Ronit Shem-Tov, 3.5 hours per day at a rate of \$23.77 per hour
 - 7635116860 - Shuchun Chen, 3.5 hours per day at a rate of \$23.77 per hour
- X. **APPROVAL – Summer Office Paraprofessionals**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following office paraprofessionals for July and August 2025 at a rate as scheduled below:
- Hillside Elementary School (not to exceed 140 hours for the school)
 - Rebecca Callahan - \$22.09 per hour
 - Margaret Markgraf - \$23.77 per hour
 - Tenakill Middle School (not to exceed 140 hours for the school)
 - Mary Oakes - \$23.77 per hour
 - Wendy Ruiz-Hernandez - \$23.14 per hour
 - Child Study Team (not to exceed 80 hours)
 - Katarina Sorman - \$23.77 per hour
- Y. **APPROVAL – Related Service Providers for Summer Program**
Motion to approve the following district staff to provide a range of services to students participating in the summer programs:
- Elizabeth Apollo, Behaviorist - maximum of 30 hours at a rate of \$50.00/hour
 - Lauren Bulger - Counseling Services, maximum of 3 hours at a rate of \$50.00/hour
 - Travis Jackson, COTA - maximum of 32 hours at a rate of \$38.00/hour
 - Cara Kupersmith, Speech Therapist - maximum of 39 hours at a rate of \$50.00/hour
 - Gila Rachlin, Speech Therapist - maximum of 15 hours at a rate of \$50.00/hour
 - Nancy Saccoccio, Occupational Therapist - maximum of 12 hours at a rate of \$50.00/hour

Z. **APPROVAL – Summer Work Days for School Counselors and Technology Coordinators**

Motion to approve the following school counselors and technology coordinators for five (5) summer work days in accordance with Article V, Section M of the Closter Education Association (CEA) Agreement, to be compensated at their respective per diem rates.

- Joseph Calabria, TMS Tech Coordinator
- Alexandra Earle, TMS Counselor
- Joanne Iyo, HES Tech Coordinator
- Callie Stabile, TMS Counselor
- Dara Weiss, HES Counselor

AA. **APPROVAL – IEP Meeting Staff**

Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for IEP meeting attendance, July 7, 2025, through August 1, 2025, at a rate of \$50.00/hour as needed:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| • Paul Aguirre | • Kathy Hedenberg |
| • Jennifer Annese | • Josephine Hunt |
| • Jodi Belnick | • Ornit Katzin |
| • Patricia Brett | • Alyssa Levy |
| • Lauren Engle | • Wendy Manning |
| • Rachel Fineman | • Catherine Ricca |
| • Charlene Gerbig | • Shannon SanGeorge |
| • Catherine Gibney | |

BB. **APPROVAL – Summer Nurses for HES and TMS Summer Programs**

Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following school nurses for the Summer Programs in Hillside Elementary School and Tenakill Middle School, July 7 - August 1, 2025, at a rate of \$50.00/hour from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon:

- Kristen Haenelt
- Aninder Sequeira

CC. **APPROVAL – Staff Appointments**

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

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
Anti-Bullying Coordinator	Keith McElroy
Anti-Bullying Specialist (HES)	Dara Weiss
	Suzanne Lang
Anti-Bullying Specialist (TMS)	Alexandra Earle
	Callie Stabile
Affirmative Action Officer	Floro Villanueva Jr.
504 Compliance Officer (HES)	Dara Weiss
504 Compliance Officer (TMS)	Alexandra Earle
District Safety Specialist	Dianne Smith

District Testing Coordinator
School Testing Coordinator (HES)
School Testing Coordinator (TMS)
McKinney-Vento Liaison

Kristen Zanin
Dara Weiss
Alexandra Earle
Vincent McHale

DD. **APPROVAL - Woodcock-Johnson V Online Training on July 8, 2025**

Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following members of the Child Study Team to complete the Woodcock-Johnson V online training, at a rate of \$50.00/hour as needed:

- Maci DeCarlo - 6 hours @ \$50/hour
- Eileen Kennedy - 6 hours @ \$50/hour
- Cassandra Perez - 6 hours @ \$50/hour

EE. **APPROVAL - Jose Raudales - Extension of Leave of Absence**

Motion to approve Jose Raudales for an extension to his paid leave of absence from June 16, 2025, through July 15, 2025, with an anticipated return-to-work date of July 16, 2025.

FF. **APPROVAL - SY 2025-2026 Substitute Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Nurses & Custodians**

Motion to approve Substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year as per Appendix G attached.

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
Superintendent Evaluation**

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.